

# The JEWISH REVIEW

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## David Forman tapped to lead OJCF

BY HAILEY LEEMING & MARIA SMITHSON

The Oregon Jewish Community Foundation has appointed David Forman as President and CEO effective Jan. 1, 2022.

Forman says his passion for serving the community is fueled by inspiration from his grandparents. They influenced his zeal to wholeheartedly embrace and live life through the prism of the Jewish values of community and



*tikkun olam*. Now as he takes the helm at OJCF, his vision is to inspire future generations to give back to their community with the same devotion and spirit instilled in him by his elders.

"I've been fortunate to have some very strong figures in my life, both familial and friends, who served as mentors and influencers," says Forman. Asked how he initially got involved with the local Jewish community, he says, "I have the classic reason, someone asked!"

Forman grew up in Cleveland, Ohio, and attended the University of Michigan, where he earned a bachelor's degree in economics in 1985 and a law degree in 1988.

See OJCF, page 9

## Super Sunday raises \$186,322



Super Sunday raised \$186,322 for the 2022 Campaign for Community Needs on Dec. 5, when 30 volunteers called or texted to connect with past donors to the campaign.

The 2022 Campaign for Community Needs can provide critical services for seniors, children and everyone in between – people who the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland has supported for more than a century, while looking forward to the next 100 years.

"We did not expect to be going into the second virtual year of Super Sunday," says Ted Nelson, who co-chairs the Federation campaign with Jessica Zutz Hilbert. "But Super Sunday last year was (very) successful." He adds that making calls from a Zoom room combines the "benefits of working

at home and the benefits of being part of a group with shared common commitment."

JFGP Campaign Director Wendy Kahn says that this year's Super Sunday exceeded last year's successful \$134,853. "This has been a fabulous day and a super success," she says.

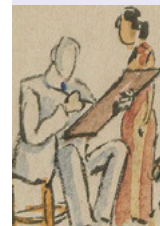
This year callers were motivated to ask donors "to go bigger this year because we have a double match today for all increases to gifts," says Jess.

Jess thanked all the agencies that recruited callers for the day and praised the participation of two young adult groups – Moishe House and Tivnu.

At the end of the two-hour phonathon, Jess said, "This exceeded my expectations. Every single touchpoint we have with our community makes a difference."

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# MJCC PDXBiz Zoom explores saving Portland

BY DEBORAH MOON

Three panelists shared their visions of how downtown Portland, and the broader city, can return to the thriving urban center that was a media darling earlier this century.

"There is so much to love about downtown Portland," said moderator Danelle Romain, president-elect of the Mittleman Jewish Community Center, which hosts the PDXBiz Zoom series. "Clearly our state and region depend on a vibrant downtown."

The Portland city and Multnomah County commissioners and an administrative law judge answered questions about how Portland can recover from the devastation related to the pandemic, homelessness and riots that intruded on the largely peaceful protests. The three agreed that clearly defined outcomes and measurable metrics need to be identified.

In 2020, voters in greater Portland approved personal and business income taxes to fund supportive housing services for people experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, homelessness.

"People want to help," said Vadim Mozyrsky, a Jewish refugee from Ukraine, who has lived here since 1979 and is now an Administrative Law Judge. He noted that many volunteer for clean-up efforts through SOLVE and other groups, as well as passing and paying the new taxes. "They just want to see a plan from the city and county."

Despite the creation of a Joint Office of Homeless Services, "We don't speak with a single voice," said Sharon Meieran, Multnomah County Commissioner and emergency physician. "We have no clear definition of outcomes. ... Without defining where we are going, we can't describe the path to get there."

Meieran noted there are three focus areas: preventing homelessness, providing safe shelter with services to those living on the streets and permanent housing, which will need to include services for the chronically homeless to deal with mental health or substance-abuse issues.

"How do we reduce harm and address conditions people are living in now?" she asked, noting her [website](#) includes her ideas. "I support a lot of the long-term solutions (that have been proposed), but I urgently disagree with the approach to the unsheltered."

Portland City Commissioner Mingus Mapps said the city is also struggling with increased violence, including "more homicides so far this year than at any time in our city's 170-year history." He projects by year end, there will be 80 homicides compared to "five or six years ago, when we had something like 16 homicides."

That surge in violence has tempered the "defund police" focus of 2020. "Account-  
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The Nov. 30 PDXBiz Zoom, hosted by the MJCC, brought together three panelists (from top right clockwise, Vadim Mozyrsky, Dr. Sharon Meieran and Mingus Mapps) with moderator Danelle Romain, top left, to discuss "What can be done for downtown Portland?"

## UP NEXT: CYBERSECURITY

**WHAT:** Mittleman Jewish Community Center PDXBiz Zoom series.

**TOPIC:** Cybersecurity: What can be done for your home and business?

**WHEN:** Noon, Wednesday, Jan. 12.

**PANELISTS:** Traci Esteve, Director IT and Tech Security at the Standard; Sam Harwin, Director Information Security at New Relic, Inc.; and Supriya Shanbhag, MHCC Cyber Center.

**COST:** Free, but a donation of \$18 is suggested.

**REGISTRATION:** Available soon at [oregonjcc.org/pdxbiz](https://oregonjcc.org/pdxbiz).

**INFORMATION:** Contact Saul Korin at [skorin@oregonjcc.org](mailto:skorin@oregonjcc.org) or 503-452-3427.

ability ... and fundamentally reinventing police is incredibly important," he said, but public safety is equally important.

To promote both of those goals, over the next four to five years Mapps said the city plans to hire 200-300 officers, potentially including unarmed PS3s to help solve situations before they become problems. Currently, Portland has 800 officers compared to 1,200 for most similar-sized cities.

Mapps proposed three measurable goals over the next six months: reduce homicides by 20%, have 1,000 fewer people living on the streets and clean up trash and graffiti.

"The time to set priorities is right now ... heading into the new budget cycle for next year's budget," he said.

Portland's city government is unlike other similar-sized cities, where city councils hire a professional city manager for the day-to-day business of city bureaus.

"A lot of the problems that we're seeing right now in Portland I believe are directly a result of our form of government," said Mozyrsky. "Each commissioner is in charge of several bureaus in an executive capacity ... so they're not only acting in their legislative capacity (by) setting pol-

icies and long-term goals for the city but also their executive capacity."

Mapps expects a proposal on next year's ballot to change Portland's form of government, a plan Mozyrsky strongly promotes.

"Long term, we need a city manager or strong mayor to run the city, so elected officials set policies and ... (can be) responsive to people rather than being CEOs of a bunch of different corporations (bureaus)," said Mozyrsky.

The city has taken one concrete step to enhance the visibility of downtown – businesses will be required to remove the plywood covering their windows over the next six months. Mapps said the commission has allocated funds to help downtown businesses replace any broken windows. In addition, he said the city is working to get on top of graffiti and litter.

"I expect (downtown) to look much better over the next year," said Mapps. "Having people re-engage with downtown ... reinforces engaging. We have stopped digging a hole and are starting to get out."

To see the full panel discussion, visit [oregonjcc.org/arts-culture/pdxbiz/pdx-biz-zoom-library](https://oregonjcc.org/arts-culture/pdxbiz/pdx-biz-zoom-library).





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# Museum's new exhibit "Bears Witness"

Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education debuts a new exhibit this month (see box) that fits right into the museum's mission to "challenge our visitors to resist indifference and discrimination and to envision a just and inclusive world."

OJMCHE Director Judy Margles says people's diverse stories illuminate the realities of our world. "We must be willing to consider another person's point of view in order to connect more deeply," she says.

"To Bear Witness – Extraordinary Lives" features photographs, profiles and short films that capture the stories of individuals who left their homelands for safe haven in Oregon. These brave men and women, born in places as far flung as Austria, Bosnia, Myanmar, Cambodia, Germany, Hungary, Rwanda, Sudan, Syria and Tibet, witnessed the atrocities of war, genocide and the Holocaust.

Each profile reveals the resilience of the survivor and the generosity of the many who provided assistance along the way.

"To Bear Witness" takes its name from the words of the late Nobel Prize-winning writer, activist and Holocaust survivor, Elie Wiesel, who emphatically proclaimed, "For the dead and the living, we must bear witness." In this spirit, the exhibition features stories of survivors of the Nazi Holocaust; genocides in Europe, Africa and Asia; and unimaginable atrocities of war. Each profile is a portrait of courage and human resilience.

"In today's politically charged environment, the subject of immigration can make for a controversial museum exhibition,"



*This is the second letter from Peter, expressing the joy he and Jea felt to receive my parents' response to his first letter written from Shanghai. He describes their experiences adjusting to life in Shanghai and declaring at the end that he will not rest in peace and comfort until HITLER HANGS.*

Eva Rickles, a refugee from Germany who now lives in Oregon, kept this cartoon letter her brother Peter sent to their parents from Shanghai.

says Margles. "The topic brings to mind questions related to nationality, globalization and identity, not to mention that in many parts of the world, exiles, refugees and other migrants find themselves forging new lives due to the delayed effects of colonialism."

This collaborative exhibit presents a multimedia exploration of the lives of 14 refugees who rebuilt their lives in Oregon.

"The quietly poignant voices in the exhibition ultimately humanize the larger themes of assimilation and acculturation; citizenship and belonging; values and social differences," says Margles.

The exhibition is a partnership between OJMCHE and The Immigrant Story, in collaboration with Portland pho-

## TO BEAR WITNESS – EXTRAORDINARY LIVES

**WHAT:** Multimedia exploration of the lives of 14 refugees who rebuilt their lives in Oregon.

**WHERE:** Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education, 724 NW Davis St., Portland

**WHEN:** Dec. 12, 2021-May 15, 2022. Currently the museum is open 11 am-4 pm, Wednesday-Saturday

**INFORMATION:** [ojmche.org](http://ojmche.org) or 503-226-3600

tographer Jim Lommasson and NW Documentary.

The Immigrant Story was founded in 2017 by Sankar Raman, who immigrated to the U.S. from India. The volunteer-led nonprofit works to foster empathy and build a more inclusive community by sharing stories of immigrants and refugees – people who often overcame tremendous odds

to reach the United States.

Lommasson focuses on objects survivors were able to carry with them on their perilous journeys. From his photographs of the objects, the participants respond with handwritten testimonies.

NW Documentary created five short films of personal stories that focus on the individual humanity of genocide survivors.

## Join 60th Anniversary Portland Jewish Academy Auction Dec.12

Don't miss the Portland Jewish "Academy Awards" 60th Anniversary Auction this Sunday, Dec.12.

Watch the Live Auction from your living room at 6 pm. The pre-show begins at 5:30 pm.

It's going to be so much fun with a costume contest, a raffle, and more than 150 silent and live auction items to bid on including toys, beer and wine, games, gear, diamonds and exotic

vacations, (Aruba, Mexico...etc.).

Join virtually on YouTube and bid on a separate device. All Mitzvah Moment donations will be matched 1.5 times. Jay and Diane Zidell are matching at 100% and Steve "Rosy" Rosenberg and Ellen Lippman have added another 50% match.

Everyone must register to watch and participate in the auction. Be PJA Proud and visit [pjaproud.org/auction](http://pjaproud.org/auction) to register.





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# BB Camp 2nd Century Campaign sprints to finish line

Ten years ago, B'nai B'rith Camp's board and staff leadership set an ambitious development plan to enhance its infrastructure and programs to serve the next 100 years of campers.

In the closing weeks of 2021, BB Camp is on target to reach its 10-year, \$14-million goal. A challenge gift from four donors, who have been involved with the campaign from the beginning, has brought the Second Century Campaign to within \$300,000 of completion.

Second Century Campaign Chair Irv Potter recalls the early concept of the campaign 10 years ago, when BB Camp leaders realized 2021 would be the centennial year for BB Camp.

"We inherited a gem from our previous generations, and now we have a special opportunity and obligation to pass it on in optimum condition for the next century of service," says Potter. "In reflecting on the huge benefit this camp has brought to our community over the last century, we knew it was time to make a significant investment for the next generation."

Located on a lakeside campus on the scenic Oregon coast, BB Camp has been dedicated to providing the finest Jewish summer overnight camp experience for today's campers while preparing them to be tomorrow's community leaders since 1921.

Through the end of December, Chief Philanthropy Officer Aaron Pearlman will lead the effort to galvanize BB Camp's donor and camper community to match the \$300,000 committed by Howard and Wendy Liebreich, Howard and Linda Davis, David and Katie Gold, and Ken and Mary Unkeles.

"What our community has done is simply astounding," says BB Camp CEO Michelle Koplan. "Year after year, we have seen real heroes step up to support the Second Century Campaign, and it has been transformational. BB Camp is more inclusive, more comfortable and more fun than ever because of so many generous donations."

Potter adds, "Five months ago it was the Zidell family who made a \$500,000 challenge gift that brought Second Century within a million of our \$14-million campaign goal. Now, four great friends of the camp have put us within \$300,000. We can finish our ten-year campaign within a matter of weeks, right on time!" The new Field House, or Ulam, will be dedicated to the Zidell family in appreciation for the support from Jay and Diane Zidell, Charlene Zidell, and Jason Zidell and Crystal Lamb. The old Ulam Gadol was dedicated in 1972 to Samuel Zidell by Charlene and Jay's father, Emery Zidell.

The final \$300,000 of funds raised for the Second Century Campaign will be dedicated to completing the new BB Camp Field House, which contains a full-size indoor gym.

"The Field House is a great capstone for our campaign," says



The BB Camp Field House will be the final building completed with the funding from the Second Century Campaign.

Potter. "It is large enough to hold every camper. It will be the central location for camp activities on rainy days, which do happen year-round in our climate! We also made sure it will be 100% accessible for people with disabilities."

BB Camp reports that construction has just begun on the new Field House, which is planned to be ready for the 2022 summer camp season. "Right on time to launch our new centennial," says Koplan.

"It is a tremendous honor to lead the camp through this historic transition," Koplan says. "The hardest thing I ever had to do as a BB Camp leader was to close the camp during the pandemic summer of 2020. The resilience of this community and its dedication to BB Camp has been tremendously uplifting. What an amazing investment for the future of our children and our community."

As BB Camp sprints toward the finish line for the Second Century Campaign, all commitments of \$360 or more are counted in the Second Century Friendship Circle and will be permanently recognized on engraved pavers surrounding the Second Century Pavilion. Donors at the Flag Circle (\$10,000+) and Century Circle (\$100,000+) will be recognized on donor walls incorporated in the Second Century Pavilion.

For more information on the Second Century Campaign, contact Aaron Pearlman at [apearlman@bbcamp.org](mailto:apearlman@bbcamp.org) or 503-345-9467 or visit [bbcamp.org/second-century-campaign](http://bbcamp.org/second-century-campaign).

## Sephardic Winter Film Series returns Dec. 9 through April 7

The 15th Annual Sephardic Winter Film Series returns this year beginning at 7 pm, Dec. 9, at Congregation Ahavath Achim, 6686 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland.

Films are shown the second week of each month (Wednesday or Thursday) through April 2022 at 7 pm. Admission is free and open to all (proof of vaccination and masks required). Films are followed by a speaker and Sephardic desserts.

The festival begins with a screening of the comedy "The Pickle Recipe." When a freak accident destroys the sound equipment of a party emcee just four weeks before his daughter's bat mitzvah, the single father turns to his shady uncle to get the money to replace it. Uncle Morty agrees to give him the needed \$20,000 if he will steal his



"The Pickle Recipe" is the first film in this winter's Sephardic film series.

grandmother Rose's top-secret kosher dill pickle recipe. Mort Simon will lead the post-film discussion.

The series continues Jan. 13 with the documentary "Romaniotes," which is about

the distinct Greek-Jewish community of the city of Ioannina.

Feb. 9 is a double feature of documentaries, "Cuba's Forgotten Jewels" and "From Philadelphia to the Front." The discussion will be led by Judy Margles, Director of the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education.

A double feature of "The Shabbat Bride" and "Dreamers and Builders" are up on March 10.

The series concludes April 7 with "Expulsion and Memory: Descendants of the Hidden Jews" and "Girona, The Mother of Israel: The Jews of Catalonia."

For more information, contact Ron Sidis 503-750-0888. Space is limited. RSVP to [info@ahavathachim.com](mailto:info@ahavathachim.com).

# Students invited to apply to cover 21<sup>st</sup> Maccabiah

Maccabi USA has launched Maccabi Media to provide an international experience for aspiring sports media professionals. High school seniors, current college students and recent graduates with a strong sports media background and experience are invited to apply (see box).

A team of 14 talented and versatile college and high school students will be selected to cover the 21st Maccabiah in Israel. They will assume various roles in sports media and will participate in Maccabi USA's Israel Connect program in July 2022.

Former Philadelphia 76ers broadcaster Marc Zumoff is chairing the program, joining several other veteran media professionals in Israel to provide hands-on support, mentorship and professional instruction to the Maccabi Media team.

"There's never been an experience like this available to young people," said Zumoff, who recently retired after 27-years as the television voice of the Sixers. "They will cover the third-largest sporting event in the world, while also immersing themselves in the culture and history of Israel itself."

Maccabi Media will also provide the most comprehensive coverage of the games in the near 90-year history of the event.

Students will further develop their skills in play-by-play, sideline reporting, anchoring, video production, interviewing, camera work, editing, sports reporting, streaming and social media.

The final Maccabi Media team will be announced in January 2022 and will then begin virtual and in-person training sessions leading up to July's event.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Portland is sharing information about this program to ensure our region's young people

## MACCABI MEDIA APPLICATIONS

14 students will be selected to cover the 2022 Maccabi Games in Israel and participate in Maccabi USA's Israel Connect program from July 5-26, 2022.

### WHO:

- **Current college undergraduates** (including those who will be freshmen in fall 2022)
- **College graduates no older than 25 years old** by July 5, 2022
- **High school students** who will be seniors in fall 2022

**INFORMATION:** Eligibility requirements can be found on the application [website](#) or contact Media Coordinator Neal Slotkin at [maccabimedia@maccabiusa.com](mailto:maccabimedia@maccabiusa.com)

**DEADLINE:** Applications close Jan. 1, 2022

**APPLY:** [maccabiusa.com/maccabimedia/](https://maccabiusa.com/maccabimedia/)

have the opportunity to apply.

"What an exciting opportunity for young sports enthusiasts," says JFGP President and CEO Marc Blattner. "To not only be a part of the 21st Maccabiah Games in Israel, but to also get hands-on training and mentoring for aspiring sports media professionals. If only I were 30 years younger."

## Congregations in Greater Portland area

**Ahavath Achim** (Sephardic)  
6686 Capitol Hwy.  
Portland, OR 97219  
503-227-0010  
[ahavathachim.com](http://ahavathachim.com)

**The Alberta Shul**  
503-703-5205  
[albertashul.org](http://albertashul.org)

**Beit Haverim** (Reform)  
111 Country Club Dr.  
Mail: PO Box 311  
Lake Oswego, OR 97034  
503-568-1241  
[beithav.org](http://beithav.org)

**Congregation Beit Yosef**  
4200 SW Vermont St.  
Portland, OR 97219  
971-220-8152

**Beth Israel** (Reform)  
1972 NW Flanders St.  
Portland, OR 97209  
503-222-1069  
[bethisrael-pdx.org](http://bethisrael-pdx.org)

**Chabad of Clark County**  
9604 NE 126th Ave. # 2340  
Vancouver, WA 98682  
360-993-5222  
[jewishvancouverwa.com](http://jewishvancouverwa.com)

**Chabad of Hillsboro**  
965 SW Brookwood Ave.  
Hillsboro, OR 97123  
503-747-5363  
[chabadh.com](http://chabadh.com)

**Chabad of Gresham/E County**  
503-389-0312  
[facebook.com/JewishGresham](https://facebook.com/JewishGresham)

**Chabad of Lake Oswego**  
[www-jewishlo.com](http://www-jewishlo.com)

**Chabad of NE Portland**  
503-309-4490  
[jewishnortheast.com](http://jewishnortheast.com)

**Chabad Center for Jewish Life SW Portland**  
2317 SW Vermont St.  
Portland, OR 97219  
503-381-7119  
[jportland.com](http://jportland.com)

**Chabad at Reed College & SE Portland**  
3355 SE Steele St.  
Portland, OR 97202  
503-752-2258  
[jewishreed.com](http://jewishreed.com)

**Chabad Young Professionals/ Chabad NW**  
503-583-2025 | [Pdxcorp.org](http://Pdxcorp.org)

**Tigard Chabad**  
12555 SW Summer Crest Dr.  
Tigard, OR 97223  
971-329-6661  
[jewishtigard.com](http://jewishtigard.com)

**Gesher - A Bridge Home**  
503-246-5070  
[ourjewishhome.org](http://ourjewishhome.org)

**Havurah Shalom** (Reconstructionist)  
825 NW 18th Ave.  
Portland, OR 97209  
503-248-4662  
[havurahshalom.org](http://havurahshalom.org)

**Kesser Israel** (Orthodox)  
6698 SW Capitol Hwy.  
Portland, OR 97219  
503-222-1239 | [kesserisrael.org](http://kesserisrael.org)

**Kol Ami** (Reform)  
7800 NE 119th St.  
Vancouver, WA 98662  
360-896-8088  
[jewishvancouverusa.org](http://jewishvancouverusa.org)

**Kol Shalom** (Humanistic)  
2420 NE Sandy Blvd.  
Portland, OR 97223  
[kolshalom.org](http://kolshalom.org)

**Neveh Shalom** (Conservative)  
2900 SW Peaceful Lane  
Portland, OR 97239  
503-246-8831  
[nevehshalom.org](http://nevehshalom.org)

**P'nai Or** (Renewal)  
c/o Hillsdale Com Church  
6948 SW Capitol Hwy.  
Portland, OR 97219  
503-248-4500  
[pnaiorpd.org](http://pnaiorpd.org)

**Shaarie Torah** (Conservative)  
920 NW 25th Ave.  
Portland, OR 97210  
503-226-6131  
[shaarietorah.org](http://shaarietorah.org)

**Shir Tikvah** (Independent)  
2420 NE Sandy Blvd.  
Portland, OR 97232  
503-473-8227  
[shirtikvahpdx.org](http://shirtikvahpdx.org)

**Community Chaplain**  
Rabbi Barry Cohen  
971-361-6124  
[chaplain@jewishportland.org](mailto:chaplain@jewishportland.org)





Cantor Linda Shivers, right, and physical therapist Patty Magid-Volk are surrounded by durable medical equipment that has been donated to Avraham's Closet. The two volunteers are eager to loan the wheelchairs, walkers and other items to people recovering from surgery, injury or illness.

## Borrow rehab essentials

BY DEBORAH MOON

When Cantor Linda Shivers and Neveh Shalom's Hesed (kindness) Committee put out a call for wheelchairs, walkers and similar items, donations flooded in from people who had recovered from an injury or surgery.

Now Cantor Shivers wants people to borrow the items they need from Avraham's Closet, the durable medical equipment lending library created by the Hesed Committee. Neveh Shalom's committee provides meal delivery, grocery shopping or support for congregants experiencing a medical situation or family emergency. But unlike those projects, the lending library is open to everyone.

"You don't have to be poor, you don't have to be a member of Neveh Shalom, you don't even have to be Jewish," says Cantor Shivers. "You just have to say 'I need a walker,' and we will lend it to you to keep as long as you need it."

The project is named after Cantor Shivers' husband, Albert (whose Hebrew name is Avraham). After he fell and fractured his pelvis a couple of years ago, she had to find a walker and transfer chair before Robison would release him from rehab to come home. When she tried to find a walker using Medicare, she was told it would take a few months. So, she bought a walker locally. After Albert recovered, the walker was taking up

space in their home.

Wanting to spare others the expense of buying and then storing a walker or wheelchair they would only need for a short time, she suggested the Hesed Committee take up the project.

Now Avraham's Closet is stocked with two- and four-wheel walkers, wheelchairs, crutches, canes, commodes, tub and shower seats, transfer chairs, grabbers, foot pedal exercisers, a knee scooter and assorted pads, slings and ice packs. Donations, especially wheelchairs, are still welcome.

Physical therapist Patty Magid-Volk, who has known the cantor for about 21 years, has volunteered to check the equipment to make sure it is all in proper working order. She is also available to meet clients to properly adjust the height of crutches and walkers. She has been a physical therapist with a geriatric specialty for 36 years.

"PT Patty," as she is called by her clients at the outpatient mobile clinic where she works, calls the volunteer role "my dream job."

Cantor Shivers served Neveh Shalom as cantor for 23 years beginning in 1986. She moved to Des Moines, Iowa, in 2008 and returned to Portland in 2013. She is now a member of the congregation's Hesed Committee.

To borrow (or donate) items from Avraham's Closet, email [cantor.shivers@gmail.com](mailto:cantor.shivers@gmail.com) or call the Neveh Shalom office at 503-246-8831 to arrange a pickup time.

## Foundation School hires new administrative director

Candace Rothstein became Foundation School Administrative Director Dec. 1 after four years of teaching at the preschool.

Candace has a background in teaching many ages, from early childhood to high school. She has experience in special education, school administration and Jewish education.

"Candace is perfect for this position, not just because her skill set is a wonderful match, but also because of the heart and soul she brings to the work," says Foundation School Director Cory Willson. "In her own words, she is Foundation School's 'biggest fan.' Candace has been a talented teacher for us for many years, and we are truly lucky to have her now leading our children, educators and families as we move forward together."

Candace is passionate about the importance of fostering connection and inclusion for all children, families and staff.

"I believe we should empower children to lead the way into the future, and this year, with all the changes the world has seen, even more so," says Candace.

As administrative director, Candace will oversee the Conservative Jewish preschool program serving 90+ children from ages 12 months through 5 years. She will assist with licensing requirements for the school, finance and billing, scheduling, record keeping, marketing and social media, along with daily support for students, parents and teachers.

"It is with a humble heart and an exciting vision for the future of Foundation School that I take on this new role," says Candace. "I care deeply about the children, families, educators and community of this school, and I look forward to continuing the school's legacy of excellence in early childhood Jewish education."



Candace Rothstein

## MJCC offers vacation camps

Winter Vacation Day Camps and Skyhawks Sports Camps return to the Mittleman Jewish Community Center for the last two weeks of December. Camps are for children in kindergarten through fifth grade.

All staff are fully vaccinated. Masks are required for both staff and campers. Registration is limited, so register soon.

The classic day camps meet 9 am-4 pm, Monday-Thursday, each week. Summer camp manager, Josh, and summer counselors, Ava, Grace, Caden, Ellerie and Ethan, are back for two short weeks for arts, crafts, games, sports and more!

Cost is \$230 or \$190 for members.

Winter Break Skyhawks Sports Camps offer morning and afternoon sessions Dec. 20-23 and Dec. 27-30. Play basketball 9 am-noon. Soccer will be 1-4 pm. A supervised lunch is available from noon to 1 pm. Cost per half-day session is \$175 or \$155 member; the lunch bunch is \$40 per week.

For more information or to register for any camps, go to: [oregonjcc.org/camps-childcare/vacation-camps](http://oregonjcc.org/camps-childcare/vacation-camps).



# OJCF (continued from page 1)

Just like his maternal grandfather, Howard, he still roots ardently for his beloved U of M Wolverines.

He began his career as an attorney with a large Wall Street firm. In 1993, he moved to Oregon, where he raised his two children and now lives with his wife, Julie. Forman built a successful career in corporate law and is the Chair of the Corporate Finance and Transactions Practice Group as a partner at Tonkon Torp, LLP, where he has practiced since 2003.

Forman gains the most personal satisfaction and sense of purpose from his lifelong dedication to serving the community. He began volunteering when he was just 8 years old at his neighborhood YMCA by helping with after-school programs for kindergarteners and first-graders. Decades later, Forman offers stewardship and service to numerous organizations where he generously shares his time and talents. He has chaired the boards of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, Robison Jewish Health Center and the Cedar Sinai Park Foundation. He also has served on the boards and committees of a wide range of local and state civic organizations.

In taking on the role of President and CEO of OJCF, Forman will fuse his professional experience with his lifelong commitment to community. As a father of two, Forman sees younger generations working to make the world a better place. His vision for the future of OJCF is focused on inspiring and leading future generations to embrace service and philanthropy, just as he has, and to give back to their community in a way that aligns with their values and passions.

"I want to convey to the next generation that the significance of philanthropy is to better equip our communities with resources that improve and strengthen the welfare of our society," he says. "To do this, I want to better understand how the next generation thinks about philanthropy and how we can work to match their philanthropic needs in a way that will help them define what they want their legacy to be."

The notion of legacy is of profound significance to Forman as he prepares to follow his predecessor, Julie Diamond, z"l, who served the organization for more than 10 years. Julie passed away from cancer in August of this year, and her loss is still felt by many, including Forman.

"I am blessed to have had my predecessor be Julie Diamond," says Forman. "I am following someone who made an amazing difference, who made a huge contribution to this community. And, if I'm doing it right, I'm honoring Julie."

OJCF Board Chair Josh Frankel is confident Forman is the person to lead OJCF.

"After an extensive search, it was evident to our hiring committee that David was the best person to lead the Foundation and sustain and strengthen the legacy of longtime CEO Julie Diamond," says Frankel. "David possesses the experience, qualifications and passion to grow OJCF into an even greater, more successful organization. We are kveling over David as our new CEO."

Leaders in the Jewish community of Oregon and SW Washington, including Jewish Federation of Greater Portland President and CEO Marc Blattner, enthusiastically welcome Forman in his new role.

"David Forman is a 'community-first' person," says Blattner. "I very much look forward to partnering with David in his new professional role within the Jewish community and the opportunity for greater collaboration going forward."

The inspiration of previous generations will illuminate Forman's vision for the organization and future generations of those it will serve.

"What I will be doing is all heart," says Forman. "The Oregon Jewish Community Foundation aligns with my values and my passion and my commitment to our community. I now have the opportunity to have a hands-on experience to help write the next chapter of the Foundation's story. It's just a phenomenal opportunity for someone who has been so involved for so long. I can't tell you how excited I am."

For more information on the Foundation, visit [ojcf.org](http://ojcf.org).



## JFGP's Jodi Garber-Simon to lead Tektronix global communications

This month, Jodi Garber-Simon leaves her post as Director of Marketing and Communications for the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland to become Director, Global Communications, for Tektronix.

"It has been an honor to be part of Federation, but this was an opportunity I couldn't pass up," says Jodi, who plans to remain involved with Portland's Jewish community. "The Jewish community is very important to me. I'm proud Federation is truly the umbrella organization and looks out for every Jew."

JFGP President and CEO Marc N. Blattner says, "Jodi has been an invaluable member of our professional team. We are sad to see her go, but excited for her new and exciting leadership opportunity."

Jodi became a consultant for Federation in 2017 when it hired Bighorn Communications, the company she and her husband, Neil Simon, founded, to help organizations seeking to improve their communications. In September 2018, she joined the Federation staff.

Jodi credits one of her key achievements in part to her initial role as a consultant, which gave her an "outsider's view."

"I'm proud we solidified a brand for Federation," she says. "We came up with the tagline 'Here for You' that we carry through in all our work and the Federation logo."

Jodi is also proud of the marketing and materials that drew 400 people to sign up for Federation's Centennial Israel trip, which is rescheduled for 2023 due to the global pandemic.

She takes pride in how Federation pivoted and found ways to connect online when COVID struck. The "Don't Show Gala" was a successful experiment of fund-raising in the pandemic era that was a huge success and raised a lot of money. Overall, she believes Federation has developed digital strategies and tools and expanded its social media presence in ways that will help the community move into the future.

"I hope the community will continue to grow and prosper, and I am certain Federation will continue to play an important role in that," she said.

"I'm really proud of my work with Federation, and one of the best things about it is that none of the accomplishments are solely my own. We have a fantastic team and I have been so lucky to be a part of it," she says.

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## Upcoming issues

Issue date	Deadline
<b>Dec. 22</b>	Dec. 16
<b>Jan. 5</b>	Dec. 29
<b>Jan. 19</b>	Jan. 13
<b>Feb. 2</b>	Jan. 27

Submit news, photos  
and obituaries to  
[editor@jewishportland.org](mailto:editor@jewishportland.org)

# Agency Column: Oregon Hillel



Shabbat in the Park at Oregon State University, above, and sufganiyot for Chanukah at the University of Oregon, at right, are just two of the ways Oregon Hillel has reached out to students returning to campus this year.



## Focus on students during pandemic

*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. The following column is from Oregon Hillel.*

BY ANDY GITELSON

It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of 2021! To say that this has been one of the most wonderfully exhausting and challenging years in life and on campus is truly an understatement.

We have all experienced a range of emotions, from loneliness and anxiety to excitement, as we continue to re-enter the new normalcy of daily life. Through all of this uncertainty, there is one thing that our students at both Oregon State University and the University of Oregon have been able to count on – Oregon Hillel. Our staff have focused on the well-being of each and every individual student, listening intently to understand what they need most in this moment and how we can support them best with love, Jewish values, care, empathy and compassion.

In short, we have focused our time and energy on supporting students rather than on one-off programs and events. This approach has enabled us to learn more about what our students are most passionate about and

what they are missing from their lives, so that we can work to create the Jewish community they envision and connect with.

I can say with confidence that this is the right team of committed and dedicated staff, board members and student leaders – each and every one of them leaned into the challenges that our students and community have faced (and continue to experience) and have said “Hineini” (Here I Am). I could not be more proud of our student leaders and staff for their tireless dedication to the important work that Oregon Hillel continues to do to support ALL students at the University of Oregon and Oregon State University.

Thanks to our student-centric approach, Oregon Hillel has provided meaningful Jewish connections, mentorship and experiences for 660 Ducks and Beavers (570 who identify as Jewish undergraduate or graduate students).

It has been amazing to connect hundreds of students with the Jewish community each year. But even if a student never “sets foot in Hillel” or joins us for High Holy Days, enjoys one of Hillel’s Shabbat dinners, orders free matzo ball soup from the Min Zidell Matzo Ball Soup Hotline delivered to their door, or takes part in one of the many opportunities to learn, engage or grow their Jewish identity,

Oregon Hillel will always be there for every student in any and every way possible. We are here to elevate their voices, to listen to what they need most from their community and ensure that they have an advocate for the support they need.

None of this is possible without the generous support of our parents, alumni, community members and community partners. Thanks to you, we continue to lead in building our Jewish student communities on our campuses, investing in future Jewish leaders, and helping students to feel safe and connected during this time when they have needed community more than ever.



*Andy Gitelson is Executive Director of Oregon Hillel ([oregonhillel.org](http://oregonhillel.org)) at the University of Oregon and Oregon State University. For more information about Hillel at UO or OSU or to learn more about how you can support Jewish campus life, email [andy@oregonhillel.org](mailto:andy@oregonhillel.org)*



# Rabbi's Corner

## Appreciating the Season

BY RABBI GARY EZRA OREN

During this time of year, some Jews wonder how to navigate the “holiday season.” Folks ask important questions, such as: What do I say to my children when they ask if they can have pretty lights and a tree? Do I accept the invitation to Aunt Betty’s Christmas party? How do we Jews compete with the enormity of Christmas? What can I do to make sure that my children don’t feel left out or less than?

When answering these types of questions, I usually share that my children attend a Christmas party every year with their cousins. I’ve been asked, “How could you allow this? Aren’t you jeopardizing your children’s religious identity in the future?” My answer: “No.”

I learned how to talk with my children about the difference between Chanukah and Christmas from my teacher, Dr. Ron Wolfson, who wrote:

“Early childhood educators tell us that one of the most crucial stages in socialization occurs when a child is between 18 and 30 months old and attends another child’s birthday party ... To help children begin to distinguish between what’s mine and what’s his/hers. Toddlers must learn the difference between celebrating one’s own birthday and celebrating someone else’s.”

Thus, many Jewish educators will advise parents to give their children who want to celebrate Christmas a particularly important message: Christmas is someone else’s party, not ours. Just as we can appreciate someone else’s birthday celebration and be happy for them, we can celebrate Christmas with family and friends and know it isn’t our holiday.

Many parents make a perfectly understandable, but incomplete, leap. “Christmas is for Christians. They have Christmas. We are Jewish. We have Chanukah.” Some go further and suggest that Chanukah is even better than Christmas. “Christmas is only one day. Chanukah is for eight!” So, the parental anxiety leads to the teaching that our party lasts longer, offers more presents and is just as beautiful.

Of course, the problem is that it just isn’t

***The child who has experienced the building of a sukkah will not feel deprived of trimming a tree.***

true. Chanukah cannot hold a candle to Christmas. Chanukah is a minor event in the Jewish holiday cycle and has never, until recently, been viewed as a central celebration for the Jewish people. Therefore, the customs and ceremonies surrounding Chanukah pale by comparison to those of Christmas – which is one of the two major holidays of Christianity.

The answer to the child is incomplete. “We’re Jewish – we have Chanukah” is only the beginning of the response. “We’re Jewish, and we have Chanukah ... and a full year of special holidays to celebrate – most importantly, Shabbat every week.”

The child who has experienced the building of a sukkah will not feel deprived of trimming a tree. The child who has participated in a meaningful Passover Seder will not feel deprived of Christmas dinner. The child who has paraded with the Torah on Simchat Torah, planted trees at Tu B’Shevat, brought first fruits at Shavuot, given mishloach manot at Purim, and welcomed the Shabbat with candles and wine and challah by the time they are 3 years old will understand that to be Jewish is to be enriched by a calendar brimming with joyous celebrations.

Then, of course, there are parents who believe that the December lesson, that Jews are different than almost everybody else, is an inescapable part of being Jewish, unless you live in Israel. There is an immense value in being unique, different, valuable in your own right. The great promise of religious freedom has created the diversity of culture that characterizes the free world. When we live side by side with people of other religions, we must respect and appreciate their customs, arts and traditions. In fact, I believe it is a Jewish religious imperative to teach our children to appreciate the



*Rabbi Gary Ezra Oren is the senior rabbi of Congregation Shaarie Torah, a Conservative synagogue in Northwest Portland. He and his wife, Sharone, have three children.*

beauty of diversity in God’s world.

What does appreciation mean? It means that there is nothing wrong with enjoying the beauty of someone else’s celebration. If we are strong in our Jewish commitments, there is little danger that appreciating the warmth and beauty of another’s holiday will threaten our fundamental identity. But appreciation does not mean assimilation ... because assimilation potentially leads to confusion and loss of identity.

My children understand that even though they celebrate with their cousins, it is not their holiday – just like they can go to someone else’s birthday and know that it is not their party. I believe that as long as my home is rooted in the Jewish living, then one evening a year with family, appreciating Christmas lights or knowing about Santa Claus will not harm the Jewish adults my children are becoming.

I hope your Chanukah celebrations were wonderful and you are sending blessings to all our neighbors who celebrate Christmas.

### Rabbi'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 [editor@jewishportland.org](mailto:editor@jewishportland.org).

## How can we end our walking hibernation?

BY RABBI BARRY COHEN

I have been thinking a lot about winter, which officially begins on Dec. 21. If I could channel my inner bear, part of me wants to hibernate. I want to find a place I am safe, lie down and sleep for a while.

This desire makes perfect sense. To varying degrees, I am still dealing with COVID fatigue. These past months have been physically, spiritually and psychologically exhausting. And yet, COVID restrictions have begun to lift. As Community Chaplain, I have gained greater in-person access to hospitals and retirement communities. But that has revealed an unanticipated challenge. After all of these months of virtual isolation, how can I access the physical and mental reserves needed to make this much-anticipated transition?

To find answers, I did a little research on bears and hibernation. I learned that when bears awake after hibernating, they still exist for weeks in a state of “walking hibernation.” (I know I’m getting ahead of myself, since winter has not even begun yet.) The bears’ bodies for a while remain in torpor, a state of reduced bodily activity. Their time of hibernation was not completely restful. They are still sleep deprived and fatigued. They use this time of walking hibernation to ramp up their appetites and exercise neglected muscles.

I can relate to what bears go through with this post-hibernation transition. In a way, the communication and interaction skills I used before COVID have atrophied. These abilities are like underused muscles that are now out of shape. As a result, I need to be patient with myself and with others as we relearn how to be in person again. How do we greet one another? How do we listen? How do we pay attention to body language? When should we stop talking and create space for others to join in? How do we bring an interaction to a close? How do we say goodbye?

Like a bear, we will be in walking hibernation for a while. That said,

we have learned how resilient we can be over the past nearly two years. We know we have the ability to heal and become strong and healthy in the face of almost every COVID-related challenge. We have proven how adaptable we are.

In the coming weeks, let us awake from our walking hibernation and transition from virtual to in-person interactions. We can explore the programs and services returning to communal organizations like the Mittleman Jewish Community Center, synagogues and the Eastside Jewish Commons, among others. We have many opportunities to worship, socialize, study, exercise and share a meal – together.

Another aspect of ending our walking hibernation is having something to look forward to. Let’s plan in-person social gatherings. We can do something as simple as meeting for a cup of coffee to something as sophisticated as a New Year’s celebration. (How I miss gathering with others to watch college football. Bowl season is right around the corner.)

As our COVID hibernation (hopefully) draws to a close, let’s enjoy getting our physical and communication skills back in shape. Let’s not be afraid to indulge ourselves. Let’s remember we’re never too old to play and act like kids. Let’s be patient with ourselves and others, and most of all, let’s have fun.



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

## GAYLE ROSENTHAL

Gayle Rosenthal, z”l, passed away Nov. 29, 2021, in Dallas, Texas, at age 78. Gayle is loved and remembered in Portland by sons, Scott (Anna Davis) Weinrobe and David Weinrobe; daughter, Kathy Kaplan; and grandchildren, Joshua and Ravi.

A memorial service is scheduled in Dallas, Texas.

Congregation Neveh Shalom sends our deepest condolences to the extended Rosenthal/Weinrobe family.

## ITAI DEWAR

Itai Dewar, z”l, passed away Nov. 27, 2021, at age 64. Itai is loved and remembered by his sister, Loren (Mark) Troen; brother, Daniel Dewar; niece, Lindsay (Bruce Connors) Horst; and great-nephew, Ernie.

Itai was a teacher of Congregation Neveh Shalom’s ALIYAH’s fifth-grade class for many years, as well as a Hebrew tutor and adult education instructor. He was also the resident caretaker at Neveh Shalom.

Neveh Shalom Director of Congregational Learning Mel Berwin shared the following tribute: *Itai Dewar, z”l, was one of the first teachers I hired when I joined the staff at CNS. He was entirely dedicated to his 5th-graders for the past 10 years, as well as to his adult Beginning Hebrew learners and all the students he tutored, and to the whole congregation as caretaker of the shul.*

*Teaching was his joy, as was learning. It seemed like each year, he added new languages and new instruments to his collection. Piano. Banjo. Harp. He was ageless and poetic – he answered every question with a story, and, no matter how many stories he told, I never understood the linear timeline of his life. He especially loved sharing stories from his time in the Peace Corps and his years in Israel; but he took equal interest in his students, gathering their stories as much as he shared his own. He gathered friends as well, from all over the world, from all backgrounds, and from all the chapters of his life. We will deeply miss his humility, curiosity, kindness, dedication and gentle soul. It is hard to imagine Neveh Shalom or ALIYAH without him.*

A funeral was held Dec. 1 at Ahavai Shalom Cemetery. Congregation Neveh Shalom sends our deepest condolences to the extended Dewar family.

## PHIL KANE

Phil Kane, z”l, passed away Nov. 24, 2021, at age 84. Phil is loved and remembered by his children, Lee Kane and Shoshana (Steven) Silver; grandchildren, Samuel and Sophie Silver; brother, Lynn Kane; sister-in-law, Ruthanne Gould; stepson and daughter-in-law, Daniel and Leslie Petcher; and his niece Sara Kane; and nephew. Phil was predeceased by his wife, Rosalind, just a few short weeks ago.

Phil was a regular participant in Neveh Shalom’s Morning Minyan and regular services.

He was buried Nov. 28 at Ahavai Shalom Cemetery. Congregation Neveh Shalom sends our deepest condolences to the extended Kane family.

## LAUREL REBECCA RANN

Laurel Rebecca Rann, z”l, (Laurel bat Levi HaLevi) passed away on Nov. 14, 2021, in Colorado. She is survived by her daughter, River Paul; father, Lenny Rann; sister, Rachael Arielle (Todd) Page; brothers, Jacob Yeider and Pal Emery; and nephew, Daniel Page.

A memorial service will be held at 11:30 am, Dec. 10, in the Congregation Shaarie Torah chapel.