Congregation Nevel Shalom Revel Phalom F

THIS NEWSLETTER IS SUPPORTED BY THE SALA KRYSZEK MEMORIAL PUBLICATION FUND

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From the Pulpit

Come to Learn and Be Inspired... A Full Shabbat Weekend at Neveh Shalom with Two Rabbis on the Cutting Edge, January 19-21

Rabbi Sheila Weinberg, Senior Faculty at the Institute for Jewish Spirituality, and Rabbi Steven Greenberg, author of Wrestling with God and Men

It has been said that the two most pressing issues on the internal agenda of the Jewish community are the search for greater spirituality and confronting the issue of homosexuality. We are excited to present two of the most significant teachers on these issues.

Mark your calendars. You won't want to miss this opportunity.

Rabbi Sheila Weinberg teaches Jewish meditation and mindfulness practice as one of the principal educators for the Institute for Jewish Spirituality. I became so impressed with what Rabbi Weinberg brings to the table through four five-day spirituality retreats I spent with her, that I was determined to share her with you. She is a wonderful guide, compassionate mentor, and exceptional instructor and brings an infectious sense of humor. Helping Jews find an authentic Jewish spiritual voice is central to Rabbi Weinberg's "calling" as a rabbi. You can feel her sincerity and passion immediately as soon as you meet her and spend time with her.

Rabbi Weinberg is a graduate of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College. She cont. on page 5

The Shabbat Weekend Schedule

Friday evening: Two Options for Services and Dinner6:15pm Chic Chok service followed by Shabbat

dinner (reservations required)

 6:15pm Shabbat dinner hosted by Women's League followed by Women's League Shabbat services at 8:15pm

• 7:10pm Rabbi Steven Greenberg will speak

- 7:45pm Rabbi Sheila Weinberg will prepare us for services with an introduction to meditation. Rabbi Weinberg will also speak at the 8:15pm service Shabbat morning
- 9:00am Warm-up meditation led by Rabbi Weinberg during Psukei D'Zimra, Rabbis Weinberg and Greenberg will participate in the service
- 12:30-1:30pm Jewish meditation practicum led by Rabbi Weinberg
 - 5:00-5:45pm Study with Rabbi Greenberg
- 5:45pm Havdalah followed by a light meal
- 6:30-7:30pm Rabbi Weinberg addresses the question: What is Jewish Spirituality?
 Sunday morning:
- 9:30-11:00am "The Spirituality of Parenting," an opportunity for parents to interact with Rabbi Weinberg on how to make the home a more spiritual place



Cantor Marshall Portnoy at Congregation Neveh Shalom

February 2, 6:15pm, Shabbat Shira

February 3, 9am, Song of the Sea Scroll

February 3, 8pm, Concert including Cantor Ida Rae Cahana, Cantor Judith Schiff, Cantor Linda Shivers & Julie Beth Portnoy with Phyllis Louke on flute & Marjorie Janove on piano.

This concert is a benefit for the Neveh Shalom Choir. Tickets are available from any choir member or from the Neveh Shalom office (jmarquis@nevehshalom. org or 503.246.8831, ext 100). Adults: \$18, Seniors & Students (with ID), \$15.



All-Member Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, January 28, 2007

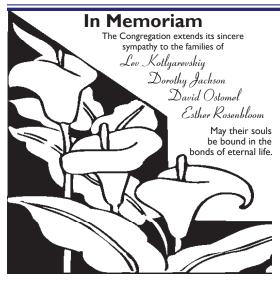
8:30-10:30 am

Free to members

Sponsored by the Sylvia Pearlman Membership Enhancement Fund

RSVP required by Monday, January 22nd. jmarquis@nevehshalom.org or 503.246.8831, ext 100





Condolences

Our sincere condolences to our members Allison Kaufman on the death of her grandmother, Ruth Anderson; Mel Rosenbloom, Richard Rosenbloom, and Mark Rosenbloom on the death of their wife and mother, Esther Rosenbloom; Ben Philan on the death of his mother, Regina (Jean) Philan; and Ella Ostroff on the death of her sister, Olga Guttman.

Refuah Shlema



Refuah Shlema, a speedy recovery, to **Sam Sadis**, **Dana Pasik** and **Ric Ball**.

Clergy Visits

To assure that clergy make visits to congregants in the hospital, extended care facilities and hospices, now please contact the office at Congregation Neveh Shalom: **503.246.8831**.

In an effort to comply with the new patient privacy laws, health-care facilities may not release the names of their patients; so it is imperative that you provide the name of the member, the facility name, patient's room number, length of anticipated stay, your relationship to the patient and a number where you can be reached if further information is needed.

Welcome, New Members

Neveh Shalom extends a warm welcome to new members: Marshall & Carolyn Naiman and Michael Wolf & Lisa Klein-Wolf. We look forward to their participation in synagogue life.

Kol Ha-Kavod!

Every simcha is special. Congratulations to our many members who are celebrating throughout January. In particular, Mazel Tov to the following members who are celebrating special milestones!

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

Harold & Jackie Lesch

Ber & Ida Levenshteyn

MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS

Jonathan Abramson Alexander Aginsky Sidney Atlas Glen Coblens Magdalena Cynrutis-Simon Jennifer Director-Knudsen Benjamin Ertischek Vladimir Fiks Deborah Freedberg

Thelma Geffen Gary Grenley Marta Hasson David Hosenpud Sandra Huppin Karen Johnson Michelle Koplan Jerry Kryszek Scot Leavitt

Lauri Levy
William Loeb
Carol Nieh
Jaime Rubenstein
Robert Rudolph
Inna Shabashevich
Mira Shoykhet
Betty Smith
Leonard Springer

Shabbat Unplugged

Friday, January 12, 6:15pm Zidell Chapel

A meditation service with Cantor Linda Shivers

Mazel Tov to **Etta O'Donnell-King** on her becoming a Bat Mitzvah January 5 & 6. Etta is the daughter of Anne O'Donnell and **Mike King** and sister to Uma. Grandparents are Barbara Lear, Carlos Reyes and Tim & Mary O'Donnell. She is a 7th-grade student at the Metropolitan Learning Center. Etta's interests include writing and music. She writes poems and songs and is learning to play guitar.



Mazel Tov to Anastasia (Sasha)
Cohen on her becoming a Bat
Mitzvah on January 12 & 13. Sasha
is the daughter of Aviva Cohen
& Barbara Standard and sister
to Sophia. Her grandparents are
Charles & Sandra Cohen and Phil &
Judith Phillips. Sasha is a 7th-grade

student at The Odyssey Program at Hayhurst. Sasha enjoys playing soccer, volleyball, rollerblading, playing with her dog, running, going to Camp Schechter and hanging out with friends.



Mazel Tov to **Rebekah Ladizinsky** on her becoming a Bat Mitzvah on Monday, January 15. Rebekah is the daughter of **Daniel & Loren Ladizinsky** and sister to Naomi, Esther & Eli. Her grandparents are Lily Ladin, Betty Guererro and Robert Guerrero. Rebekah

is an 8th-grade student at. Waluga Junior High. She enjoys music and plays bass in school orchestra and Metropolitan Youth Symphony.

Camp Solomon Schechter News

Ready for another summer of fun?

Winter is here, but it is already time to start thinking about another wonderful season at Camp Solomon Schechter for grades 2 through high school. By the beginning of December, more than 200 campers from around the Northwest had already registered, so if you are thinking about a Schechter summer, now is the time to sign up before sessions are full. Registration deadline this year is March 15.

Dates for this year's camp are:

- Aleph, for children entering grades 3-5, June 24-July 3
- Echad, grades 2-4 (geared toward first-time campers), June 29-July 3
- Bet, grades 5-7, July 5-23
- Gimmel, grades 8-10, July 26-August 14
- Oded, grade 11, June 22-July 23

Calling all Schechter Alumni!

Mark your calendars for Friday, March 9, for a Solomon Schechter alumni Shabbat dinner. Whether you attended camp on Whidbey Island in the 1950s or were an Echad camper last year, join your camp friends for this special Schechter event. Camp Director Aaron Kafka will be on hand to tell us the latest Schechter news and plans for the upcoming summer. Make sure you are on the Schechter alumni list by sending an e-mail to info@campschechter.org with your name and address. Look for more information soon.

Family Camp

Bring your family to camp this spring for a restful and fun Shabbat weekend with families from around the Northwest. Schechter Family Camp returns this year the weekend of May 25-28. This is a perfect opportunity for you to see the place your kids are raving about. Check out the camp website for more details.

Camp Reunion Shabbaton - January 13-15

It's summer camp in the winter! Reunite with campers and staff, play sports, create in arts & crafts, get crazy in drama and hang out with a hot cup of cocoa. It's not too late to sign up—contact the camp office for more info. For all the latest information about Camp Solomon Schechter, visit www.campschechter.org, or call the office at 206.447.1967.

Kvell with Us

Mazel Tov to Dr. Anthony (Tony) Kostiner who received the Distinguished Physician Award given by Northwest Permanente, P.C. at its annual meeting. Dr. Kostiner has worked at Kaiser Permanente for the past 32 years in the Department of Radiology where his main focus has been breast cancer detection.

Mazel Tov to **Glenn & Martha Decherd** who's daughter, Sara, will receive her Ph.D. in paleoecology from North Carolina State University on Dec. 20.

Mazel Tov to **Jack Wolinsky** on the engagement of his granddaughter, Melanie Ann Veatch, to Daniel Frank. A June wedding is planned in Atlanta, Georgia.

Membership

This month, long-time member, Gussie Cooper, shares her thoughts about being a congregant at Neveh Shalom. Please remember...we welcome your input. If you would like to tell your story, please contact **Julie Zola** at juliezola@azalumni.com or 503.466.1639.

For 33 years, my husband and I considered Neveh Shalom our home away from home. When he passed away four years ago, I realized how much the Shul really meant to me. The congregation members opened their hearts to me.

My children do not live in Portland, so I consider my friends my family—in every sense of the word—and they are all from Neveh Shalom. Where else could I have met such wonderful people?

-Gussie Cooper

Shalom.

Julie Zola, Membership Committee Chair

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Cantor's Notes



Cantor Marshall Portnoy will be here February 2 & 3. It will be a wonderful weekend celebrating Shabbat Shira, the Shabbat of Song. This year Shabbat Shira and Tu B'Shvat, the New Year for Trees, fall on the same day.

It is easy to listen to Cantor Portnoy's beautiful, sweet, mellow voice. His songs clearly come from the heart. He will

participate in services Friday night with the Neveh Shalom Choir and will be the featured performer at the concert on Saturday night at 8pm. Tickets are available now in the Neveh Shalom office or from any choir member. I hope you will be able to be a part of this exciting concert for the benefit of our choir.

Cantor Portnoy is the Hazzan (cantor) of Main Line Reform Temple in Wynnewood, PA, and a national Vice-President of the American Conference of Cantors. A graduate of Yale, Cantor Portnoy was invested both by the Jewish Theological Seminary and the Hebrew Union College. He has served for Reform Judaism Magazine and teaches regularly at the Biennial Convention of the Union for Reform Judaism. He also adjudicates Cantorial certification examinations each spring. He is the coeditor of a planned new Reform clergy manual and his latest compact disc, containing music of healing and renewal, has just been released. It will be available for sale at the concert Saturday night, February 3.

Shabbat Shira is called "the Shabbat of Song" because this is the week that we read in the Torah the Song of the Sea. The Song of the Sea is the song that the children of Israel sang right after they crossed the sea after leaving Egyptian slavery. If you look at the actual Torah scroll, you can see that the Song of the Sea looks different than the rest of the Torah readings. It is written as bricks are stacked. The Song of the Sea has a special melody that is different than the normal Torah trope melody. This year the melody will be even more special since Cantor Portnoy is going to chant to a Sephardic melody.

His two-volume series, *The Art of Cantillation*, has brought the skill and joy of reading Torah and Haftarah to tens of thousands throughout the globe. He has had three pieces of music published by Transcontinental Music and has published numerous articles in many scholarly journals. Several of his compositions were commissioned and premiered by synagogues.

This month's Shabbat Unplugged is January 12, the second Friday night of the month, at 6:15pm in the Zidell Chapel. It will be Shabbat Yitro, the Torah portion of the giving of the Torah. It is said that all the souls of all the Jews that ever were and ever will be were present at the receiving of the Torah at Sinai. What does that mean for us? What did we receive and are we still receiving anything?

Cantor Linda Shivers



Rabbi Stampfer Honored at Awards Luncheon

Rabbi Joshua Stampfer was recognized with the Thomas Lamb Eliot Award

for Service to Philanthropy at the Twentieth Anniversary Philanthropy Awards Luncheon on Thursday, November 30, 2006. This event was held at the Hilton Hotel in Portland.

From the President

For the last few months, my family and I have been living through the refurbishing of our house—new kitchen, new carpet and paint, refinishing of the hardwood floors. Since we have been in the house for 18 years (the longest any of us have lived anywhere) it was time for a change.

It has been an interesting exercise, and it has forced us to think about all those things that have been lurking in the back of the closets, in the attic space, and in the cupboards. It has also given us a chance to consider where things were, and where they should be.

As we begin the process of preparing for our synagogue Capital Campaign, our congregation needs to consider many of the same sorts of issues. Some congregants have already expressed to me their concerns about certain things in our current structure, and how they will be carried over into our new plans. I urge you to think about the things that are important to you at the shul, and let me know about them, so that we can consider how to incorporate them into our plans. We will be offering congregants many opportunities in the upcoming months to learn about the Capital Campaign through articles in the *Chronicle*, parlor meetings, informational discussions, and other venues; I urge you to take advantage of these in order to remain informed about our congregation's progress toward our goal of a new administrative wing, new worship space and renovated educational areas.

I look forward to hearing your ideas, and seeing you at the synagogue. Have a happy and healthy New Year.

Sandy Axel, President

Library News

From the Pulpit, cont. from page I

has published poetry and articles on spirituality, politics, feminism, meditation and recovery from addiction. She is a thoroughly delightful human being and I am thrilled to have the opportunity to bring her to Neveh Shalom and have her share her insights and wisdom with our community.

Much more recently I learned that Rabbi Steven Greenberg would be in Portland teaching at PSU and available to teach at Neveh Shalom over the same Shabbat. Rabbi Greenberg appeared in Trembling Before God, a documentary exploring the pain of being homosexual in the ultra-Orthodox community. He is also an author, most recently of Wrestling with God and Men, a most impressive and sympathetic exploration of homosexuality in Jewish texts—ancient, medieval and modern. I bought his book immediately when it was published last year and read it from cover to cover, fascinated by the wealth of material and ways in which Jewish legal authorities and poets throughout the ages have struggled with this most contemporary issue. Rabbi Greenberg is an Orthodox rabbi who, through great anguish, came to embrace his own homosexuality. He grapples with the contradiction between his Orthodox training and his inescapable sexual orientation with great sensitivity. I know that everyone will find him engaging and enormously stimulating.

Either one of these teachers would easily fill an entire weekend. But we couldn't pass up the opportunity to present you with both.

Rabbi Daniel Isaak



SUIT CLOSET

Are you getting ready to buy a suit for your son's Bar Mitzvah? Or has your son outgrown his suit from his own Bar Mitzvah? Is it sitting in the closet waiting to find a new home?

We are setting up a lending service to provide suits for this once-only very special event. If you'd like to borrow a suit, call us! If you have a suit that is in good condition that you'd like to donate, please call us! Contact **Stephanie Arnheim** at 503.690.7768 with any requests, questions

CHECK OUT what is NEW at the Feldstein Library!

Be Still and Get Going by Alan Lew

A Jewish meditation practice. Rabbi Lew conveys Jewish spiritual concepts in emotional terms that speak to the modern reader.

The World to Come by Dara Horn

A mystery. The author weaves the stories of lives past, present, and lives to come into a splendid tale.

Kabbalah: A Love Story by Lawrence Kushner

A lonely rabbi finds that the key to understanding lies in the Zohar, the main text of the Kabbalah.

The Disappearance by Ilan Stavans Another wonderful novella.

Betraying Spinoza by Rebecca Goldstein

A brilliant reflection on Spinoza's thinking, his life, all in historical context.

Rebecca's Journey Home by Brynn O. Sugarman

A heartwarming adoption story that reflects the growing cultural diversity of the Jewish community

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyne A Holocaust story told from the viewpoint of a German child.

Lilith Ark by Deborah Bodin Cohen. Midrashim of the Torah's women.



Library Winter Hours

Sunday: 8am to noon*

Monday: 8:30am to 1:30pm
Tuesday: 8:30am to 1:30pm
Wednesday: 5pm to 8:30pm*
Thursday: 8:30am to 1:30pm
*When Religious School is open
Closed Friday & Saturday

and/or donations.

Capital Campaign



Changing the Old While Building the New...

Most congregants are now fairly familiar with the broad vision of the Master Plan for Congregation Neveh Shalom – we've been talking about it in this space for several months now and the scale model and architect's renderings have been on display in the building since the High Holidays. So far, feedback has been overwhelming in support of the vision for exciting New Chapel construction and Administrative Wing expansion. Thank you for all the positive comments and helpful questions.

With our promotional focus so far being on the new elements

Downstairs in our largest social area, Birnbach Hall is set for a makeover, too.

of the plan, it should be noted there are facets that call for several key, existing spaces to be vastly enhanced, too. Our Main Sanctuary will receive installation of all-new seating, lighting, and carpeting, new interior décor, acoustics, as

well as a new sound system. These upgrades will place Neveh Shalom's primary place of worship among the finest on the West Coast. Downstairs in our largest social area, Birnbach Hall is set for a makeover, too. Sections of the ceiling will be raised three feet using a coved tiling system, the flooring will be all-new, and lighting will receive extensive upgrades to create an atmosphere more conducive for the many activities that take place in this much-used, multi-functional space.

Many other existing areas of the building will be re-invigorated, too, and we look forward to sharing more details in the coming months.

Thanks again for your interest in this vitally important initiative for our congregation.

One-of-a-Kind Experiences

This is what the **Auction Committee** is seeking!

Do you...

- ...know an expert (chef, artist, golfer...) willing to have a class or demonstration?
- ...have connections to get "backstage" at concerts or sporting events?
- ...know employees or owners of unique places of interest for a private tour?

Let your imagination run wild! Enhance our auction with these rare and exceptional opportunities. Call **JoAnn Bezodis** today with your ideas!

503.246-8831, ext 113 or jbezodis@nevehshalom.org



Camp Solomon Schechter Scholarships

Applications for scholarships for the 2007 summer sessions of Camp Solomon Schecter are available in the Synagogue office. The synagogue has a number of tribute funds from which the scholarship monies come. These funds can be contributed to in honor of happy occasions or in memory of a loved one. Check the Tribute pages of the Chronicle for names of the funds.

Because of the limited nature of the funds available, full scholarships cannot be given. Scholarships are given on the basis of need only, not merit, and some explanation of need is necessary for funds to be allocated.

Download a copy of the scholarship application at nevehshalom.org or call for a copy or more information: Michelle Caplan at mcaplan@nevehshalom.org or 503.246.8831, ext 114.

Applications must be submitted by January 19, 2007, in order to be considered.

Mausoleum Vpdate

Construction of the new mausoleum at Ahavai Shalom is progressing apace, with a completion date estimated for April, 2007. Please contact Member Services Director, Michelle Caplan, at 503.246.8831, ext 114 or mcaplan@nevehshalom.org to get price information.



Our National Affiliations

מה יפה ירושתנו women s League for Conservative

Women's League

Join Women's League and be part of what makes us such a vibrant and supportive group. We look forward to seeing you at an upcoming event.

On Friday, January 19, join us for our annual Women's League Shabbat. We will serve a traditional Shabbat dinner and we will conduct services in our sanctuary. If you'd like to be a part of this service, in Hebrew or in English, contact **Gussie Cooper**, 503.297.1765.

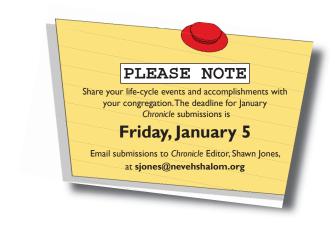
On Thursday, February 8, join us for a book review by **Sylvia Frankel**. She will review the book *Those Who Save Us* by Jenna Blum. This book is available in our Gift Shop.

Did you get your new Torah Fund Pin yet? Torah Fund greeting cards for all occasions are available at the Gift Shop, or for more information, contact **Chris Gottlieb**, 503.245.0384. Our annual Torah Fund celebration event is April 15. Save the date!

Remember our Gift Shop when you need a B'nai Mitzvah, wedding or baby gift. We are open Monday-Friday, 10:00am-12:00pm, Wednesdays 6:30pm-8:30 pm and Sundays 9:00am-12:00 pm during the school year. Our shop has Judaica items for everyone. We maintain the Shop with volunteers: can you give us one morning per week? Contact Gloria Bacharach, 503.292.0231 or Sue Axel, 503.297-9140 for more information.

We meet monthly for a Potluck and Planning Meeting at the home of one of our Board Members. Everyone is always welcome, contact **Susan Sutherlin**, 503.626.6611 or **Linda Alpert**, 503.291.9346 to join us.

Susan Sutherlin & Linda Alpert, Women's League Co-Presidents



Men's Club

We would like to thank **Randy & Donna Grossman** for hosting our annual
Monday Night Football party on November

27. Attendees enjoyed the victorious Seahawks hosting their first Snow Bowl, with the field covered in a white, wintry blanket. We also thank Henry Fitzgibbon for talking to us about environmental sustainability in the congregation's remodeling plan. We will have a Havdalah service for Men's Club members and their families on January 13, and a presentation from the "Support our Troops" organization on Sunday, January 21. We start with breakfast following the 9am morning minyan, and then the presentation. We also volunteer at the Oregon Food Bank on the 4th Thursday of each month. Contact David Sibell if you are interested. On behalf of the Men's Club, I hope you had a nice Hanukkah and have a happy and healthy secular New Year.

Joe Goodman, President

Did you know?

Congregation Neveh Shalom uses email to communicate with each other and our congregants more and more often. Please make certain to let us know if your email address changes or if you are not receiving emails from CNS. Of course, as always, if you do not have an email address, we will continue to reach you by mail or phone. To make changes or updates, please contact us at meverett@nevehshalom.org or 503.246.8831, ext. 112.

Winter Gift Shop Hours

Monday-Friday 10 am to noon, Wednesday from 6pm to 8:30pm
Sunday 9:00 to 12 noon, when Religious School in Session.

To volunteer, for special orders or for special appointments, call **Gloria Bacharach** at 503.292.0231

School News



Foundation School



Foundation School children focused on what they are thankful for as they celebrated Thanksgiving in November. Everyone enjoyed a delicious classroom feast complete with corn bread, cranberries and pumpkin delicacies.

At our second Parent Coffee,

parents at Foundation School enjoyed the chance to schmooze together and join Rabbi Greenstein in discussing "The December Dilemma"—how to stay Jewish with Christmas all around us.

During December Hanukkah traditions were shared as the children sang songs, read stories, made Hanukkiot and cooked potato latkes. Our annual All-School Hanukkah program showcased Morah Cheryl and Morah Eileen's Pre-K class performance. Music specialist Kim Palumbis led us in lively Hanukkah songs.

We are now enjoying Winter Break and will return to school on Wednesday, January 3rd.

Jan Skolnik, Foundation School Director & Sheila Stern

Religious School SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS FOR JANUARY

Sunday, January 7th: 6th-grade Family Education

Program

Wednesday, January 10th: 11th-grade program

"Thinking about College—students and parents

Friday, January 12th: 3rd, 4th, 5th Family Dinner

Sunday, January 21st: All 6th grade program—

students only

Saturday, January 27th: First Spring session of

Shabbat School

MANYTHANKS to the following parents who helped with the Kitah Gimmel siddur project:

Carolyn Cigarroa

Sherri Cook

Denise Wetherell

Anne Goldfarb

Elizabeth Samuels

Chris Feves

Iris Policar

deal with laws, but rather with advice and insights of the leading rabbinic scholars of different generations. Educators can apply these words of wisdom to their experiences in the classroom and use these time honored ideas to best serve their students.

The sages of long ago knew that an ideal student had to

Pirkei Avot, is the only tractate of the Mishna that does not

The sages of long ago knew that an ideal student had to possess both good character as well as intellectual ability. Many of our children today cannot incorporate these two traits in their lives. Life in the classroom may be different from the life they experience outside the walls of the class. Intellectual achievements may not count when peers decide according to another standard who is acceptable and who is not.

The rabbis asked the question, "What are the qualities of a good student"? One area deals with the ability to absorb information and retain the information:

- · quick to understand but quick to forget
- understands with difficulty but forgets with difficulty
- quick to understand and forgets with difficulty
- understands with difficulty and quick to forget

A second way to define a good student is his/her ability to think critically:

The Sponge—soaks up everything—when you squeeze it, it gives out what it has absorbed (both dirty water and clean)

The Funnel—takes in at one end and lets out at the other—when anything goes through, it is not changed in any way

The Strainer—lets pass the wine and retains the lees—the juice and pulp come through while the unessential parts stay in the strainer

The Sifter—holds back the coarse and collects the fine flour Each mishna that deals with the characteristics of a good student focuses on the importance of working to reach one's own potential.

The rabbis continue by asking: "What is a good person?" A variety of lessons are included that deal with controlling oneself in difficult situations, showing sensitivity in dealing with others, being a part of society and tolerant of others. The ultimate question of which is more important, learning or deeds, is answered by stating that the two must always be connected. Learning which did not have an effect on one's character and actions was viewed by many rabbis as useless.

Let us look at the individual learner, helping each to reach their potential, while instilling in them a sense of menschlikeit and a life of mitzvot.

Susan Bernstein, Religious School Director

Youth Activities

Committee News

Youth Activities is really starting to rock 'n' roll! I have really enjoyed meeting so many smiling faces at the December events and I have a goal set for January: that everyone that attended all of the amazing events bring a friend or new face to the next event! The youth groups are what we make of them, and I know we will make them strong, proud and a lot of fun! I appreciate all the families that have come to me expressing ideas and suggestions for the Youth Activities Department and I continue to ask for any feedback. Looking forward to seeing you at the next youth activity!

Helene Martel, Youth Activities Director

Junior Kadima

Junior Kadima is having a great year! This month we're keeping the momentum up by trying to defy gravity. We'll be heading to The Circuit Bouldering Gym on January 21st for an afternoon of rock-climbing. Rock-climbing is a wonderful sport that relies on strength, agility, and mental reasoning. In February, we'll be having the third annual Junior Kadima Shabbaton at Camp Solomon Schechter. This year's theme: Jewish Heroes. The shabbaton is an amazing weekend spent at Camp with good food and lots of fun mixed in with learning and davening. More details will be coming out shortly, so mark your calendars now!

Scot Leavitt, Junior Kadima Advisor, 503.246.8831, ext. 160, jrkadima@portlandrishonim.org.

Kadima

December's ice skating was fantastic; we had a blast showing off our future Olympic skating routines and our ice hockey super speed! I hope all of you had as much fun as I did! Kadima has a great spring 2007 line-up, starting with a Portland Lumberjacks lacrosse game on January 20th. Make sure to RSVP on time, as it is necessary to save your seat! See you on the playing field!

Helene Martel, Youth Activities Director, 503.246.8831, ext 142 or kadima@portlandrisonim.org

USY

USY has had a busy month! Our next event will be ice skating at Valley Lanes on January 7th. Plan to join us! Thank you to all of you who participated in the 2nd Annual Parent's Night Out. We've had wonderful feedback and USY looks forward to hosting it again next year. Our February event will be on Friday, the 9th, as we celebrate Shabbat at the Robison Home.

Rachelle Vagy, rachelle@kfish.com

Neveh Shalom would like to thank our member, **David Sims**, who created the electric adapter
for our large congregational menorah, in order to
accommodate the new CFL bulbs. Thank you for
bringing us environmentally friendly light during the
Season of Lights!

JoAnn Bezodis

Auction! Auction!



Passport to Paris

Neveh Shalom's Annual Auction Sunday, April 29, 5:00pm Birnbach Hall

Donation forms were mailed to the entire congregation in mid-November. We are counting on 100% participation for our biggest fundraiser of the year. There are many ways you can help:

- Donate goods or services from your place of business
- Ask merchants you regularly shop with to donate their goods or services
- Become a sponsor with your cash donation
- Volunteer to help on one of our many subcommittees: publicity, procurement, registration, packaging, data entry, more
- Attend the event and bid on our fabulous items!
- Buy a raffle ticket
- Advertise in our auction catalog Let's make 2007 our best year ever! Contact **JoAnn Bezodis**, Program Director, jbezodis@nevehshalom.org or 503.246.8831, ext 113

College Outreach

We sent our students and children away from home their Hanukkah goodies and hope many of them got the opportunity to meet Rabbi Greenstein in December. We are still accepting student names, addresses, and address changes. Donations to the College Outreach Program would also be very much appreciated so the program can continue to connect our children away from home with their Judaism. Please send donations directly to the synagogue.

Send addresses to giselle@teleport.com. Thank you so much!



Senior Lunch Bunch

The Senior Lunch this month will be Tuesday, January 9 at 12 noon in the Birnbach Social Hall. This will be a relaxed gathering with lunch only. RSVP by Friday, January 5 to Julie Marquis in the office at

jmarquis@nevehshalom.org or 503-246-8831 ext. 100. Please join us!

Outside-In Cooking

Outside-In will be cooking January 14 at 11:30am. Meet in the kitchen at Neveh Shalom. Please contact head chef, **Aviva Zigman** for any questions or comments at ajzigman@ hotmail.com.

Thank you to our December outside in cooks: Tovah Siegel, Susan Siegel, Michaela Dibert, Shana Meyer, Mark Meyer, Simon Goldstein, Sylvia Frankel, Annie Zigman and Talia Braver. We made a holiday meal that included latkes prepared by the religious school and holiday cakes. Please email head chef, Aviva Zigman with any questions about future dates ajzigman@hotmail.com.

Committee News

Havurah

New Havurah for Adults 60+

Neveh Shalom member Marsha Sherman is hosting an open house social to kick-off our new Havurah group for adults 60+. The event will be held in her Laurelhurst home (near Burnside & 39th) on Sunday, January 21, from 3:00-5:00pm. For address and directions please RSVP to Marsha at mshermancohen@yahoo.com or 503-235-6805. You may also contact Marsha if you are interested in coordinating another Havurah group in your area.

Contact **JoAnn Bezodis**, Program Director, for more information, **jbezodis@nevehshalom.org**.

Keruv

After enjoying the delicious pancakes at the Membership Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, January 28, interfaith families are invited to gather together for coffee, fruit and informal schmoozing and getting to know each other better, hosted by Keruv Chair, Randy & Donna Grossman. We will meet in the Zidell Chapel between 10-11:30am. Please RSVP by January 25 to jmarquis@nevehshalom.org or 503.246.8831, ext 100.

Thank you to all of you who were able to come for our first Keruv Breakfast at Neveh Shalom on Sunday, November 19th.

Our meeting began right after the conclusion of morning Minyan. We had a great turnout with 24 people in attendance. For the first hour we schmoozed and noshed over bagels, fruit, coffee & tea. There was a tangible warmth to the group as folks intermingled and got to know each other. **Rabbi Isaak** and **Rabbi Greenstein** spoke words of welcome, and explained that intermarried families now comprise 8-10% of our Neveh Shalom family. It was affirming to hear how, in this day and age, intermarriage no longer has the same polarizing effect on the ability of Jews to stay connected to their community. Both rabbis spoke words of appreciation, admiration, and a desire to see other intermarried families find their place in our community.

Attendees shared how the acceptance they have felt at Neveh Shalom has been refreshing and comforting. Even so, we shared some common insecurities and reservations about being thoroughly honest about our blended cultures, the joys and trials—for fear of negative reaction from congregants or clergy. The desire was expressed that a forum be available for open discussion of our unique issues. Others mentioned the need for family events that would give our children opportunity to meet each other. In all, the consensus of the group was that we should definitely meet again.

We welcome all intermarried couples to join us. Please contact **Randy Grossman** at RMGOR@aol.com or **JoAnn Bezodis**, Program Director, at jbezodis@nevehshalom.org, and we will let you know about our next scheduled event.

First Babies Group

Families of the First Babies Group will join the congregation for a their annual pancake breakfast on Sunday, January 28, from 8:30-10:30am. If you would like more information about the First Babies Group or know of a family who has recently welcomed their first child into their family, please contact **Michelle Katz** at 503.292.3380 or oregonkatz@comcast.net.

Shoreshim

PLEASE NOTE ROOM CHANGES BELOW:

The synagogue-wide Hanukkah party this year was a huge and festive hit — with more than 300 people enjoying the revelry, menorah lighting, latkes-and-sour cream feast and family singalong. A big thanks to Kim Palumbus for leading families and kids of all ages in rollicking Hanukkah songs. Thanks, too, to **Kristen Ertischek** and **Jenn Director-Knudsen** who worked with **Dana Sacks, Julie Zola, Jan Skolnik** and **Michelle Caplan**.

With the holidays on your mind, please consider a donation to Shoreshim when you think about year-end contributions. We love bringing your families exciting, educational and community-oriented events; with additional funds, we'll have the resources to do even more, such as our Tu B'Shevat celebration in late-lanuary.

Looking to integrate joyous Shabbat worship into your family life? Come make Tot Shabbat and Shabbat Kids a part of your Shabbat observance. PLEASE NOTE: Tots (infant through 5 years) will be meeting in the Zidell Chapel; Shabbat Kids (kindergarten through second grade) meet in Rooms 113-115.

Both of these Young Family Shabbat Services begin at 10:15am on the first and third Saturdays of each month concluding with a Kiddush and light lunch shared by both groups in the chapel. We hope to see you at our next January services on the 6th and 20th.

For more information about Shoreshim please contact one of Shoreshim's cochairs, **Kristen Ertischek**, 503.222.7229; kjert@aol.com, or **Dani Nierenberg**, 360.713.8171; DrNierenberg@aol.com.

Charity Food Fund Needs Donations

Winter is upon us and we should remember to help those in need. The Neveh Shalom Charity Food Fund is the answer. Thousands of children and adults in the Portland area go to bed hungry each night. The Charity Food Fund purchases much needed food for LOCAL food banks. You can help in 3 ways:

- Contribute money to this important fund. Make checks payable to CNS, and designate "Charity Food Fund" on the memo line.
- Help stretch your donation dollar by including cents-off food coupons with your check.
- Donate to the new food barrel for the Sunshine Pantry available in the entryway. Non-perishables only, please.

This will help many make it through the difficult time of winter, and you will know you have done a great mitzvah.

Thank you for your help,

Gene Abrams, Coordinator

Chai, Plus a Few

This group is for singles over age 50.A number of us gathered on December 17th at the Neveh Shalom Hanukkah Party. We are in the process of planning future events. For more information, contact **Julian Kaufman** at juliankaufmn@earthlink.net, or 503.642.7412.

Committee News

Events, Programs & Mitzvahs

Ritual Committee

We are pleased to present a variety of Friday evening Shabbat Services. Whether you attend one or attend them all, there is something here for everyone!

1st Friday: Singing Service at 6:15pm, January 5

2nd Friday: Shabbat Unplugged at 6:15pm and Late Kabbalat Shabbat Service at 8:15pm, January 12

3rd Friday: Chik-Chok Service at 6:15pm and Late Kabbalat Shabbat Service at 8:15pm, January 19.

4th & 5th Friday: Early Kabbalat Shabbat Service at 6:15pm, January 26

The Ritual Committee works to develop congregation policies for religious practices and encourage participation in Jewish rituals. For more information about the Ritual Committee contact Anna Davis at 503.245.7652.

Hinenu



Get ready, cause here we come...

Hinenu is off to a flying start. This new group for young adults in their 20s and 30s, who are post-college and pre-kids, just had its first event. A wonderful group celebrated Hanukkah together at the Lucky Lab in NW Portland, and we're looking forward to many more exciting

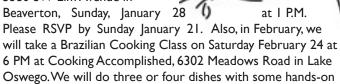
events to come. Please mark your calendars for a lovely Shabbat Dinner on Friday, January 12th. Also, be ready to do some awesome Tu B'Shevat planting on February 4th, and some tasty hamentaschen baking on March 4.

We want your input and involvement. Please contact Hinenu Co-Chairs, Jessica Krivoy (jessica.krivoy@gmail.com), or Eva Novick

(eva.brian@comcast.net) for more information!

Empty Nest

We will have a potluck lunch at the home of Giselle Bawnik. 5380 SW Elm Avenue in



experiences guided by Chef Shelley and her assistants. Cost is \$50 per person and includes a glass of wine plus we get to eat everything we cook!

If anyone would like to join, please contact Giselle Bawnik, 503.644.4490, or giselle@teleport.com. Also, if your student's address is changing next semester, please contact Cheryn Grant at 503.297.7278 or tabshrink@aol.com.Thank

Weekend In Quest

Save the date for a weekend of adult study at the beautiful Oregon Coast in Astoria. February 9-11, 2007. This event is cosponsored by Neveh Shalom and the Institute for Judaic Studies. Kosher meals will be provided. Watch your mail for more information.



Sheri Cordova & Mary Goldhammer, Coordinators



JANIS PLOTKIN

Thursday, January 18, 2007, 1:00pm Congregation Neveh Shalom, Zidell Chapel A View From Within: Culture, Identity and Conflict in

Israeli Cinema

Janis Plotkin earned her MSW from the University of Southern California, School of Social Work, Los Angeles in 1976 and her M.A. in Jewish

Studies, from Hebrew Union College. She served as Executive Artistic Director of the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival, from 1993-2002. Plotkin was one of the organizers of the 'first-ever' Jewish Film Festival in Moscow, in the early months of Gorbachev's 'perestroika" in 1990. Most recently Plotkin was a Visiting Lecturer in the History Department of Stanford University and at San Francisco State where she taught on the subject of cinema from around the world.

This event is cosponsored by Congregation Neveh Shalom Tickets: \$15, No charge for students with proper ID

Addressing the Global AIDS Crisis

On December 10, Neveh Shalom members gathered to view, "A Closer Walk," Robert Bilheimer's critically acclaimed film, narrated by Will Smith and Glenn Close. It is the definitive portrayal of the global AIDS crisis. We learned 40 million people are currently infected with the HIV/AIDS virus. 8000 people die each day of this disease, many of them women and children. Sadly, over 600,000 babies are born each year with HIV/AIDS.

Poverty and misinformation are major contributors to the spread of HIV/AIDS. Some cultures, even in America, are resistant to the most effective prevention measures. They are uncomfortable with or opposed to speaking about safer sex practices, making condoms widely available, and providing needle-exchange programs for drug users. Despite education efforts, many victims find themselves isolated and abandoned by family and friends.

Because AIDS takes its toll over the course of years, many government programs don't provide long-term services, focusing only on medical treatment and hospice. Yet, those who live with this terminal illness desperately need support services: counseling, support groups, job placement, and sometimes housing assistance. As the disease progresses many need transportation, in-home services, and meal delivery. The financial drain of the ongoing, life-sustaining medication may leave them destitute and in need of items that we take for granted like access to showers, hygiene supplies, washer/ dryer, clothing, computer & internet access, telephones, and haircuts.

Approximately 4000 individuals in the State of Oregon are infected with AIDS. We can help by supporting local and international agencies. This film was brought to Neveh Shalom by the Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon HIV Services Center. Send your donation to: EMO HIV Day Center, 2941 NE Ainsworth St., Portland, OR 97211. For more information about making a difference, go to http://www. acloserwalk.org/what_can_i_do/

JoAnn Bezodis

TRI BUTES

Tzedakah is a central mitzvah of Judaism. Use it often and in good health! Tzedakah honors the giver and the recipient. You can make a Tzedakah contribution to honor, remember or thank someone who is important to you. It is also the custom in many communities to give Tzedakah in appreciation of an honor or aliyah during any service. PLEASE BE SURE TO INCLUDE THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF BOTH THE DONOR AND THE RECIPIENT, AS WELL AS THE NAME OF THE FUND. Our dedicated volunteers will thank you! We gratefully acknow-ledge donations to the following Synagogue Funds:

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

in memory of

Celia Silver Adler

Stanford and Dorothy Nudelman

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in appreciation of

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Eleanor Fischer's birthday

Rosalie Lesch

Milt Horenstein - get well wishes

Rosalie Lesch Rabbi & Carol Isaak's son's

marriage

Rosalie Lesch

in memory of

David Ostomel

Rosalie Lesch

EDDY SHULDMAN DOWNSTAIRS

KIDDUSH

in honor of

Josh Oller & Heather Adair's

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Earl Oller's recovery from surgery

Earl and Dale Oller

in memory of

Jack Cohen

Stuart Davis

Roy Oller

Earl and Dale Oller

ELEVATOR FUND

in honor of

Janet Swire's special birthday

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David Ostomel

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Joeen Rodinsky

Phil & Raya Gladstein's 50th

wedding anniversary

Irwin and Renee Holzman

Ira Gottlieb - speedy recovery

Joeen Rodinsky

Chuck & Carol Hirsch' 10th wedding

Barry and Barbara Caplan

Irma & Harvey Keller's 60th wedding

anniversary

Joeen[°] Rodinsky

Annette Lakefish - get well wishes Richard and Marilyne Lakefish

Leah Nepom - get well wishes

Irwin and Renee Holzman

Jerry Stern's special birthday Irwin and Renee Holzman

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Reyna Hasson

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GENERAL SYNAGOGUE FUND

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Elliot & Sue Axel - thank you

Jeff and Sandra Axel & Family

Sherry Stone - thanks

Sandy Axel

in honor of

Our 70th wedding Anniversary

Harry and Eileen Zugman

The Axel Family

Stephanie Arnheim & John

Sheldon

Raya & Phil Gladstein's 50th

wedding anniversary Harvey and Irma Keller

Elaine Coughlin & Jonathan Lietz's

marriage

Jakob and Rachella Kryszek

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anniversary

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David Ostomel - sweet, loving, gentle father

Mel & Elaine Ball, David & Bev Kagan & Malca Muski Dianne Simmons Miller

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SAM & IDA SOBLE RENOVATION FUND

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in memory of

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in honor of

Linda Alpert's Eshet Chayil Award Sandy Axel Jonathan Lietz and Elaine Coughlin Lietz' marriage

Gussie Čooper in memory of

Sid Cooper Gussie Cooper

Any tribute received after the first Friday of the month will appear in the next issue.

ad page

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WHEN A DEATH OCCURS

Call the synagogue office 503.246.8831 so that we may inform Rabbi Isaak and be of assistance. During business hours, ask for Michelle Caplan, ext 114. After business hours, on weekends & holidays, contact Michelle Caplan at 503.481.0164, Rabbi Isaak 503.228.8819 or the funeral home of your choice for assistance. Most Jewish funerals in Portland are arranged by Holman Funeral Service, 503.232.5131.

If you wish Tahara for your loved one—respectful preparation for burial according to ancient Jewish tradition—you may request it from Holman's Funeral Home or the funeral home of your choice. The funeral home will then notify The Chevra.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE JUDAICA SHOP

New line of Tallit sets have just arrived from Israel, as well as gift items. Nice selection of jewelry, including bracelets and earrings to match. Order your imprint yarmulkes for Bat and Bar Mitzvahs. Torah cards, as well as other cards, available for all events.

SPECIAL ORDERS WELCOME

Please volunteer to work on Wednesday from 10am to noon.
If weekly, let me know which day you are available.
Torah cards available for all events.

To volunteer, for special orders or for special appointments, call **Gloria Bacharach** at 503.292.0231

Winter Hours

Monday-Friday 10 am to noon, Wednesday from 6pm to 8:30pm Sunday 9:00 to 12 noon, when Religious School in Session.

Kindle the Sabbath Candles ,יָ, בּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ



Ba-rukh atah A-do-nay, e-lo-hay-nu me-lekh ha-olam a-sher kid-sha-nu be-mitz-votav vetzi-van-nu li-hadlik ner shel Shabbat.

Blessed art Thou, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, Who has sanctified us by Thy commandments, and has commanded us to kindle the sabbath lights.

CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

Friday, January 5	4:25 pm
Friday, January 12	4:33 pm
Friday, January 19	4:42 pm
Friday, January 26	4:52 pm

DIRECTORY

Congregation Neveh Shalom
Affiliated with USCJ
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www.nevehshalom.org
email: info@nevehshalom.org

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Rabbi Bradley Greenstein
bgreenstein@nevehshalom.org
Rabbi Emeritus Joshua Stampfer
ext 119, jstampfer@nevehshalom.org
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ext 116, cantor@nevehshalom.org
Fred Rothstein, Executive Director
ext 134, frothstein@nevehshalom.org
Sandy Axel, President
503.292.3425, sandyaxel@msn.com

- Roz Andronescu, High School Director ext 137, randronescu@nevehshalom.org
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- JoAnn Bezodis, Program & Fundraising Director ext 113, jbezodis@nevehshalom.org
- Michelle Caplan, Member Services Director ext 114, mcaplan@nevehshalom.org
- Joe Goodman, Men's Club President
 j3ngoodman@comcast.net
- Hilde Jacob, Librarian
- ext 118, hjacob@nevehshalom.org
- Helene Martel, Youth Services Director ext 142, hmartel@nevehshalom.org
- Dayle Maizels-Tyrrell, School Administrator ext 120, dayle@nevehshalom.org
- Wendi Menashe, Capital Campaign Coordinator ext 139, wmenashe@nevehshalom.org
- James Monaghan, Cemetery Maintenance 971.207.6974
- Jan Skolnik, Foundation School Director ext 122, jskolnik@nevehshalom.org
- Susan Sutherlin & Linda Alpert, Women's League Co-Presidents, Women's League Judaica Shop, ext 127
- Debbi Villani-Allen, Administrative Director ext 125, dvillani@nevehshalom.org

DAILY MINYAN

Monday - Friday 7:15 am Rosh Chodesh 7am Sundays and Holidays 9:00 am

SHABBAT SERVICES Erev Shabbat, Friday

Ist, 4th & 5th Friday of the Month 6:15pm ONLY 2nd and 3rd Friday of the Month 6:15pm and 8:15pm Shabbat, Saturday, 9 am Every Saturday: Shabbat Child Care Please call 503.246.8831 to reserve space. If you would like to participate in the main sanctuary, please call the CNS office at 503.246.8831, ext 100

Tot Shabbat/Shabbat Kids

Ist & 3rd Shabbat, 10:15 am, Zidell Chapel and rooms 113-115

Shabbat Kiddush Club (3rd-5th graders)
1st & 3rd Shabbat, 10:00 am, Room 117

DOWNSTAIRS MINYAN

2nd and 4th Shabbat in the Zidell Chapel 3rd Shabbat at the Robison Home If you would like to lead the davening for Shaharit, Torah, or Mussaf please call **Mark Sherman**, 503.245.0571



Eleanor Fischer Dial-In Service

If you are unable to attend Shabbat services, dial in to hear them. Call 503.246.8832

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