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# CHRONICLE A PUBLICATION OF CONGREGATION NEVEN SHALOM

# Transition

#### Rabbi's Cor

# To an Attentive Eye, the Entire World Can Be Discovered By Rabbi David Kosak

recently rewatched a marvelous documentary, *My Octopus Teacher*, with Ami. It is a visually stunning piece of cinematography, capturing the deep drama of a relatively small kelp forest and its denizens; the main star of the film is a rather special and awesome octopus, whose short life is filled with adventure. The movie got me thinking about the ocean, especially since we are exploring the theme of transitions in this edition of *The Chronicle*; the master class in change is the ocean itself.

Laura grew up in a small beach town in Central California, which I have visited almost since we first met. While the coast is not quite as rugged as Oregon's, it shares a certain rocky wildness, coupled with the boundless mutability of the ocean. As a girl, she frequented the tide pools, amazed at the miniature and evershifting landscapes. Even now, she seeks solace in these portraits of transition.

To an attentive eye, the entire world can be discovered in a single backyard; the drama of life unfolds everywhere, yet we each find ourselves more interested by some aspect or another. For me, tide pools don't hold the same magic: what captures my attention are the small and constant eruptions of pinholes on wet sand. Some of those are caused by the sand collapsing as the tide pulls out, yet just as many are the calling cards of myriad sand dwellers: sand crabs, beach hoppers, and isopods (roly polies). Everything is constantly in motion, even when the obvious waves have slid away during low-tide, leaving the upper beach otherwise unperturbed.

As a child, my grandfather taught me about the early Greek thinker, Heracli-

tus, who is remembered for his philosophy of flux, especially a famous line about the ever-changing nature of a river. He is also given credit for noting that "the only thing that is constant is change." Despite this, many of us struggle with our life transitions, imagining that we can be spared the same fate that touches roly polies, clouds, deciduous trees, and even the seemingly immutable surface of Mt. Hood, which is slowly being eroded by sun, wind, and snow. Everything changes.

A long time ago, King Solomon, or some other unknown author, penned the Book of Ecclesiastes. He wrote that "for every time and moment, for every desire beneath the heavens, there is a time for being born and a time for dying, a time for planting and a time for uprooting the planted; a time for slaying and a time for healing." Throughout this work, which some scholars find pessimistic and others optimistic, King Solomon seems to want to shake us awake from our illusions. Everything really is in flux, and that's okay. A transition is just the moment when we choose to pay attention to what is shifting.

If change is the only constant, why is it so hard for us to accept? Loss is hard, particularly when it involves a person, yet change also punctures our fantasies of permanence. Many of us wait for some magical moment when everything will be in order to have kids, embark on a journey, or complete a bucket-list item. Who hasn't done this? It's probably a mistake to live like this; how do we know another moment will be better? We simply can't.

C.S. Lewis has a powerful insight. "Human life has always been lived on the edge of a precipice. Human culture has



always had to exist under the shadow of something infinitely more important than itself. If men had postponed the search for knowledge and beauty until they were secure, the search would have never begun. We are mistaken when we compare with 'normal life.' Life has never been normal."

Our tradition offers us powerful tools to acknowledge that change surrounds us while providing us a sense of holiness to accompany us through these passages. One is the *mezuzah*, which marks transition in space. Another is *havdalah*, which provides a similar lesson about sacred time. Finally, our tradition repeatedly compares the Torah to water, protean and ever-shifting; we can no more live without water than wisdom, which grows and adjusts to our level.

It's been noted that a baby enters the world with clenched fists, while we die with open hands, relaxing fully into our final transition. Along the way, I guess, we'd be well served by relaxing our grip to better embrace the beauty on the edge of the precipice.

# You Say Goodbye and I Say Hello

#### By Rabbi Eve Posen

wear my emotions on my sleeve: I always have and likely always will. I often feel those emotions deeply, especially when marking transition and change. Whether it's mundane adjustments like moving from my parent's insurance plan to having my own (yuck) to major life moments like the transition from being married without children to married with children and then having those children become "big kids," these milestones leave me both nostalgic for the past and excited for what comes next.

It's this last one, seeing both of our children move fully beyond the kindergarten years, that we're facing right now. Knowing we're having no more babies in the house means we've given away all our baby furniture, so we continue to hand down clothes and toys. With the wistfulness of saying goodbye to that time in our lives also comes the excitement of having growing children who can share a more expansive world with us. While I'll miss plenty of things about those baby and toddler days, each new day unlocks a new level of parenting that offers its own challenges and rewards.

In our kehillah kedoshah, our sacred

community at CNS, we are also in one of these transitional moments. We're saing goodbye to Fred Rothstein and extending our gratitude for his years of service, and we're saying hello to Marlene Edenzon with joy and excitement for what comes next. We

watched with melancholy as the trees and landscape of our beloved lower courtyard were cleared to make room for what will be the sprouting of new life as it is rebuilt into a park.

As an empath, I find myself reflecting on these moments with the sadness of a goodbye and the sweetness of a hello. For me, this is Judaism at its core. We are a religion with a rich tradition of recognizing transitional moments, with both the loss of what was and the gains of what will be. How do we do this? When we end each book of the Torah, we say the words "chazak chazak v'nitchazek." May the words that we've just read bring us strength, and we will be strengthened. We "will be," fu-



ture tense, guides us steadily from the past into the future.

A lesser-known marking of the space between end and beginning comes from when we finish a tractate of the Talmud. At the end of each tractate, we read *"hadran ale*-



*cha,"* meaning we will return to you. These beautiful words remind us that as we move from one section of study to the next, or one phase of life to the next, we can always return to the lessons, experiences, and memories of the past and build on them for our future.

We are a religion with a rich tradition of recognizing transitional moments.

Hadran alecha, I will reflect on our years with babies in our home in fondness and exhaustion, and I will build on that sacred foundation as we walk into our family's future. Hadran Alecha, we will build upon the foundation of nature and learning of the Stern Family Lower Courtyard as we create new memories in our park. Hadran alecha, we know that Fred Rothstein will always be a part of our kehillah, and we'll build on his legacy as we move forward with Marlene.

Hadran alecha, to what will you return as you grow into your future?

# **Tradition! Transition!**

#### Cantor's Corner

#### **By Cantor Eyal Bitton**

y grandmother, Nina Pinto Bitton, barely spoke a word of English. She spoke Moroccan Judeo-Arabic and French. Despite being an American citizen, culturally, she was far-removed from the local culture. Nevertheless, she absolutely loved *Fiddler* on the Roof. Somehow, that story and the music crossed cultural borders as the Jewish story was a universal one.

My upcoming concert "L'Chayim, Hollywood" featuring songs from classic movies penned by Jewish composers, is a celebration of the Jewish immigrant's journey to become part of the American cultural tapestry. Hollywood has always represented the American Dream for Jewish immigrants who faced limited access to mainstream cultural avenues. This concert pays homage to the rich musical heritage of Jewish composers who have contributed significantly to the American music industry.

The aforementioned musical, *Fiddler* on the Roof, exemplifies the balance between preserving tradition and embracing change. The iconic song "Tradition!" encapsulates the essence of this balance. The musical celebrates the tradition of Jewish life, while at the same time depicts the challenges of transition and change that the Jewish community faced as they sought to become part of American society.

The Jewish community has always embraced the balance between tradition and transition, recognizing that change is inevitable and necessary for growth. Shavuot, the Jewish holiday that commemorates the giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai, is a reminder of the importance of embracing the unknown



and accepting change. The holiday celebrates the openness of the Jewish people to new experiences, new ideas, and new ways of thinking.

#### The Jewish community has always embraced the balance between tradition and transition.

My concert is a reflection of the Jewish community's ability to adapt and transition but at the same time preserving its rich cultural heritage. The Jewish composers whose works are featured in this concert contributed significantly to the American music industry, creating a unique blend of Jewish and American culture. The concert celebrates the journey of Jewish immigrants who came to America seeking a better life as well as a place in the American cultural tapestry. It is a testament to their perseverance, resilience, and creativity in the face of adversity.

This celebration of the Jewish community's ability to balance tradition and transition is a reminder of the importance of embracing change while preserving cultural heritage. As we celebrate Shavuot and the acceptance of the unknown, we are reminded of the richness and diversity of our cultural heritage, including our ability to embrace change and transition with openness and optimism.

Join Cantor Bitton for the L'Chayim, Hollywood Concert on June 11 at Neveh Shalom. RSVP: members.nevehshalom. org/event/lchayimhollywood2023

# Just Like a Garden

#### President's Corner

#### By Liza Milliner, CNS President

'm sure it comes as little surprise to those who know me to be an avid gardener that spring is my favorite time of year. It's when we transition to warmer weather and longer days, providing the perfect conditions for planting and tending gardens. Spring also is when we turn our attention toward school graduations, summer vacations, and outdoor-activity planning. This year at Neveh Shalom, our collective transition includes welcoming a new executive director. It's a busy and exciting time!

Transitions and gardening may seem like two unrelated topics, but they have a lot in common. Just like a garden, life is full of changes and transitions that require care, attention, and effort, so they can be overwhelming and challenging.

A gardener prepares the soil and plants seeds, anticipating new growth and a harvest of fresh, tasty food that results from this important labor. For our *ke*-*hillah*, we've engaged in – and are continuing to engage in – a similar process as we bring aboard new Executive Director **Marlene Edenzon** on May 1. She is **Fred Rothstein**'s successor.

I want to take a moment to express my deepest appreciation for, and gratitude to, Fred for all his hard work and dedication over the past 22 years. He has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to excellence that has been a source of inspiration for the *kehillah* that he has overseen for more than two decades. His contributions of time, resources, creativity, and sweat equity have been immeasurable.

Fred, this *kehillah* is here to support you as you transition to retirement, including in the following way: If ever you find yourself bored, we are here to fill that gap by inviting you to volunteer on one of our many committees! But seriously and sincerely, Fred, *thank you*, and please do not be a stranger!

Now, though, this *kehillah* is poised and ready to welcome Marlene into her new role and her new city. As she begins her journey with us, I encourage every one of us to help support not just her but our transition as well. Transitions can be difficult, yes, and this transition represents a unique opportunity to grow



and evolve as a holy community. I look forward to Marlene exercising her demonstrated leadership skills as she leads our congregation forward, bringing new ideas and perspectives to our shul.

May she – and may we all – approach our exciting and much-anticipated transition with the same care, attention, effort, and tasty results that gardeners put into their plots. Let us all embrace our inner gardener, rise during this transition, and watch our *kehillah* bloom.

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#### Upcoming B'nai Mitzvah



#### Zev Lawson | May 6

Zev Lawson is the son of Evan Shereck and Mark Lawson; amazing older brother to Ori Lawson; the grandson of Robin Lawson of Portland, OR, Herschel Lawson and Carol Wolf of Sandy Springs, GA, and Judy and Barry Shereck of Norwalk, CT. When Zev isn't busy innovating dance trends on Tik-Tok, he can be found volunteering his time at the Oregon Humane Society, traversing the mean streets of Roblox, playing with his dog, Titan, texting with his friends, or shredding on his guitar. Zev is a seventh grader at Da Vinci Arts Middle school and a devout BB Camper.



#### Everett Spano | May 13

Everett Spano is the son of Elisa and Jon Spano, older brother to Vivian, grandson of Jolande and Lawrence Goldberg of Alexandria, VA and Judy and Phil Spano of Jackson, NJ. Everett is a middle schooler at Cedarwood Waldorf School. He loves basketball, lacrosse, skiing, and spending time with his friends, whether in-person or gaming. He also enjoys reading and relaxing with our dog Lexi.



#### Katherine Raiton | May 20

Katherine Bernice Raiton brings her joyful and independent spirit to everything she does—from playing volleyball to dancing, baking to crafting, and listing to music (always). Seventh grade at da Vinci Arts Middle School is treating her well. She is a wonderful sister to her brother, Elliot, and loves her dog, Chancho. She makes her parents, Jake and Cory, very proud.



#### Benjamin Solondz | May 27

Benjamin Louis Solondz is the son of Kimberly and David Solondz, loving big brother to Allison Solondz, and grandson to Jacqueline and Daniel Solondz (z"L) and Richard & Susan Thomashow. Ben is a 7th grade student at Portland Jewish Academy. In his spare time, he enjoys playing soccer, skiing, and watching sports. He also adores the family dog, Loki.



#### Naomi Levinson | June 10

Naomi Levinson is the daughter of Aaron Levinson and Noelle Landauer, younger sister to Maia, granddaughter of Ann and Steve Levinson of Highland Park, IL, Sherry and Dan Nichols of Oregon City, and Don and Cheryl Landauer of Eugene. She enjoys indoor and outdoor rock climbing, Magic: the Gathering, reading, playing with her cats, and spending time with her friends. Naomi is in seventh grade at Banks Middle School.

# New "Sparks" in Our Education Programs!

#### Mel's Corner

#### By Mel Berwin, Director of Congregational Learning

s soon as we've celebrated Purim each year, our attention in the ALIYAH/education office shifts. While there is plenty to do to finish our school year (designing and inviting programs for Pesach, Yom HaShoah, Yom HaZikaron, Yom Ha'Atzma'ut, Lag Ba'Omer, and end of the year celebrations/graduation), the rest of our focus is on the coming year: our calendar, budget, and registration materials, as well as new programs and initiatives we are dreaming into being.

# Do you have a story in you?

I want to share with you one of the programs I'm most excited about for the coming year. Have you listened to The Moth podcast or story hour on NPR, or gone to a live Moth story-slam? During the pandemic I became slightly obsessed with The Moth podcast. Listening to these short, true stories about ordinary life - the triumphs, failures, loves, losses, courageous acts, and dashed dreams- told with honesty and vulnerability by everyone from teens to elders, from celebrities to inmates, lifted me up and connected me to the shared experience of humanity. When The Moth published a book last year called How to Tell a Story, I soaked up each chapter and, as often happens when I am deeply inspired by something, I started dreaming about how to incorporate this generative process into our education programs.

Beginning in the fall, we invite teens and adults of all ages to join a new program, called "Sparks." We will spend next year in age-similar cohorts developing stories- short, 5-minute, true narratives from our own lives, facilitated and supported bv professional storytellers. Teens can participate through our Tichon Program on Wednesday evenings. Adults can sign up through our Lifelong Learning Program, also on

Wednesday evenings. Once a month we'll bring our teen groups and adult groups together to watch and discuss story performances by other community groups; as the year goes on, we will begin workshopping our own stories with each other. At the end of the year, we'll perform our stories for the congregation. No experience necessary! Do you have a story in you?

Why the name "Sparks"? The Moth was named by someone who understood the power of people gathering around a storyteller like a moth is drawn to fire. In our tradition, we gather for many occasions to strike a match and create small, holy lights. We believe in the essential spark of life in each human being that is from the divine. And we know, in our education programs at Neveh Shalom, that we are strongest when we share our strengths and challenges, supporting each other in the whole story of our being- we are each a small spark creating a much stronger light through community.



#### UPCOMING

And still coming up this year... our **Tichon Graduation is Wednesday, May 24, at 7pm**. The congregation is warmly invited to come learn about what our 7th-12th grade teens in Tichon have experienced and accomplished this year, including unveiling a beautiful new mural based on our theme text from this year.

Tichon graduates this year are Ethan Gilbert, Jordan Gilbert, Adina Shane, Ava Silverberg, and Talia Valdez. Please join us to celebrate their dedication to Jewish learning and community! Each senior gives a short speech about how CNS has shaped themit's always an inspiring evening. Please join us to celebrate their dedication to Jewish learning and community!

# A Physical Transition: From Courtyard to Park By Jenn Director Knudsen

o you remember anything before the pandemic? **Carolyn Weinstein** does. "We began talking two years before the pandemic about updating the courtyard," she said of a timeframe that coincided with planning the CNS 150 campaign. "I'm on the Beautification Committee, and that space has not been beautiful for a number of years."

The Stern Family Courtyard is a very accessible and public outdoor space. The staircase off Neveh Shalom's Holzman Plaza leads down to it, it is just outside the Atrium on one side and right outside Zidell Chapel on the other. But the rather "rough-around-the-edges" area was last improved more than a decade ago. It is used and enjoyed by too few people "because it has needed to be more attractive and functional," Carolyn notes.

Soon, though, it will be vastly changed and improved.

Construction began in April and is slated to be completed in early July to metamorphose the courtyard into a park. Carolyn stated that "It's going to be fab-



Construction starting on the Stern Family Lower Courtyard

ulous." Her passion for the place fueled her fundraising prowess. *Kehillah* members' generosity has turned a vision into reality.

CNS Executive Director, **Fred Rothstein**, said, "Thanks to the support of specific donors, the Early Learning Division, and CNS congregants, our long-time vision of changing the Stern Family Courtyard to an attractive part of our entry, designed for use by all, will become a reality."

"Truly a shul-wide effort: the final blueprint for the park included input from the youngest among us," said **Leah Conley**, the Foundation School's immediatepast director.



Schematic perspective rendering of the remodel

About half of the preschool's classrooms look onto the courtyard, and all three of the 2s' classrooms have doors that lead right out to it. Leah explained, "I was involved in helping the students have a voice in the process, such as sharing their favorite colors of plants and flowers and envisioning natural play areas for congregants of all ages to enjoy." Leah added, "Making space for the children's voices in the process felt like a unique

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## Vision, Leadership Development, and Safe Harbor: A Personal Thank You to Fred

#### By Mel Berwin, Director of Congregational Learning

Last year's July/August 2022 edition of the Chronicle featured a three-page tribute to Fred Rothstein's career at CNS, preceding his expected October 2022 retirement date. Instead of reprinting that article, we are including this reflection piece. While this is Mel's unique perspective, the sentiments in this article could have been written by any of our staff who have worked with Fred over his many years at CNS. He will be missed.

hen my family and I moved to Portland from Boston in January 2005, one of the first things we did was join CNS. It was a thriving, welcoming, Conservative congregation, and the Foundation School looked just right for my young children. Not long after I arrived, Executive Director Fred Rothstein asked me to come meet with him. This was before the building remodel, and Fred sat in a small office behind the old gift shop, with the friendly receptionist, Julie, sitting immediately outside his door. There was only room for one full poster on his wall: of course, it featured baseball. I remember that he asked me if I was a fan. (Not at all...)

Fred knew of my career in Jewish education. In Boston I had been working as a writer and educator for the Jewish Women's Archive, and I had brought that work with me. Fred shared that the longtime Director of Education at Neveh Shalom (**Barb Schwartz**) was retiring, so he wanted to know if I was interested in applying. "I have something else up my sleeve," I told him. I had been dreaming up a new Hebrew immersion program for young children with a few new friends at CNS. "The program will be held in my house," I explained.

"Hold it here," Fred insisted. This was a perfect introduction to Fred. In three words, he summed up his vision for an active and innovative community based at the synagogue as well as his welcoming, trust-filled approach to his staff. I soon got used to his uniquely friendly and down-to-business working style. Five years later, I would join the full-time staff as Director of Congregational Learning; 17 years into my work at Neveh Shalom, it is hard to overstate how much Fred has taught me.

As Fred winds up his 22 years as Executive Director at CNS, I already miss his calm, confident demeanor, and short, decisive re-

sponses to any question I throw his way. If there were a WWFD (What Would Fred Do?) theme, it's this: keep it short, to the point, friendly, and decisive. Fred doesn't expect any of us to be just like him but is always there to mentor us as we need him to. I remember early on when he told me I would need a thicker skin to do this work. He was right, and I took it to heart. He has said he likes to hire people he thinks will thrive at Neveh Shalom; then, he stands back and let them lead. Fred is the opposite of a micro-manager; he allows us to succeed or fail, try new things, and learn from it all. When we need him (as long as he's not out of range on a cruise ship), he is there for us. His own leadership, and his dedication to growing new leaders, is a special hallmark of his time at CNS.

This has always been true. But a special note needs to be made about these last few years. We all knew that Fred had retirement in sight – and was itching for his next vacation with Nora – when the pandemic hit. From day one, when we gathered in his office (now large enough for the whole staff to crowd into), and heard that we would be closing the build-ing, Fred led us through that entirely un-



predictable and emotionally/financially/ technologically rocky time with his usual quiet, calm determination. He made sure we applied for grants that would allow us to continue operating and had the technology we needed to keep us connected. He fielded tearful calls from us when we felt our jobs were impossible; further, he backed us up on every challenging decision we had to make about opening and closing or holding programs and canceling them. He ensured that we had lay leadership in place to guide decisions for the synagogue on health and safety. His calm kept us all afloat, while his empathy for the work of our staff during that time felt like a safe harbor.

It would be impossible to count how many meetings and conversations Fred and I have had since his baseball-andbook paneled office. Whether we are dreaming up programs, strategizing for grant money, discussing budget, sharing parenting and other life challenges, or getting philosophical about the evolution of synagogue life, Fred has been a visionary, a trusting leader of leaders, rock-solid guide, mentor, and support. I am truly grateful for our years together.

# Welcome to Our New Executive Director, Marlene Edenzon

#### **By Holly Eby**

t takes courage to take that first step onto the ice. As a former competitive ice skater, Marlene Edenzon knows this well. She is also keenly aware that success requires vision, commitment, and meticulous preparation. The same can certainly be said about the task of packing up one's life in Los Angeles and stepping into the role of executive director in a new community.

Marlene, whose last name is pronounced like the biblical garden, hadn't really imagined leaving the city she always considered to be her home. Nor had she been planning to move from her beloved Valley Beth Shalom where she has served in a variety of professional roles, most recently as Director of Administration.

It was a close friend and colleague who brought the Neveh Shalom job posting to her attention, urging her to consider applying, as her background and passion for Jewish communal leadership would be a perfect fit. The fact that a daughter lives nearby made the prospect even more compelling. Undaunted by a surprise snowstorm during her visit to Neveh Shalom, Marlene describes receiving a warm welcome: "My first introduction as I walked in the synagogue was Kurt opening the door for me. What a wonderful and warm greeting. It only got better from there. Each introduction included a warm smile and gracious greeting.... It is evident that working at CNS is satisfying and fulfilling."

Throughout her visit, Marlene says she felt an immediate sense of familiarity as well as a strong sense that Neveh Shalom could become her spiritual and professional home. She also welcomed the opportunity to see Portland "through the lens of permanency rather than that of a tourist."

Marlene has certainly spent time in Portland before, but this time it will be different. "My youngest daughter, Hayley (29), attended Oregon State Uni-

> versity to participate in their Athletic Training Program. After graduate school in Texas and working in Florida, she made the move back to Portland to make it her home. I visit frequently and have always felt a pull to the Pacific Northwest."

When asked what brings her joy, Marlene lists "Being outdoors as often as possible. Diving into a great historical fiction novel. Traveling



Marlene with granddaughters Riley and Kaylie at Kaylie's theater production

and venturing off the beaten path." But the conversation often begins with and inevitably comes back to her family and friends. She loves cooking large meals and making her home a place where all feel welcome; the majority of her travels are to spend time with her children and grandchildren. By good fortune, she says, "They all live in places I like to visit."

Marlene readily offers that she is "a very proud mother of four amazing children." Kimberly 37 (Richard) is in Los Angeles, Kyle 36 (Allison) lives in Boulder, Kelsey 33 (Michael) is in New Jersey, and Hayley, 29 here in Portland. She is also delighted to be a grandmother to Kaylie (7), Rylie (5), Jenna (1), and Carter (8 months). In addition, "I am blessed that my 92-year-old dad is still active and healthy. He is my prime example



Daughter Kelsey with her husband Michael, and Carter, now 8 months



Granddaughter Jenna, now 14 months in her Hanukkah outfit

for living life with purpose. He instilled in me and my brother the love of tradition, culture, and family. My big brother is my greatest cheerleader and with his encouragement and support, I was able to embrace this opportunity."

# *"I believe that community is best created when people are empowered, trusted, and heard."*

Having been deeply rooted in the Los Angeles community for decades, relocating to Portland is a big deal. Fortunately, synagogue life serves as a strong anchor, providing an immediate and reassuring sense of community. "Wherever I go, walking into synagogue feels like comfort food. The symbols, sounds, and people are all there for a purpose that I can relate to. I know there will be an Aron Kodesh, Ner Tamid, and a Siddur that has familiar words.... I can stand next to a stranger and recite traditional liturgy and we are in concert with one another."

Although she will certainly miss various aspects of her life in L.A., Marlene says

having met some members of the Neveh Shalom *kehillah*, albeit virtually, "gave me the sense that this was a community that I would mesh with well and that connecting with like-minded individuals was a guarantee." Marlene is also excited about exploring a new place and all that comes with it such as meeting new people, exploring local culture, weekend trips, and the like. She views the shift as a "rebirth of sorts," saying she is looking forward to challenging herself to push beyond her comfort zone.

At the time of this publication, Marlene will have just moved to Portland after Pesach; she will be officially beginning her role as CNS Executive Director on May 1. She greatly appreciates that she and Fred Rothstein will overlap for a bit during the initial transition. "Fred is known for his excellence in management, leadership, and his ability to build relationships. His reputation is a reflec-

> tion of the strength of Neveh Shalom in the community and beyond. The opportunity presented [to me] to continue the legacy that Fred has built is both an honor and a privilege. Knowing that he will remain an active member and partner in leadership provides me with a sense of comfort. I look forward to working with Fred and learning from him." In a similar

vein, Marlene says she also feels honored and extremely privileged "to be joining the CNS family."

It is natural that some congregants and staff might feel some apprehension about the passing of the baton. Fred has been such a steady and predictable leader over his long tenure at Neveh Shalom that people have generally come to know what to expect. Marlene is sensitive to this. Jumping in and immediately shaking things up is not her style. Instead, she will be taking a much gentler approach, taking the time to really get to know various stakeholders and understand what is most important to them. Although a new Executive Director inevitably brings new energy and ideas, Marlene's focus, especially in the first six months, will be "learning, observing, and listening." Developing relationships, both personally and professionally, is something she highly values. "I believe that community is best created when people are empowered, trusted, and heard."

Marlene envisions working to "continue to build on the foundations that are strong and explore ways to include more stakeholders in the creation, development, and execution of programs." She is excited to work with clergy, staff, and lay leaders to "explore opportunities to expand the Neveh Shalom community into the greater community" by building upon and increasing community partnerships. Ultimately, Neveh Shalom will be seen even more widely as "a destination that provides unique opportunities to expand personal and spiritual growth."

Major transitions are exciting, while sometimes also a bit nerve wracking. The steady focus that served Marlene well through her teens as a competitive ice skater will again propel her forward as she courageously steps out to lead Neveh Shalom into a bright future.



Daughter Kimberly, Marlene's dad, son-in-law Richard, Riley, and Kaylie

# The Four Children: When It's Time For Change

#### By Candace Rothstein, Foundation School Administrative Director

looked at the clock, and what did it say? Three more minutes left to play!" How many times as a preschool teacher have I sung this tune to signal the transition from one activity to another? This auditory clue lets children know that their time to finish one activity is nearing an end, and soon they will be progressing to a new activity.

Change is difficult at any age, but getting a little bit of warning eases the transition. Anyone who has had a toddler knows that if a child is not ready to transition, they will let their feelings be known-loudly.

As adults, what happens when we don't heed the warnings before a transition is about to occur? How do we handle it when change comes, whether we like it or not? We might not throw our bodies on the ground and have a temper tantrum, but I'm willing to wager that we don't all handle it by calmly lining up and walking single-file to the next stage of life, either.

Just like the four sons we read about in the Haggadah, we recently read during Pesach, I think there are four different types of children (and adults) when it's time for transition and change:

#### The One Who Lines up

This child heard the warning and finished what they were doing before lining up when it was time to go inside. They're comfortable knowing that transition is a part of their routine, so they are ready for the next step of their day.

This adult knows that transition is a part of life and that, although difficult, it can lead to new opportunities and progress. They aren't sure what the next stage of life will bring, but they're open to finding out and want to be with their peers when they do.

#### The One Who Runs

This child knows a transition is coming, but they will do everything in their power to avoid it. They will keep running until caught and are often carried back to class to join their friends.

In an adult, this person finds ways of escaping the change. This might look like someone who tries to stay busy to avoid impending change, or who avoids staying in one place for long, looking for the next new thing.

#### The One Who Hides

This child heard the warning that a transition was about to

happen but squeezed their eyes closed, saying, "You can't see me," or tried to hide; however, their bright pink jackets and light-up rain boots give them away.

This adult sees change coming and tries to hold onto the status quo with an "If it ain't broke" mentality. Like the child who closes their eyes ("If I can't see you, you can't see me!"), they hope that the changing world will pass them by so that they can stay in the place where they are comfortable.

#### The One Who Did Not Hear the Warning

This child was so involved in their current activity that they didn't hear the initial warning that the transition was coming. They feel frustrated and maybe even angry about the seemingly immediate shift from one activity to the next.

This adult doesn't pay attention to



My daughter Havi has loved her "foxie" for the last three years as a transitional object to ease unexpected (and expected) changes in her daily routine and in her life.

the signs that the world is progressing around them. They might be hoping that if they aren't listening, they won't have to move with everyone else. When the world does change, they feel blindsided, so they react with anger, frustration, or a sense of unfairness.

Just like the four children in the Haggadah, none of these children or adults are unjustified in their response to an impending transition. In fact, it's *not* always the right course of action to line up obediently and follow the crowd. At different points and different transitions in my life, I have been each of these children: hiding, running, avoiding, and finally accepting change in life. But as a parent and conscientious citizen of the world, I hope that I'll find a way to keep my finger on the pulse of progress and that in doing so, I'll be ready to respond when transition inevitably happens.

# The 70 Faces: Unity

#### **By Emily Silverman**

hen I was a child, I loved poetry because it always felt a little like painting with words. One word, carefully placed, with its varying hues, could mean so many things—the literal was layered upon the metaphorical; the metaphorical upon the historical, and finally upon the personal story of the author. A compelling poem, like a compelling painting, can reveal any number of stories, messages, and narratives within one compilation of words.

During the seven years I spent studying Torah in seminary in Israel as a young(er) person, I was surprised at how often Torah study, in addition to the interpretation of laws and telling of stories, felt just like the study of poetry. One word, taken in its literal meaning, serves a functional purpose in the description of a law or narrative, but the same word may also serve to evoke an additional layer of metaphor, symbolism, or a reminder of another text.

The statement, "There are 70 faces to the Torah," is ubiquitous in modern Jewish life. I have always taken it to mean some Jewish version of, "to each his/ her own," or that every person's interpretation of the Torah is true and correct for them. I assumed that its source was in the context of the study of Torah: somewhere in the Oral Law, two rabbis in conflict "agreed to disagree" citing the adage, "There are 70 faces to the Torah" as justification. I was surprised to discover that the source of this phrase is more poem than parable, and that it's possible I've been misunderstanding its meaning my entire life.

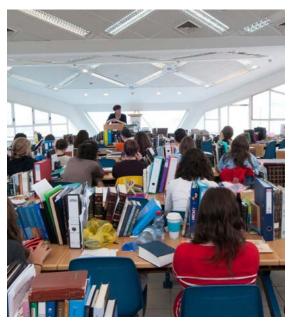
There are no quarreling scholars; in fact, no people or discussion at all, at the source of this saying. It comes from

Numbers 7:13, at the dedication of the Tabernacle. when the Kohanim each brought "an offering...one silver basin, weighing 70 shekels..." One silver basin, weighing 70 shekels. How do we get from here to "70 faces of the Torah"? The answer lies in the poetic interpretation of the Midrash (Bamidbar Raba 13:16): "One silver basin was brought as a symbol of the Torah, which has been likened to wine, as it says 'and drink of the wine which I have mingled' (Proverbs 9:5), the 70 shekels because the numerical value of wine (yayin) is 70, so there are 70 faces of the Torah."

If this seems an unlikely and convoluted path from here to there, allow me some creative license to reinterpret this midrash as a poetic narrative:

As each chieftain rises to the altar, they take a breath, intentionality driving their focus. I am here to dedicate the Tabernacle. The offering in my hand is not my own, but my people's. The basin's silver mirrors my reflection. It evokes a memory of wine, mixed from different canisters, different grapes, each one unique and tasty and powerful but indiscernible in the mix of the whole. The basin weighs heavy. 70 shekels—the wine whose flavor is elevated with each additional grape. The basin which carries us all, made of one casting of silver, unified and strong enough to contain multitudes. Like the Torah which is each of our birthrights, the connection to God that each individual must feel in this holy place—each uniquely part of a unified whole.

The task of the chieftain in this offering is to represent his people, not himself.



Beit Midrash in Migdal Oz where Emily studied

The idea that there are "70 faces to the Torah" stems not from a place of conflict, not from tolerance of difference, but of indiscernible unity: "the wine which I have mingled." We cannot see the individual for the whole.

A midrash on Parshat Netzavim tells us that we were "not alone at Sinai, but all the souls of the future generations" were present. That "not alone" takes on a new meaning. We were not each, individually, standing at the base of that mountain looking up to the skies and experiencing our own versions of the revelation. It is not that the person who stood next to me at Sinai has a story, a "face of the Torah" that is true for them, and so I must honor it while holding my own truth separate. It is that the experience of the one who stood next to me is mingled with my own. One experience, many faces. The chieftain is one person, representing a group, who is part of a nation, but the offering he gives that will sanctify the holy place of worship is entirely "mingled," or unified: the 70 faces of the Torah, contained in the single reflection of a silver basin.

# **Member News**



We are thrilled to officially welcome the Levit family from Ukraine to Portland and the CNS *kehillah*! Pictured also (on left) is **Sara Safdie** who helped steer the Welcome Circle that brought the family to PDX.



Mazel tov to **Mira Hayward** for winning *Jeopardy*! twice! She was a fan favorite for her personal stories, funny faces, grace, and rendition of Baby Shark. You can find her episodes on YouTube and some fun clips on the *Jeopardy* website. Her mom, **Elizabeth Steiner**, is kvelling!



While attending the funeral of our dear CNS member, **Stan Eastern, z"I**, his longtime friend, **Timothy Stalsberg**, noticed the need for a new (and nonleaking) tent canopy. We thank Mr. Stalsberg for his donation that permitted the purchase of a new canopy.



We are sad that our wonderful and amazing receptionist and congregant, **Lisa Marie Lynch**, has moved back to Eugene, OR to be with family. Lisa Marie has become an integral part of our community. While we all support her, we miss her and wish her and her whole family well.

## Yihi Zichram Baruch – Our condolences to CNS members who have recently lost loved ones.

We regret to inform you of the passing of **Roberta (Bobby) Berwin, z"l** on February 24, 2023 at the age of 79 in Overland Park, Kansas. She is loved and remembered by her husband Harvey Berwin, her children **Mel Berwin**, Katie (Chaim) White, and Brent (Kasia Bloch) Berwin, and ten grandchildren including **Lev**, Nava, and Ami Weingrad.

We regret to inform you of the passing of Marcia Wilson, z"l on February 21, 2023 at the age of 94. She is loved and remembered by her sons, Matthew (Lesley Fisher) Glasser; Larry (Jane) O'Glasser; Martin Glasser; daughter, Nancy Doyle; grandchildren, Benjamin (Avital) O'Glasser; Molly (Charles Koransky) O'Glasser; Elliot O'Glasser; Adam Glasser; Mira Glasser; Aaron (Sheri Lawal) Doyle; Austin (Rachel Rhoten) Doyle; Eva Glasser; Abraham Glasser; (Honorary) Evan Fisher; (Honorary) Ava Fisher; and greatgrandchildren, Noam O'Glasser; Ronan O'Glasser; Chase Koransky; Maya Koransky; Theresa Doyle, and Alasdair Doyle.

We regret to inform you of the passing of Nathan Fendrich, z"l at the age of 88. He is lovingly remembered by his wife Beatrice Fendrich; children, Jack (Pam) Fendrich; **Sharon (Mark Epstein) Fendrich**; David (Mycah) Fendrich; Adam (Julie) Fendrich, and Risa (Jane Adam) Blythe; and grandchildren, **Talia Valdez & Max Epstein**; Gabby Fendrich & Sasha Fendrich; Olivia and Max Fendrich, and Milo Blythe.

We regret to inform you of the passing of CNS member **Josephine** "Jody" Zubrow Klevit, z"l. Jody is predeceased by her life-long love and best friend Harvey, her beloved daughter Lisa Klevit-Ziegler, and her sister Valentine Chilk. She is survived by her sister Estelle Goldstein; daughters Rachel Klevit (Jerry Sale) and Sarah Hopkins (Paul); son Ben Klevit (Adi), and grandchildren Jonathan and Rebekka Ziegler, Sam and Max Hopkins, and Daniel Klevit.

We regret to inform you of the passing of CNS member Joeen Rodinsky, z"I on April 7th at the age of 83. Joeen is loved and remembered by her sister, Rhoda Leopold, nephew Mike (Gretchen) Leopold, niece Heidi (Gary) Grenley, and great nieces and nephews Aaron, Emily, Jordan, and Alexa.

# **Neveh Shalom Happenings**

Please enjoy this sampling of what is being offered at Neveh Shalom. The best way to get the latest information is through our weekly eblasts. You can sign up at: news@nevehshalom.org. Please visit the website for links at: nevehshalom.org/calendar.

#### Sisterhood Interfaith/BIPOC Meetings Wednesday, May 3, June 7, 7:00pm

Women of different backgrounds come together to discuss questions of faith and confronting social justice issues. RSVP: smallfryeterp@icloud.com.

#### Sisterhood Hike Sunday, May 7, 10:00am

Meet up at Council Crest for a 3.4-mile hike followed by a stop at a local coffee shop in Hillsdale. RSVP to Michelle limori-Goldenberg, smallfryeterp@icloud.com

#### Israel360: Humans of Tel Aviv Tuesday, May 9, 5:30-7:30pm, MJCC

Join photographer Erez Kaganovitz as he talks about how he has helped bridge a cultural gap in society, both within and outside of Israel, through his art.

#### Wondering Jews: World Forestry Center Wednesday, May 10, 1:00pm

Wondering Jews will take our wonder to the World Forestry Center for an introduction by museum staff followed by a self-guided tour.

#### Women's Torah Study

Sat., May 13, (summer TBD), 12:30pm Join Mel Berwin for an hour of uplifting study and conversation. In-person.

#### Cooking for Outside In Sunday, May 14, 12:00pm

Cook a meal to feed homeless teens. Contact: 8888octopus8888@gmail.com

#### Wise Women Social Brown Bag Lunch Thursday, May 18, June 15, 12:00pm

Socialize and empower one another in a casual environment.

#### Kindness Farm Gardening Sunday, May 21, 2:00pm

Join CNS Tikkun Olam as we volunteer our time gardening at Kindness Farm.

#### New Member Event

Sunday, May 21, 4:00pm

We are excited to welcome and celebrate our newest members.

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#### Sisterhood Book Club

**4th Monday of the month, 7:00pm 5/22** *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles **6/26** *The Book of Lost Friends* by Lisa Wingate. RSVP: dianeandjosh@hotmail.com.

#### **Sisterhood Board Meetings Thur., May 25, June 22, 7:00pm** For details, please contact Michelle limori-

Goldenberg: smallfryeterp@icloud.com.

#### Shavuot Programing Thursday, May 25

Join us as we celebrate Shavuot with a youth event and a cooking demo by Lani Raider and Rabbi Kosak.

#### Sisterhood Mah Jongg Tournament Sunday, June 4, 11am-4pm

A fun filled day of Mah Jongg and friendship. Experienced and new players welcome. nevehshalom.org/mahjongg23.

#### Shroud Crowd

#### Sunday, June 11, 2:00-4:00pm

Help create traditional burial clothing to be used by the Chevra Kavod haMet. Contact: sandyaxel@msn.com.

#### L'Chayim Hollywood C. Bitton Concert Sunday, June 11, 6:15pm

Timeless musical treasures from some of our favorite movies with Cantor Eyal Bitton and special guests.

#### Annual Meeting / Fred Retirement Party Thursday, June 15, 7:00pm

Please join the whole CNS community at our annual meeting. Afterwards, we will be celebrating Fred and his retirement. More information coming soon.

#### Men's Club Poker Tournament Sunday, June 25

Join the Men's Club Texas Hold'em Tournament. Open to everyone 18+.

#### Red Cross Blood Drive Thursday, June 29

Please join us for our summer Blood Drive to suppoer those who need. It's a mitvah to give blood if you are able.

#### Morning Minyan and Shabbat Services:

Please visit the website for more info: nevehshalom.org/current-services

Morning Minyan Monday-Friday, 7:15am/Sundays, 9:00am

Kabbalat Shabbat Service Fridays, 6:15pm

Men's Club Shabbat Friday, May 19, 6:15pm

Shabbat on the Plaza Fridays, Starting June 2, 6:15pm

#### Kol Shabbat

**2nd Fridays, 7:15pm** Lay-led, voices-only service. All are welcome.

#### Saturday Morning Shabbat Service Saturdays, 9:30am

- Meditation Shabbat, 1st Saturdays
- Learner's Shabbat, 4th Saturdays

#### Downstairs Minyan Shabbat Service 2nd, 4th, 5th Saturdays, 9:30am

#### Youth & Young Families

For more information, please contact Rabbi Eve at: eposen@nevehshalom.org.

#### Kiddush Club (K-3rd Grade) 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 10:30am

Morah Sarah Rohr and Moreh Gershon Liberman alternate leading Kiddush Club.

#### Tot Shabbat (Ages 0-5)

**1st and 3rd Saturdays, 10:30am** Join young families as we gather togeth-

er for some Tot Shabbat fun.

#### 4th Fridays Shabbat w/ Rabbi Eve 4th Fridays, 5:15pm

Rabbi Eve leads Shabbat for families (ages 0-10), with singing, a story, and blessings.

#### Chess Club (For kids 7 and up) First Saturdays, 1:00pm

Youth are invited to join the CNS Jewish Chess Club taught by an expert chess player. \$10 per student per month.

#### The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

#### ADULT EDUCATION FUND in memory of

Bobby Berwin from Laura Cohen Bobby Berwin from Lisa Richmond Marianne Buchwalter from The Buchwalter family

#### ALIYAH DONATION

in memory of Bobby Berwin from Alan Blank & Ellyn Sternfield Bobby Berwin from Andy, Rodney, & Ariella Garland-Forshee Bobby Berwin from Karen & David Sapoznikow Bobby Berwin from Linda & Michael Osherow Bobby Berwin from Mark Lawson & Evan Shereck Bobby Berwin from Nan & Allan Lipton Bobby Berwin from Stephanie Arnheim & John Sheldon Bobby Berwin from Stephanie Portman & Bridget Fahrland

Bobby Berwin from Stephen & Diana Sirkin

#### CAMP SOLOMON SCHECHTER FUND in honor of

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in memory of

Bobby Capper from David & Carol Twain Paul Norr from Richard & Abby Menashe Paul Norr from Riley & Marci Atkins & Family

Blossom Spellman from Stanley Hodes Susan Twain from David & Carol Twain

#### CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

in appreciation of Cantor Eyal Bitton from Ariel & Jennifer Rogson

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#### ELAINE & GLORIA SCHILLER BOOKSHELF FUND

in memory of David Gens Spigal from Thelma Geffen

#### FELDSTEIN LIBRARY FUND

in memory of Lena Axel from Elliot & Suzanne Axel Lottie Eisenhardt from Ronald & Rebecca Eiseman Maurice Goldberg from Elliot & Suzanne Axel Hilde Miriam Jacob from Ronald & Rebecca Eiseman Ruth (Dolly) Joern from Glenn & Martha

Ruth (Dolly) Joern from Glenn & Martha Decherd

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In memory of Linda Faye Hochman from Irving & Arlene Potter Harvey Keller from Julie Gottlieb John Sepenuk from Jerrie Roth and Family Jack J. Weinstein from Randi McLenithan

#### GENERAL SYNAGOGUE FUND

get well wishes for Beverly Eastern from Thelma Geffen in appreciation of Sandy Axel from Miriam Rogson Toinette & Vic Menashe from Eve Rosenfeld Dana Sirkin from Miriam Rogson in honor of Charles Rogson from Raul & Lidia Krivoy Steve Sirkin from Robert & Mimi Sorkin in memory of Pearl Adams from Stan & Sheryl Adams Grigory Amburg from Inna & Josif Sheinkman Tillie Berlant from Melvin & Cathy Berlant Percy Bernstein from Barbara Bernstein

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Norman Howard from Jeffrey Howard Pesya Khaya Katz from Gregory & Nelly Altotsky

Isabella Kaufman from Paul Weiden Earl L. Goldhammer from Robert & Harriet Perkel

Marie Leton from Leslie Galanti Marie Leton from Neesa Galanti Merritt Linn from Richard & Karen Solomon

Louis Marenstein from Herman Marenstein

Khaya Markus from Roza Markus Yevgenia Mikhaylovna Giterman-Faktorovi from Boris & Alla Piatski Sara Mishkin from Raquel Zidell Harold Myers from Julian Kaufman Mollie Nelson from Marlene Abrams Paul Norr from Linda Young Paul Norr from Lois & Alan Kohn Esther Nudelman from Alan & Eve Rosenfeld

Jack W. Olds from Michael Olds & Gloria Borg-Olds

Tsilya Pirogovsky from Rudolf & Tamara Lublinsky

Helen Powles from Julian Kaufman Broha Press from Abram & Rimma Press Wolf & Rivka Rabovitser from Gregory & Nelly Altotsky

Bertha Rothkow from Sybil Slate Abram Rubinovich from Abram &

Rimma Press

Marguerite & Charles Schroeder from Joni Cady & Jane Rosevelt

Phineas Stevens from Julian Kaufman Morton Titelbaum from Michael &

Barbara Titelbaum Klara Tolchinskaya from Peter & Alla Tolchinsky

Mikhail Vayrub from Roman & Irina Munblit

Gene Veltman from Larry & Linda Veltman

Ben Vidgoff from Martin Vidgoff Mary Greenberg Weinsoft from Robert & Karen Greenberg Nathan Weinstein from Dana Weinstein

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#### GLADYS & JOSEPH FENDEL CAMP FUND in memory of

Gladys Fendel from Albert & Bette Lynn Menashe Ruben Menashe from George & Laura Fendel Mimi Schneiderman from George & Laura Fendel

#### HEINZ JACOB BOOKSHELF FUND in honor of

Becky Eisman from Jeffrey Menashe & Wendy Gutmann

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#### HUNGER RELIEF FUND in memory of

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MARK AIL CAMPERSHIP FUND in memory of

Paul Norr from Robert & Emily Ail

#### MAURICE SUSSMAN MITZVAH FUND in memory of

Jan Markstaller Donnelly from Thelma Lowenthal Geffen

MENSCHES & MAVENS FUND

in memory of Marcia Wilson from Alan Blank & Ellyn Sternfield

### Lower Courtyard Construction Continued from page 8

and special approach to planning the space."

After an extensive vetting process, the Beautification Committee, chaired by **Gary Pearlman**, selected Sutter Wehmeier, PLA, ASLA of BASE Landscape Architecture to design the new courtyard, and Blessing Landscape to serve as the project contractor.

And now the children – and their teachers – are learning what it means when a plan comes to fruition, said **Cory Willson**, Foundation School's current director. "We will have to get creative about nap time!" she said, referring to the noise and excitement of the building process.

Once completed, the park will provide "space for large-muscle work, imaginative play, and utilization of the new spaces for outdoor curriculum," Cory explained about the preschool's 101 busy children, ages 12-months through pre-kindergarten. The park also will include planter boxes, a music and gravel box, and plenty of features like stepping stumps on which to jump and play.



Kurt Rice, Neveh Shalom's facilities director and overseer of the construction project

"In addition to use by children, this park was specifically designed to be utilized and accessible for all ages, children and adults alike," Fred added.

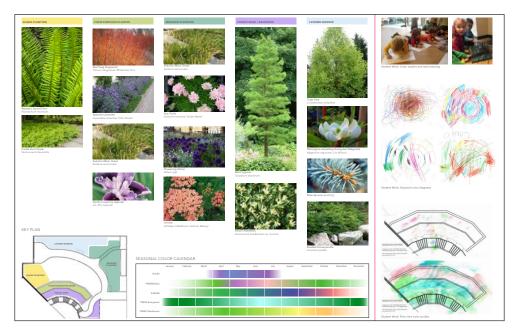
All materials used in the park's creation will be "first-class, top-notch," Carolyn said. The plan calls for regrading the land; adding landscape features to surround and highlight the flowering cherry tree; weather-resistant artificial turf to replace saturated grass; log structures for visual interest, and plenty of designated seating.

The site will also be able to accommodate outdoor weddings, with the option to provide cover so rain doesn't ruin a *simcha*. "It will last a long time and be able to be used for all kinds of different events," Carolyn pointed out.

**Kurt Rice**, Neveh Shalom's Facilities Director, is staff liaison to the Beautification Committee; he also oversees dayto-day operations of the park's progress. He stated, "The transformation of what you see today, to what you will see at completion will be incredible. This area will invite every member to come and enjoy its space, and it will be accessible all year round."

"Of all the projects done at CNS since I've been here, this one excites me the most," he said of his six years as the facilities director.

"We have every reason to be proud and excited about this project," Fred said. "The transition from a general outdoor space to park will allow it to be loved for generations to come."



Schematic planting palette: part of the inspiration was from a youth design workshop with Foundation School students



#### The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

#### MILT HORENSTEIN MORNING MINYAN FUND

in appreciation of Priscilla Kostiner & the Morning Minyan from David Winitsky in honor of Howard Shapiro from Sheri Katz & Joel Mullin in memory of Victoria Cordova from Jack & Barbara Schwartz

Lottie Kloner Sher from Paul & Joan Sher Ruth Meyer from Lora Meyer Paul Norr from Anthony & Priscilla Kostiner Judy Tye from Lora Meyer Charlotte Ushman from David & Roxanne Ushman Jack Wolinsky from LaMar & Carol Veatch

#### MOSKOWITZ FUND in memory of

Gertrude Atkins from Riley & Marci Atkins

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**RABBI JOSHUA STAMPFER EDUCATION** FUND in honor of Selma Duckler from Victor & Toinette Menashe in memory of Benjamin Babani from Richard & Mary Peizner Hannah Feves Cole from Janet Hasson

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#### **RABBI POSEN DISCRETIONARY FUND**

in appreciation of Rabbi Eve Posen from Carol Richmond in honor of Felix Dickson-Wu's Bris from Austin Dickson

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in honor of Judy Weingard from Mel Hoffman & Trudi Stone

#### SONIA NUDELMAN FLORAL FUND in honor of

Shirley Nudelman from Geraldine Roth Shirley Nudelman from Lynda, Michael, Sam & Stacey Ewan, & Julie Donin in memory of Arny Barer from Lynda, Michael, Sam & Stacey Ewan, & Julie Donin

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in honor of Gary Pearlman from Jack & Barbara Schwartz in memory of Cele Schwartz from Gary & Sylvia Pearlman

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in memory of Joanna Menashe & Victor Capeloto from Rosalyn Menashe

#### TORAH REPAIR FUND

in memory of Judith Kosak from Jack & Barbara Schwartz

#### VAAD SHEL CHESED FUND

in memory of Barbara Cordova from Lee & Sheri Cordova Victoria Cordova from Alan Blank & Ellyn Sternfield

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in memory of Bobby Berwin from Gary & Carolyn Weinstein Jody Klevit from Gary & Carolyn Weinstein Noralee Weinstein from Gary & Carolyn Weinstein

#### YONI SUHER FUND

in appreciation of Brian Suher from Alan & Eve Rosenfeld in honor of Noam & Gali Tibon from Brian Suher & Barbara Atlas





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# We asked members of our *Kehillah* questions about their upcoming graduation



Naomi Horowitz, Noa Nelson, and Edie Miller

### Name & age: Naomi Horowitz (5), Noa Nelson (5), & Edie Miller (4)

Graduating from: Foundation School Preschool Favorite memory of last few years:

Noa: "When Naomi and me became sister twins in real life."

Naomi: "Playing with my best friend and sister twin Noa." Edie: "Doing all the art projects."

#### Plan for next year:

Noa: "Going to kindergarten and eating food." Naomi: "Playing on the playground at kindergarten." Edie: "Going to kindergarten and learning Spanish."

#### Wise words for your peers:

Noa: "Don't hit and you should play board games like Sorry." Naomi: "You should follow the rules." Edie: "You should play nicely."



Jordan Mickey Gilbert and Ethan Gilbert

Name & age: Jordan Mickey Gilbert (18) & Ethan Gilbert (18) Graduating from: Tigard High School, 12th grade Favorite memory of last few years:

Jordan: "Going to Israel."

Ethan: "Learning and getting prepared for my Bar Mitzvah was so much fun, as well as taking art classes taught by my mom." **Plan for next year:** 

#### Jordan: "ROTC and Political Science major at the U of O." Ethan: "OSU to study Business and Sports Marketing." Wise words for your peers:

Jordan: "Don't let obstacles stop you from finding success; allow them to help you grow and mature"

Ethan: "Some things I've learned from Neveh Shalom: to be your best self and always be open-minded when it comes to learning, even if it's a topic you may not like or be familiar with."



#### CONGREGATION NEVEH SHALOM'S

# 154th Annual Meeting

#### Thursday, June 15, 6:00pm, Stampfer Chapel

Please join us for our CNS 154th Annual Meeting to assure a quorum for votes for our nominated officers and Board of Directors.

**The Agenda will include:** reports from the treasurer, the president, CNS's new executive director, and the clergy, and the election of officers and board. *We hope to see you there!* 

## FRED'S RETIREMENT PARTY!

Following the Annual Meeting, we will be celebrating Fred Rothstein's retirement as Executive Director of Neveh Shalom in the Birnbach Hall. Please save the date - more information will be coming soon.



Let's Eat

Food as Physical & Spiritual Nourishment in Judaism

# Thursday, May 25 5:00pm Until Late

## Young Family Programing | Cooking Demo Dinner | Services | Learning Sessions

Registration required: nevenshalom.org/shavuot23

Please note that there is a cost for dinner.



Neveh Shalom | 2900 SW Peaceful Lane, Portland, OR 97239 | 503.246.8831 | nevehshalom.org



Your CNS kehillah is looking forward to welcoming you for this special summer series of "themed" Friday night services in a serene outdoor setting. Stay after for enhanced onegs with select food and beverage samplings.

## FRIDAYS AT 6:15PM, THROUGH SEPT 1

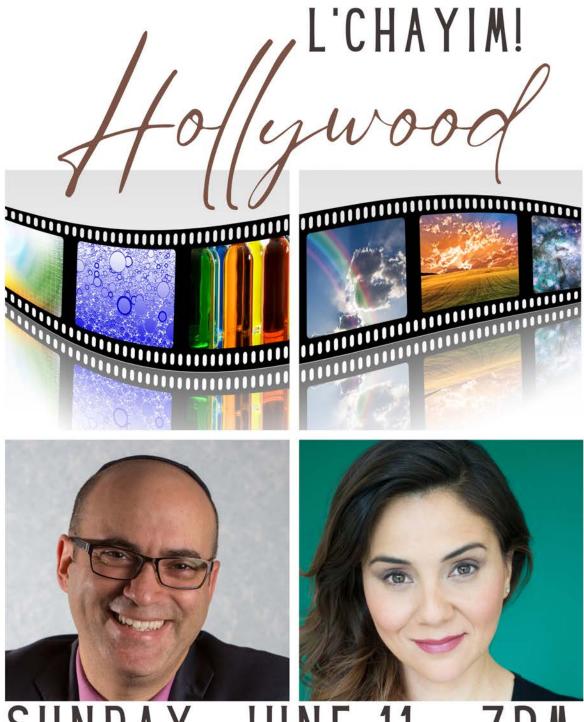
## June Shabbat Themes

- 6/9 Taste of CNS Roses
- 6/16 CNS Pride Shabbat
- 6/23 Strawberry Festival
- 6/30 Independence Day

*In the event of inclement weather, services and oneg will be moved indoors.* 



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SUNDAY, JUNE 11 - 7PM CONGREGATION NEVEH SHALOM 6:30 DRINKS & SNACKS

A CONCERT OF CLASSIC SONGS FROM CLASSIC MOVIES WITH CANTOR EYAL BITTON, MICHÈLE TREDGER, & BAND



REGISTER: NEVEHSHALOM.ORG/LCHAYIM23

# THE MARIANNE WOLLSTEIN MAH JONGG MADNESS BRUNCH AND TOURNAMENT

## SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2023

TOKED

Please join us for a fun-filled day of Mah Jongg and friendship. Experienced and new players welcome. (No teaching)



11:00 am - 12:00 pm Brunch and explanation of rules 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm Tournament and prizes

\$36 ~ Register by Friday, May 26.

For more information please contact: Judi Goodman (503) 531-7205 or Elisa Stevens (503) 929-1680 Sponsored by Neveh Shalom Sisterhood

Payment must accompany registration form.

You can now register online at: nevenshalom.org/mahjongg23 or please make checks payable to "Neven Shalom Sisterhood." No registrations taken after May 26, 2023.

Mail to: Neveh Shalom, 2900 SW Peaceful Lane, Portland, OR 97239 Attn: Sisterhood Mah Jongg

Name:			
Phone:	Email:		
I will be attending brunch: Yes	No	l can provide a Mah Jongg Set: Yes	No

# exas Hold'em

A Neveh Shalom Men's Club Charity Tournament Proceeds Benefit Youth Education and Camp Scholarships

## Sunday, June 25, 2023

Birnbach Hall, Congregation Neveh Shalom Doors open: 4:00pm ~ Tournament: 5:00-9:00pm

> Two levels of support are available: PLAYER: \$50/registration EVENT SPONSOR: \$100/registration, free add-on, and acknowledgement

REGISTRATION DUE DATE: June 18, 2023 Registrations post marked after June 18 will cost \$10 more.

Register now to hold your spot for this fantastic event. Your registration includes: coffee, soft drinks, beer, hors d'oeuvres, bagels & spreads and tournament play. Event is open to men and women 18 and over.

> You will be playing for a prize pool of \$700\*. Top 6 players will earn prizes. Add-ons and re-buys will be available.

#### **CHARITY TEXAS HOLD'EM POKER TOURNAMENT**

To pay by check, please make it out to **Neveh Shalom Men's Club** and mail your check and the bottom of this form by June 18, 2023 (Registrations post marked after June 18 will cost \$10 more) to:

> Neveh Shalom Men's Club c/o Jake Sheff, 14480 SW Chardonnay Ave., Tigard, OR 97224 To pay by PayPal or Venmo contact Jake Sheff at: jjsheff@gmail.com

Circle your level of support: Event Sponsor / Player	Amount Enclosed:
Name:	Address:
Phone:	Email:
Vou will receive empil confirmation and reminders. Commune re	funds but substitutions are normitted. Your resistantion for is toy deductible

You will receive email confirmation and reminders. Sorry no refunds, but substitutions are permitted. Your registration fee is tax deductible as permitted by law. Approximate value of donation is \$30. You must be 21 or over to consume alcoholic beverages. This Texas Hold 'Em tournament will be run by Ubetcha Entertainment and all tournament rules and decisions are at the sole discretion of the Tournament Director. \*Our prize pool of \$700 is based on 50 paid registrations and will be in the form of Visa gift cards.

> CONGREGATION NEVEH SHALOM 2900 SW Peaceful Lane, Portland, Or 97239 503.246.8831 www.nevehshalom.org