High Holy Days

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Sept. 13

Rosh Hashanah

Sept. 14-15

Kol Nidre (Erev Yom Kippur)

Sept. 22

Yom Kippur

Sept. 23

Erev Sukkot

Sept. 27

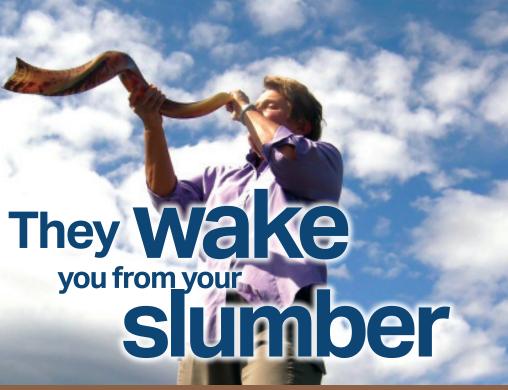
Sukkot

Sept. 28-Oct. 4

Shemini Atzeret/ Simchat Torah

Oct. 5-6

Visit ORJewishLife.com/calendar for holiday service times and locations in Oregon and Southwest Washington.



By Polina Olsen

Joanna Booser got her shofar from Temple Beth Tikvah's former rabbi, Glenn Ettman.

The haunting sounds of the shofar have awakened people from their spiritual slumber every year since ancient times. Made from any kosher animal, but usually from ram or antelope horns, the shofar is sounded on Rosh Hashanah, and in some communities, during the month of Elul and at the end of the Yom Kippur fast. Shofar blowing consists of three basic sounds: tekiah, a long, unbroken blast; shevarim, three short, sharp notes; and teruah, a rapid series of short, sometimes staccato notes.

Here in Oregon, shofar blowers come from all religious affiliations and all walks of life. Many have sounded the shofar for years, and others have learned recently. Here are some thoughts and memories from a few heralds of our High Holidays:

Joanna Booser got her shofar from Temple Beth Tikvah's former rabbi, Glenn Ettman.

"He flew from Los Angeles to Bend once a month and brought a beautiful shofar with him," she says. "Airport security didn't know what it was, so he had to blow it to get through. Glenn taught me the calls, and I watched on YouTube. When Glenn got a full-time rabbi position and left the temple, he gave it to me.

"A flash mob is when people get together on the spur of the moment and have events. During the High Holidays, Glenn wanted a shofar flash mob on the bridge that runs across the river in our downtown shopping center. He called the calls, and I blew them up and down the river. We found all these Jewish people that were new to town. It was on the TV news.

"Our new rabbi, Johanna Hershenson, expanded the tradition. She invites all three Bend Jewish communities to bring their shofars to the bridge. She says the name of the call, I blow it as an example and everyone else follows."

Diane Chaplin became interested in her Jewish roots at around age 40. A concert cellist, she was attracted to anything musical. Today she teaches at local colleges, directs the Rose City Youth Orchestra (rosecityyouth.org) and sounds the shofar at Havurah Shalom

"There's a tradition that you sound the shofar every day during the month of Elul," she says. "We like the opportunity to get in shape. The technique is not different than other horn instruments."

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Dolfy Freinquel has blown the shofar at Temple Beth Israel in Eugene for nine