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## Cousins Cheryl and Ed Tonkin

Feed Hungry Bodies & Minds  
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### ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

April Showers Make  
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### ISRAEL

The Beauty, Discoveries  
& Surfing?

### PROFESSIONALS

These Jewish Pros  
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SPECIAL SECTIONS



# EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



## A Serious Talk & A Silly Debate About Food

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Presented by Congregation Beth Israel



## E. J. Dionne, Jr.: "Personal Faith and Public Policy"



**Sunday, May 5, 5:00 PM**  
**Congregation Beth Israel Sanctuary**  
**1972 NW Flanders Street, 97209**

CBI is pleased to welcome E. J. Dionne, Jr. as the 2013 Oseran Family Lecturer. Mr. Dionne is a long-time op-ed columnist for The Washington Post, writing twice a week on national politics and policy. He is a University Professor at Georgetown University and a senior fellow at The Brookings Institution. Dionne has been a frequent commentator on politics for National Public Radio, ABC's "This Week," and NBC's "Meet the Press." His book "Why Americans Hate Politics" (1991) won the Los Angeles Times Book Prize and was a National Book Award nominee. His most recent book is "Souled Out: Reclaiming Faith & Politics After the Religious Right" (2008).

*The Oseran Family Fund was established in 2008 to provide annual lectures with a socially responsible Jewish theme. Past lecturers have included US Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Michael Chabon, and author and national correspondent Jeffrey Goldberg.*

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## Editor's Letter



You might notice that my byline isn't on top of very many articles in this issue of Oregon Jewish Life.

As we finalized last month's magazine, I headed to the hospital for a hip replacement. Since I wasn't sure how I would feel during the recovery phase, I called on our excellent roster of contributing writers to breathe life into the list of articles I had developed for this month. I'm delighted both with their willingness to step up

and take a bigger role and with the stories they created.

I'm especially grateful to Amy Kaufman for her skill in crafting our cover story about the upcoming Food for Thought Festival. With more than 20 events over four days, the article about this festival could easily have resembled a laundry list. But Amy provides a broad overview seasoned with tantalizing tidbits that I think will tempt many readers to sample the fare. Just remember to take a food donation to each event; after all, the festival is meant to nourish our minds and souls while collecting food for the Oregon Food Bank to feed hungry families living in our midst.

Elizabeth Schwartz has done her usual fine job by writing Arts and Entertainment features that capture the essence of the performers she interviewed. This month, Liz also contributed to our special section on Israel with a story about a network of Jewish-Arab schools promoting co-existence, as well as writing a quick overview of the social programs visited by Havurah Shalom members last month. Our Israel section

also benefited from Sura Rubenstein's always excellent history column, this time looking at Portland's Zionist roots. Former Portlander David Shlachter contributed a fun piece about Israel's surf scene.

Kerry Politzer stepped up and wrote a series of profiles for our special section on professionals. I think she did a great job sharing their visions. For the second month, Vanessa Van Edwards researched a business trend in the community; her story on Oregon's Silicon Forest and the Jews who are helping it grow is insightful.

Polina Olsen took on a host of stories in fields ranging from campus life to seniors. Polina's ability to get to the heart of a subject quickly is a wonderful asset.

Of course our columnists did their usual wonderful job by informing and entertaining us on topics ranging from advice to Zionism. Our columnists in Israel, Mylan Tanzer and Anne Kleinberg, offer their usual perceptive views of life in Israel. And chef Lisa Glickman presents a savory alternative for preparing everything from salmon to vegetables.

Oh, as for my recovery? I'm doing great. The warm water therapy pool at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center is truly a gift from the community to those in need of exercise in a buoyant environment. Though I've written about the benefits of the pool many times through the years, I never fully understood how wonderful it can feel until I left my cane at the edge and walked through the water's warm embrace. I'm very thankful the community chose to save the therapy pool during last decade's center renovations led by Jordan Schnitzer.

*Deborah*



**LET'S CELEBRATE!**

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**10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
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Cocktails at 5:30pm | Dinner at 6:00pm  
**\$65 per adult | \$40 per student (Middle School-College)**

**Seating is limited. Register online by Tuesday, April 23, 2013 at [www.ojcf.org](http://www.ojcf.org).**

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All proceeds benefit the Oregon Jewish Community Youth Foundation and will be allocated to community nonprofits by youth foundation members.

# EVENT HIGHLIGHTS



## Celebrate Our Vibrant Culture and Israel's Birthday!

*Presented by the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland  
to benefit the Oregon Food Bank*

### April 18-21, 2013

**Saturday, April 20**

## Israeli Folk Dance Festival

### 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

An exhilarating commemorative event featuring lessons for dancers of all ages and levels, an Israeli-style dinner buffet and an Israeli folk dance party.

1p-Midnight Mittleman Jewish Community Center, 6651 SW Capitol Highway  
For full schedule and tickets visit [portlandisraelidance.com](http://portlandisraelidance.com)

**Sunday, April 21**

## Limmud\* PDX: An Extraordinary Learning Experience

A morning of learning featuring keynote speaker **STEPHEN TRACHTENBERG**  
and a selection of Portland's most thought-provoking speakers

9:30a - 1:30p Mittleman Jewish Community Center, 6651 SW Capitol Highway  
\$5, Advance registration required

## Get Your Yiddish On

A day celebrating Yiddish authors presented by **Jewish Theatre Collaborative**

### NAFTALI and KLEZMER ROCK AND STORYTELLING CELEBRATION

11a and 5p Theater! Theatre!, 3430 Southeast Belmont  
Ticket information available at [www.jewishtheatrecollaborative.org](http://www.jewishtheatrecollaborative.org)

## Israeli Independence Day Celebration

Celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israel's 65<sup>th</sup> year of independence, as the Israelis do: with a big party, live Israeli music with **The Peatot**, Israeli food and many more surprises!

5p-9p Mittleman Jewish Community Center, 6651 SW Capitol Highway **FREE**



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## Letters to Editor

### "WANDERING" FILMMAKER CORRECTS QUOTE IN ARTICLE

Thank you for the terrific interview and profile you published in the March 2013 issue concerning my film, "Wandering in the Woods." I would like to offer a small but important correction to the quote, "my parents didn't come" regarding my bar mitzvah. They, indeed, did attend, along with my sister and most of my cousins, aunts, and uncles. When my father was called to the bimah for the blessing over the Torah - I was surprised when he waved away the rabbi, who thought he would have to provide word-by-word assistance, and flawlessly recited the blessing. So I make this correction to honor this memory.

Thank you!

Ken Klein, Portland

~~

### PARENTS APPRECIATE STORY ON MILITARY SON

Just a personal note to compliment you for such a well-written article about Jeff (Silver, in the March cover story). We were pleased to read how well you addressed his life, his Judaism, his career and his personae.

We so appreciate your magazine. It is most informative and insightful on a full spectrum of topics relevant to our Jewish people in Oregon.

Thank you for your fine article about Jeff and the excellent work you and your staff do to keep us informed. We look forward to future issues of Oregon Jewish Life.

Sincerely,

Norm & Norma Silver, Beaverton

~~

### DON'T FORGET ROLE OF MILITARY WIVES

I enjoyed and appreciated your cover story in (the March issue of) Oregon Jewish Life. It is not very often that our Jewish publications recognize our contributions to the military organizations of our country - especially the roles of the Jewish women. This year following the death of my wife of 70 years, Ruth Garten, I mailed friends to tell them something about her life as an Army wife.

As a parachute infantryman who was wounded and decorated in World War II, Korea and Vietnam, I was appreciated properly.

But Ruth, in our five years of separation and my lengthy time in Walter Reed and other hospitals ran a wonderful home. Our sons, a lawyer and a doctor, were bar mitzvahed and are professionally and personally very successful.

To describe Ruth in a few words is not possible. She was a very pretty girl who grew into a true beauty as a woman. For the first 30 years of our life together, Ruth was a true Army wife. She lived through three wars with me as a parachute infantryman. She also received five telegrams that reported my wounds.

Thank you for a great publication,

Melvin Garten,

Colonel, US Army, retired

Lake Oswego



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**this summer.”**

— Mark and Lauren Goldstein  
Parents of Jack, 6 and Evan, 3



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# GigaPan gives you far away and close up, too

By Polina Olsen

You've brought your camera to a Portland Timbers game and have so much to do. You scamper up the stadium for a panorama of Jeld-Wen field, hike for a closeup of your family in the stands, run to that fan with his giant balloon, and – here comes a goal. But, what if you could snap the panorama, the expression on your daughter's face, the cartoon on the balloon and the team's reaction to the goal – all at the same instant?

Enter GigaPan Systems, a company based right here in Portland. Using high-resolution panoramic photography technology developed for the Mars Rover, you'll capture these images and more with just one snap. Mount your digital camera in the small vice-like device, set the top-left and bottom-right, then shoot. Hundreds or thousands of high-quality digital images are created as the device repeatedly moves your camera and snaps. Accompanying software on your Mac or PC stitches the images together to create one interactive panorama. Now zoom in for the finest detail or zoom out for the big picture. Find that needle in the haystack or view the whole farm with the same digital photo.

"This is actually a robot, but it won't talk to you," said GigaPan CEO Josh Friedman during a recent interview. A Portland native, he grew up at Congregation Beth Israel, graduated from Oregon State University and started his marketing career at Intel. He launched strategic partnerships at Tripwire, founded the hotel software company Eleven Wireless, co-founded NedSpace, an entrepreneur's office facility, and served as CEO for the music licensing company Rumblefish. "My career has been this interesting path winding through technology," he said. "I came to this opportunity because GigaPan was looking for a new CEO to grow the company to the next level."

Friedman replaces Henry Hillman Jr., a Portland entrepreneur, who along with Carnegie Mellon robotics professor Illah Nourbakhsh and NASA scientist Randy Sargent, took technology developed for photographing Mars and turned it into a consumer product. That was in 2008. Today the GigaPan Robotic Camera Mount comes in three models, GigaPan EPIC (\$299)

for compact digital cameras, the EPIC 100 (\$449) for point-and-shoot cameras and small DSLRs, and the EPIC Pro (\$895), which holds a camera and lens up to 10 pounds. Use GigaPan's free software to upload your panorama, or try their new online print service and have a hard copy delivered to your door.

"We can print a 20-foot poster of Cape Town," said Marketing Manager Alicia Hunt.

A lifetime Congregation Beth Israel member, she played tennis during her years at Catlin Gabel and won the Oregon State Championship twice.

Birthright Israel ([birthrightisrael.com](http://birthrightisrael.com)), a program that provides free educational trips to Israel for Jews between the ages of 18 and 26, comes up quickly when she talks about her memories. "It was life-changing, one of the best experiences I've ever had. Just to see the history, learn about my heritage and learn about Judaism and the culture."

After majoring in business and marketing at Trinity University in Texas, Hunt returned to Portland and found a great opportunity at GigaPan. People can take cityscapes of Portland, she said.

"Last summer, they (the Olympic Marketing Department) GigaPaned eight major Olympic events. So many people attended, and now they can visit the events again."


View the 2012 Olympic women's gymnastics competition at the Sports Illustrated website ([sportsillustrated.cnn.com/olympics/2012/GigaPan/gymnastics/](http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/olympics/2012/GigaPan/gymnastics/)). Photographer David Bergman created his GigaPan with 240 individual photos in a grid pattern 20 across by 12 down. The final image is 1.7 billion pixels. Visit Major League Baseball's GigaPan site ([mlb.mlb.com/photos/GigaPan/](http://mlb.mlb.com/photos/GigaPan/)) for games your family attended. Zoom in, find your face in the crowd, and tag it for your Facebook page.

GigaPan's own website ([GigaPan.com](http://GigaPan.com)) includes gorgeous interactive photos of Oregon. Friedman and Hunt's planned enhancements include 360-degree home tours and Portland scenes. "The company has a solid foundation," Friedman said.



GigaPan

GigaPan technology captured this panoramic photograph of the Portland waterfront during a bridge lift.

“The challenge is to continue to build a system that consumer and professional photographers find valuable and turn this into a world-class company. I’d like to see GigaPan images all over the world.” 

Polina Olsen is a Portland-based freelance writer and author.



Alicia Hunt



Josh Friedman



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OJM SUNDAY  
MUSIC CONCERT

WHO: Alicia Jo Rabins

WHAT: Rabins performs new songs  
from her *Girls in Trouble* cycleWHERE: Oregon Jewish Museum,  
1953 NW Kearney St., Portland

WHEN: 2 pm, April 14

TICKETS: [ojm.org](http://ojm.org)


# There's a New Girl in Town

*Musician, educator,  
poet Alicia Jo Rabins  
brings her life and family to Portland*

By Elizabeth Schwartz

A lot of things have changed for Alicia Jo Rabins in the past two years. The 30-something musician/poet/songwriter/composer/teacher became a mom, she and husband Aaron Hartman moved to Portland from New York City, and Rabins premiered her one-woman show, “A Kaddish for Bernie Madoff,” just days after Hurricane Sandy struck the east coast. Rabins doesn’t seem fazed, though; change is an integral part of her world. “As an artist and someone who’s interested in spiritual practice, I believe that growth and change are constants in life.”

Rabins is a Portland native, although she’s spent the last decade living in the Bushwick neighborhood of Brooklyn. During that time she completed her master’s degree in Jewish Women’s Studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary, played violin with the klezmer-punk band Golem and released two CDs of her own on the JDub label: “Girls In

Trouble” (2009), an art-pop song cycle in the voices of obscure women from Torah and Midrash, and “Half You Half Me” (2011), a second album of songs about Biblical women.

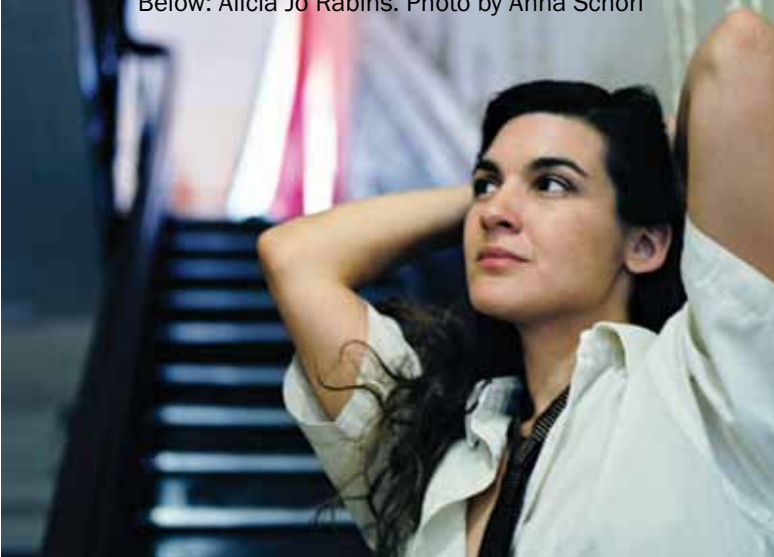
According to conventional wisdom, performing artists need to live in major cultural centers like New York, where there are more opportunities to hone their craft. By making Portland her home, Rabins has chosen to buck that trend, although, as she explains, “We have a moderately nomadic lifestyle; moving here is more about where our home base is, rather than where everything in our life will happen.”

These days, Rabins spends much of her time parenting her 10-month-old daughter, Sylvie, and working on two books of poems. “In New York, the hustle to survive financially was beginning to negatively affect my artistic life,” says Rabins. “As a poet, there’s a certain amount of time and space I need to go deep with my work. I love New York, but especially once we had the baby, I felt like all my energy was taken up with survival and family responsibilities.” Rabins feels Portland’s reputation as a place where artists have time and space to pursue their creative goals is well deserved. “Being here has allowed me to work on my poems in a way I wasn’t able to do in my adrenalized, hustling existence in New York.”

In an interview she gave to New York’s Jewish Week last May, Rabins announced her plans to wind up “Girls In Trouble” with a third and final album, which she’s currently composing. When I asked if she ran out of women to write about, Rabins laughs. “I always imagined GIT as a triptych – three albums with 10 songs in each album. I let the work tell me what it needs, so it’s possible that I might want to do more with GIT after this album, especially if I get a commission.” Rabins believes the stories of women in the Tanach are not studied as much as they should be. “I’m pretty passionate about my work as a Jewish educator. I’ve been thinking about taking the GIT songs I’ve written and creating a curriculum around them. I’ve often been asked by Jewish

Left: Alicia Jo Rabins and her band at the New York premiere of Rabins' show, "A Kaddish for Bernie Madoff," November, 2012. Photo by Corrie Beth Hogg


Below: Alicia Jo Rabins. Photo by Anna Schori



educators – particularly those who work with teens – for such a curriculum, like the one developed for Rosh Hodesh – "It's a Girl Thing." Rabins also wants to design a GIT course outline for adults, which could be adapted for Melton adult education programs or for individual online study.

Last November, Rabins premiered her one-woman show, "A Kaddish for Bernie Madoff," which weaves Rabins' yearlong obsession with the Bernie Madoff scandal into a larger tapestry that investigates the intersection of mysticism and finance, the inevitability of cycles and the true meaning of wealth. "There was a lot of risk and vulnerability in creating and performing the piece," says Rabins. "It was very new for me. I was a character named Alicia in the show, a fictionalized version of myself. Originally I thought it would be a rock opera, but I didn't want to just tell Madoff's story, because anyone can read that in the paper. As I so very often find, when you set out on a creative journey, the result is usually not what you expect, and it's usually deeper and more challenging than your original concept." Rabins will be performing the show in Washington, DC, next month, and hopes to bring it to Portland in 2014.

Meanwhile, Rabins is enjoying Portland's relaxed, kid-friendly lifestyle. "I'm a big bike commuter; it's safer to ride here, and when she's a little older I can put Sylvie on the back of my bike," she says. "In Brooklyn, we used to live in an area that didn't have a lot of good produce. Now we live near a New Seasons, and I love to cook, so being able to walk with Sylvie to New Seasons and buy quality food is great."

"In many ways, I have the community I need built in already, because Aaron lived here for a long time and made so many friends here before we moved," Rabins adds. "Many of them have kids and they've been really welcoming to us. I'm really appreciative of all the creative moms and dads here, and of course I love the weather." 

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7:00pm

**Where**

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# Dave Frishberg, 80, to Make Symphony Debut

By Elizabeth Schwartz

When you hear a Dave Frishberg song, you notice it. The lyrics are cool, wry, sophisticated and, at times, wistful. The music, always in service to the words, enhances their meaning in subtle, indefinable ways. Frishberg's artful settings lend his lyrics a three-dimensional quality, so that they take on additional meaning.

Frishberg's songs, including "My Attorney Bernie," "I'm Hip" "Do You Miss New York?" and "You Are There," have been interpreted by some of the greatest jazz singers of the past 50 years: Blossom Dearie, Rosemary Clooney, Michael Feinstein, Diana Krall, Mel Tormé and Portland's own Rebecca Kilgore. Frishberg's songs are also familiar to fans of the groundbreaking 1970s ABC series, "Schoolhouse Rock!" especially Frishberg's ode to legislation, "I'm Just a Bill."

Frishberg has a quiet, self-effacing manner that fits his persona as the ultimate sideman. He started playing piano professionally in his hometown of St. Paul, MN, before moving to New York in the 1950s. By the early 1960s, Frishberg had started writing his own songs, beginning with the wittily narcissistic "Peel Me a Grape." Last month, Frishberg celebrated his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, but age has diminished neither his talent nor his desire to keep challenging himself. On April 6, Frishberg makes his orchestral debut with the Oregon Symphony. "I've never performed with an orchestra before," he confesses. "I'm scared to death."


That diffidence kept Frishberg behind the piano for many years. "I felt strongly that I wasn't a very good singer, and I didn't want to presume to sing other people's songs, because that's what 'professional singers' do," he says. Singing wasn't something Frishberg yearned to do, but when he began composing original songs, he decided the only way to interest other singers in his work was to record them himself. "I started singing in order to demonstrate my music. If I wanted people to sing my songs I had to sing them myself, because I knew how I wanted them to sound, not so much voice-wise as attitude-wise." The strategy worked, and Frishberg continues to perform his own songs today, but he remains a piano player at heart. "I'm primarily a pianist because that's how I made my living," Frishberg explains. "I'm careful not to sing too often. I only do it once in awhile, so no one gets sick of it. If I start singing too much they'll say, 'He does an act,' and no one will call me for the piano gigs any more."

If Frishberg sees himself as more of a player than singer, perhaps it's because of the outstanding vocalists he's worked with over the years. In particular, he praises Kilgore's subtle, flexible style. "I was attracted by the way she presented herself and the music; her interpretations really showcase the songs." Frishberg and Kilgore have worked together steadily since he moved to Portland in 1986; they have also recorded several CDs. "Over time, she's just gotten better and better. She's the best singer I ever played for, no question, and one of the best I've ever heard."

For the past three years, Frishberg has spent much of his creative time writing a memoir. "It's a series of observances, little episodes in my life, about things that



happened to me as a musician. I'm using my lyrics as chapter headings."

Today Frishberg is nonobservant, but he grew up in a Conservative home in a Jewish neighborhood in St. Paul. "I had a bar mitzvah and we celebrated Shabbat; my mom kept kosher." Frishberg's father also insisted that he and his older brothers attend cheder. "I hated it as a kid," he admits with a grin. That childhood drudgery has paid off, however. "Today I'm thankful I learned how to read Hebrew," he says. "So if I go to somebody's wedding or bar mitzvah, I can follow along and I don't feel like an outsider." Frishberg also found his Hebrew instruction useful some years ago, during an encounter on an airplane. "The person next to me was an Israeli woman and she asked me if I went to Hebrew school. I said, 'Sure I can speak a little Hebrew.' 'I want to hear it.' So I said, 'I want to go to the House of Thrones,' which means 'I want to go to the bathroom.'" 

Elizabeth Schwartz is the program annotator for the Oregon Symphony and a freelance writer living in Portland.

**Dave Frishberg performs his songs with the Oregon Symphony on April 6 and 7 at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. For more information, go to [orsymphony.org](http://orsymphony.org).**

# ART

## ROUNDUP




### CERAMICS SHOWCASE APRIL 26-28

Linda Bourne, a Jewish artist who is president of the Oregon Potters Association, will display her plates, teapots and other wares at the OPA's 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Ceramic Showcase, April 26-28 at the Oregon Convention Center. At left, Bourne works on a plate that will be part of a special installation of table settings created by OPA members at the showcase. Bourne, who lives in Sherwood and is a member of ORA: Northwest Jewish Artists, uses the ancient Japanese technique of nerikomi to layer colored clay and roll it into slabs that form each piece. Bourne's work will be among more than 170 booths of art for the home, garden and office at the Showcase, the nation's largest clay show and sale. The theme of the free, three-day event is "Celebrating All Things Food," with a focus on handmade pottery for the table, and will include adult and children's clay areas, local artist and chef demonstrations, and live music. [ceramicsshowcase.com](http://ceramicsshowcase.com).

Spiegel, whose book on the origins of Israeli culture, *Embodying Hebrew Culture*, will be available this June, will show how and why dance is so central in Israel. Providing a rare glimpse into the choreographer's world, Cohen and Spiegel will discuss his repertoire and the meaning of his work as an Israeli artist. Says Cohen: "My work aims to walk, or 'dance,' if you will, on that invisible line that is woven between the social, political and personal."

The performance and discussion will be followed by a free dessert reception where copies of *Seeing Israeli and Jewish Dance*, a beautifully illustrated book edited by Judith Brin Ingber and featuring a chapter by Dr. Spiegel, will be available for purchase.

Tickets: [portlandstate.universitytickets.com](http://portlandstate.universitytickets.com). 

### GRANT WINNER BRINGS "ITHAKA" TO ART STAGE

Artists Repertory Theatre will present Andrea Stolowitz's challenging new work, "Ithaka," May 28-June 30. With this newly commissioned play, Oregon playwright Andrea Stolowitz examines coming home from war. Marine Captain Elaine Edwards has just returned from her latest tour in Afghanistan but this time things are different – home doesn't feel right and nothing makes sense. After a fight with her husband propels her to skip town, she undertakes an Odyssean journey through the American landscape battling her monsters, trying to find her way home. Stolowitz's work draws from interviews with more than 30 veterans and their families.

"Ithaka" is "about the intensity of human connections in a war zone and at home," says Stolowitz. "[This is] a play for our times about war, friendships, guilt, being human and staying alive."

This play was made possible thanks to the generosity and vision of commissioning donors Irving Levin and Stephanie Fowler. Stolowitz was awarded the \$25,000 Fowler/Levin Prize with this winning play concept in the fall of 2011. She has written and developed this timely piece as the final production of Artists Rep's 2012/13 season.

### PSU HOSTS ISRAELI DANCE CHOREOGRAPHER IDAN COHEN

Dance provides a window into Israeli society and an avenue for understanding Israeli life. The Portland State University Harold Schnitzer Family Program in Judaic Studies brings acclaimed Israeli contemporary dance choreographer Idan Cohen to Portland for a celebration of his work, April 17, 7 pm at BodyVox Dance Center. "Israel in Motion" presents a unique and multidimensional lens into Israeli culture, featuring a live performance of Cohen's most recent solo creation, "Songs of a Wayfarer," film clips featuring his repertoire and behind-the-scenes discussion with Cohen in conversation with historian Nina Spiegel, PSU's Rabbi Joshua Stampfer Assistant Professor of Israel Studies.

A winner of many international awards and the 2012 Israeli Ministry of Culture's award for Young Artists, Cohen is a cutting-edge choreographer in a vibrant contemporary dance scene in Israel. The Washington Post lauded his work as "fresh and extraordinarily thoughtful."

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Eric Stern

# Singlehandedly!

## Festival brings solo performance to Portland



Lawrence Howard

By Taylor Long

The solo performance phenomenon – in which an artist is both creator and performer – rides on the back of storytelling. Great solo performance is a combination of meaningful content, skillful use of space, and charismatic, dynamic storytelling. Unlike TV, radio or writing, solo performance is face to face, eye to eye and heart to heart. The experience creates a deep personal connection between the performer and the audience.

Portland Story Theater is proud to bring solo performance to stage in April with *Singlehandedly!*, a new works solo festival. The festival features prominent Northwest Jewish performers including Eric Stern, founder of Vagabond Opera; Lawrence Howard, co-founder of Portland Story Theater; and Annie Rosen, a multifaceted singer, dancer and storyteller.

Eric Stern is well known for his work with the Vagabond Opera, a self-proclaimed Bohemian Cabaret ensemble. As a trained musician and operatic singer, Eric is accustomed to being on stage.

He is a member of both Congregation P'nai Or and Chabad's Congregation Beis Menachem in Portland. He says, "The music and the way they perform the rituals of Judaism influence my compositions and stage presence."


As a storyteller, Eric is informed and inspired by the Jewish culture. "Jewish people are natural storytellers," he says. "When you're a part of a culture that's been around for a very long time, it informs your storytelling. The stories you tell are derived from stories you've heard. You're the next link in the chain."

Lawrence Howard grew up as the middle child of a Jewish family in New York, and for the better half of his adult life he rejected Judaism. At his father's funeral a decade ago, Lawrence recited the Kaddish and "felt a deep connection to the ancient tradition." Since then, he has reunited with his Jewish faith and told countless stories on and off the stage about his relationship with his father and Judaism. The piece he will perform at this year's *Singlehandedly!* is about his

Annie Rosen



relationship with his father and the passing down of rituals from one generation to the next.

Annie Rosen is a graduate of Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theater and received a bachelor's degree in storytelling and world narrative from Pitzer College. She is constantly inspired by a very musical, talented and encouraging family of both Latino and Jewish descent. Growing up, Annie's grandmother was the strongest Jewish force in her life. She learned that "when you tell a story you also show it. It comes through in your face and in your movements." From a young age, she learned the nuances that make a story compelling. The specific pauses, timing and expressions she picked up from her time spent in Israel and with Jewish relatives have influenced her speech pattern and storytelling style. 

Taylor Long is the volunteer media manager for Portland Story Theater and a US Public Relations Specialist at LaCie.

#### FIFTH ANNUAL SINGLEHANDEDLY! FESTIVAL

**WHAT:** Storytellers regale audiences with true stories in an up-close and personal black box studio

**WHEN:** 8 pm, Fridays and Saturdays, April 19, 20, 26 and 27

**WHERE:** Hipbone Studio, 1847 E. Burnside, No. 104, Portland

**TICKETS/DETAILS:** portlandstorytheater.com

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# Debbi's Devotion

*Bodie strives to provide bright future for elderly*

By Kerry Politzer

For the past 14 years, Debbi Bodie has devoted her life to the comfort of our community's eldest residents. She serves as chief development officer at Cedar Sinai Park, a nonprofit organization that provides residential care in an environment that respects Jewish values. Cedar Sinai Park maintains four affordable housing apartment buildings in downtown Portland, the assisted living facility Rose Schnitzer Manor and the Robison Jewish Health Center. Bodie works tirelessly to raise funds for the residents of this last facility. Explaining her role, she says, "The most important thing is building relationships with our community. And that is what I do."

Bodie maintains a busy, varied schedule. "It's a 24/7 job, it's a lifestyle," she remarks. Although she is constantly coordinating special events, meeting with donors and collaborating with other agencies, she always makes sure to set aside time to get to know the residents and their families. "I try to participate in as much life on campus as possible. I'm not just sitting behind my desk."

One of Bodie's current endeavors is "A Place to Call Home," a capital campaign to build a brand-new, state-of-the-art residential care facility. "The building is a household model," says Bodie. Each household will feature 12 private bedrooms and bathrooms, a kitchen, living room and dining room. The project is being designed by award-winning firm MulvannyG2 Architecture. "It's going to be a beautiful home," enthuses Bodie.

Bodie has long maintained a deep relationship with Portland's Jewish community. Formerly employed with the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, she also served as the sisterhood president at Congregation Beth Israel from 1995 to 2000. "That's what started my Jewish life," she says.

One particular relationship formed the basis of one of Bodie's most cherished causes: Hesed Shel Emet, a program that provides burial resources and support for the Jewish community of Oregon and Southwest Washington. Explains Bodie, "It all started in 2008. There was a resident (Florence Moore) I was very close to. I came to work



Debbi Bodie visits Robison residents Frances and Howard Wolfe. Photo by Peter Korchnak

one morning and found out that she had passed away the past evening. I had left her reading a romance novel, she looked great, and all of a sudden she was gone. She had no burial plans, no money.”

Bodie began brainstorming. She decided to enlist the help of Congregation Neveh Shalom, where she was then serving as chair of the Cemetery Committee. “I called and explained the situation, and I asked them if they would help me to bury her. It was Erev Pesach, and I had one day. At 10 am I made that call to Neveh Shalom. I called a few people to get a minyan, and I brought a picture so everyone could see this wonderful lady. At 3 pm she was buried.”


This experience made Bodie think, “What about everyone else? What do they do? A lot of people are cremated, but that’s not the Jewish tradition.” Together with Rabbi Ariel Stone, Bodie approached the Oregon Board of Rabbis to establish

“I try to participate in as much life on campus as possible. I’m not just sitting behind my desk.”

— **Debbi Bodie, CSP chief development officer**

Hesed Shel Emet in 2010. Since then, services have been provided to 22 Jewish individuals. “All the synagogues, Jewish cemeteries, rabbis have collaborated on this program. A plot is donated by a cemetery on a rotating basis. The funeral homes have given us a discount for funeral services, and rabbis officiate at no cost.”

Bodie continues to serve as the program administrator for Hesed Shel Emet. In addition to fundraising, she coordinates burials at a moment’s notice. “I can get a call at any time, and I have to get on the phone and find that cemetery and rabbi. I talk to the funeral home, and within 48 hours, it’s done. It’s one of the most gratifying things that I do.” She has plans to take Hesed Shel Emet to other Jewish communities around the country. She hopes the program will serve as a national model.

Bodie encourages those who are interested to visit Hesed Shel Emet’s website, [cedarsinaipark.org/hesed](http://cedarsinaipark.org/hesed). She adds, “Or, they can call me (503-423-7845). I’m happy to talk to everybody about this! I am so grateful to our donors and community for their generosity and support. They are helping us ensure that the Jewish elders in our community receive the highest quality of care they deserve.” 

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See you again next year!



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# Good Neighbor

*Weinstein's passion transcends professional life*



Carolyn and Robin Weinstein, right, sport tea hats at the Tea for Two they co-chaired in 2011. The tea grossed \$37,992 to support Jewish Family and Child Service and Community Warehouse.

By Kerry Politzer

Carolyn Weinstein, a principal broker with The Hasson Company, has more than 30 years of experience in the real estate industry. Her enthusiasm for her job is evident: "I love finding the right home for the right person, it's just so exciting. It doesn't make a difference if the house is worth \$100,000 or \$2 million."

Weinstein's passion and expertise combined with her altruism just landed her the 2013 Portland Metropolitan Association of Realtors' Good Neighbor Award. This prestigious honor, which recognizes an extraordinary commitment to improving quality of life in the community, is awarded to one of the more than 6,000 Realtors in the Portland metro area. On April 10 Weinstein will receive the award at the Portland First Citizen Award Banquet, which will be held at The Nines Hotel.


Over the years, Weinstein has found great personal as well as professional fulfillment through her job. "I've made many, many friends through the business. Now, I work with my daughter. She and I have worked for 10 years – that's great fun!"

Weinstein, who is a Life Member of the Portland Metropolitan Association of Realtors' elite Masters Circle, entered into her vocation after serving as executive director of Neveh Shalom for two years. An appraiser on the finance committee invited Weinstein to work with her. After a few appraisals, Weinstein soon realized that people, not figures, were

her forte. She explains, "Once I passed my exam, I kept getting letters saying, 'Come work with me.' Even though people said the real estate market was just on its way down, and it was not a good time to do this, I said I'd try it. So I did, and it's been a success story ever since."

Weinstein's involvement with the Jewish community is as lengthy as her real estate career. Since 1964, she has orchestrated a wide variety of fundraising efforts for the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. Not only has she personally organized and trained 191 phone solicitation volunteers for the Federation, but she has served as president of the Jewish Federation Women's Division. In addition, Weinstein has served on the board of directors of the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation, the Jewish Review, and Jewish Family and Child Service. With her daughter, she co-chaired a 2011 event for the Jewish Family and Child Service and the Community Warehouse that raised more than \$50,000. Seventy-five percent of Weinstein's charitable efforts support the Jewish community. She explains, "It's been very important to me; my life has revolved around Judaism."

Other causes championed by Weinstein include Dress for Success, the Goose Hollow Family Shelter, Our Children's Store and the Washington County Adopt-A-Road program. This past year, the Realtor raised more than \$28,000 for the Community Warehouse, an organization that redistributes donated household furnishings to needy neighbors. The Portland Metropolitan Association of Realtors will donate \$1,000 to this organization in Weinstein's honor.

In addition to serving as a top Portland Realtor and supporting a wide variety of charitable causes, Weinstein also educates schoolchildren and adults about Portland's historic and architectural riches. She conducts tours through the Urban Tour Group of Portland and has lead mini-missions of Jewish Portland for various federation groups. 

## PORTLAND FIRST CITIZEN AWARD BANQUET

**WHAT:** Portland Metropolitan Association of Realtors' Good Neighbor Award will present the First Citizen Award to Jean DeMaster, the Portland Future First Citizen Award to a high school student and the Good Neighbor Award to Carolyn Weinstein.

**WHEN:** noon-1:30 pm, April 10

**WHERE:** The Nines Hotel, 525 SW Morrison St., Portland

**TICKETS:** \$36; Registration/payment required by April 4

**INFORMATION:** 503-459-2168 or pmar.org

# Finding Balance

*Attorney juggles parenthood, soccer, legal cases*



Robin Runstein

By Kerry Politzer

Attorney Robin Runstein is a woman who wears many hats. As the only criminal defense lawyer at Kell, Alterman and Runstein, she maintains a heavy trial practice that includes family law and personal injury cases. Runstein balances a demanding workload with the needs of her two sons – and her penchant for competitive soccer. Interestingly, the various parts of her life seem to intersect more and more.

“I’m starting to get more business through soccer. One of my larger cases, a referral from a Jewish doctor in the community, is a connection because my kids play soccer. Another one of my bigger cases is someone whom I played against for years.” Runstein jokes that it can be a bit uncomfortable being hired by the competition. “That’s the problematic part – she really wants to kick you.”

Since soccer is such a great source of business for Runstein, she now finds herself conducting herself differently on the field.

“I try and play a clean game, or I’ll talk to the referee in a different way than I would have 10 years ago. You never know when someone is listening – someone who is going to hire you.”

Runstein, a longtime Portland resident, is the granddaughter of Shaarie Torah members. She grew up listening to the trial stories and closing arguments of her father, Ted, who is the longest-tenured partner at Kell, Alterman and Runstein. “He had a passion for it. Deep down, I knew that’s what I wanted to do because my parents did this and loved it.” After clerking in a practice that focused on workers’ compensation, Runstein moved to a downtown office full of like-minded defense attorneys. “You’ve got to be compassionate and be willing to try new things. The entire office was formed of all these people, and I just loved it.”

---

**“You’ve got to be compassionate and be willing to try new things.” – Robin Runstein**

---

Although Runstein originally planned to focus exclusively on criminal defense, she was soon tapped for her expertise in a family law case.


“My daycare provider was getting a divorce,” she explained. “I got a flavor for it (family law), and I just loved it. There were aspects of it that were so similar to criminal defense. After that, more cases like that came, and I just decided to include them in my practice. It’s worked.”

A typical workday for Runstein varies.

“I’m a single mom of two boys. Sometimes I have to be in court at 8:30, so I rush the kids off to school and then I’m back in the office. Or I have to pick somebody up at 11 for a dentist appointment, or I get in really early so I can leave early to take my boys to soccer. Although the practice allows me to do what I need to do, if I have a trial schedule I’m totally focused and that’s all I do.”

Runstein also makes time for Jewish holiday celebrations with her family.

Runstein says she’s finally found her work-life balance. She advises young professionals and lawyers not to lose the opportunity to spend time with their children.

“The ability to be the best in your field will be there, but one day your kids will be grown and gone. We have a lot of working years, but our kids are only little for 18 years.” 

# CHEF'S CORNER

*Hot-trend at restaurants easy to duplicate at home*

By Lisa Glickman




Just when we thought we had mastered almost all the fancy terms a fine restaurant's menu could throw at us, we come across yet another: charcuterie. Charcuterie is the hot new trend, from artisan butcher shops to the menus of the hippest hole-in-the-wall eateries. Young, tattooed chefs everywhere are coming up with curious menu items like galantines ballotines, confit and crêpinettes. (You may fire up your Google search engine now!)

Charcuterie is the term used to encompass the art of making sausages and other cured, smoked and preserved meats. Preserving meats in this way descended from an era before refrigeration, when curing and smoking meat was used not only to enhance the flavor, but also to prevent spoilage.

Originally, the word charcuterie was used to refer only to products made from pork. In traditional Jewish kitchens, however, where pork was forbidden, creative cooks came up with similar kosher versions, like duck prosciutto and beef sausage. Today, the term charcuterie is used to describe any product prepared using these traditional methods, including poultry, fish and meats. In addition, although not considered charcuterie, things like vegetables, nuts and cheeses gain incredible flavor with the enhancement of apple wood, cherry wood or hickory smoke.

There are two ways to use smoke when preparing foods: hot smoke and cold smoke. While cold smoking provides flavor, hot smoking not only brings flavor to the party, but simultaneously cooks the food. In general, use cold smoke to impart a smoky

flavor to foods that don't need to be cooked, like cheese and nuts, or foods that you plan to cook later. Use hot smoke to both flavor and thoroughly cook foods such as meats etc.

A couple of years ago, after a guided fishing trip left me with a surplus of fresh trout, I went to my nearby outdoor store and bought myself a small smoker box. I could have spent several hundred dollars, but for less than \$100 I picked up a Big Chief smoker and some alder wood chips that have changed my life! After brining the fish in salt, sugar, lemon and spices, I patted it dry and allowed it to sit uncovered in the refrigerator overnight to develop a "pellicle." A pellicle is a tacky surface the smoke will stick to. Yes, the fish will still pick up smoke if you don't give it a chance to develop a pellicle, but the end result will be superior if you do. After the fish was suffused in alder wood smoke for about three hours, I finished it in the oven for about 10 minutes. Bacteria breed fast at temperatures under 140 degrees, and since my Big Chief doesn't get that hot, I made sure to bring my fish up to a safe temperature of between 165 and 180 degrees. The result was so delicious that I have been smoking fish this way ever since. I especially love this smoked steelhead salmon. 

Lisa Glickman is a private chef and teacher in Bend and she recently made a TV appearance on the Cooking Channel's "The Perfect Three." She can be reached via email at [lisa@lisaglickman.com](mailto:lisa@lisaglickman.com).



# House-made Alder wood Smoked Steelhead Fillets

*You will need a non-reactive glass or plastic dish long and deep enough to hold the salmon submerged in the brine laying flat.*

Place the hot water in the dish and add salt, sugar and Old Bay. Stir to dissolve. Add ice, cold water and lemon slices. You should have enough brine to completely submerge the salmon; if not add a bit more cold water. When the brine is very cold, add the fish, skin side up, and allow fish to brine for about one hour. Remove fish from brine and pat dry. Place the salmon on one of the racks from your smoker and lay it in a foil-lined rimmed baking sheet. Place it in the refrigerator overnight to develop pellicle. Put fish in smoker with alder wood chips and allow to smoke for three to four hours. It should take about three to four pans of chips. When thoroughly smoked, put fish back on foil-lined baking sheets and place in a 350-degree oven for about 10 to 15 minutes (depending on thickness of fish) to finish cooking. Fish should be slightly firm to the touch, but be careful not to overcook. Enjoy smoked salmon on toasted bagels with cream cheese, simply with cheese and crackers, or as an addition to your favorite pasta or salad.

- 3-4 lbs. whole salmon or steelhead fillets, skin on, bones removed with tweezers
- 4 cups very hot water
- 1 cup kosher salt
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon Old Bay seasoning
- 2 lemons (Meyer lemons if available), sliced thin
- 4 cups ice
- 4 cups very cold water



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# FASHIONISTA



# JEWISH INFLUENCE TOUCHES FASHIONS WORLDWIDE

By Kira Brown

Illustration by Susan Di Staulo

Fashion is a worldwide phenomenon, with many of the world's leading designers stemming from Jewish ancestry. Designers including Ralph Lauren, Calvin Klein, Isaac Mizrahi, Marc Jacobs, Zac Posen and Diane von Furstenberg are among the ranks of leading designers in today's market.

Notably, Diane von Furstenberg, the creator of the iconic wrap dress, is still an inspiring, sophisticated and relevant fashion designer for women since launching her first line in 1997. DVF, as she is so often referred to in the fashion world, uses bright, bold colors and patterns often in her work, along with feminine yet modern designs suitable for most women and body shapes. Diane's mother was a Holocaust survivor and survived Auschwitz just 18 months before Diane was born.

Like DVF, Ralph Lauren and Calvin Klein are among the elite of the fashion world, creating fashion and style empires with clothing, accessories, footwear, home lines and more. Lauren and Klein were both raised in a Jewish immigrant community of Bronx, New York.

As the Internet and the global fashion market increasingly make obscure and rising fashion designers and brands more accessible, Israeli designers are becoming more accessible outside of their homeland. For example, Yotam Solomon, a son of Israeli-born parents, grew up in Israel and attended art school through his teen years. Eventually, Yotam moved to Los Angeles as a young man to pursue his blossoming career. Recently, the American-residing Israeli designer's clothes have been worn by Kim Kardashian, Stacy Keibler and "Dancing with the Stars" dancers. The clothes successfully showed at New York Fashion Week Fall 2013. Yotam's high-fashion finds can be bought in Israel, America and throughout the world at specialty boutiques and online at [yotamsolomon.com/store/](http://yotamsolomon.com/store/).

Most major retailers and department stores carry brands such as DVF, Ralph Lauren and Calvin Klein.



Kira Brown is a certified personal stylist and fashion writer. Kira has interviewed many fashion icons including Tim Gunn, Jeweler Neil Lane, International Makeup Artist Jemma Kidd, Ken Downing of Neiman Marcus and more. In addition to writing, Kira offers virtual style consultations for women and men. Contact her at [kira@fashionphoenix.com](mailto:kira@fashionphoenix.com)

**Style Tip of the Month:**  
The wrap dress is a simple, one-piece solution for most women. The built-in belt for the wrap creates or accentuates a waist on the body, creating the look of desirable curves. And it's a classic that never goes out of style so it's a style staple worth the investment.

Isaac Mizrahi  
Calvin Klein  
Ralph Lauren  
Zac Posen  
Diane von Furstenberg  
Marc Jacobs

Yotam Solomon

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# Food for Thought





*April 18-21 events  
will feed Jewish  
community's mind and  
soul while collecting  
food for the hungry*

By Amy R. Kaufman

A lightbulb will go off in the minds of Portlanders when the Food for Thought Festival launches on April 18.

The four-day, multi-faceted celebration is based on an explosive new idea that brings people together under a huge tent of citywide events while uniting them in the fight against hunger in Oregon. Each participant is asked to bring a donation of nonperishable food for the Oregon Food Bank.

Presented by the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, the Festival is unique in federation history and is perhaps the first of its kind in the nation. "For the first time as a Jewish community, we are collecting food on a grand scale," says Marc Blattner, CEO and president of JFGP. "There are no proceeds, no raising of money. This event is paid for by the Jewish Federation and its generous sponsors."

The star-studded program with its inspiring purpose has attracted major media coverage, and KGW TV, The Oregonian and 101.9 KINK FM have signed on as media presenting sponsors.

Legendary Jewish comedians, internationally renowned physicians, award-winning chefs and famous authors have donated their time and talent to produce an event aimed at ameliorating food insecurity in a state where the rate of child hunger is among the highest in the nation. The galvanizing event is also designed "to inspire Jews and non-Jews throughout the community to participate, to experience, to meet others with shared interests," says Blattner. "We don't know of any other Jewish community that has done a four-day outreach engagement event where people can intersect at so many points."

From the Opening Night Celebration with world-class comedians David Steinberg and David Javerbaum to the jam-packed closing day, culminating in a multimedia celebration of Israel's 65th year of independence, the Food for Thought Festival takes a creative approach to every theme.

At this smorgasbord of events, people can partake of anything that piques their interest: comedy, health, politics, books,

food, filmmaking, art, music, dance, theater, lectures and discussions, walking tours, special synagogue services – often combined in unexpected ways. (*For full schedule, see page 33 in this issue or visit [FoodForThoughtPDX.org](http://FoodForThoughtPDX.org).)*

Getting Steinberg, Javerbaum and award-winning Oregonian columnist David Sarasohn together for "The Wisdom of the Davids" is a major coup; this evening of comedy will explore how today's news is affected by humor. Steinberg is an Emmy Award-winning director of "Seinfeld," "Friends," "Mad About You," "Weeds" and "Curb Your Enthusiasm." Javerbaum, a best-selling author and winner of 11 Emmy Awards, was head writer and executive producer of "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart." A gala cocktail supper for patrons will precede the performance at the Portland Art Museum.

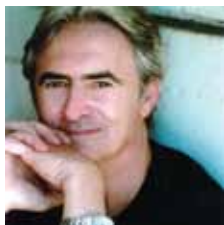
At a Jewish event in a city known for cuisine, can food be far behind? You can join celebrity chef Giuliano Hazan of the "Today Show" in cooking and consuming a convivial meal, sample the delicacies of Portland's food carts on a guided tour or attend a seriously silly debate about the merits of Hanukkah's tasty latkes versus Purim's hamantaschen.

Fittingly, the keynote speaker for "Limmud PDX: An Extraordinary Learning Experience" is Stephen Trachtenberg, president emeritus and professor of public service at The George Washington University, who is also a prominent attorney and author known for his transformational work in higher education. Those of an intellectual bent can choose from 14 breakout sessions on topics ranging from "The Psychology of Modern Racism" with psychologist Friderike Heuer to "A Look at Oregon's Death with Dignity Law: One Jewish Physician's Perspective" with oncologist Jeff Menashe.

The electrifying idea for the Festival was born when Cheryl Tonkin, a Portland marketing and communication executive, won JFGP's Next Great Jewish Idea contest in 2011.

"I was inspired to enter the contest because I thought that in an area of so

Top row, left to right:  
Amy Ephron  
David Steinberg  
David Javerbaum  
David Sarasohn



Bottom row, left to right:  
Giuliano Hazan  
Yael Kohen  
Stephen Trachtenberg

much bounty, no family should ever have to choose between having food on the table and buying medicine or paying the rent," she says. "The question was how to tackle this problem. I thought of the New Yorker festival and the terrific lectures, discussions and events I'd attended, and it occurred to me that you could create a festival that appealed to widely varied interests and have it also be a mega food drive – food for thought for those who attend while also meeting the challenge of providing food for people in need."

The long list of prestigious sponsors and partners from within and outside the Jewish community attests to the compelling nature of the event.

Heading the list is Presenting Sponsor Ed Tonkin, vice president of Ron Tonkin Dealerships. He was recruited by his cousin Cheryl to co-chair the event.

Ed says he was astounded to learn, on a tour of Oregon Food Bank, that 29% of children in Oregon suffer from food insecurity. "I didn't have any idea of the scale, the magnitude. And I think most people don't know that. Before you can think about how to address a problem, you have to know that the problem exists."

"There are 270,000 people monthly who eat out of an emergency food box, and one-third of them are children," says Laura Golino De Lovato, director of development, marketing and communications at Oregon Food Bank. "The slow recovery from the recession is still having an impact on us. ... There are still people out there who have not found employment, who are dealing with the loss of their jobs or the loss of housing. ... We see a continued challenge to raise food donations and cash donations."

"Instead of having a single theme and maybe reaching one group of people, the Festival appeals to the broadest spectrum of the community," says Cheryl. "Creating such an eclectic and vibrant celebration will create the broadest possible awareness of the challenge posed by food insecurity and truly make a difference in meeting it."

This gargantuan undertaking is running on the energy of nearly 150 volunteers who have contributed thousands of hours,

according to Cheryl. Their talents, programming ideas and connections have enabled the Festival to blossom.

"We want to thank our sponsors – they've been really tremendous," says Cheryl. "They're making it possible to do this, and also our media sponsors. We're getting free advertising through the media. Having that kind of promotional sponsorship is really going to build awareness of the Festival."

Ed says Powell's Books helped to engage the authors, who will speak from the bookstore's stages throughout the city. The Festival is hosting talks and book signings by two of its featured celebrities – comic David Javerbaum and chef Giuliano Hazan. Yael Kohen, whose new book explores the connection of humor to "appropriate" female behavior, and best-selling novelist Amy Ephron will also speak.

Not to be forgotten is the proud tradition of Yiddish literature, which will be represented in the Jewish Theatre Collaborative's performance of "Naftali, Story Voyager on the Yiddish Sea," based on the stories of Nobel Prize-winner Isaac Bashevis Singer.

Oregon Public Broadcasting's acclaimed radio show "Live Wire!" will bring to the Festival a live performance dedicated to film, from script to screen. Held in Northwest Film Center's theater in Whitsell Auditorium at the Portland Art Museum, the show features regular cast members, interviews with screenwriter Mike Rich and filmmaker Amy Ephron, a special segment on film scoring and more.

As doors open all over the city, synagogues will extend a special welcome to Festival-goers with innovative Shabbat programming such as "Why I Became Jewish: Three Converts Share Their Stories" at Congregation Kesser Israel, "Exploring Judaism's Commands to Serve the Poor and the Stranger" at P'nai Or of Portland and "The American Jewish Discourse on Israel" with Robert Horenstein at Congregation Shaarie Torah. "From Farm Bill to Food Bill" is the topic of Congressman Earl Blumenauer's talk at Congregation Beth Israel's Shabbat service.

"We've worked very hard to make this a community-wide festival," says Cheryl. "I think that's what makes it so vibrant

*continued on page 32*



## Israeli Folk Dancers Celebrate 40 Years in Portland

**W**hat does it feel like to dance to the most beautiful music in the world?

Jewish folk melodies stir the soul and draw you into the circle of togetherness that is Israeli folk dance.

Join Portland's vibrant folk dance community in a full day of Israeli folk dance lessons for all ages and levels, culminating in an Israeli-style buffet dinner, performances by an Israeli folk dance troupe, a commemorative presentation and a folk-dance party that goes into the wee hours. Come to dance or just to listen and exult!

The event is presented in partnership with the Food for Thought Festival and is made possible by the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland and the Mittleman Jewish Community Center.

The proud, graceful Israeli folk dances were choreographed by masters such as Yo'av Ashriel of Israel, who was feted on a 2008 visit to Portland. As a boy, he was captivated by the art when Gurit Kadman, considered the mother of Israeli folk dancing, visited his kibbutz in 1944.

## Food For Thought

**WHAT:** Portland Israeli Folk Dance  
40th Anniversary Celebration

**WHEN:** Saturday, April 20, 1:30 pm-midnight

**WHERE:** Mittleman Jewish Community Center,  
6651 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland

**DETAILS:** portlandisraelidance.com

"The folk dance movement in Portland was sparked by Rivka Sturman and later Fred Berk ... and in 1972 local resident Marna Kleinman Snyder founded Israeli folk dancing at the MJCC. Since then, an unbroken chain of leaders have kept folk dancing alive in Portland for more than 40 years," said Sue Wendel, who serves on the Folk Dance Festival's steering committee with dancers Debbi Montrose and Donna Cole. Cole and Allison Victor lead the two largest folk-dance groups in the city.

From 1:30 to 5:30 pm Israel folk dance classes will occupy the gym and classrooms of the MJCC, dinner (catered by Allen Levin) begins at 6 pm in the ballroom, and everyone parties till midnight.

*Come see what fun Jewish learning can be!*

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*“Instead of having a single theme and maybe reaching one group of people, the Festival appeals to the broadest spectrum of the community.”*




– the fact that we can involve the Israeli dance community and the Portland Art Museum, the Northwest Film Center and food carts and the Ace Hotel happy hour, and then of course it’s really exciting that we have OHSU involved, with the nutrition lecture by Dr. Kent Thornburg.”

De Lovato says “We were so pleased when Cheryl Tonkin and Ed came to us and said they wanted us to be the beneficiary of the event ... and we were honored to partner with the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland. It’s cool to be part of an event that’s so new and interesting and brings everything from lively conversation with the three Davids to things of a serious nature with health and nutrition.”

The Festival is also designed to “engage people who care” and start a conversation about solving other problems, says Cheryl. A major focus is to “make people aware of the Jewish community, to meet other people, to find out about opportunities, to gather and learn.” Before she entered the contest, Cheryl says “I felt that our community was pretty fragmented. And the one organization that could bring all the Jewish elements in our community together to do something is the federation, because it reaches across the spectrum.”

“I believe the Festival will demonstrate the power of community,” says Blattner. “We recognize that the federation was known solely as a fund-raising organization. We are a community-building organization. We want to bring people into Jewish life however they want to participate. One vehicle was the annual campaign. But we also recognize people want to be entertained, meet people with common interests and learn. So we, the federation, are the convener to allow those types of interactions to happen. Through the Festival, we are reaching out to the community instead of bringing the community to us.”

Will this new idea revolutionize the concept of Jewish community in Portland and beyond?

“Our idea is that hopefully this will be a small sapling we plant that grows into an oak over the years,” says Ed Tonkin. 

Amy Kaufman is a freelance writer and book editor in Portland.

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# FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

## THURSDAY, APRIL 18

### Opening Night Celebration

#### The Wisdom of Davids

*Wit and Conversation about Funny...Seriously featuring legendary comedian David Steinberg with David Javerbaum and David Sarasohn*

**Time:** 7:30p-9p **Price:** \$35

**Location:** Portland Art Museum

## FRIDAY, APRIL 19

### Good Food for Good Health

*A conversation and continental breakfast with leading researcher Dr. Kent Thornburg*

**Time:** 10a-11:30a **Price:** \$10

**Location:** Multnomah Athletic Club

### Cook. Eat. Love.

*A cooking demonstration and tasting with Giuliano Hazan*

**Time:** 10a-Noon **Price:** \$75

**Location:** KitchenCru

### Meet the Author: David Javerbaum

*Talk and book signing of The Last Testament, A Memoir by God*

**Time:** Noon-1:30p **Price:** Free

**Location:** Powell's City of Books

### Meet the Author: Giuliano Hazan

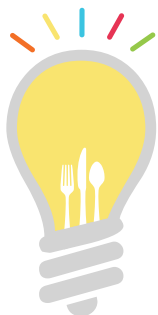
*Talk and book signing of Hazan Family Favorites: Beloved Italian Recipes*

**Time:** 2p-3:30p **Price:** Free

**Location:** Powell's City of Books

### Friday Evening Synagogue Services

*Explore a new synagogue, participate in services and enjoy special programming for the Food for Thought Festival.*



**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**  
festival

## SATURDAY, APRIL 20

### Saturday Morning Synagogue Services

*Explore a new synagogue, participate in services and enjoy special programming for the Food for Thought Festival.*

### Food for Art at Portland Art Museum

**Time:** 10a-5p **Price:** Free w/donation

**Location:** Portland Art Museum

### Food Cart Tour

*Led by Steve Kantor and Owen Blank*

**Time:** 11:30a-1p **Price:** \$25

**Location:** Division Street Food Pods

### Meet the Author: Laurel Snyder

*Reading and book signing of Good Night, Laila Tov picture book*

**Time:** Noon-1:30p **Price:** Free

**Location:** Powell's Books at Cedar Hills Crossing

### Tour of Oregon Food Bank

*With Jewish Family and Child Service*

**Time:** 1p-2p **Price:** Free

**Location:** 7900 NE 33rd Drive

### Meet the Author: Amy Ephron

*Talk and book signing of Loose Diamonds...and other things I've lost (and found) along the way*

**Time:** 1p-2:30p **Price:** Free

**Location:** Powell's City of Books

### Israeli Folk Dance Festival

*40th Anniversary Celebration*

**Time:** 1:30p-Midnight

**Location:** Mittleman Jewish Community Center

### Alphabet District Walking Tour

**Time:** 2p-3:30p **Price:** \$5

**Location:** Starting at Oregon Jewish Museum

### Meet the Author: David Michael Slater

*Talk and book signing of Sacred Books 01: The Book of Nonsense, for teens*

**Time:** 2p-3:30p **Price:** Free

**Location:** Powell's Books at Cedar Hills Crossing

### Meet the Author: Yael Kohen

*Talk and book signing of We Killed: The Rise of Women in American Comedy*

**Time:** 3p-4:30p **Price:** Free

**Location:** Powell's City of Books

## SATURDAY CONTINUED

### The Great Latke-Hamantaschen Debate

*Happy hour featuring celebrity debaters*

**Time:** 5p-7p **Price:** \$5

**Location:** The Cleaners at Ace Hotel

### Live Wire! Goes to the Movies

*with Northwest Film Center*

**Time:** 8p **Price:** \$12

**Location:** Whitsell Auditorium, Portland Art Museum

### Stand Up Comedy

**Time:** 10p

**Location:** Helium Comedy Club

## SUNDAY, APRIL 21

### Limmud\* PDX: An Extraordinary Learning Experience

*A morning of learning featuring keynote Stephen Trachtenberg and a selection of Portland's most thought-provoking speakers. Box lunch included.*

**Time:** 9:30a-1:30p **Price:** \$5

**Location:** Mittleman Jewish Community Center

### Get Your Yiddish On

*A day celebrating Yiddish authors presented by Jewish Theater Collaborative*

**Time:** 11a and 5p

**Location:** Theater! Theatre!

### High School Students Engage Oregon State Policy Makers on Climate Change, Sustainability and Their Shared Future

*Sponsored by Congregation Shir Tikvah, presented by Jason Eisdorfer*

**Time:** 2p-3p **Price:** Free

**Location:** Theater! Theatre!

### Israeli Independence Day Celebration

**Time:** 5p-9p **Price:** Free

**Location:** Mittleman Jewish Community Center

## ONGOING

### "Lan Su in Bloom!" A celebration of spring at Lan Su Chinese Garden

Thursday, April 18 thru Sunday, April 21

**Time:** 10a-6p **Price:** \$5 w/donation

### "Annual Bonsai Exhibition" at the Portland Japanese Garden

Saturday, April 20 thru Sunday, April 21

**Time:** 10a-6p **Price:** Membership discount w/donation

**Don't forget to bring your non-perishable food donation to each event!**

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# Oregon's Silicon Forest: The Next Silicon Valley?

By Vanessa Van Edwards

*Oregon's growing Jewish entrepreneurial community is attracting investors, talent and attention from across the country, but will our Silicon Forest ever rival the Silicon Valley?*

Oregon's start-up community, nicknamed the Silicon Forest, is growing exponentially, with more than six start-up incubators in the Portland area alone. Edith Dorsen, managing director and co-founder of the Oregon-based Women's Venture Capital Fund, said, "There are a stunning number of resources coming together to help Oregon entrepreneurs with everything from developing a business plan to finding mentors, to getting investment."

She claims that the number of organizations supporting entrepreneurs has doubled in the past year. "We now have incubators, accelerators, funding groups and entrepreneurial networks. Half of them didn't even exist a year ago," explained Dorsen.

She believes the Jewish entrepreneurial spirit is a driving force behind so many Oregon Jews starting and investing in budding businesses. "There are two qualities that every entrepreneur needs, and Jewish culture places a high value on both of them – we question authority and we persevere," said Dorsen.

Eric Rosenfeld points to Jewish history to explain the entrepreneurial spirit. Rosenfeld is president of the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation and co-founder of the Oregon Angel Fund, which has invested more than \$16 million with 26 local start-ups that employ more than 800 people.

"Jewish history is filled with entrepreneurial risk taking because so many Jewish immigrants were forced to start over in new countries," said Rosenfeld.

There is no better example of the Jewish entrepreneurial spirit than 14-year-old Julien Leitner. While thinking about his bar mitzvah project, he realized he couldn't change the world alone. So, Leitner started the Archimedes Alliance, a nonprofit where donors give just \$2 at a time and then vote on where the money is donated.

With this approach, Leitner has raised more than \$21,000. The Archimedes Alliance just donated its first \$20,000 – which was doubled by the organization Outreach International to \$40,000. Leitner attributes all of his success to the power of the local community. "The Portland community helped me get press, recruit donations, speak at conferences and find mentors," he said.

Leitner is not the only one who thinks Portland's tight-knit, supportive community is essential to the thriving entrepreneurial environment.

Eli Alford-Jones says it's Oregonians' strong sense of community that sets the Silicon Forest apart from the Silicon Valley. Alford-Jones is the founder of Paydici, a tech start-up in Portland that provides paperless billing and seamless online payment for users. "Oregon is the perfect ecosystem for growing companies. We have been able to raise \$1.5 million with the majority of our investors living locally. Portland also attracts the best talent because people want to move here," said Alford-Jones.



Eli Alford-Jones at his Paydici office in Portland.  
Photo by Vanessa Van Edwards

## RESOURCE:

**Edith Dorsen**, WomensVCFund.com

**Eric Rosenfeld**, OregonAngelFund.com

**Carolynn Duncan**, PortlandTen.com

**Josh Friedman**, Gigapan.com & NedSpace.com

**Eli Alford-Jones**, Paydici.com

**Julien Leitner**, ArchimedesAlliance.org



Julien Leitner, 14-year-old entrepreneur.

However, Alford-Jones says one of the biggest problems facing Oregon start-ups is a lack of talented engineers. "We have a supply and demand imbalance. We have a lot of

amazing entrepreneurs wanting to build companies and investors who want to fund companies, but not enough engineers to build them!" he explained.

*"There are two qualities that every entrepreneur needs, and Jewish culture places a high value on both of them – we question authority and we persevere." —Edith Dorsen*

Almost all the entrepreneurs interviewed said companies are starting and raising money faster than new engineers can graduate from school and move here. It seems that being small is both a benefit and a curse. On the one hand, the community grows together; on the other hand, there aren't enough hands to help with the building. Could it be that although our tight-knit community sets us apart from Silicon Valley, that might be the exact thing that's holding us back?

Carolynn Duncan, CEO of Portland Ten, said competing with Silicon Valley is not only about needing more talent, it's also about infrastructure. "Oregon is a hot place to be right now and we have had some successes. Now we need more infrastructure to get these small start-up successes to the next level," said Duncan.

Duncan adds that this is not just a Portland problem. "There are start-up communities, accelerators and incubators in Corvallis, Eugene and Bend aligning to help entrepreneurs."

Entrepreneurs like Josh Friedman are trying to build the infrastructure that Oregon entrepreneurs need to keep growing. Friedman is the CEO of GigaPan (see **Upfront story, page 12**), co-founder of NedSpace and a board member of Starve Ups – to name a few of his recent projects. Not only does he work as a mentor for other start-ups, but also two of his companies – NedSpace and Starve Ups – both work to foster local entrepreneurship. "Our community is one of a kind. We give to each other and we give back. And we have to help each other," said Friedman.

All the entrepreneurs echoed Friedman's sentiments: We have to work together. Rosenfeld hopes the Jewish community can step up and support its entrepreneurs. "We have to build even more bonds within the Jewish community and connect our affluent people with great local investments. Entrepreneurs bring jobs, spend capital with other local businesses and make Oregon an even better place to live," said Rosenfeld. **P**

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# MONEY MATTERS

Rally, Correction or Collapse: Whither the Markets?

By Thomas K. Brueckner

At the end of last year, CNN Money asked more than 30 money managers and investment strategists where they believed the S&P 500 would finish at the end of 2013. The group responded that they realistically anticipated a market value of 1,490 by year end. This estimate would be a gain of just 4.5% over the entire year, likely due to foreseen international issues in Europe, the Middle East – as well as debt, slowing GDP and the implementation of new health care laws in the U.S.

Now in mid-March, the S&P 500 is currently at a 4.4% increase from the beginning of this year, already almost to where the experts expected the market to be over nine months from now. Though some are celebrating attaining former highs, there are increasing voices that seriously doubt the sustainability of this market rally. Why? To start, the so-called “rally” is mild. Let us not forget, \$150 billion has been withdrawn from stock mutual funds by investors since 2009, and to date only \$10.3 billion has been added back during this rally.

So what is behind this rally? Many have been asking this question and the brokerage-employed “economists” on Wall Street are ready with a “Happy Days Are Here Again” answer, replete with

the usual optimistic spin. Professionally, I believe the following could be legitimate reasons for what has transpired thus far:

Late last year, many companies paid accelerated dividends ahead of the looming Fiscal Cliff, so that recipients could pay capital gains tax on that money of 15 percent, rather than the new 23.8 percent for 2013. Since many recipients reinvested those dividends, the resulting rise in share prices lifted the market.

Insurance claims in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy have resulted in increased sales of cars, furniture and other boosts to the economy, an artificial one-time stimulus that will go away once those homes are rebuilt.

The Federal Reserve’s \$2 trillion bond-buying program was continued “for the foreseeable future,” giving stock buyers confidence that “Helicopter Ben” Bernanke would keep their party going well into 2013.

Given the chatter online about a correction, few now doubt that we are in for a pullback. The only questions are when – and by how much. Here are the worrisome signs:


Corporate insiders (executives and board members) were nine times more likely to sell shares than buy them last week, a clear sign that those with the most information about the inner workings at their firms know what’s coming later this year, perhaps soon, and have already gotten out of the way of it.

CNN Money’s Fear and Greed Index, which looks at the Volatility Index (VIX) and several other indicators to measure market sentiment, has been firmly in “Extreme Greed” mode since the start of the year.

According to a valuation warning issued last month at ValuEngine.com, “Stocks are currently overvalued and will become (more so) as long as the bond yield remains elevated and rising ...”

The last two times the markets touched their current valuations (2000 and 2007), the markets fell sharply (51 percent and 57 percent respectively) and recovering those values took nearly five years each time. The psychological reminders posed by these levels should not be quickly dismissed by forgetful investors now caught up in the current celebratory fervor.

As many of our readers, clients and listeners know, none of our more than 600 clients have lost money during the last 13 years – because we didn’t place them at market risk to begin with. Paul Farrell of MarketWatch reminds us that “the typical bull market lasts 3.75 years” and that we’re well beyond that already: “This aging bull is now way past retirement age, ripe for a lengthy bear...” Farrell continues: “... More likely, (investors will be lured) into a suckers rally, where the bulls just keep hyping the good times so every naive investor left will finally pile in, fearful they’re missing ‘the race to 17,000’ ... forgetting the dot-com disaster in 2000, forgetting the huge losses after the subprime mortgage disaster of 2008 ...”

Many are beginning to believe that this market has “nowhere to go but down.” The only question is when it will begin. 

Thomas K. Brueckner, CLTC, is founder, president and CEO of Strategic Asset Conservation and was a 2011 national finalist for SMA’s Advisor of the Year. [go2knight.com](http://go2knight.com).



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# Life on the Other Side

## *Independence Day = Picnic Time!* by Anne Kleinberg

Independence Day in Israel, April 16 this year, means the usual parties, fireworks, traffic jams and community festivals, but more than anything else ... the heralding of “barbecue season!” If you think you know what a barbecue is, think again! Here in Israel, it’s not the beloved BBQ I knew from back home in New York – the way my Aunt Gert and Uncle Sid had them in Bayside with all their friends. Everyone would contribute salads and side dishes and the grilling involved hot dogs and hamburgers. Man is it different here! The Israeli BBQ, mangal, is a sociological phenomenon. If books have not been written on this very unique Middle Eastern style of picnic, they should be!

Let’s see – my vision of the perfect picnic involves linen (on the women and in the napkins), checkered tablecloths, and wicker baskets overflowing with bottles of Chianti, loaves



of bread and delicious meats and cheeses. Throw in some fresh vegetables, sun-dried tomatoes, spicy olives, maybe some brownies or a fruit tart, and voila – the perfect picnic.

But here in Israel? Oy gevalt!

I’ll start with location. You’d think that a lovely, secluded spot, under a pretty tree preferably, with comfortable benches and picnic tables would be ideal, right? Noooooooo! Forget that – Israelis are whipping out their hibachis on the main roads! Well, service roads, anyway, and parking lots and on the beach practically on top of others who just want to enjoy a quiet afternoon.


Dress code? Hairy-chested men, no shirts or perhaps sleeveless T-shirts, with big gold necklaces and big gold ID bracelets and cigarettes shelved over their ears. There they are – waving their hands, papers or whatever over the charcoal briquettes trying to get these fires going. It’s a rite of passage here. Encouraging the fire of portable grills even has a name – le

nafnef – to fan the flames.

You can expect to find these al ha-esh (on the fire) types everywhere, and you’ll no doubt hear them before you see them. They have booming voices. And they arrive at their designed picnic spots with tons of gear. You’ll see the women with their myriad containers loaded with food. The raw meat on skewers, the salads, the chips and dips, the drinks and bamba to pacify the toddlers. What a production! One guy gets the flame going, another comes over to check on him and offer his opinion (un-asked for, of course). Then the topic changes from fan flaming to politics, and now they’re really stoking the fires. Then the drinks are passed around, then the food, and, well, before you know it, it’s a major happening of epic proportions. And this is all by the side of the road, don’t forget. You just gotta love it.

There is definitely something appealing about an outdoor barbecue. It involves communing with nature, hanging with family and friends, enjoying good food (which always tastes better outside). You never see anyone making a barbecue begrudgingly. No one says, “Come over for a barbecue and we’ll have a serious discussion about the difficult economic situation we’re in.” No sir, barbecue means party time! And it doesn’t necessarily have to involve the burning of food. In my book a barbecue can be just a nice, simple picnic – sandwiches are fine as far as I’m concerned – as long as they’re eaten outdoors and in good company.

You know what? I kind of love it, the whole BBQ frenzy here. I got over my shock as soon as I realized that I was the newcomer here, and when in Rome ... OK, so I may not be ready to roll up my shirtsleeves and start playing with hibachis on the beach. I’ll always search out a nice quiet, pretty spot (of which there are plenty in Israel) rather than some concrete, treeless area. But if it involves good friends and yummy food – count me in!

Happy 65th Israel Independence Day to one and all! 

Anne Kleinberg, author of *Menopause in Manhattan* and several cookbooks, left a cushy life in Manhattan to begin a new one in Israel. Now she’s opened a boutique bed and breakfast in her home on the golf course in Caesarea. For details, visit [annekleinberg.com](http://annekleinberg.com) and [casacaesarea.com](http://casacaesarea.com).





VISITING HOME – Augusta Kirshner Reinhardt, upper right, joins other Oregon Zionists meeting with Israeli statesman David Ben Gurion (seated, center) at his kibbutz home in the Negev Desert during a visit to Israel in the 1970s. With Reinhardt are, from lower right, Al Feves, Sadie Feves and Ruth Rodinsky Wolfstone. Reinhardt, who died in 2005, was deeply involved in the Jewish National Fund, Hadassah, and other Zionist activities. Courtesy of Augusta Reinhardt

# Portlanders supported Israel long before birth of modern nation

By Sura Rubenstein

A new era in Jewish life began on the 5<sup>th</sup> of Iyar in the Hebrew year 5708 – May 14, 1948.

On that day, for the first time in nearly 2,000 years, there was an independent Jewish nation in the birthplace of Judaism, and Oregon Jews joined others around the world in celebration.

“I broke into tears of joy,” the late Augusta Kirshner Reinhardt told *The Oregon Journal* a quarter-century later. “We stayed up all night, two nights, really, waiting for the decision from the United Nations.”

The announcement of the new nation’s birth arrived early in the morning. “It was,” Reinhardt said, “as if there was a light from heaven.”

The creation of the new State of Israel came after decades of struggle, both within and outside the Jewish community – a struggle in which Oregon’s Jews had their own part to play.

That story has one of its beginnings in July 1899, when the dynamic young rabbi Stephen S. Wise stopped in Portland as part of a West Coast speaking tour on behalf of the fledgling Zionist movement. He spoke to a community meeting and met with Solomon Hirsch, a former U.S. ambassador to Turkey, to

discuss “the troublous Eastern question of which Zionism is a part.”

Before he left town, he was offered the post of rabbi of Congregation Beth Israel, the city’s most prominent congregation, to commence the following year.

Wise already was an ardent Zionist who had helped found the Federation of American Zionists in 1897 in New York City. He also attended the Second Zionist Conference in 1898 in Basel, Switzerland, where he became close friends with Theodor Herzl, the founder of modern political Zionism, who named him American secretary of the World Zionist Movement.

When he arrived at Beth Israel, Wise demanded to have “freedom of the pulpit” – freedom to speak his mind on issues of importance – and frequently spoke on the critical need to establish a Jewish homeland. He joined with other prominent Jews in the city in 1901 to launch the Portland Zionist Society, which hosted lectures and conferences, among other actions.

“Zionism is a dream, but the dream may come true,” Wise told the annual meeting of the Portland Zionist Society in February 1903. He and other members of the society spoke throughout the city, and even took their message to local churches.

While they were successful and secure in Oregon, they worried about the fate of Jews in Russia and Europe. The notorious Kishinev pogrom, in April 1903, was one of many events that fueled their dedication.

Over a three-day period, beginning on the Russian Easter, Christian mobs attacked Jews in the Bessarabian (now Moldovan) capital, killing at least 47 people, severely wounding another 92, and destroying more than 700 homes and businesses. It was sparked by a local newspaper’s suggestion that Jews had killed two children to use their blood for Passover matzah.

The New York Times wrote: “The anti-Jewish riots in Kishinev, Bessarabia, are worse than the censor will permit us to publish. ... The mob was led by priests, and the general cry, ‘Kill the Jews,’ was taken up all over the city.”

In Portland, the B’nai B’rith Lodge – supported by Wise and other community leaders – collected signatures on petitions to be sent to Russian Czar Nicholas II, pleading with him to lead “a new movement that shall commit the whole world in opposition to religious persecution.”

More petitions, meetings and other actions – and groups – were organized throughout the following decades: Hadassah, Junior Hadassah, Keren Hayesod (The Jewish National Fund), the Kadimah Society for high school students and later an Israel Bonds committee, a local Zionist newspaper and many others.

By the end of World War I, Portland Zionists were signing petitions asking for a Jewish homeland. One gathering, in 1917 at the B’nai B’rith Center, drew nearly 500 people supporting “home rule for the Jewish people.”

In 1945 Portland Zionists joined others to help resettle

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**“Zionism is a dream, but the dream may come true.”** — Rabbi Stephen S. Wise to the Portland

Zionist Society in February 1903.

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**ZIONIST CHAMPION** – Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, shown here in a ca. 1905 photo, was an ardent advocate for the re-establishment of a Jewish state. Though he was in Portland for only a few years, he helped organize the local Zionist movement and inspired its members long after he returned to New York City. Photo courtesy Oregon Jewish Museum

Holocaust survivors and refugees in Palestine. They pledged to collect \$25,000 to aid 100 families in a 250-acre area to be called “Nachlath Portland,” meaning “the share of Portland,” and eventually had nearly 700 “subscribers.” They eventually expanded their “share” to aid additional families as well.

But support for a Jewish state was not universal, even among Jews. The American Council for Judaism, an anti-Zionist organization founded nationally in 1942, had an Oregon chapter that included prominent community members – although the community itself remained strongly Zionist.

Rabbi Julius Nodel, himself a strong Zionist who later



**BUILDING THE LAND** – Portlanders supported pioneers reclaiming the land of Israel in many ways, including by donating funds for trees to reforest the land. This Jewish National Fund (Keren HaYesod) certificate, commemorating the planting of five trees in Palestine, was donated by leading Jewish community members in memory of Alex Miller, owner of a Portland clothing store and president of Congregation Ahavai Sholom. Mr. Miller died in 1933. Photo courtesy Oregon Jewish Museum

followed Wise as spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Israel, noted that Zionism had long been a source of controversy within the Reform Movement.

“Only four years before [Wise’s] coming to Portland the majority of the Central Conference of American Rabbis had disapproved of ‘any attempts for the establishment of a Jewish state,’” Nodel noted in his centennial history of Beth Israel, *The Ties Between: 1858–1958*. The CCAR, the organization of Reform rabbis, was established in 1889.

Deborah B. Goldberg, now Deborah Menashe, wrote about the history of Zionism in Portland in her 1982 Reed College bachelor’s thesis, *Jewish Spirit on the Oregon Frontier: Zionism in Portland, Oregon 1901–1941*. She said the Reform movement “attacked any Zionist affirmation as a form of dual loyalty, and as a barrier to Jews’ adaptation to truly democratic life.”

At the same time, she observed that local Zionists were directed by a few strong and influential community leaders, including many from Congregation Beth Israel.

“Although Stephen Wise resided in Portland for only six years, his Zionist influence in the city remained his legacy long after he returned to New York,” she said.

Hadassah, which Goldberg describes as “the most consistently influential Zionist organization in Portland,” opened a local chapter in the 1920s, headed by Paula Lauterstein. Its activities were concentrated on raising money to support Hadassah’s hospitals and medical clinics in what then was Palestine.

Reinhardt, who joined Hadassah in 1943, remembers it as “the primary affiliation for many.”

“We were completely involved in Israel,” she said. “We knew it would determine the survival of the Jewish people.”

Steven Lowenstein, writing in *The Jews of Oregon: 1850–1950*, notes that “Portland was unusual in the broad and vital support Zionism received from the Jewish community.” He credits



Augusta “Gussie” Kirshner Reinhardt, ca. 1939. Courtesy of Augusta Reinhardt

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**TASTY FUNDRAISER** – Members of Portland's Hadassah group baked two-pound plum puddings for Thanksgiving to raise money for relief and aid work in Palestine. The plum pudding project, begun in 1928, continued until World War II. The recipe – which called for 700 large loaves of bread and 1,000 pounds of raisins – was included in a 1960 Hadassah cookbook. Photo courtesy Oregon Jewish Museum

the involvement of Wise, David Solis-Cohen and other early Zionist leaders. But he also believes there was something more.

“Zionism appealed to both the frontier heritage and pioneer spirit of Oregonians, their closeness to the settling of a new land and their tradition of philanthropy,” he wrote. “The spirit of Zionism fit well into Oregon traditions.”

Sura Rubenstein is a Portland freelance writer.

**FRIENDSHIP TOUR** – Augusta “Gussie” Reinhardt poses with Oregon Gov. Tom McCall during a 1973 Jewish National Fund-sponsored tour of Israel that included dedication of the Tom McCall Friendship Forest in the hills of Galilee. The following year, the Augusta Kirshner Reinhardt Friendship Forest was dedicated in honor of the longtime Oregon Zionist. Inset: Augusta “Gussie” Kirshner Reinhardt, ca. 1993. Courtesy of Augusta Reinhardt



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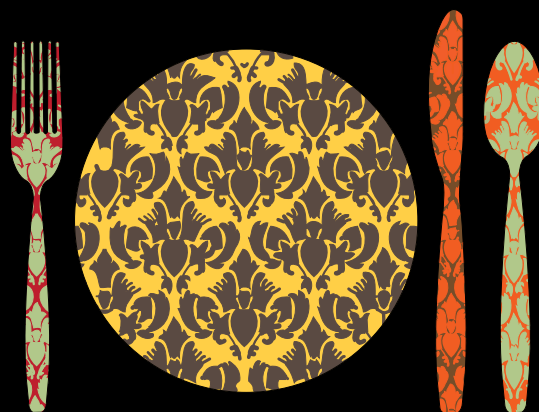
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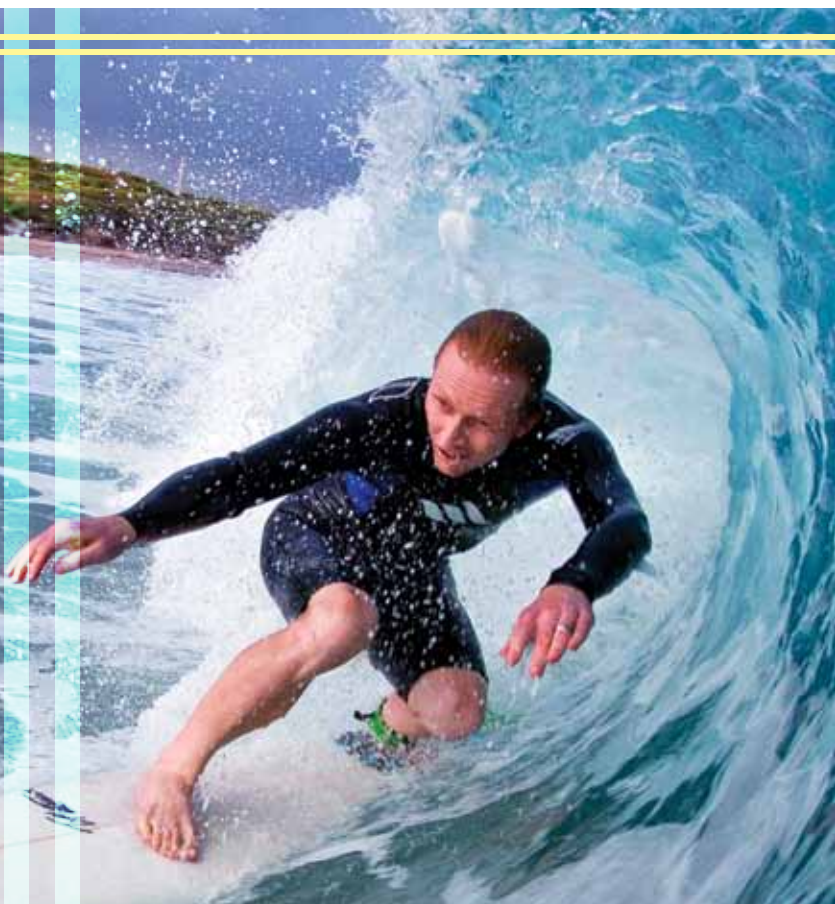


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# AMERICAN SURFER HYPES ISRAEL

## Through Award-Winning Documentary

By David Shlachter

The most common response I get when talking about surf in Israel is, “Wait – there’s surf in Israel?” Not only does Israel boast some amazing surf breaks along the coast from Gaza to Lebanon, but it also has a homegrown surf culture that has produced world-class board builders and competitive surfers alike. The estimated 20,000 surfers in Israel have developed their own vibrant community and bright, unique style.

While on a series of Christian service missions to Israel, California surfer Todd Morehead discovered an underground Israeli board builder named Hani Ovadia, and the two quickly became good friends. They have visited and surfed with each other in both Israel and California over the last several years.

Over the course of these visits, Morehead developed a stron-

ger and stronger passion for Israel. After cultivating close relationships with Ovadia and others, he sought to produce a film that would expose Israel in a positive light to a global audience of Christian surfers. What better way to do this than explore Israel through the eyes of surfers themselves?

Having grown up surfing competitively in Orange County, CA, Morehead is well networked with the world’s most elite professional surfers. He generated interest among them about Israel, and ultimately received a commitment from legendary three-time world champion surfer Tom Curren to travel there and participate in Morehead’s feature-length documentary.

The three-and-a-half-year production of “Promised Land” was directed and co-produced by Morehead and filmed, photographed and edited by Russell Brownley, Bryce Johnson

Left: Todd Morehead gets tubed in Israel

Inset far left top: 3-time world champion surfer Tom Curren carves an Israeli wave

Inset far left bottom: Todd Morehead carves an Israeli wave as Russell Brownley films

Right top: Hani Ovadia prepares to glass a surfboard in his factory in Jaffa, Israel

Right middle: Russell Brownley and Jessie Schluntz filming in Jerusalem

Right bottom: 3-time world champion surfer Tom Curren after a surf session in Israel



Photos by Bryce Johnson Photography (brycejohnson.com)

**“Promised Land” delivers far more than a conventional surf flick. It opens with a quick, context-setting journey through the last several thousand years of Israel’s history, and then hones in on several intermingled story lines.**

To learn more, watch the trailer or find out how to book a screening, visit [promisedlandthemovie.com](http://promisedlandthemovie.com).

and Jesse Schluntz, some of the strongest up-and-coming lens artists in the surf community. The result is a visually stunning journey through the golden sands and turquoise waters of Israel’s coast, where Tom Curren and others gracefully carve some of the best waves to hit the country in years.


During its premier tour, the film attracted more than 10,000 viewers at 40 screenings around the world. Having been fortunate to participate in the initial screenings in both Tel Aviv and San Juan Capistrano, CA, I was blown away by the overwhelming turnout and the positive reaction by the audience.

Many people were drawn in by the promise of watching one of the most famous surfers of all time ride waves in one of the most mysterious countries in the world. If that’s what they came for, they were certainly satisfied; but the film delivers far more than a conventional surf flick. “Promised Land” opens with a

quick, context-setting journey through the last several thousand years of Israel’s history, and then hones in on several intermingled story lines.

We learn about the virtually unknown history of Israel’s two most decorated surf competitors, Maya Dauber and Oran Weiss, who dominated a European contest in the 1980s and rubbed shoulders with legendary 11-time world champion Kelly Slater. We listen to the perspectives of both Jewish and Muslim surfers who share the breaks of Jaffa and Tel Aviv on a daily basis and ultimately conclude that “in the water, we’re all the same.” We enjoy interviews with Dorian “Doc” Paskowitz, the 94-year-old, Stanford-educated doctor who is credited with bringing the

first surfboard to Israel in the 1950s and delivering the first surfboards to Gaza in recent years as a peace-engendering exercise.

Morehead does a phenomenal service to Israel by exploring these issues in a fun, positive, visually compelling film that continues to be screened to audiences of all different backgrounds, with all different views, all over the world. 

David Shlachter and his wife, Orlee Rabin, lived in Israel 2010-2012 where David worked on an electric car infrastructure project by day and shaped surfboards by night. David grew up in Portland, had his bar mitzvah at Havurah Shalom (‘94), participated on the Portland delegation of the Maccabi Games (‘95-‘98) and is a graduate of The Catlin Gabel School (‘99), Claremont McKenna (‘03), and Harvard (‘09). He is the son of Rob and Mara Shlachter of Portland. He and his wife reside in Mill Valley, CA.

# Hand in Hand

*Portlander's Jewish-Arab schools bridge cultures in Israel*



Hand in Hand schools bring cultures together in Israel. These students are, from left, Jewish, Christian and Palestinian. Photo by Lou Jaffe

By Elizabeth Schwartz

On Nov. 4, 1995, Portland native Lee Gordon stood in Kings of Israel Square in Tel Aviv, where Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was addressing a peace rally in support of the Oslo Accords. At the end of the rally, Gordon, along with thousands of other Israelis, watched in horror as Rabin was assassinated by a fellow Israeli, Yigal Amir, who opposed Rabin's endorsement of the peace process.

Gordon's response to the assassination grew out of his decades-long efforts to build positive relationships between Jews and Arabs. During Gordon's graduate school days at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, where he studied social work in the early 1980s, he actively sought out opportunities to interact with Arabs. Gordon has since returned to Portland where he serves on the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland governing board. Last month he returned to Israel on a trip with Havurah Shalom.

"In school, I participated in a weekly Arab-Jewish dialogue," remembers Gordon. "It was a way to bring representatives of those communities together. The following year, I became a facilitator of that group. Over the next few years, I spent a lot of time getting to know Arab students."

Gordon was also active in Peace Now, an NGO activist group in Israel, which has promoted peace between Jews and Arabs since the late 1970s. "In early 1990s, after the First

Intifada, the official peace process began," says Gordon. "There was the Madrid conference; Rabin was elected; Clinton was elected. I arranged meetings for Peace Now between Israeli teenagers from Jerusalem and Arab teenagers from Ramallah."

From 1995-97, Gordon created new initiatives in Israeli education through study at the Mandel School for Educational Leadership in Jerusalem. "I hadn't had any experience with schools before," he says, "but we began building a model of integrated schooling." In 1997, Gordon met Amin Khalaf, an Israeli Arab teacher who had experience teaching in both Israeli and Arab schools. Together the two men, one Jewish, one Arab, cofounded Hand in Hand, the Center for Jewish-Arab Education in Israel.

Hand in Hand is a network of four schools, located in Jerusalem, the Galilee, Wadi Ara and Haifa. These integrated, bilingual schools combine the teaching of peace education and top academic standards.

Since its first two schools opened 15 years ago, Hand in Hand has expanded to four schools with approximately 1,000 students, just a small percentage of the approximately 1.7 million school-age children in Israel. Gordon is realistic about Hand In Hand's impact on Israeli education and societal attitudes, but he also believes students educated in the Hand In Hand model can make a substantial difference.

"We're intentionally integrating our schools, hoping to create a precedent that will spread around the country," he explains. "Our goal is to eventually have 10 to 15 schools in Israel, with 5,000 to 7,000 students. We may not become a majority model, but through our example, we prove that Jews and Arabs can study, work, learn and live together. In any place where Jews and Arabs live close to one another, there's potential for creating a Hand In Hand school."

All Hand in Hand schools are accredited and public, with most school costs paid by the Israeli government. Private philanthropy covers other expenses. "We pay for extra teachers," Gordon explains. "We have two teachers per class in the younger grades – one Jewish, one Arabic – and they teach bilingually. We also need to pay for curriculum development, teacher training and all the community work we do outside school – after school programs, evening programs for parents, evening programs for recent graduates and the administrative costs of running our national office." Philanthropic donations



Havurah Shalom members visit the Galilee on a trip to Israel last month.

## Havurahniks meet people making a difference in Israel

Last month, 25 members of Havurah Shalom spent 10 days in Israel with their rabbi, Joey Wolf, who led the “multi-vocal journey” focused on human rights issues, some unique to Israel, others more universal.

“We met people in Israel who are involved in radical work, advocating for marginalized or underrepresented segments of the population,” says Wolf. “I think everyone who came with us will become more engaged in what it means to be Jewish in the world.”

### People they met included:


- Three Jewish women who run a rape crisis center in Kiryat Shmona, on the Lebanese border: “This is an area of former moshavim and kibbutzim, which until recently, were closed, insular communities,” Wolf explains, adding the women also work with Arab Druze communities of the upper Golan. “If women are endangered in these isolated places, it’s often difficult for them to find help.”
- Community activists aiding refugees: In recent years more than 60,000 Eritrean and Sudanese refugees have fled to Israel in search of political asylum and economic opportunity. “The sheer number of people coming in across the porous Egyptian border at Sinai creates enormous stresses for a country as small as Israel,” says Wolf. “These refugees live in terribly overcrowded apartments. They try to find work, but can usually only get the lowest-paid jobs. ... They have no rights,” says Wolf. “There are too many refugees to know what to do with, but there’s also a lot of internal social critique in Israel, that we should harbor these people and give them safety.”
- Meir Margalit, a member of Jerusalem’s City Council, whose district encompasses Arab neighborhoods in east Jerusalem: “These areas don’t get enough attention,” says Wolf. “They’re being squeezed by the Israeli government.” Wolf calls Margalit “an indefatigable representative of justice,” who advocates for Palestinian control of areas of East Jerusalem where they live.
- Rachel Korazim, an Israeli educator and the daughter of Holocaust survivors: “She met with us before we toured the newly rebuilt Yad Vashem,” says Wolf. “She’s a dynamic teacher who helped us explore the evolving relationship of Israel to the Holocaust.”
- Members of Tamuz, an urban kibbutz at Beit Shemesh: Tamuz members share cooperative housing about 20 miles west of Jerusalem, where they live, study and celebrate Shabbat and holidays together. Members work in nearby cities to provide childcare, run a school and help unemployed Ethiopians. Wolf notes, “The agrarian kibbutz model is dead, but people who still have a kibbutz impulse are making communities in urban areas attached to cities.”

come from individuals and private foundations in the United States, Canada, Europe and Israel.

By and large, the Israeli Ministry of Education has supported Hand in Hand’s efforts, but that support waxes and wanes, depending on the priorities of the minister of education. “In the past, when there was a more liberal minister of education, she publicly endorsed our project,” says Gordon. “Today’s education minister, Gideon Sa’ar, is not taking up the banner of integrated Jewish/Arab education. The larger problem is that Israeli society isn’t, by and large, waving the flag of coexistence.”

Gordon knows that Hand in Hand is fighting an uphill battle for minds and hearts. “A lot of Jews and Arabs would never send their kids to our schools because they want more separation, and this kind of thing scares them.” He adds, “It’s been really hard to get people to step out of their comfort zone and overcoming the inertia that keeps people separate and in conflict.” Gordon sees the distance separating Jews and Arabs as a socially constructed and reinforced barrier, not the result of innate hostility between the two groups. “The average middle-of-the-road person in Israel, whether Jewish or Arab, is not a racist, but too many people in Israel don’t feel the need to change the status quo, which is to maintain their separate existences. To make peace, you have to take chances.”

Hand in Hand’s students have inspired Gordon. “These kids are pioneers; they are phenomenal human beings,” says Gordon, recalling two years ago, when someone spray painted “Death to Arabs” on a wall at Hand in Hand’s Jerusalem campus. “A fifth-grader from the school said he wanted to invite the person who tagged the wall to come to the school, see how it works and see that it’s about love, not hate.”

It may be too soon to say definitively what lasting impact this bilingual, bicultural education will have on Hand in Hand’s graduates, but Gordon sees them as the vanguard of change. “I believe they’ll be motivated to be more involved in Jewish-Arab co-existence. We also work with the students’ parents, because we don’t think the burden of changing the world should rest solely on the shoulders of children. We want kids to just be kids and live their lives, but I do believe Hand in Hand is giving them a strong foundation for partnership in Israeli society and peacemaking.” 

Elizabeth Schwartz is a freelance writer in Portland.

**“The average middle-of-the-road person in Israel, whether Jewish or Arab, is not a racist, but too many people in Israel don’t feel the need to change the status quo, which is to maintain their separate existences. To make peace, you have to take chances.”**

# Battlefield: College

*Campus groups counteract Israel bashing with positive programming*



With Israel co-leaders Amy Albertson (first row, second from right) and Brittany McCay (first row center, white shirt) join other Portland State University students at the Israel Shabbat: Food Stories event November 2012. Group members prepared Israeli foods connected to the history and development of modern day Israel and presented them to others. Photo courtesy of Dan Albertson

By Polina Olsen

When former Soviet dissident and current Jewish Agency Chair Natan Sharansky spoke in Portland last June, he called American universities the most important battlefield for today's Jews.

"I wrote an article, *Traveling to Occupied Territories*, where occupied territories meant American universities," he said. "I understood how dangerous and successful our enemies are and the power of their propaganda."

We checked the local situation with Andy Gitelson, the executive director of Oregon Hillel, Eugene; Amy Albertson of With Israel; and Dr. Michael Weingrad, director of the Harold Schnitzer Family Program in Judaic Studies at Portland State University. We found that while anti-Israel stridency varies among campuses, student organizations and individuals are making a difference by promoting dispassionate discussion and portraying Israel as the vibrant, three-dimensional culture that it is.

"For us, there is not a lot of outright hostility," Gitelson said. "This year, we had a small anti-Israel rally on campus. In response, Hillel, the Jewish Student Union and the Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity came together for a pro-Israel peace rally. Every Eugene synagogue and community organization sent representatives. We saw this as an opportunity to galvanize the community and counteract what people see on CNN. And, we try to be

proactive. We're starting a coffeehouse series with speakers and Israeli artists."

Gitelson believes apathy stems from a lack of awareness and education.

"Parents and synagogues have not talked to today's college students about the importance of Israel, so there is this void," he said. "Because it's controversial, we've taken the path of least resistance and not talked about the great things that are coming out of Israel. It's more of a melting pot than the United States. The key is getting students who have not been to Israel (to go to Israel). Birthright Israel is a transformative experience."

For the most part, PSU's Jewish, Muslim and Arab student associations work well together and even co-sponsored a Middle Eastern musical program last year. Still, there are protests and small anti-Israel groups on campus. Amy Albertson and Brittany McCay co-lead the interfaith student advocacy group With Israel.

"Students either know nothing about Israel or are getting a negative message," Albertson said. "The only thing you see on campus about Israel is conflict and human rights violations. Even when we have cultural programs, the anti-Israel group criticizes us for not talking about the issues. We want to legitimize the Israeli culture."

Last year's visit by Gideon Lustig, the deputy consul general of Israel for the Pacific Northwest region, included an Israeli Shabbat. With menu guidance from Portland Shlichah Natalie Nahome, students researched and taught history through the food they prepared. For example, Israeli couscous developed when Prime Minister David Ben Gurion challenged the young Israeli food industry to create rice from flour in order to sustain waves of North African immigrants during a food shortage.


"Protestors stood in the hall and called it a 'silent corridor of shame,'" Albertson said. "Then they came into the event, but we laid down the rules – no interruptions. During the recent escalation in Gaza, we organized counter-protests. But, they have big numbers when they go out to Pioneer Square."

"It makes you angry when people write horrible things," Albertson continued. "They always come up with – they are anti-Zionist and not anti-Semitic. We've been called racist. People think if you're pro-Israel, you are anti-Palestinian and anti-Islamic. A big tactic is to bring in a Jewish student who says, 'I think Israel is awful.' We emphasize this doesn't mean anything. We interact with our opposition and try to be friendly."

Dr. Michael Weingrad directs the Jewish Studies Department at PSU. "The situation has improved," he said. "In the past, the hostile climate was a combination of anti-Israeli students and local activists demonizing Israel on campus, bias against Israel in some Middle East Studies courses and left-wing Jewish

community groups unwittingly pushing this over the edge. These groups intend to criticize Israeli policies but do not understand the situation on campus or the challenges students face with that barrage of anti-Israel programming."

Weingrad notes that communication has improved greatly under James Grehan, the current director of the Middle East Studies Center, and that anti-Israel extremists have marginalized themselves. Like Gitelson and Albertson, he emphasizes the importance of positive Israel programming and welcomes the new Israeli Studies professor Dr. Nina Spiegel, who will emphasize bringing dancers and other cultural groups to campus.

"There's always a concern with anti-Israel activism in a worldwide context, and if there is an escalation, the campus can heat up," Weingrad said. "We need to channel credible discussion, not Israel bashing." 

Polina Olsen is a freelance writer and author in Portland.



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# J Street

## hopes author's visit will springboard discussion

By Polina Olsen

Hoping to break barriers and promote discussion among Israel supporters of all stripes, J Street Portland worked with local Jewish organizations to bring Israeli journalist Gershom Gorenberg to speak on Feb. 16 at Congregation Neveh Shalom. The American-born Orthodox Jew's recent book *The Unmaking of Israel* has received wide critical acclaim. Arriving jet-lagged from the east coast, where he is visiting professor at the College of Charleston Jewish Studies Department, he sat down to talk with us before the event. We asked about the feasibility of his controversial prescription for Middle East peace and how Portlanders can contribute to the debate.

Gorenberg's hopes for Israel's future include three main points: 1) End the settlements, end the occupation, and find a peaceful way to partition

the land between the Jordan and the Mediterranean; 2) Separate synagogue and state; and 3) Along with continuing to have a Jewish majority and predominant culture, guarantee the equality of non-Jews, particularly the Palestinian minority.

He believes many settlers would accept compensation to leave the occupied territories and dismisses the notion that enforcing his ideas would incite an Israeli civil war.

"There's a difference between internal conflict and civil war," he said, noting the Jewish Terror Underground of the 1980s fight against the Sinai agreement included bombings and murder. He argues opinions change and points to the United States election of an African American president and the increasing acceptance of gay marriage as examples. "In a 1976 [Israeli] poll, they asked, 'Do you think that Egyptian President Anwar Sadat is sincere in wanting peace?'" he said. "About 15% thought Sadat was sincere. After Sadat's visit to Israel, 85% thought Sadat was sincere. Politics is not geology."


Gorenberg argues that threats of violence must not hold democracies hostage. "Deep in the territory, people won't even think about a two-state agreement," he said. "I've proposed research projects looking into how the state could reduce opposition by the most radical settlers. But, if we can't reach a two-state solution because there could be violence, then

we've turned over the county to the most radical groups."

Born in St. Louis, MO, Gorenberg is a dual American-Israeli national and lives with his family in Jerusalem. He emphasizes his views spring from concern for Israel's future viability and that being pro-Israel but against current political policies is not a contradiction.

"Organizations perceived as speaking for American Jewry have taken positions on Israeli politics in line with, or more hawkish than, the Israeli government," he said. "If American Jews say nothing, they end up, like it or not, making a statement because someone else is speaking for them. People who believe that Israel's future depends on a two-state solution have to speak out or their congressperson will think they are in the other camp. You have a vote, and you may as well control that vote."

Controlling that vote also means discussing the subject dispassionately and avoiding shouting matches, Gorenberg added. J Street Portland activist Ed Kraus agrees.

"This is the first time we have gone to this much effort to find partners to bring a guest," Kraus said. "We've been doing a large outreach effort to explain that J Street is a moderate and pragmatic force. My biggest gripe is when the right wing calls their events successful when only people who are predisposed show up. Likewise, peace groups blame Israel and only people to the left turn out. There's no conversation breaking down those barriers. I hope this event will be a catalyst for more like it." 



Portland J Street members Eric Flamm (left) and Ed Kraus (right) meet with author Gershom Gorenberg. Photo by Polina Olsen

# Three national holidays, one week



By Natalie Nahome

Since the establishment of the State of Israel, four new holidays have been added to the Jewish calendar – Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day), Yom HaZikaron (Memorial Day), Yom Ha'atzmaut (Independence Day) and Yom Yerushalayim (Jerusalem Day).

Three national days – Yom HaShoah, Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha'atzmaut – fall within one week. This is when the sense of Israelihood is felt most keenly. This is the week when Israeli flags wave on all major streets across the country and from most windows and cars. This is the week when skeptical Israelis set aside their cynicism and appreciate their existence. This is the one week when newspapers focus not on current events but on stories that happened many years ago, commemorating those who died so the country could survive.


Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israeli Independence Day, marks the establishment of the modern state of Israel in 1948. It is observed on or near the 5th of Iyar in the Hebrew calendar, which is usually in April.

Scheduling Yom Hazikaron right before Yom Ha'atzmaut reminds people of the price paid for independence. Most Israelis have served in the armed forces or have a connection with people who were killed during their military service.

Yom HaShoah commemorates the 6 million Jews murdered during World War II. Yom Hazikaron is a day of remembrance and a day of awareness. Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrates the recovery and the revival of the Jewish state.

To me, Yom Hazikaron is all about dedicating a day to remember all of our beloved Israeli soldiers who lost their lives for us for the State of Israel so that we can live our

lives peacefully and normally, like everyone else. During Yom Hazikaron we acknowledge that having our own country to live in is not something we take for granted. Many men and women, some of them very young, have fought for this privilege; a lot of them are still doing it on a daily basis, and we should always be grateful to them. Remember those who have fallen in battle because, by their death, they have commanded us to live.

This year I have the privilege to plan the Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations in Portland. I will try to bring my past experiences and feelings of Yom Ha'atzmaut to Portland. The happiness of the people in Israel when they are celebrating and the energy on the street, is what I aim to bring to that party. The celebrations will take place on April 21 at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center. Join me at 5 pm to celebrate Israel's 65<sup>th</sup> birthday, with food, music, an art display, Israeli dancing and an Israeli band. The band is called The Peatot, and they have been playing together since 2008. Playing covers of Israeli hits from the past 40 years, they are focused on delivering a high-energy dance party for all ages. 

Natalie Nahome is the Israeli Shlichah (emissary) to the Jewish community of Portland.



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# On Miss Israel, Academy Awards and Coalition Negotiations

By Mylan Tanzer

Two interesting events took place the first week of March as I wrote this article. They were hardly noticed internationally, but they offer a compelling view of Israel's modern-day reality. Negotiations to form a new governing coalition dominated the headlines in Israel. But two other events should be remembered: two Israeli films were finalists at the Academy Awards, and the Miss Israel pageant turned out to be meaningful.

The selection of Yetyish Titi Aynaw as Miss Israel was a welcome reminder of the amazing stories that comprise the Israeli people. Born in Ethiopia, orphaned at the age of 12, Titi and her brother overcame dangers on the treacherous route to Israel. Arriving in Netanya, with no support network or family other than a grandfather, she graduated high school, became an officer in the IDF Military Police and now runs a fashion boutique. Titi will be a wonderful bridge between communities and an international asset as well.

Another international asset is the almost yearly Israeli presence at the Academy Awards. Each year, the local expectation is that this might be the year one of our movies graduates from nominee to Oscar winner.

This year the feelings were significantly different. While two of the five nominees for best documentary were Israeli – “Five Broken Cameras” and “Gatekeepers” – Israelis were ambivalent regarding a possible win. Both films deal with difficult subject matter that might further tarnish our image to a global audience unfamiliar with the intricacies of the region. In contrast to Al-Jazeera and pro-Palestinian propaganda, these movies were produced, directed and funded by Israel and Israelis.

“Five Broken Cameras” documents the weekly violent protests against the security barrier in the West Bank village of Bilin. Portrayed from the Palestinian co-director's perspective, the film shows only the Israeli force used to quell this weekly ritual. The movie fails to mention that in 2001 and 2002 before the barrier was built, about 20 Israelis a month were killed by suicide bombers. Now this horrible phenomenon is virtually nonexistent.

The oft-criticized Minister of Culture Limor Livnat, surprised many when, despite her clear displeasure with the film, she did not call to change funding criteria. Rather, she said she expects producers and directors of movies that enjoy public funds to exercise more self-censure. She said five broken cameras do not concern her as much as 5,000 family members scarred for life due to the murder and maiming of their loved ones in Palestinian suicide bombings.

In “Gatekeepers,” six former heads of the Shin Bet internal security service are interviewed in depth. All conclude that while

we need to use force to survive, we are misguided and are jeopardizing our survival if we rely only on force. Agree with them or not, the comments of these six vaunted figures who have dedicated their lives to our protection cannot be disregarded.

J.J. Goldberg of the Forward wrote, “An Oscar for either one would be a tribute to Israeli art, but a black eye for Israel.”

In my eyes, however, Israel did win.

I agree with Abe Novick's Jerusalem Post blog, in which he notes that Israel is rarely “held up as a model of free speech and democracy for allowing its citizens, artists, politicians the freedom to hold the mirror up to itself and reflect itself (warts and all) for all the world to see. The awards and accolades are for the stories that portray its flaws. But the fact that it has the courage to share those stories gets overlooked. The one country in the region that actually allows and encourages the exercise of freedom to self-reflect – moreover, publicly struts down the red carpet, broadcasting its foibles – doesn't win any awards for its open and transparent media.”

But, as I write this, the major story here is that post-election coalition negotiations are not complete and are as dramatic as the elections themselves. After a month of futile maneuvering, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu formally asked President Shimon Peres for a 14-day extension to try to form a governing coalition. An extension has only been necessary twice in Israel's history. At the brief ceremony, a frustrated Netanyahu unleashed an unorthodox tirade against the surprisingly strong alliance between Yair Lapid and his centrist-secular Yesh Atid (There Is a Future) party and the right-wing, settler-dominated Habayit Hayehudi (The Jewish Home) party led by Naftali Bennett.

The promising outcome of the elections was the decline of old parties and the success of the new Yesh Atid and the reorganized and revitalized Habayit Hayehudi. The success of those parties transcended the traditional right- and left-wing, secular and religious divisions. Their 31 combined seats attest to the public's disgust with careerist politicians who protect their own power and their sectoral constituencies at the expense of the public. The dramatic decline of the Likud/Yisrael Beiteinu alliance and the near disappearance of the fractured Kadima party attest to the electorate's stance that it's time elected officials begin serving the public.

Despite Netanyahu's victory, he was the clear loser. The problem is, it has taken him a month to understand this. In a state of denial, Netanyahu set out to form a government in the only way he knows. He initially refused to talk to Bennett, antagonizing a party that is a natural partner of Likud. He tried to tempt other parties and individuals with promises of ministries and committee appointments, while not defining government policy and goals. When Bennett realized Netanyahu would try to form a coalition without Habayit Hayehudi, he and Lapid formed an alliance, pledging neither will join a new government without the other. This bold maneuver will likely ensure that the dramatic promise of the elections is fulfilled.

On the surface, this is a very odd couple: Bennett, the leader


of a religiously oriented, right-wing, pro-settler party; Lapid, the secular, cosmopolitan, kickboxing son of the former anti-religious justice minister. Actually, these two have much in common. They are young, charismatic first-time politicians who left successful careers to enter politics to help change our deteriorating political, civil and social reality. Each ran on a ticket that demanded positive change: military or national service for all; an end to state handouts to ultra-orthodox, anti-Zionist yeshivas; affordable housing; an equitable tax burden; a reduction in the number of government ministries; and electoral change. While the two parties have vastly different platforms regarding settlements and negotiations with the Palestinians, both realize that if they do concentrate on their many common issues, Bibi will keep the status quo intact. That would end this window for change.

Channel 10's Raviv Druker said Bibi's disastrous campaign was a warmup to the mistakes of the coalition negotiations: "He (Netanyahu) has so far managed the negotiations as if everyone was a shopkeeper – a ministry for you and for you and so forth, instead of actually negotiating meaningfully to form a government."

Now, almost two months after the elections, Netanyahu seems on the verge of a reality check. He realizes a government cannot be formed without Lapid and Bennett.

This alliance was created so that the promises of both parties could be fulfilled. This has unintentionally created hope of a secular-religious understanding based on a common agenda and mutual respect. The Lapid-Bennett alliance has thrived, despite the best efforts to destroy it. But many issues divide the two, and it is difficult to foresee what will happen when decisions are required on the Palestinian issue. It is difficult to ignore the fact that some of the Habayit Hayehudi Knesset members are hardcore West Bank settlers whose vision of our future is anathema to me. But these same settlers have given their full support to Bennett's alliance with Lapid, who supports ceding territory to the Palestinians in a resolution that will end the conflict. This is the first time I have felt something other than hostility toward the settler community. I disagree with almost everything they represent, but they represent a major segment of Israel, and the Lapid-Bennett alliance has kindled a flicker of hope that we can find common ground.

The determination of these two parties to change our daily reality for the better has allowed them to focus on what unites us and not what divides us. If this is the result of these coalition negotiations, then ironically we will have to thank Bibi for unintentionally uniting us. If this happens, in true Bibi style, he will take the credit as if he planned it.

Who cares? Let him. It will be worth it!" 

Mylan Tanzer is a Portland native who moved to Israel in 1981. He was the founding CEO of the first Israeli cable and satellite sports channel. Since 2005, he has launched, managed and consulted for channels and companies in Israel and Europe. Tanzer lives in Tel Aviv with his wife and five children. He can be reached at mylantanz@gmail.com.



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# ■ Traditions ■

*As we prepare to celebrate the 65th anniversary of Israel as a modern nation, please reflect on how modern or ancient Israel contribute to Jewish identity in America today.*



**Rabbi Bradley Greenstein**  
**Congregation Neveh Shalom**  
**Portland**

Our destinies are tied together – the nation Israel and the people Israel (us). Sometimes I wonder why our ancestors had to call the hottest, most contested place on earth ... home. Why Abraham's soul-searching journey could not have called him to a small deserted island. Instead our history is filled with struggle and complexity, the exaltation of liberation and the atrocity of war. But for our ancestors ... and for many of us today ... the land of Israel is still the place of our dreams. Every Shabbat we sing the words *Shir hama'alot beshuv Adonai et shivat tzion hayinu keholmim* (When we return to Israel it as if we are in a dream).

I am inspired by theologian Abraham Joshua Heschel, who believes that the land of Israel has become holy because for centuries it has been the meeting place between humanity and the mystery we call God. Perhaps there is nothing *innately* special about that piece of earth unique from the rest of the world. However, what is unique is that the stones reverberate with the sounds of our family's past. The city walls and cobblestones echo with the hopes of our ancient prophets. They call out the challenges of Amos, the music of Miriam, the shouts of victory and the weeping sorrow of King David. And today we walk through her cities, still with our dreams, realizing our part on that epic stage.



**Rabbi Chayim Mishulovin**  
**Chabad of Oregon, Portland**

Last year, my wife Simi and I chaperoned a group on a Birthright trip to Israel.

Even before meeting the 40 Jews in their mid-20s, we knew they were not the most religious kind of crowd. Many had not seen the inside of a synagogue since their friend's bar mitzvah (many had not had their own prior to this trip). Imagine the reaction they got when they found out there will be a rabbi on their trip, let alone a Chabad rabbi!

We get to Israel and it all changes. Perspectives change. Feelings change. Their inner self is revealed.

There is something powerfully holy about the land of which G-d says in His Torah "The eyes of L-rd your G-d are always upon it" (Deuteronomy 11:12).

I'm sure it's that energy that inspired this American group to dance with such joy with tears in almost every eye, while praying with thousands at the Western Wall on Friday night. I'm sure it's that energy that gave these progressive men and women a new perspective about what it means to be a Jew. I'm sure it's that energy that inspired these young souls to begin searching and allow the G-dly spark inside of them to begin shining.



**Rabbi Ariel Stone**  
**Congregation Shir Tikvah, Portland**

This summer I will lead my fourth congregational trip to Israel out of Shir Tikvah in only 10 years. Despite the political and social gulf between Israelis and American Jews, something still compels us to connect with the land of our ancestors.

The Jewish people spent millennia in Exile, an experience that shaped us in relationship to a Land that most would never see. Our holy days are timed by the season in Israel, not America; when the New Moon is seen in Israel, we declare Rosh Hodesh. And every time something happens in Israel, all of us, as estranged from Israel as we may feel, nevertheless represent Israel to all of our non-Jewish friends.

Ancient Israel is the soil in which our identity was formed; "Torah comes from Zion," as the prayer says. Secular Jews would be amazed at this, but the fact is that Jewish culture, all of it, derives from ancient Israel, in which there was no categorization of "religious" as anything separate from, or less than, all of life.

In any profound relationship there are challenges. But there is nothing like the sense of belonging one feels in Jerusalem. Maddeningly, frustrating, exhilaratingly, miraculously, it is home.

# Teens Reflect on OJCYP Leadership Experience



By Danielle Spring, Senior, Lake Oswego High School  
and Maayan Agam, Senior, Beaverton High School

*When asked to reflect on the last four years, it's not hard to come up with dozens of experiences that influenced us. Our first encounter with OJCYP was the application process.*

**DANIELLE:** After submitting multiple college applications, I realized that none of these were the hardest application I have ever written. I submitted my hardest application nearly four years ago. This application was to Oregon Jewish Community Youth Foundation.

I remember sitting down at the computer on a warm summer day and staring at a blank document that would turn into my OJCYP application essay. I stared at the screen, trying to find a personal quality I could contribute to the organization. I ended up writing about the strong commitment I keep for activities I start. While this didn't explain everything I could bring to the group, it is the one quality that has been consistent through all four years. While my commitment has stayed constant, my leadership, work ethic and communication skills have increased. As I've grown with OJCYP, I've increased my participation. I have experience to back up my ideas, which has given me the confidence to excel in OJCYP and other activities.

We thought we could help OJCYP; what we didn't know was how much OJCYP would change us. Monthly meetings taught us about the nonprofit sector, site visits showed us this world first-hand and allocation sessions tied it all together. We saw we are powerful advocates for change, which gave us the courage to take on outside internships.

**MAAYAN:** OJCYP led me to Camp Odyssey, a teen organization celebrating diversity. During camp, we explored stereotypes and the effects they have. Those exercises showed me that many people label the Jewish community as greedy. As we worked to separate stereotypes from reality, we could see all stereotypes are hurtful and unjustified. I know I regularly prove the stereotype wrong by my work with OJCYP. (NWCampOdyssey.org seeks Jewish participants for the free camp in late June.)

When challenged to take on an outside internship, I thought of Camp Odyssey. The organizations share the same mission:


## OJCYP Annual Benefit Dinner, 10th Anniversary Celebration

On May 2, at 5:30 pm the 37 members of OJCYP host their 10th annual benefit fundraiser dinner at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center. This is the main source of funds for the student-led allocations held later that month.

The dinner will have an entertaining and lively vibe containing interactive activities and student speakers. Student speakers will direct speeches to this year's theme: past, present, future. The students will explain where the group has been and where members see the group going in the next 10 years. OJCYP has allocated more than \$256,000 to community nonprofits, both Jewish and general, since it was founded in 2003.

Eighth grade and high school students are encouraged to attend the dinner. Student tickets are \$40, adult tickets are \$65. Register online at [ojcf.org](http://ojcf.org). Representatives of community nonprofits who want to apply for a grant from the OJCYP, can download applications at [ojcf.org/youth-foundation](http://ojcf.org/youth-foundation); deadline is April 19.

to secure and shape the future. I now have two mentor organizations with which I share the vision to alleviate the effects of economic inequality. Both focus on similar fundamental values: respect, social change, community and education.

As fourth-year board members, we will be saying farewell to OJCYP, but we leave it in the hands of younger philanthropists, just as others left it for us. We envision rising members expanding outreach and sparking greater interest among donors and organizations. From OJCYP's simple beginning as a bat mitzvah project, today we reach hundreds, if not thousands, each year. We can't wait to see how much the dedicated new OJCYP'ers will accomplish, leading the group to even greater heights." 



# SAVE MOISHE HOUSE

By Vanessa Van Edwards

Portland's Moishe House, one of the few places Jewish young adults can go to casually bond, connect and learn, is on the brink of losing funding.

At this residence in Southeast Portland, young Jews live together to host and plan events for members of the Jewish community. Since moving to its Southeast location in July of 2011, Moishe House has planned more than 70 events per year, with 15 to 25 attendees per program.

For young Jews, Moishe House is a hub for social and religious programming, since residents put on about seven programs each month for 21- to 30-year-old Jewish Portlanders. These include not only social programs, but also Shabbat dinners, community service events and cultural programming.

This support for the young Jewish population will be lost if the community cannot raise much-needed funds by May 2013. Since 2008 the Moishe House national office has covered the \$34,694 yearly operating budget. Starting last year, the national office began a plan to wean the Portland Moishe House from national funding. This year the local house needs to raise \$22,000.

As of early March, Moishe House had raised \$6,077 from the local community, far shy of the amount needed to stay open beyond May. David Cygielman, national CEO of Moishe House, has been thrilled with the success of the Portland house and hopes it is able to remain open.

"In order for Moishe House to stay open and host the wide variety of programs that it does for the young adult Jewish community, it has to be a partnership between both Moishe House nationally and the local community," said Cygielman. "Through the generous matching support of the Rubin Family Foundation in St. Louis, we have been able to continue

supporting Portland, but to date, have not had the local partnership support needed for long-term viability."

The closure of Moishe House Portland would not only affect Moishe's residents but also would be a serious loss of engagement for young adults. Former resident Jonathan Morgan personally planned more than 133 events for young Portlanders and believes Moishe House programming is instrumental in keeping young Jews connected to the community and their Judaism.

"Moishe House is an investment in the future," said Morgan.

He further explained that Moishe House is one of the few organizations in Portland that provides programming to people all along the Jewish spectrum. "If Moishe House shuts down, Portland would lose a critical entry point for unaffiliated Jews and a launching pad for those already involved. It would be a missing link in the chain. In my mind, Jewish life pre-marriage should go as follows: camp and youth groups, Hillel, Moishe House," said Morgan.

Analucia Lopezrevoredo, a current resident of Moishe House Portland, echoes Morgan's sentiment. "Moishe House is the true embodiment of an inclusive Jewish community. As a pluralistic Jewish organization, our mission is to unite Jews of all backgrounds by engaging them in fun, thought-provoking and celebratory programs," she said.

Lopezrevoredo takes great pride in the group's diverse attendees and worries that without Moishe House, many of its followers will stop being engaged altogether.

"We have native Portlanders, out-of-state transfers, affiliated, nonaffiliated, Orthodox, Renewal, Spanish-speaking, Russian-speaking, kashrut-eating, dim-sum-eating, kippah-wearing, dreadlock-bearing Jews," said Lopezrevoredo.

Moishe House resident Steve Marcinuk says Moishe House's demographic of post-college, pre-children followers are both "diversely Jewish and unabashedly Portland."




**To make a donation to Moishe House, visit [moishehouse.org](http://moishehouse.org)**

He emphasizes the importance of having an organization like Moishe House address the real needs of this community and generation. "Our events range from more traditional events like classes on koshering your kitchen and Shabbat meals every month to a chocolate-making workshop or a concert series in our house," said Marcinuk.

The residents and young supporters of Moishe House are turning to the community for help.

"Closing Moishe House will be a significant loss to Portland's Jewish community as a whole, and one that can be prevented if the community at large supports us in our vision," said Marcinuk.

If the community can help raise the rest of the \$22,000 by May 2013, Moishe House Portland will function for at least one more year. They will need the full operating budget, or approximately \$40,000, by the end of Summer 2014 and every year thereafter to remain open.

Supporters hope the community will see that \$22,000 is a small price to pay for engaging our young adults. Lopezrevoredo added that Moishe House is more than just an organization that provides programming: "We are a home, and our participants are our family. If our house were to shut down, a large number of Jewish young adults, in particular unaffiliated Jews, would lose what they have come to know as their Jewish community. My fear is that a large number of participants will lose interest in keeping Jewish traditions alive." 

Vanessa Van Edwards is a speaker and writer living in Portland.

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# Reb Zalman

*At 88, founder of Jewish Renewal rarely travels, but his ties to Oregon will bring him to Ashland for April Shabbaton*

Reb Zalman Schachter-Shalomi and his wife, Eve Ilse

By John Darling

He was the prime mover in the creation of Jewish Renewal 40 years ago, and he is a world-renowned author and spiritual light, a leader in “blending mystic, Hassidic thought with modern progressive vision” that includes the divine feminine, the living planet and a faith that can touch all religions.

This is Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi, and he admits to having a thing about Oregon, “a place that honors the sea and earth and rivers. I have a feel for it and they have a feeling for Jewish Renewal. What is it with Oregon and me that so many have felt they should study with me?” he comments with a delighted laugh.

It also has to do with the tremendous cultural and spiritual transformations of the late 1960s, which brought a lot of Jews to Oregon – young people who, as

Ashland’s Rabbi Jacqueline Brodsky says, “thought Judaism was irrelevant.”

Reb Zalman’s gift “is that he was able to see the potential of people and read a person’s soul and possibilities and empower them as wonderful rabbinic leaders,” says Brodsky, who was ordained by him. “He was visionary in so many ways – environmentally, empowering women, finding alternate rituals and music, bringing joyfulness. He brought a whole generation in on it, and it was a way to merge with our alternate culture.”

Starting Renewal in the early 1970s in Berkeley, Zalman traveled and taught widely, connecting with the global network of New Thought visionaries – Ram Dass, the Dalai Lama, Thomas Merton, Jean Houston – soon calling them friends and colleagues.

Now 88 and living in Boulder, CO, his

trips are few, notes David Zaslow, rabbi of Ashland’s Havurah Shir Hadash, so “Counting on Each Other,” a weekend of teachings and prayer, is special. It’s at Havurah April 12 to 14.

“Each year, he comes to Ashland,” says Zaslow. “The rabbis lead prayers and chanting around his prayers. We surround him. It’s quite ecstatic, very beautiful. All the rabbis, cantors and prayer leaders on the West Coast want to see their rebbe.”

Reb Zalman will talk about theology and “ethics necessary for our own time,” he says. “We’re all learning about the planet as a living being. People have not yet caught up that we ourselves are that being and have to collaborate with it. The nature of nature has not taken hold. Judaism has some answers about how to deal with this Earth.”

The divine feminine can’t live in a

world dominated by the left (or rational) hemisphere of our brain, he notes, and we must activate both – the right brain being the place of heart, feeling and intuition.

“We men have a feminine component and sometimes we show it,” he says.

Tipping his hat to the 1960s, Zalman said it triggered an era of shift and “we were all under the influence of change. Many who represented the linear tradition of the past could not change, but I did and my students did. It showed Judaism could evolve. It has always evolved.”

Of about 30 rabbis in Oregon, Zalman ordained eight, “marking his significance for Judaism in Oregon alone,” says Zaslow, who is one of the 30. “Every movement and denomination has its own unique gift to bring, its own flavor and contribution. His was a progressive view of the world, combined with spiritual practice.”

“Progressive means the relationship between Jew and non-Jew and bringing the divine feminine back into Judaism,” says Zaslow. “He always preaches to the rabbis the urgency of not forgetting the planet as a living being. We can’t do the spiritual work without that ... and the interfaith work can only be done with a planetary consciousness and the rise of the Divine Feminine.”

Rabbi Debra Kolodny of Portland, who was director of Zalman’s Aleph, the Alliance for Jewish Renewal for nine years, said his message is “compelling and humanistic, that the Earth is in God. The spiritual goal is to live in a state of awakening and relate to all the world’s mystic traditions.”

Reb Zalman, she notes, “brings Hassidic teaching to the forefront and weaves it into today’s feminist, egalitarian and socially warm welcome to LGBT. He makes sure his values and vision are infused with that. It’s a way of being in direct relationship with God that focuses on the presence and practice of it and not on every jot and tittle (or the) iteration of behaviors. He focuses on cleaving with God.”

“He calls to my heart, my soul’s home,” says Kolodny, who was ordained by Zalman. “He is precious to me and a huge blessing to the Oregon Jewish community and to all spiritual seekers.”

Echoing the theme, Rabbi Yitzhak Husbands-Hankin, of Temple Beth Israel in Eugene, says, “His vision is to really believe in the goodness of God speaking through humanity in many ways. There is a purpose to all these different traditions.”

Consistently, Zalman grounds the spiritual in the political and vice-versa. As Husbands-Hankin says, “It’s the urgency for humanity to awaken to this moment in global development, where it’s imperative to find the common good of global religious traditions and end the small-mindedness and triumphalism of religious views. It’s urgent for us in healing the planet and caring for life on the planet. This refrain of interfaith is the key element in turning the corner from the historical pattern that has stood as an obstacle to human progress.

“It’s a rare treasure he gives us,” he says, “and he’s a bold and inspiring explorer of the spirit.”

Zalman has ordained more than 175 rabbis and cantors. In addition to those mentioned above, in Oregon he has ordained, Sue Morningstar, an Ashland women’s health practitioner, and Jay Shupak of Congregation Shalom Bayit in Bend.

Zalman was born in Poland, grew up in Vienna and was interned by the Vichy French. After fleeing to New York at age 17, he was ordained at the Lubavitch Yeshiva. He earned his master’s degree in the psychology of religion from Boston University and his doctor of Hebrew Letters at Hebrew Union College. He was professor of religion for 20 years at University of Manitoba. In 1975 he became professor of Jewish Mysticism and Psychology of Religion at Temple University in Philadelphia, and in 1995 he took the World Wisdom




Reb Zalman Schachter-Shalomi

Chair at Naropa University in Boulder. He founded the Spiritual Eldering Institute.

The visit of Zalman is also significant, notes Zaslow, because he is among the last of his generation to experience the Holocaust.

What did Zalman take from that experience?

“There’s only one way to say it – a feeling of greater compassion. I’ve been back to Germany, to teach at the university. The good people of today are not the ones who created the problems for us. They want to be met where they are today. Every human being has to be honored and not treated like vermin.” 

John Darling is a freelance writer in Ashland.

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# Former Zookeeper **Makes a Home for the Birds**

By Polina Olsen

Stanley Held spends hours by the window of his 1899 farmhouse in the city. Here amid the finches, hummingbirds, possums and resident family of squirrels, nearby Powell Boulevard seems miles away. Now retired, the former zookeeper and raptor rescuer is also a self-made expert at making backyard wildlife feel right at home.

—Stanley Held worked with a variety of animals at the Portland Zoo, including this baby giraffe.

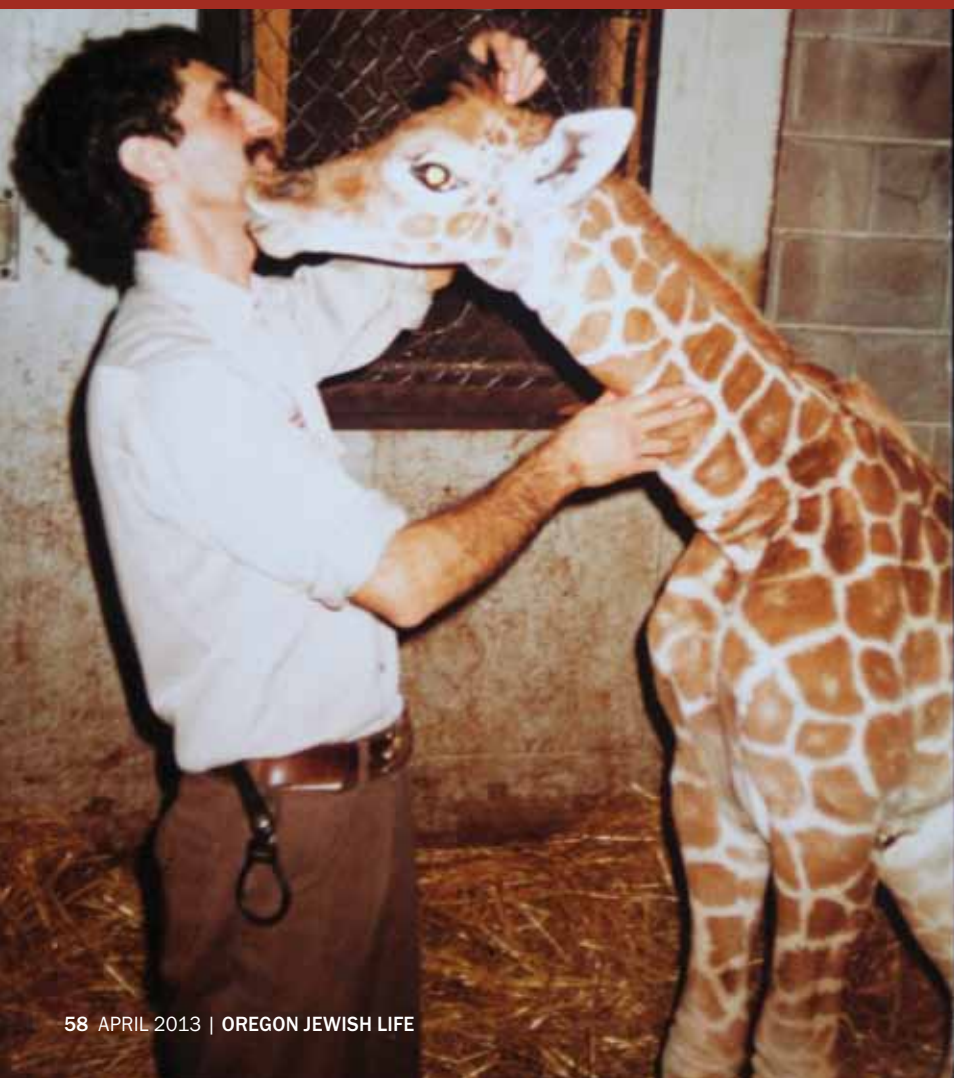
—Bushtits and chickadees feed from a suet block in Stanley Held's backyard. photos courtesy Stanley Held

"The sunflower seed feeder attracts finches all year round," Held said over a cup of echinacea tea made from the herb garden tended by his wife, Karen. "In the fall we let our herb plants go to seed for the birds. Suet feeders attract bushtits, warblers and chickadees. We try to have bird-friendly plants like the yellow forsythia bush and little red fuschias."

Held's love of all things natural started in Queens, NY, where he was brought up in an observant Jewish home. His favorite Hanukkah presents were chemistry sets with microscopes for viewing water from the surrounding wetlands. He always wanted to work at a zoo and came to Oregon after completing a two-year agricultural program. He worked with elephants, giraffes, even snow leopard kittens, before specializing in birds.

"The zoo had recently opened the African exhibit, and three of us took care of four aviaries," he said. "Outdoors we had big marabou storks. They can be dangerous. They're as tall as I am and have big bills. We had weaverbirds. We gave them grass every day and they wove nests. The zoo kept beehives to feed African bee-eater birds. They grabbed the bee in their bill and pulled the stinger out before they ate them. It was fascinating."

When the zoo's animal hospital closed, Held helped start a nonprofit raptor rehabilitation center. Located on



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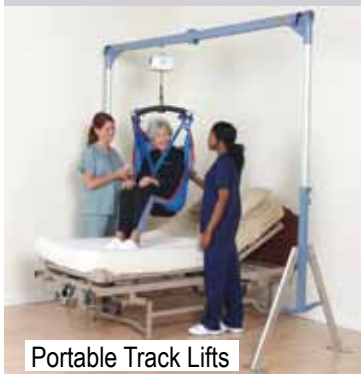
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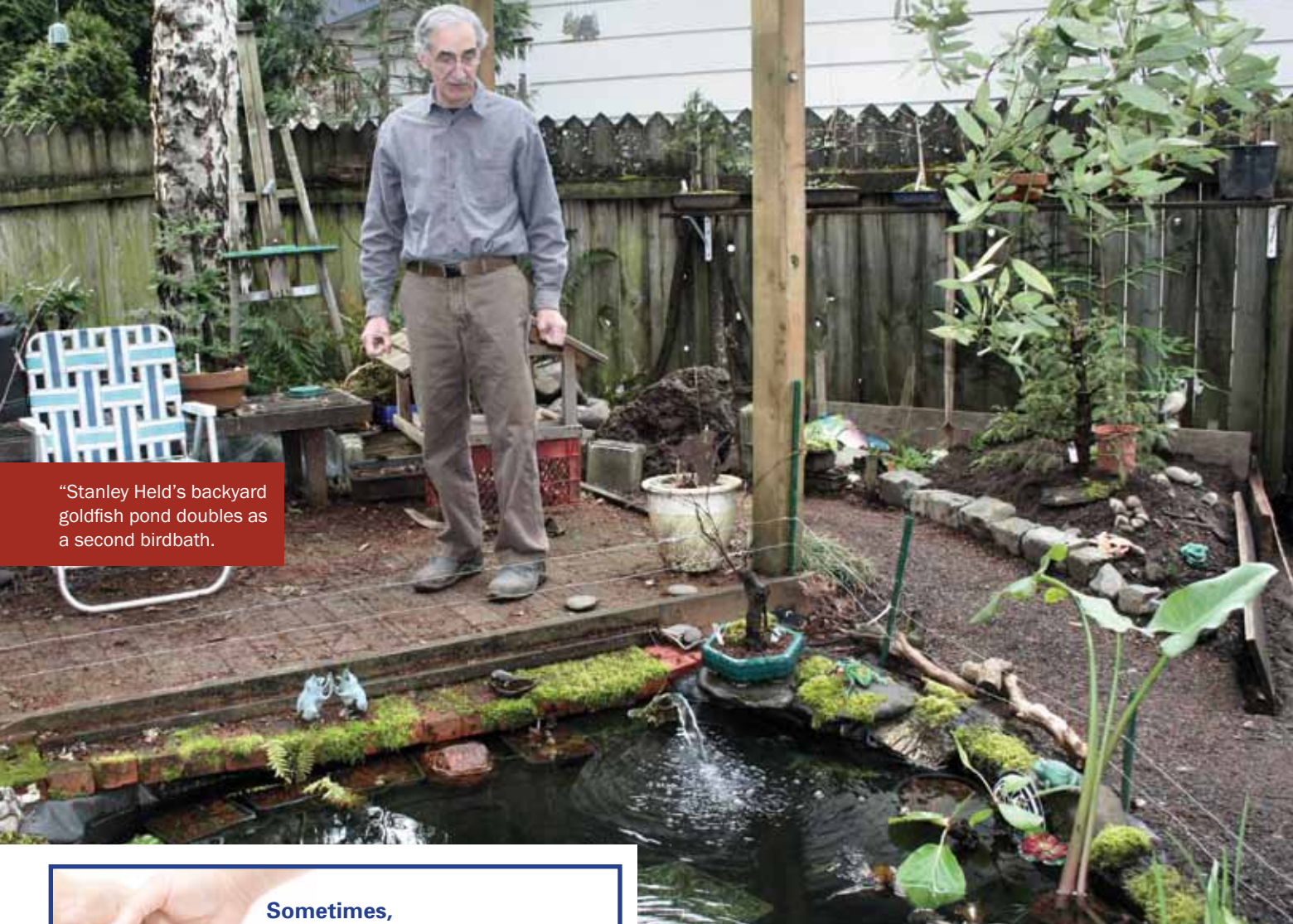
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"Stanley Held's backyard goldfish pond doubles as a second birdbath.

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Sauvie Island, Birds of Prey Rescue Northwest dealt mainly with wing injuries. Most bird clients had been shot, trapped and hit by cars. Loggers found baby owl nests in felled trees. "We invited the people who found the birds to watch us release them," Held said. "The whole family and neighborhood showed up. You'd always get a smile."

Walking through his backyard, Held pointed to evergreen trees and the corner pile of branches. "Birds need a place to hide where they can fly in and out," he said. "Everything eats little birds – crows, blue jays, Cooper's hawks. And, they need places to get out of the rain."

He advises feeding birds only in winter and early spring, since native seeds and insects form a complete diet during summer and fall.

"The most important thing is clean water," Held said. "Birds bathe and drink out of the same water and poop while they're bathing." In addition to the high fence enclosing the yard, a large goldfish pond includes an electric fence for keeping raccoons and possums at bay.

"The birdbath is electric so it doesn't freeze," Held said. "I clean it out twice a day with a hose and once a week with a little bleach. I scrub it. I was a zookeeper. This isn't work for me." 

Polina Olsen is a freelance writer and author in Portland.



Portland State University Professor Natan Meir visits the Museum and Tolerance Center he helped create in Moscow.



## Portland State University Professor plays key role in Moscow's new Jewish museum

By Polina Olsen

Visit an Odessa café filled with intelligentsia or watch a shtetl family recite Sabbath prayers. At Moscow's Jewish Museum and Tolerance Center, interactive exhibits combine audio and video to recreate history. Conceived by Ralph Appelbaum Associates, the designers of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Europe's largest museum devoted to Jewish history and culture opened in November 2012 with Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres as guest. Here visitors explore Jewish migration from Spain with interactive maps or point to a Torah on the screen to view this week's parashah.

Professor Natan Meir, of PSU's Harold Schnitzer Family Program in Judaic Studies, gave the museum a strong Portland connection. A specialist in Eastern European Jewish history and author of *Kiev, Jewish Metropolis: A History, 1859-1914*, he guided initial discussions, developed the academic advisory committee and designed exhibits. When the organizers flew him to Moscow for a retrospective last December, he saw the final product for the first time.

"I was impressed and proud of our accomplishments," Meir said in a recent interview. "To see the exhibits that we had worked on for so long was exciting. It brings them to life in a way I haven't seen before."

Meir got involved in the project while teaching in England. "They wanted people with strengths in particular eras, like an expert in the revolution, World War I and early Soviet years," he said. "I dealt mostly with the 19<sup>th</sup> century when Jews were moving from shtetls to urban centers. My other area, migrations,


starts with the destruction of the Second Temple. It's challenging to cover 1,600 years in one space.

"One of our goals was to debunk stereotypes," Meir continued. "The most glaring example is that the Bolshevik party was primarily or even totally Jewish. Some Russian intellectuals have helped to propagate this myth, and it's not true. And, why did the masses of Jews support the Bolsheviks? They were the only armed force that was not carrying out pogroms. That aspect of the story has been forgotten or was never known."

Meir also worked to show that Jewish prevalence in the alcohol trade did not rise from a desire to addict and exploit peasants.

"Jews were in the right place in the economy to take advantage of agricultural products like potatoes to distill vodka," he said. "They were the economic middle class of Eastern Europe. Nobles weren't interested in taverns, and peasants didn't have the money or skills."

Like others involved in the \$50-million museum project, Meir enjoyed seeing creativity and new technology bring his story to a wide audience.

"It's important to remember that this is a Jewish museum and tolerance center," he said. "It's about more than anti-Semitism, although pogroms and the Holocaust are part of it. People come away with an understanding of what intolerance can lead to and where else in their lives they might experience bias or hatred." 

Museum information: [jewish-museum.ru/en/main](http://jewish-museum.ru/en/main) | Natan Meir: [meir@pdx.edu](mailto:meir@pdx.edu)

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– Hillary Rodham Clinton, 1996

*"We are blessed with the artistry and wisdom that generates from our residents' aging and saging; through them we experience daily the resilience of the human spirit. They define for us poetry in motion and the true meaning of CSP's core values: Love. Honor. Respect."*

– Kimberly Fuson, chief program officer, Cedar Sinai Park

# Artistic Healing



Alice Lok Cahana at the Vatican.

## *Alice Lok Cahana: Survivor, artist, poet*

By Liz Rabiner Lippoff

Hillary Clinton and Kimberly Fuson are referring to an entire generation, but they may just as well have been speaking specifically about Alice Lok Cahana. Alice is a Holocaust survivor who went on to become a rabbi's wife, mother of three children, a published author and a world-renowned artist. Her survival story was featured in Stephen Spielberg's documentary "The Last Days," which won the Oscar for documentary in 1999. Her painting "No Names" hangs in the Vatican, right outside the Sistine Chapel. "Artistry and wisdom" and "a lifetime of emotions" only begin to tell Alice's story.

Alice Cahana believes love, art and beauty are within everybody who wants to embrace them, and she always nurtured those qualities in herself. She even felt it in Auschwitz, where she and her sister would hide in the latrines, hold hands and quietly sing Shabbat songs

with the other children. After Liberation, the kindness she received from the people in the Swedish hospital changed her forever. "I couldn't believe it," she says now. "You don't know us, but you ask, 'What do you want to eat?'" She laughs. "I wanted cucumber!"

"Who are these people? We are nobodies, barely alive. They asked us, 'What can we do for you?' We were starving," Alice says, "but starving for people loving us as well as for the food."

Alice decided then and there that she wanted to be like these people, wherever she ended up. At that point, she says, "I formed myself." Later, Alice's husband Moshe and her children continued to help her see beauty in the world and in others. After living through the Holocaust, she wondered how can you live? Moshe, who was a rabbi and a teacher, helped the whole family understand that the answer was to love everybody.

"The only way you can live," she states, "the *only* way is if you give. There are no Jews and Christians. For all kinds of people, we open our heart and our soul."

The art and writing came out of Alice's desire to have a language with which to tell her story. She would compose the stories and poems in her head while she washed dishes and write them down later. She painted for years and then went to Rice University for formal training. She painted day and night. "If I want to have art, then I have to work."

Her son, Rabbi Michael Cahana of Congregation Beth Israel in Portland, tells his mother that he remembers how focused she was. "Your mission was always to tell the story," he says. "By speaking, painting and writing, you felt it was important that the story continues to be told."

Right, Alice Lok Cahana's painting "No Names" hangs in the Vatican. Far right, Alice Lok Cahana in her studio in her early years of painting.



Alice was a busy mother as well, more so because they were raising a child with Down Syndrome. When Rina was diagnosed in the 1960s, everybody advised Alice and Moshe to follow the conventional wisdom and put her in an institution. For the Cahanas, though, that was never ever an option.

"It does something in your heart," Alice says. "I told them 'no.'"

When Alice's painting was accepted into the permanent exhibit at The Vatican, she was invited to be there for the installation, but she refused to present the painting unless the whole family could attend, including Rina. The Pope, she says, understood the painting immediately and called his friends around. He asked about a particular section in yellow, and Alice explained that she was painting the smell of the crematoria. She also said that children like Rina were often the first ones taken away during the Holocaust.

"He was practically crying," remembers Cantor Ida Rae Cahana, Alice's daughter-in-law.


*"If I survive ... I want to love the world around me. The spring. The forest and people. All people."*

— From "A Mother" by Alice Cahana

Alice and Rina moved to Rose Schnitzer Manor from Houston in 2012 to be near Rabbi and Cantor Cahana and their children. It was hard, she says, to leave the home where she and her husband had raised their children and the studio that had been such a large part of her life. But it turned out to be the right thing to do for both Alice and Rina. She is content.

"I feel at home," Alice says, "and Rina is a flower who has blossomed here."

"I don't permit myself to be the person who says 'something terrible happened to me. I don't permit myself. I love it here. The people are very nice and very beautiful. Every day I thank God that I am here.'"

Nobody should be surprised that Alice Cahana feels at home in a place where the core values are love, honor and respect. 

Liz Rabiner Lippoff is a Portland freelance writer and a medical marketing specialist at Liz, ink: Lizink.biz.

## "A Mother" By Alice Cahana

The colors of the early dawn changed softly. The sun seemed to be ashamed to announce a new day in Auschwitz. We stood in line outside the barracks since early in the morning ... the cold intensified our hunger and pain.

"I was married just two years ago." The woman next to me whispered softly. "Last night I gave birth to our son – to my first child. There in the barracks of Auschwitz. My first child they took him away even before I could touch his soft skin and say to him, 'Welcome to the world my beloved son ... your Father would have been so proud of your round cheeks and long gentle fingers. Welcome to the world.'" She muttered to herself, her tears falling on the unpaved ground mingling here with her slowly oozing blood.

We stood there to be counted like sheep by the white-gloved, well-groomed SS woman. Her hair coiffured in the latest style. Her perfumed scent intensified the feeling of our own neglected bodies.

"I so wanted to be a mother," the woman continued through her tears ... "Care, patience and love would have been our child's diet. I would have nourished him with the tales of the past. He would have grown to be a good man." She paused a bit and whispered even more softly.

"If I survive...I want to love the world around me. The spring. The forest and people. All people." She whispered, almost like reciting a prayer and clearing her soul from hate and revenge.

Her face turned toward the sky. Her alabaster skin looked translucent in the early morning light. The mystical rays of the dawn mingled with the smoke of the crematorium.

## CEDAR SINAI PARK RESIDENTS SHINE IN CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM

LeadingAge Oregon's Creative Writing Contest • 2013 winners from Rose Schnitzer Manor

"Uncle Izzy" by Sam Berry

"Friday, December 14, 2012" by Florence Blitch

"Waiting" by Diane Budner

"A Mother" by Alice Cahana

"Haunted" by Evelyn Hirsch

"Mother Tulip's Chant" by Martha M. Pomerantz

"Sonnet" by Robert S. Putterman

Seven residents at Cedar Sinai Park's Rose Schnitzer Manor were chosen from among 87 entries as winners in the 2013 Creative Writing Program sponsored by LeadingAge Oregon. LeadingAge Oregon is the state association of not-for-profit, mission-directed organizations dedicated to providing quality housing, health, community and related services to the elderly and disabled.

# Ask Helen

## Youth's tzedakah request may remind her elders of true meaning of bat mitzvah


Dear Helen:

I come from a large family with three uncles and lots of cousins. Every b'nai mitzvah is a chance for someone to show off how rich they are with a bigger and bigger party. I want mine to be small, and I want to ask people to donate some of the money they would have given me as a gift to social justice charities that I would select. My mother says I will embarrass everyone if I say that. What do you think?

— Grossed Out

Dear Grossed Out:

The adults are missing the point of growing into adulthood. Showing off wealth has nothing to do with the spirit of Judaism.

If you pontificate, the grown-ups might write you off as self-righteous or snotty, which won't make them listen. Consider a short email saying how important it is to you that the family use the occasion as an opportunity to express their values. Explain that's why you went small. Ask them to channel their gift money into tzedakah to make the world a better place. You might ignite a volatile discussion about politics by your choices, but it's a big step ahead of measuring whose matzah balls are bigger. PS: Your relatives may not appreciate you, but in my book you're officially a junior mensch! 

A resident of Eugene since 1981, Helen is a member of Temple Beth Israel, where she studies and speaks on Torah. She claims to have black belts in schmoozing, problem-solving, and chutzpah. She's a writer and an artist ([www.kabbalahglass.com](http://www.kabbalahglass.com)). Please email your questions to [helen@yourjewishfairygodmother.com](mailto:helen@yourjewishfairygodmother.com) and check out the blog at [kabbalahglass.com/blog/](http://kabbalahglass.com/blog/)



PHOTO: SOL NEELMAN

## 27<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL WEEK

### REMEMBER THE PAST

**Alex Hinton – Monday, April 8**

Executive Director, Center for the Study of Genocide, Conflict Resolution and Human Rights, Rutgers University  
Annihilating Difference: The Cambodian Genocide

**Ruth Klüger – Tuesday, April 9**

Emeritus, University of California, Irvine,  
Holocaust survivor  
The Shoah in Fiction

**Peter Hayes – Wednesday, April 10**

Weiss Holocaust Educational Foundation Professor,  
Northwestern University  
From Aryanization to Auschwitz: German Corporate Complicity in the Holocaust

**Henryk Grynberg – Thursday, April 11**

Writer and actor, Holocaust survivor  
Bearing Witness Through Literature

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# Looking for Love

## Are You Ready, Willing and Able To Find Love?

By Ellen Gerst

The three-part question posed in the title of this article is one I ask of each person who is about to embark on the search for love. In order to embrace the idea of new love and be able to follow through to find it, the answer to all three questions must be a resounding YES!

Allow me to define these terms for you so that you may ascertain your own answers.

Being Ready is the most important question for you to address. Without a sense of readiness, it will be difficult for you to encounter long-term success in the dating arena. Furthermore, when you're not ready, you often look for love in all the wrong ways and places and will mostly likely pick an inappropriate mate.

Willingness is more than hoping and dreaming that your perfect life partner will come to your rescue and whisk you off to the land of happily-ever-after. Life is not a fairy tale, and you should be more concerned about finding your happily-right-now each day. Furthermore, it's not up to a partner to rescue you. That's your job! So, this sense of willingness implies that you're in charge. Therefore, you're going to do everything in your power to look for and take advantage of the opportunities in front of you.

Now, you can be both ready and willing and still not know enough about the nuts and bolts of dating to make your forays successful. That's OK. You've already completed the hardest parts of this equation. Becoming enabled is the least emotionally demanding of the three states to reach.

You can learn how to date by reading books, talking to friends, attending seminars or consulting professionals. However, I find that the easiest way to become facile with this process is to practice date, which is dating without intention.

During these practice sessions, you can discover how you're viewed by others; hone your dating etiquette skills; figure

out techniques that work; and quell your nervousness when conversing with the opposite sex. I suggest you treat this interval like a smorgasbord: Try a little bit of everything, even if you're not quite sure you might like it.

Let's take the first steps to becoming enabled with a short checklist to help you determine if you're ready and willing.

### I'M READY BECAUSE:

1. I have taken the necessary time to get in touch with my feelings and have figured out who I am and what I want.
2. I've taken the time to befriend, accept and gain insight into the "new single me" who was forged by past disappointments or the loss of prior relationships. Be aware that after loss, you are transformed – and usually in a good way – even though it hurts to grow under these circumstances.
3. I've made the conscious decision to create a fabulous life and then invite a partner to share it with me. Therefore, I'm looking for a complement to my life versus looking for a partner to complete me.
4. I've readjusted the picture of my prior partners, which has allowed me to let go of both positive and negative attachments to them and the relationships.

### I'M WILLING BECAUSE:

1. I am prepared to accept and believe in the possibility of finding happiness, and my success will be determined by the effort I exert.
2. I am prepared to take advantage of every opportunity to meet new people with whom I am presented. I believe that every individual I will meet has something to offer, even though he/she may not be my match.


3. I am prepared to approach opportunities with a positive attitude, an open heart, a smile upon my face and without grandiose expectations of each encounter. I regard dating as fun, not as a chore to be completed.

4. I am prepared to treat each meeting as a chance to expand my horizons; learn something about another person, as well as myself; and step out of my comfort zone to facilitate emotional growth.

The preceding statements, which are food for thought, can kick-start a change in attitude and perspective so that you can begin to date with success.

### Q&A

**Question:** *If I don't feel immediate chemistry with a date, I won't pursue the relationship any further. Am I doing myself a disservice?*

**Answer:** Yes, I believe you are. Sometimes things don't gel right away, and many forego the opportunity to get know someone better. Here's my question for you: Isn't it true that once you get to know and like/love someone, you are attracted to the person's beautiful "insides" more than his or her less than perfect "outsides"? I suggest using the two-to-three-date rule before deciding whether to dismiss a potential love connection. Due to nerves, some people encounter difficulty showing their true self on the first few dates. If, after three dates, you still don't feel an attraction, then it's appropriate to move on. 



Ellen Gerst is a relationship and grief coach, author and workshop leader. Using a combination of her personal experience as a young widow and her professional expertise, she helps people look at challenging life circumstances from different perspectives to enable them to move gracefully toward a renewal of life and love. Visit [LNGerst.com](http://LNGerst.com) or follow her on Facebook at [facebook.com/FindingLoveAfterLoss](https://facebook.com/FindingLoveAfterLoss). To ask Ellen a question to be answered in a future column, email her at [LNGerst@LNGerst.com](mailto:LNGerst@LNGerst.com).



**YOUNG ADULT PURIM** – The Second Annual Young Adult Purim Pub Crawl took place on Feb. 23. More than 100 people (including the group above) participated in the event in Northwest Portland. The pub crawl started at Kells Irish Pub, then moved to Underdog Sports Bar and Gypsy, and ended at Blue Moon. A costume contest took place with prizes given out to the winners in a variety of categories. Wallis Amanda Smith-Owens and Artie Perrault, above right, won the best group category. The Pub Crawl was put together by Jews Next Dor, Hinenu, and Moishe House Portland. If you are interested in learning more about future events, email [jndpdx@gmail.com](mailto:jndpdx@gmail.com), [Hinenu.pdx@gmail.com](mailto:Hinenu.pdx@gmail.com) or [Moishehousepdx@gmail.com](mailto:Moishehousepdx@gmail.com).



**IMPACT** – The annual campaign event for Women's Philanthropy – changed venue, menu and style this year with the promise of "No Spanx/ No Men (not even Jewish Federation of Greater Portland CEO Marc Blattner)/No Kids" ... just 250 women of all ages having a great time together. On a tour of the room interviewing attendees, standup comedienne and IMPACT Chair Edie Rogoway Van Ness, right, converses with Jenn Director Knudsen who identified herself as a former homecoming queen. Thanks to Van Ness, women at the event met a Rose Festival Princess, a modern day Queen Esther, Fonzie's biggest fan and a Civil War enthusiast, just to name a few of



**GOOD DEEDS DAY** – On March 10 more than 550 people of all ages, representing more than 22 organizations, volunteered at 16 different projects throughout the Jewish and general communities in Portland's first participation in international Good Deeds Day. Above, preschoolers and their families make matzah and do a mitzvah at the same time at The Gan: Portland Jewish Preschool. Volunteers prep for a day of construction activities with Tivnu: Building Justice at a Habitat for Humanity build site. Volunteers engaged in many different mitzvot or "good deeds" to make life a little better for others throughout Portland. This event was part of the launch of the Portland Mitzvah Network, a Jewish Federation of Greater Portland program, created to support individuals, groups and organizations around hands-on volunteerism. To learn more about the network visit the website at [portlandmitzvah.org](http://portlandmitzvah.org) or call Caron Blau Rothstein, Community Engagement Director, 503-245-6449.

the strong and unique ladies who filled the Mittleman Jewish Community Center Stern Ballroom Feb. 28. Fundraising resulted in an 8% card-for-card increase, including many new gifts from women attending their first IMPACT event. Van Ness crowned honorary IMPACT co-chairs Sharon Weil and Elizabeth Menashe as Queens of Philanthropy.



**MAIMONIDES CAMPUS DINNER** – On March 10 the Maimonides Jewish Day School campus dinner crowd of 250 (including the group above with Faye Gordon Samuels in center) were told: "Traditional Judaism, Progressive Education – that's why we are here tonight." Those were the opening words of MJDS incoming board President Alan Cabelly, who is a Portland State University SBA Leadership Professor. The event honored Cliff and Julie Hockley, shown at left with MJDS Director Devora and Rabbi Moshe Wilhelm. The evening included an aliyah farewell tribute to Charlie Schiffman, who led the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland for 23 years before he retired. The event raised nearly \$100,000 for MJDS, The Gan Preschool, Chabad Hebrew School and Gan Israel Day Camp. Mentalist Oz Perlman wowed the crowd as he delivered on the theme of the evening "More than meets the Eye." For more information about MJDS, call 503-977-7850 or visit [maimonidesJDS.com](http://maimonidesJDS.com). For preschool information visit [PortlandJewishPreschool.com](http://PortlandJewishPreschool.com). Photos by Jon Perrin



**CAMP OUTREACH** – In February BB Camp Executive Director Michelle Koplan, participated in the Foundation for Jewish Camp's first ever "THINK TANK: Engaging Russian Speaking Jews in Jewish Camp," co-funded by the Genesis Philanthropy Group. Koplan was one of 30 who collaborated on strategies to increase the number of RSJ campers attending nonprofit Jewish overnight camps. BB Camp has been reaching out to the Russian-speaking Jewish community for a number of years. At left, BB Camp parent ambassador Olga Mazzeo, who helps the camp recruit Russian-speaking Jewish kids, decorates cake at a Russian family weekend held at BB Camp several years ago. Think Tank participants were told that nationally, RSJ make up about 15-20% of the Jewish population but only 2-3% attend a Jewish camp.

**TASTE OF TEMPLE:** (L-R) Rabbi Michael Z. Cahana and Cantor Ida Rae Cahana join event co-chairs Tiffany and David Goldwyn and Ali and Judah Garfinkle as they prepare to welcome guests to the second annual Taste of Temple, which was held at Congregation Beth Israel on Feb. 10. A fundraiser as much as a fundraiser, Taste of Temple showcased some of the best culinary talents in Portland. A sold out room of over 350 attendees enjoyed sampling food and drink specialties from more than 30 area restaurants, bakeries, breweries and distilleries. A silent auction, prize giveaway and house party sign-ups – together with ticket sales and Recipe for Success donations – generated more than \$50,000 for ongoing programming at Beth Israel. Next year's Taste of Temple has been set for Feb. 9, 2014. Photo by Steve Bilow



Hall watched as, between chapters, Shaarie Torah youth acted out the event that led to the hanging of Haman on the day he was to oversee the hanging of all the Jews. The celebration continued with a candlelit cabaret-style setting with people in costume enjoying hors d'oeuvres prepared by Karla Benson and her committee. After games and fun for everyone, partygoers enjoyed an aerial show by Pendulum Aerial Arts, who dazzled the crowd with both dance and aerial acrobatics. The celebration concluded with dancing and schmoozing to the music of DJ Joseph (Jo Jo) Spector along with an ice cream bar and lots of Hamantaschen prepared by the Shaarie Torah Sisterhood.



#### SHAARIE TORAH PURIM

– Purim fell on Feb. 23, with Jews all over the world dressing up to revel in an event that saved the Jewish people. At Shaarie Torah, Marshal Spector and Rabbi Arthur Zuckerman, right, participate in a not-so-traditional Magillah reading of how Queen Esther saved her people from a plot to kill the Jews by evil Haman. More than 200 people in the Shaarie Torah Social



**HEARTSTRINGS** – Cedar Sinai Park's annual fundraiser to benefit residents of Robison Jewish Health Center drew 225 people to the March 2 event at the Governor Hotel including, from left, Heartstrings co-chairs Leslie Geller and Jane Vereschagin with Leslie's husband Richard Geller. The Heartstrings benefit began with a havdalah service led by Cantor Ida Rae Cahana accompanied by Beth Hamon. The ensuing cocktail hour made the room sing with lively conversations as friends reconnected and new acquaintances were made. Together with the event's generous sponsors, guests raised \$135,000 for our most honored citizens. The introduction of the capital campaign to build the new nursing home provided a bridge to the delicious dinner with entertainment from The Portland Cello Project. Photos by: Justin Tunis



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## JIM WINKLER TO RECEIVE 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL STAMPFER AWARD APRIL 11



Jim Winkler

By Deborah Moon

Patron of the arts, philanthropist and a leader in the Jewish and secular community, James H. Winkler will receive the 14<sup>th</sup> annual Rabbi Joshua Stampfer Community Enrichment Award at 6 pm, April 11 at the Benson Hotel at a non-fundraising event.

"I believe in community and in our individual ability to effect positive change and am grateful for the gifts I have received and for the opportunity to share with others," says Winkler. "I also believe in the transformative power of art."

Stampfer was the first recipient of the award when it was created in 1999 by the four organizations he helped establish: Institute for



Rabbi Joshua Stampfer

Judaic Studies, Oregon Jewish Museum, Oregon Holocaust Resource Center and Camp Solomon Schechter, along with Congregation Neveh Shalom, where he served as rabbi for 40 years and is now rabbi emeritus.

The award honors an individual who has enriched Jewish cultural, education and/or community life with the dedication exemplified by Stampfer.

"The function of a rabbi is to stimulate fellow Jews to devote themselves to Jewish peoplehood and Jewish causes," says Stampfer, 91. "When I look at the

number of people who have done that in our community, I feel very proud of this tangible expression of tikkun olam."

Winkler has served on the boards of Cedar Sinai Park (as capital campaign chair and president), the OHSU Foundation and the Portland Art Museum, of which he is the current chair.

"I'm impressed with the extent and breadth of his involvement," said award committee member Eve Rosenfeld, who, with her husband, Alan, is a past Stampfer Award recipient. "The fact he is an immigrant and was born in Germany ... represents the contribution immigrants make to our country."

Born in Mellersdorf, Germany, Winkler said his parents brought him to the United States in December 1950 when he was just under 6 months old.

"My parents were born in Poland and survived the Holocaust," says Winkler. "My mother escaped the ghetto immediately prior to its liquidation. My father's story is somewhat more complex but he was in the Polish army under a Russian command. My mother insisted on immigrating to the U.S. rather than Israel where my parents' surviving family members relocated."

Like most past award recipients, Winkler says he is "humbled and embarrassed. The work is its own reward."


Committee member and past recipient (with husband, Irwin), Renee Holzman notes, "I think most honorees are reluctant to be honored. They do what they've done because it's something they wanted to do and are passionate about. ... Jim is an exceptional choice. He very modest, but he's accomplished huge things because of his special expertise in high finance and real estate."

Through the Winkler Development Corporation, Winkler has been involved in the acquisition, rehabilitation and operation of residential and commercial real estate, including aiding CSP to acquire four low-income housing projects for seniors in downtown Portland.

Since 2006 the Stampfer Award Committee also has recognized the Jewish youth of the community who have demonstrated exceptional devotion to tikkun olam. Each year four youth organizations – United Synagogue Youth, NCSY, BBYO and the Oregon Jewish Community Youth Foundation – are asked to identify a young man or woman who does so. These recipients of the "Rabbi Joshua Stampfer Community Enrichment Award, Youth" are invited to attend the dinner as the committee's guests and receive framed certificates.

The committee emphasizes that the event includes no mitzvah moment or other fundraising.

"It's not about raising money, it's about raising standards," said Renee Holzman.

RSVP by April 5 to Congregation Neveh Shalom, 503-246-8831, ext. 112. 



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# JFCS lunch speaker focuses on values

By Kerry Politzer

Howard Behar, author of *It's Not About The Coffee*, will be the keynote speaker at the Jewish Family and Child Service's May 9 luncheon, "Celebrating Our Caring Community."

"I believe in serving others," says Behar, former president of Starbucks International and Starbucks North America. "We all have a responsibility to do that, and our lives are really about that."

The executive, who now serves on the boards of various non-profit organizations and mentors business students at the University of Washington, will be speaking about values and leadership at the luncheon 11:30 am-1 pm, May 9, at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center.


"My goal is to motivate people to do more for their community. That's why I'm coming," says Behar, who was on the board

of the Jewish Family Service of Seattle for eight years. He mentions that the Jewish community has been important to him and his family. "I think it's foundational for us," he remarks. "We participate, we enjoy and, hopefully, we contribute."

The executive has an interesting perspective on the subject of leadership. This was a major topic in his critically acclaimed book, *It's Not About the Coffee: Lessons on Putting People First from a Life at Starbucks*. Explains Behar, "I wrote the book about what I believe leadership to be, which is primarily serving other people. We fall into that trap of thinking leadership is about influence and leading others, but it's about learning to lead yourself and about the contributions you can make to yourself, your family and your community in the context of serving others."



Howard Behar

These days, Behar can be found speaking at various events, serving on the board of the Robert K. Greenleaf Center for Servant Leadership and spending time with his family. He is also at work on a new book: "It's basically a children's book for adults about values," he explains, "a fable about a person in business and the challenges he faces in leading an organization and living up to his values." 

## CELEBRATING OUR CARING COMMUNITY

**WHAT:** Luncheon to benefit Jewish Family and Child Service

**WHEN:** 11:30 am-1:30 pm, May 9

**WHERE:** Mittleman Jewish Community Center

**TICKETS:** [jfcs-portland.org/about/register-today](http://jfcs-portland.org/about/register-today)

**INFORMATION:** 503-226-7079

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# APRIL CALENDAR

## April 3, 10, 17

**Free Wednesday film series presented by OJM and Oregon Holocaust Resource Center.** April 3: "Night and Fog," directed by Alain Resnais. April 10: "Coexist," directed by Adam Mazo. April 17: "Everything is Illuminated," directed by Liev Schreiber. Noon-2 pm at OJM. RSVP: 503-226-3600, education@ojm.org

## April 7

**Yom HaShoah community event with survivors.** 4 pm in Zidell Hall, Rose Schnitzer Manor, 6125 SW Boundary St. 503-245-2733

**Yom HaShoah Holocaust Remembrance Day.** Commemorative service (6:30 pm); Professor Gina Herrmann interviews survivor Hannah Goldrich (7 pm). Hilyard Community Center, 2580 Hilyard St., Eugene. 541-485-7218

**Temple Beth Shalom Annual Auction.** Eola Viticulture Center, 215 Doaks Ferry Road NW, Salem. 5 pm. 503-362-5004

## April 9

**Canadian author and international speaker Michelle Ray** (the daughter of Australian Holocaust survivors) discusses her acclaimed book *Lead Yourself First: Breakthrough Strategies to Live the Life You Want*. 7-8:30 pm, 1338 NW 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave. newrenbooks.com or 503-224-4929

**Sephardic Winter Film Series: "Nora's Will."** A Jewish family in Mexico is turned upside down when a long-held family secret is uncovered in this comedy regarding Nora's decision to end her life so her family can reunite for the funeral and Passover simultaneously. Ivonne Saed speaks during the dessert reception. 7 pm, Congregation Ahavath Achim, 3225 SW Barbur Blvd. 503-892-6634

## April 11

**2013 Rabbi Joshua Stampfer Community Enrichment Award presented to Jim Winkler** (story page 68). Benson Hotel, 6 pm. RSVP by April 5: 503-246-8831

## April 13

**SHOC (SherieHildreth Ovarian Cancer) Foundation Chico's Wardrobe Party.** A donation of 10% of all purchases benefits the foundation. Shop 11-4 pm at any Portland area Chico's store and enjoy refreshments.

**It's Like Totally, Temple! '80s dance and costume party with band Radical Revolution.** 7 pm. Congregation Beth Israel, Blumauer Auditorium, 1972 NW Flanders St. Tickets \$18-50. RSVP: 503-222-1069, bethisrael-pdx.org

## April 14

**Girls In Trouble.** Public \$10, members \$5. 2-3 pm at OJM. (story page 12)

**Yom Ha'atzmaut for preschoolers.** 10:30 am-noon, Congregation Shaarie Torah, 920 NW 25th Ave. Free. RSVP: education@shaarietorah.org or 503-226-6131

**Yom Ha'atzmaut - Israel Independence Celebration.** 2-5 pm. Hilyard Community Center, 2580 Hilyard St., Eugene. 541-345-8778

## April 16

**A Man From Munkacs: Gypsy Klezmer.** Screening of Yale Strom's exploration of the symbiotic relationship between the Rom and Jews who lived together before and after World War II in the Carpathian region. Klezmer musician Jack Falk hosts a Q&A session. Noon and 7 pm at OJM. Tickets \$5-10. 503-226-3600

## April 17

**Klezmer concert by Yale Strom and Hot Pstromi.** Strom is a pioneer among klezmer revivalists. Accompanied by Elizabeth Schwartz and Lou Fanucchi. 7 pm, Congregation Neveh Shalom, Stampfer Chapel, 2900 SW Peaceful Lane, Portland. Tickets at the door \$15 each, \$36/family.

**Israeli choreographer Idan Cohen in dance and conversation with PSU's Judaic Studies' Stampfer Professor Nina Spiegel.** 7-9 pm. BodyVox, 1201 NW 17th Ave., Glenda Stewart, 503-725-8449 or pdx.edu/judaic/. Free but reservations required: pdx.edu/boxoffice

## April 18-21

**Food for Thought.** Four-day celebration of culture, literature, food and music. (see story pages 28-32). foodforthoughtpdx.org or 503-892-7413

## April 20

**Temple Emek Shalom Annual Auction.** 6 pm, 1800 E Main St., Ashland. Cost is \$65. 541-488-2909, emekshalom.org

**40th Anniversary Israeli Folk Dancing.** 1:30-midnight at MJCC. (varied activities/dance sessions/Israeli buffet, see story page 31). Debra Montrose, 503-531-0405, debbirm@aol.com

## April 21

**Memories of a Holocaust Rescuer.** Shalom Chapter of Hadassah, SW Washington sponsors a free presentation by Jeannie Opdyke Smith of her mother, Irene Gut Opdyke. 2-4 pm. Oregon Holocaust Resource Center at OJM. RSVP: Dianne, 360-713-1340 or Maxine msilverman15@comcast.net

**2nd Annual Rabbi Neimand Lecture.** Poetry in Ladino Today: New Verse in Old Language by Monique Balbuena. 7 pm. Donations accepted. Temple Beth Israel, 1175 E. 29th Ave., Eugene. 541-485-7218

## April 25

**Hadassah Book Club.** America's Prophet by Bruce Feiler. 6:30 pm at MJCC. RSVP: 503-244-6389 or info@portlandhadassah.org

**Yiddish Film Series: "The Dybbuk."** English subtitles. Free. Congregation Shaarie Torah, 920 NW 25th Ave. 7-9:30 pm. 503-226-6131, stdir@shaarietorah.org

## April 26

**North Coast Shabbat Group.** First Friday service led by Leonard and Elayne Shapiro. Bob Chisholm Community Center, 1225 Ave. A., Seaside. All are welcome. 8 pm. Bev Eastern, 503-244-7060

## April 27

**BB Camp "The Real Deal" Casino Night Fundraiser Dinner.** Enjoy an evening of friendly gaming, exciting prizes and reconnecting with friends. \$100. 6 pm-midnight. Tualatin Country Club, 9145 SW Tualatin Road. Robyn Spring, 503-345-9464, rspring@bbcamp.org, bbcamp.org/casino-night

## April 28

**Portland JServe.** The Official Day of Jewish Youth Service. One person in their hometown can make a difference, but when thousands of teens work together, they change the world. 10 am-2 pm. MJCC. Lauren Shey, lshey@bbyo.org

**Dor L'Dor: Portland Chapter of Hadassah's brunch.** Author Ruth Tenzer Feldman discusses *Blue Thread*, young adult historical fiction detailing Jewish suffragettes. \$36, \$18 ages 10 & younger. 11 am-1 pm. Elephants Garden Room, 115 NW 22nd Ave. Portland. info@portlandhadassah.org

**Lag B'Omer Kids & Family Back-to-Nature Day.**

Experiential hands-on fun: archery, cheese and ice cream-making, goats, music, art, bonfire. Families with kids ages 0-12, learn about our school and after-school programs. 9 am-noon. Congregation Neveh Shalom, 2900 SW Peaceful Lane, Portland. Mel Berwin, mberwin@nevehshalom.org

## May 2

**Oregon Jewish Community Youth Foundation 10th Anniversary Celebration.** MJCC, 5:30 pm. (story page 53)

## May 5

**EJ Dionne to Speak will speak on "Personal Faith and Public Policy" at 5 pm at Congregation Beth Israel sanctuary** (1931 NW Flanders St.) as the 2013 Oseran Family Lecturer. This event is free and open to the community. No RSVPs are necessary. Information: 503-222-1069 MJCC is the Mittleman Jewish Community Center, 6651 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland. 503-244-0111. oregonjcc.org

OJM is the Oregon Jewish Museum, 1953 NW Kearney, Portland. 503-226-3600. ojm.org

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### *What the parents say:*

"I can't say enough good things about the joy they bring to learning, and the pride they instill in the children about their Jewish heritage."

—Bekah Hostettler

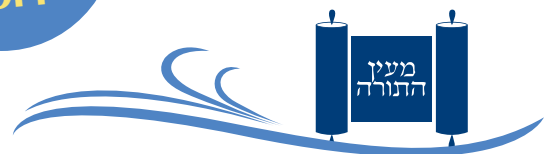
"The calm classroom and nurturing teaching philosophy has provided the perfect transition from our home to a preschool setting."

—Sarah Townley

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