

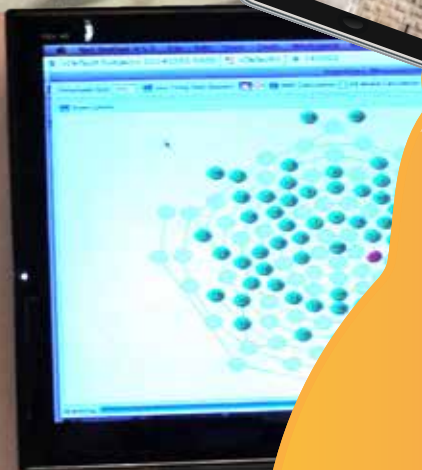
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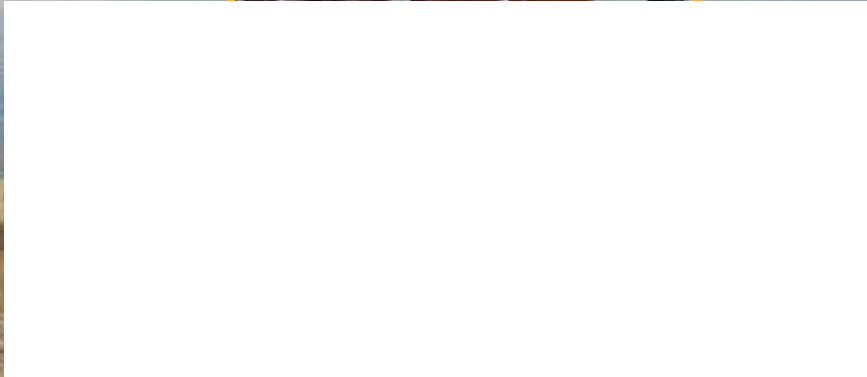
Israel at 66

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We have resolved to use this historic milestone to expand our youth education programs and complete the \$450,000 unique expansion on the campus of Maimonides Jewish Day School, The Gan Preschool and Mikva Shoshanah.

We are grateful to those whom have contributed toward this unique effort. To date over \$300,000 has been contributed by generous members of our community and the space is nearing completion.

This project, as with all programs of Chabad of Oregon, is supported solely through the generous contributions of individuals and not by national organizations; your support is needed.

Please help us complete this unique project from which proud Jews and Jewish leaders of tomorrow will emerge. There are a few naming opportunities available for gifts over \$10,000 and all gifts over \$1,800 will be listed on a dedication plaque.

We would be delighted to show you around our campus and discuss this project or how you can make a legacy bequest to Chabad. Please contact us so we can set up a time to get together.

Together we will build this home for tomorrow's Jewish leaders.

Wishing you a wonderful summer,

Rabbi Moshe Wilhelm
Director, Chabad of Oregon

Rabbi Motti Wilhelm
Chabad House - Portland



We are grateful to those whom have participated in dedicating a space or making a contribution towards this unique effort: Jeff & Roz Babener, Neil Benaroya, Alan Cabelly, Bob & Michelle Diener, Donald & Katharine Epstein, Allan Feltcorn OBM, Sybil Barrier & Kenneth Frahm, Alan Gottlieb, Larry & Suzie Gouz, Larry Levy, Avrohom & Toby Lokshin, Ron & Linda Popkin, Steve & Ellen Rosenberg, Eli Rostamian, James & Barbara Sevde, Rabbi Harry & Marjorie Spector OBM, Faya Stevenson, Jim & Vicki Stone, Vitaly & Roza Talyansky, and Stuart & Marcia Weiss and an Anonymous Friend.

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Editor's Letter



As Israel celebrates its 66th birthday, we at Oregon Jewish Life thought it would be a good time to pay tribute to the gifts Israel has given the world. For a small nation with a tiny fraction of the world's population, Israel boasts a surprisingly large number of Nobel Prizes in various sciences and so many patents that the UN's Intellectual Property Organization named Israel one of 15 World Patent Centers.

Our Israel coverage opens with columnist Mylan Tanzer exploring why Israel is known as the "Startup Nation," a phrase coined by Saul Singer and Dan Senor in their 2009 book of that name. Mylan explores their premise from the perspective of an American who moved to Israel more than 30 years ago and was surprised to find an almost third-world infrastructure. That may reflect the fact that Israelis are doers, not planners – many are too busy applying their technical brilliance to innovation to spend a lot of time planning for an uncertain future.

Israel is recognized worldwide for medical advances in disciplines ranging from cancer to trauma treatment. In this issue we look at innovations from Israeli universities and companies to improve treatment of brain injuries and disorders including concussions and cerebral palsy. Freelance writer Ilene Schneider participated in a media mission to Israel cosponsored by Ben-Gurion University and saw some amazing innovations in that field.

Technology isn't Israel's only export of course. The son of a Conservative rabbi discovered Israeli craft beer while studying at a Jerusalem yeshiva and is now importing some of his favorite discoveries to Oregon and a few other states.

Israeli Shlichah (female emissary) Sharon Halfon has spent much of this school year sharing Israeli culture with college students on Portland-area campuses. Now she hopes the whole community will gather for the May 5 Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration she has spent months planning. The evening event will feature Israeli history, food, music, dancing and crafts for all ages.

At age 66, Israel has existed as a modern nation longer than most Jews have been alive. In Israel, only about 10% of the Jewish population was born before Israel became a state; in America, some 23% were alive when the Jewish state was founded.

In our Senior Section we feature some of the programs available for those older Americans and profile some of the people who have stayed active and found the retirement years offer their own rewards.

At the other end of the spectrum, our J Kids & Teens features youth in a martial arts program who gained wisdom and life perspectives from a visit by a Holocaust survivor. Interviews with teenagers on gap year programs in the Jewish homeland show that those born long after the creation of that nation can experience the miracle that is Israel.

Happy Birthday Israel – and may you celebrate many more.

Deborah

"Let all who occupy themselves with the business of the community do so only for the sake of heaven, for the merit of their ancestors will sustain them and their devotion, too, will endure forever."

Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers) 2:2

Stuart Chestler

Thank you for your leadership and dedication.



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Nancy E. Duhnkrack

Mazel Tov to our newly-elected President.



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With great appreciation from Congregation Beth Israel



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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

On April 28, 2014, for Holocaust Remembrance Day we commemorate those innocent men, women and children who were murdered in the six killing centers of Auschwitz, Belzec, Chelmno, Majdanek, Sobibor and Treblinka. We mourn those who were slaughtered by the Nazis in the numerous slave labor and concentration camps, in the ravines of Babi-Yar in the Soviet Union and in so many other communities in Europe. We honor the memory of those who fought and died in the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, in the partisan units and in other enclaves of heroic resistance to the Nazis and their collaborators.

We shall remember the Abrahams, Jacobs, Rachels, Rebeccas, as well as one and a half million young children including my 10-year-old brother, Hirsh. We grieve for the babies who were ripped from their mothers' arms and pushed into the Zyklon B gas chambers in the guise of shower installations. There was not a flutter of remorse by the executioners including doctors who had taken the Hippocratic Oath when they graduated from medical schools. We cherish the memory of all those who were victims of Hitler's ideology of racism, prejudice, bigotry and oppression.

One-third of the Jewish people were murdered during the Holocaust; it would be the equivalent ratio of one hundred million American people.

The Holocaust and episodes of mass murder should not be seen as an aberration that will not recur. The means used during the Holocaust preclude any comparison. Nevertheless, the vast scale of killing in the 20th century, and even in the 21st century, was indeed more common than in any other era in history. We have witnessed that under Hitler's reign, every Jew was a victim, but not every victim was a Jew.

Here in the United States we were overwhelmed with shock and grief by the terrible events of Sept. 11, 2001. For me, the date of that tragedy was reminiscent of our family's tragedy. On Sept. 11, 1939, German brutes murdered 37 people in our town in Poland and then threw them into a pit. Three months later those corpses were exhumed from that pit. It was very difficult for those present to identify the partially decomposed bodies. My stepmother identified my father's body by certain items in his clothes. As a 13-year-old boy then, I was present at that gruesome and traumatic sight. It has been etched in my memory ever since; I have nightmares 'till this very day.

The horrific scenes on 9/11/2001 evoked disastrous images I had to face 62 years earlier. Watching the collapse of the World Trade Center towers, I wondered: "Will all those people consumed in that inferno have a grave?" Apparently over two thousand victims of that vicious terror attack have never been identified; just as hundreds of relatives of my extended family, six million Jews and many WWII victims of other nationalities never had a funeral, they have no graves to be visited by loved ones, and there is no anniversary of their demise.

We Holocaust survivors do remember. As Elie Wiesel, the Nobel Prize laureate, said: we survivors do not live with the past; the past lives within us. As the ranks of Holocaust survivors rapidly dwindle, it becomes imperative that our children, the second generation and future generations of all peoples assume the holy task of reminding and remembering the legacy of the Holocaust. At the same time we should all strive incessantly to divert the rivers of hatred so that another Holocaust should never, never happen again!

Alter Wiener | Beaverton | (See related story, page 58)



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We're almost there. See how you can help by calling (503) 535-4303 or visiting www.CedarSinaiPark.org.



A Flair FOR Flying

By Deborah Moon

Despite a tragic interruption in Sterling Stroebel's lifelong obsession with airplanes, he now has dual professions in aviation.

Four days a week, Sterling is line services supervisor and new employee trainer at Global Aviation, a fixed-base operator that maintains and provides hangar space for corporate and private jets in Hillsboro.

The other three days, he is an aviation illustrator who has attracted international attention from others in the field, been commissioned to draw corporate jets for retiring and sitting executives, and has created a Facebook aviation page that has attracted some 19,000 followers. When the site exceeds 20,000, he plans to launch a website to sell limited-edition prints of some of his drawings.

Sterling fell in love with airplanes when he was about 1½ years old and his father, Dan Stroebel, started to take him to the airport to watch planes take off

and land. Dan's father had owned his own plane, and though he died before Sterling was born, he passed on his love to his son and through him to his grandson. Sterling's other grandfather, Herb Adler, was a pilot in World War II, so it is perhaps natural Sterling wanted to fly. He started drawing planes by the time he was 3 and says his dad still has some of those early drawings.

He could also identify military aircraft from WWII at a very young age, says his mom, Becky Johnson.

When he was in fourth grade, he and his mom and stepdad, Mike Johnson, moved to a Tigard home near a small private airfield. A couple of years later, Sterling walked down the road and introduced himself to Ray Miller, who owned the grass airstrip. He offered Sterling a job mowing the strip and said he would either pay him or teach him to fly.

"I said, 'Keep your money; I want to know how to fly,'" Sterling recalls. "So I started to fly at age 13."

He also started to take art classes in high school, and one art teacher encouraged him to pursue an art scholarship, says his mother Becky.

For nearly five years Ray not only taught Sterling to fly, he became his best friend.

"He took my lifetime passion and made it reality," says Sterling.

Frequently the two would fly to the coast and have lunch, then fly home. The short grassy strip was surrounded by trees and had a rocky ledge at one end. "It was an incredible training experience," says Sterling, "but dangerous, because once you started your approach, you were committed" – there was no space to circle around for a second attempt. Later Ray started to teach another teen to fly too.

One weekend when he was 17, Sterling slept in while Ray and the other teen planned a trip to the coast.

"Unfortunately a mechanical failure (occurred) on the short approach," says Sterling quietly. "They crashed in the wildlife refuge across the Tualatin River." With no roads into the area, Sterling says the plane was fully engulfed in flames by the time emergency vehicles could get near it. "It burned to almost nothing."

"It was definitely life changing," says Sterling. "It took me a couple years to get back in any way."

After five years of spending virtually all of his free time with the aviator, Sterling says he didn't want to fly or draw planes.

About his mentor's death: "For a teen to lose someone like that ... it took me a couple years to sort it out in my head." Sterling Stroebel

“For a teen to lose someone like that ... it took me a couple years to sort it out in my head,” he says. “I was 17 when he died, a junior at Tualatin High School.”

But when he did sort it out, he decided he wanted to become a commercial pilot. He enrolled in Lane Community College, which is nationally recognized for its aviation programs. In 2005 he earned his commercial pilot’s license.

But another twist of fate kept him out of the cockpit professionally.

“I met the woman of my dreams, and I set flying aside to pursue a family,” he says. “I thought about how living out of a suitcase would affect family life.”

Family has long been important to Sterling. His favorite Jewish experiences are the holidays when the family gets together. Often 30 to 40 members of extended family will gather for Passover seders.

So when he married Britney, he put family first. He took a job at Global Aviation nine years ago. But Britney Stroebel had heard of Sterling’s earlier fascination with drawing aircraft and bought him a drawing set and encouraged him to explore that again too.

“For some reason I was able to learn at a faster pace than when I was young,” Sterling says. “After a couple years I got some attention from aviation artists around the world. ... I’m known for realism.”


In fact some people have mistaken his work for black and white photographs.



Aviation illustration by Sterling Stroebel.

His proud mother says that pilots would see his work and started commissioning him.

Before drawing a plane, Sterling says he takes photographs from every angle and looks for other photographs of the same model online. He often will spend an entire evening working on one 2-inch section of the drawing to ensure he has every detail exact.

Last year he created a Facebook site (aviation-picture/videos/news) to build a following. The site includes a photo album of “my personal artwork” that showcases many of his 19” x 24” drawings. When he launches a website to market his work later this year, he expects to have more than 20,000 people who are interested in aviation who he can market to directly. For those wanting to purchase or commission a drawing before then, he can be reached via the Facebook page or at sterlingstroebel@gmail.com. 



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BIZ INS & OUTS

Anita Belil joins Cascadian Group in Bend



Cascadian Group, LLC, in Bend, hired Anita R. Belil March 24 as the firm's director of marketing engagements. Anita's responsibilities include business development and marketing

services for the firm and marketing consulting for Cascadian Group clients.

Cascadian Group, LLC is a private firm dedicated to venture development, executive management and marketing consulting, and M&A support.

Anita brings to Cascadian nearly 30 years of experience in marketing services and marketing project management attained with companies in a variety of fields, including banking, not-for-profit, insurance and media.

Before joining Cascadian Group, Anita spent two years as vice president/marketing officer with Bank of the Cascades in Bend. Anita also has held assistant vice president and marketing manager titles at various east coast banks and credit unions and has been promotion manager (advertising sales) for Forbes and Business Week magazines in New York City.

Anita grew up in central New Jersey and lives in Bend. She earned a bachelor of arts degree, with honors, in communications from Rowan University, New Jersey. She is involved with the Jewish Community of Central Oregon Sisterhood, helping with events and the Temple Shalom Bayit gift shop. In her free time, Anita enjoys running her 4-acre ranch with her husband, playing flamenco and classical guitar, skiing, dance and world travel.

541-280-8017

anita.belil@cascadiangroup.us

Steven Wilker argues for ACLU in Supreme Court



Steven Wilker appeared before the U.S. Supreme Court in March to argue a political viewpoint discrimination case on behalf of the ACLU of Oregon. This First Amendment case involves demonstrators who were moved by the Secret Service from a presidential campaign stop, while the pro-Bush crowd got to stay, implicating constitutional free speech rights.

Steven is a partner at Tonkon Torp LLP, where his practice focuses on complex commercial litigation, intellectual property and media law. He is actively engaged in the community with the Lawyers Committee for the ACLU and as vice chair of Metropolitan Family Service.

Wilker, his wife, Lainie, and daughters, Hannah and Callie, are members at Temple Beth Israel, where Hannah will become a bat mitzvah in May.

Steven graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, cum laude, and received his law degree from UCLA, Order of the Coif. After law school, he clerked for United States District Judge Stephen V. Wilson in Los Angeles and Justice Edwin J. Peterson of the Oregon Supreme Court, before joining Tonkon Torp in 1992.

tonkon.com

Laurie Fendel joins MJCC program staff



Laurie Fendel became special events program manager of the Mittleman Jewish Community Center at the end of March. She will create events with a Jewish theme, as well as programs for all age groups in the area of culture and the arts.

Previously Laurie taught elementary grades in Beaverton schools for 30 years, had two books published by Harper Collins on self-esteem, and owned a national franchise of Interiors by Decorating Den for eight years. She has been a fabric artist for more than 30 years and leads a Simcha singing group. She has led a Rose Schnitzer Manor study group on Mussar (Jewish ethical behavior).

"My husband George and I are avid lovers of jazz along with our mini schnauzer Charlie Parker," says Laurie. "I will be looking to network – finding people with special talents to lead programs. I encourage anyone to contact me with ideas for programming or events or resources for events."

503-244-0111

lfendel@oregonjcc.org

Business Ins & Outs welcomes submissions of news items. Send brief and a photo to Oregon Jewish Life Editor-in-Chief at deborah.moon@ojlife.com.



Opal 28 opens

Margot Feves and her dad, Michael Feves, toast at the April 10 open house of Opal 28, 510 NE 28th Ave. Margot named the new property after her late grandmother Sadie Feves. Opal 28 is a boutique event space including two great rooms that can seat up to 50 people each, a built-in bar and outdoor patio for summer entertaining up to 100 people. Four one-bedroom vacation rentals are available for short- or long-term stays.



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Photos by Annie's Sweet Pea Photography

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Treat your mother to tea on her special day

By Kerry Politzer

This Mother's Day, show your mom you care by taking her out for something sweet. An elegant afternoon of tea and pastry is sure to delight her. Here are some of greater Portland's finest venues for high tea and dessert.

Jade Teahouse

This charming Sellwood teahouse offers a Vietnamese take on tea and pastry. Jade's house-brand tea menu includes an extensive list of black, green, white, flavored, pu-erh and herbal teas. You and your mom can relax with a pot of Yoga Blend (honeybush ginger, cinnamon, fennel and nettles) or high-grade Japanese sencha. Before you sit down, try to snag some of Jade's red velvet whoopie pies, or go gluten free with colorful tapioca rice cakes and coconut sponge cakes. Note: Jade is closed on Sundays, so you can extend your Mother's Day celebration to the preceding Saturday. Reservations are not accepted, and pastries are first come, first served.

7912 SE 13th Ave., Portland,
503-477-8985



The Heathman Hotel



Jade Teahouse



Medley Tea House Café

The Heathman Hotel

The Tea Court Lounge at the Heathman offers a lovely Sunday afternoon tea; on Mother's Day, seating is at 3 pm. The traditional tea (\$32) offers tiers of organic banana bread, buttermilk scones with jam, pastries like lemon tarts and chocolate mousse cups, housemade marshmallows and savories. Accompany your treats with black, green, herbal or scented tea from Fonte Coffee & Tea Co. Reservations are required.

1001 SW Broadway, Portland, 503-790-7752

Medley Tea House Café

This year-old teahouse, which boasts over 55 kinds of tea, caters to special diets like vegan and gluten free. Afternoon tea is served from 2 to 5 pm. Make a reservation and you'll be treated to a special Mother's Day platter with "yummy desserts and baked goodies," according to Medley employee Kayla Reich. Satisfy your mom's sweet tooth with a "Sweet Tea Time Platter" (\$17.50 not including tea) or a plate of Marsee Bakery scones with sweet cream and preserves. Medley's tea menu, with its many floral selections, is just as tempting as the pastries. Indulge in a ceramic pot of chamomile lavender, rose petal black or Mt. Hood Sunrise marigold-cornflower tea. "We'll be sure to take care of your mom," says Reich. Reservations recommended.

7881 SW Capitol Hwy., Multnomah Village, 503-972-3316

Lady Di's British Store & Tea Room

For an authentic high tea, head over to Lady Di's. Owner Moya Stevens says, "We always make it nice for the mothers; we might add a chocolate or put roses on the table." A Devon cream tea includes two scones with cream and strawberry jam and a pot of tea, of which there are more than 20 varieties. The dessert plate for two is piled high with tarts, cakes and cookies. You can also opt for the traditional afternoon tea (\$18), which comes with scones, tea sandwiches and desserts. Note: Lady Di's is closed on Sundays, so you can treat your mother on Saturday, May 10. Reservations recommended.

430 2nd St., Lake Oswego, 503-635-7298

Papa Haydn

While Papa Haydn doesn't serve a classic afternoon tea, no discussion of Portland sweets is complete without this well-known dessert café. Executive pastry chef Risa Mealus creates more than 40 concoctions like lemon chiffon cake, rhubarb

torte and *boccone dolce*, three layers of meringue and fresh whipped cream topped off with seasonal fruit and a chocolate drizzle. Sip from a selection of fine teas from local Steven Smith Teamaker while you enjoy your pastries. On Mother's Day, both locations of the restaurant will open at 10 am. Reservations highly recommended.

Papa Haydn East:
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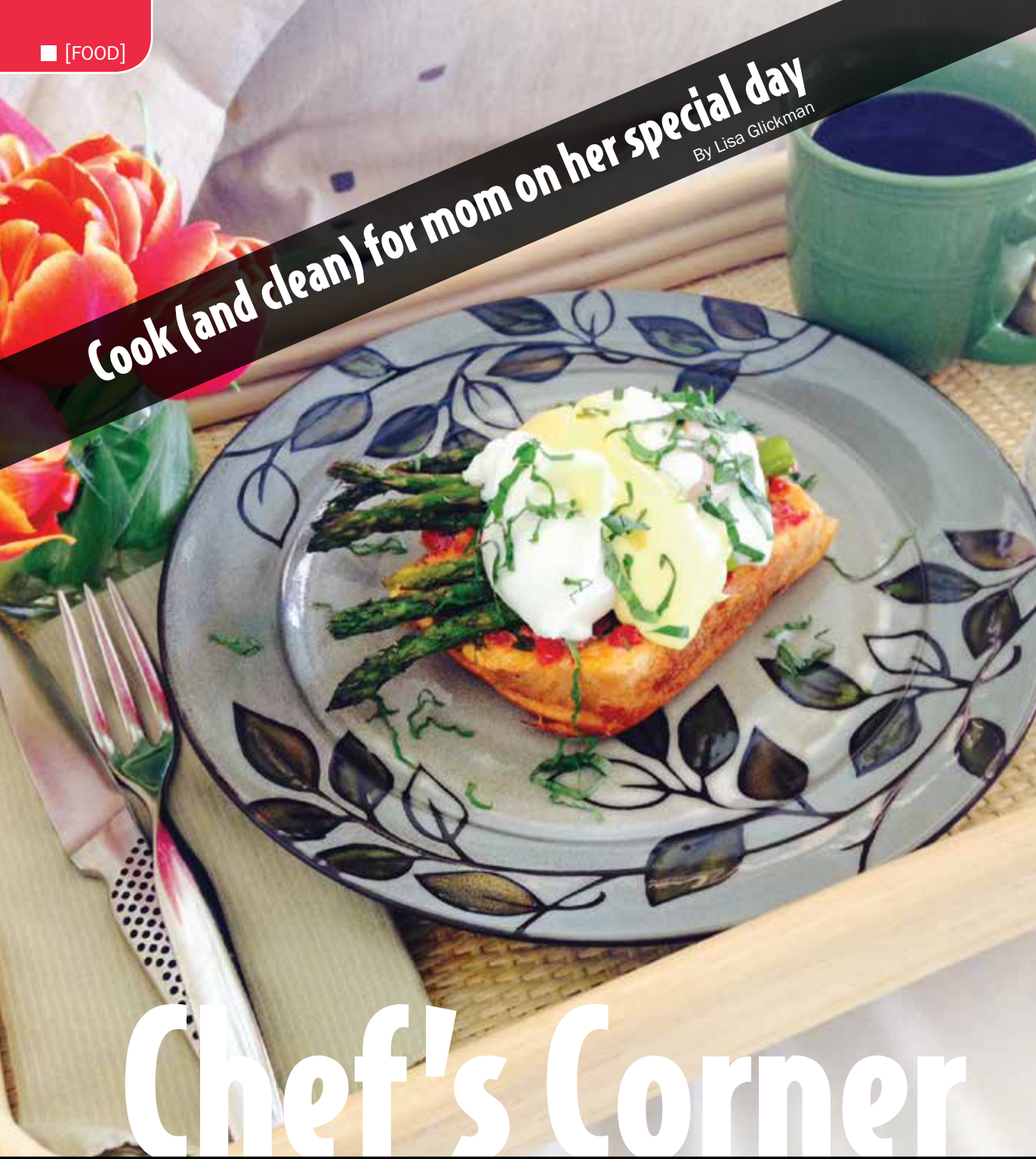
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Cook (and clean) for mom on her special day
 By Lisa Glickman



Chef's Corner


Recently we were delighted to receive news that my niece and nephew are expecting a baby this fall. Becoming a mother for the first time is one of life's most miraculous gifts. Being a new parent will seem like a monumental undertaking and will surely be overwhelming for a while. But soon, like the rest of us, they will get the hang of just being mom and dad. Days will turn to months, and months to years, and what was once terrifying eventually becomes second nature.

Motherhood automatically transforms women into the recipients of the bounty of gifts and services received thanks to the annual observance of Mother's Day. To reward us for pregnancy and childbirth, toddler to teenager and beyond, we are allowed one *whole* day every year when we should be pampered and appreciated solely for being a mom. (I think it should last much longer. Maybe an entire fortnight ... like Wimbledon!)

At my house, I do most all of the cooking. Left to their own devices, my family would survive indefinitely on pizza and take-out Chinese before they would actually place a pan on the stove with the intent to cook something. I am still trying to persuade my 13-year-old son to find his way around the kitchen. I would be thrilled if I could inspire in him the minimal skill to create the standard fare for breakfast and dinner ... and one spectacular meal he can use to impress his future wife!

While it is said cooking is the way to a man's heart, I believe cooking is the way to anyone's heart – and an exceptional way to pamper your Mom this Mother's Day!

Any mom would love to begin the day with breakfast in bed. On Mother's Day, Dad and the kids should step up and do something outside the box (the frozen waffle box that is) and make a homemade, heartfelt breakfast or brunch to begin Mom's day. Consider adding to the breakfast tray a small box of her preferred specialty chocolates, her favorite flowers or a gift certificate to a pampering salon. Let her linger in bed with a good book. This day is all about her, and she should not have to lift a finger unless her favorite manicurist is polishing her fingernails.

Minimal skill and a bit of planning are all you need to make this impressive breakfast for Mom. This savory French toast is dipped in creamy custard with freshly grated Parmesan cheese then topped with sweet tomatoes and fragrant basil. Crowned with two poached eggs, roasted asparagus and a spoonful of creamy hollandaise sauce, Mom will think she is a guest at a five-star hotel! And, similar to room service at a five-star hotel, someone else will be doing the dishes! 

Savory French Toast with Tomato and Fresh Basil

- 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 4 large eggs
- 1 cup half and half
- ¼ cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter (for buttering the pan)
- 8 slices French-style bread cut in 1-inch thick slices
- 1 14-ounce can petite diced tomatoes (or diced fresh tomatoes)
- ¼ cup plus 2 tablespoons fresh basil leaves cut into thin strips for garnish.

Preheat the oven to 350°. In a medium bowl whisk together the eggs and half and half. In a small bowl, combine the flour, baking powder, Parmesan cheese and salt. Add this to the egg and milk mixture and whisk to blend. Generously butter an 8-inch square baking pan. Dip four slices of the bread into the batter and place in the bottom of the pan. Drain the tomatoes and add them to the remaining milk and egg mixture along with ¼ cup of the fresh basil. Place the four remaining slices of bread atop the bread in the pan and pour remaining custard over all. Bake the French toast until golden brown, 30–40 minutes. Let cool for 5 to 10 minutes before cutting. While the French toast is baking, make the hollandaise.

Blender Hollandaise

- 1¼ cups (2½ sticks) unsalted butter, cubed
- 2 large egg yolks
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

Fill a blender with hot water; set aside. Melt butter in a small saucepan over medium heat until foaming. Remove pan from heat. Drain blender and dry well. Put egg yolks and 2 tablespoons lemon juice in blender. Cover and blend to combine. Working quickly and with blender running on medium/high speed, remove lid insert and slowly pour hot butter into blender in a thin stream of droplets, discarding the milk solids in bottom of the saucepan. Blend until creamy sauce forms. Season to taste with salt and pepper; add more lemon juice if desired. Set aside in a warm place.

While French toast is cooling, turn oven up to 400°. Place trimmed asparagus on baking sheet with a drizzle of olive oil and a sprinkling of salt and freshly cracked pepper. Place in oven and roast for 10–15 minutes until crisp tender. Meanwhile, poach your eggs.

Microwave Poached Eggs

Heat a teakettle of water on the stove (you can also use your Instahot water dispenser if you have one.) Find a small ice cream bowl or cereal bowl with a tapering bottom. Fill bowl with boiling water to warm it. Dump out water and add another 2 inches of boiling water and a pinch of salt to the bowl. Crack two eggs into bowl. Microwave on high for 40–50 seconds. (Microwave times may vary ... you might want to try this first to get Mom's eggs just right. Start at 35 seconds and microwave at 10-second intervals to get desired doneness.) Use a slotted spoon to lift eggs from bowl and serve immediately.



To Plate

Place French toast on warmed plate. Top with roasted asparagus and poached eggs. Drizzle hollandaise over all and garnish with fresh basil.



Lisa Glickman is a private chef and teacher who lives in Bend. She has made TV appearances on COTV in Central Oregon and appeared on the Cooking Channel's "The Perfect Three." She can be reached at lisa@lisaglickman.com.

SOUNDBITES

If you could get paid for something you love doing, what would it be?



Jon Perrin

Congregation Kesser Israel
Portland

If I could manage it, I'd walk away from corporate life and do travel photography. I've been a part-time pro for years, but to be out in new places seeing new people and new things and capturing the moment wouldn't be "work" to me.



Holly Howard

At the MJCC Centennial gala
Portland

I get paid for doing everything I love. I've gotten paid to teach exercise at the MJCC since 1999. I get paid to do massage. It's so fun and rewarding and I get paid too!

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Jill Neuwelt

At MJCC Centennial Gala
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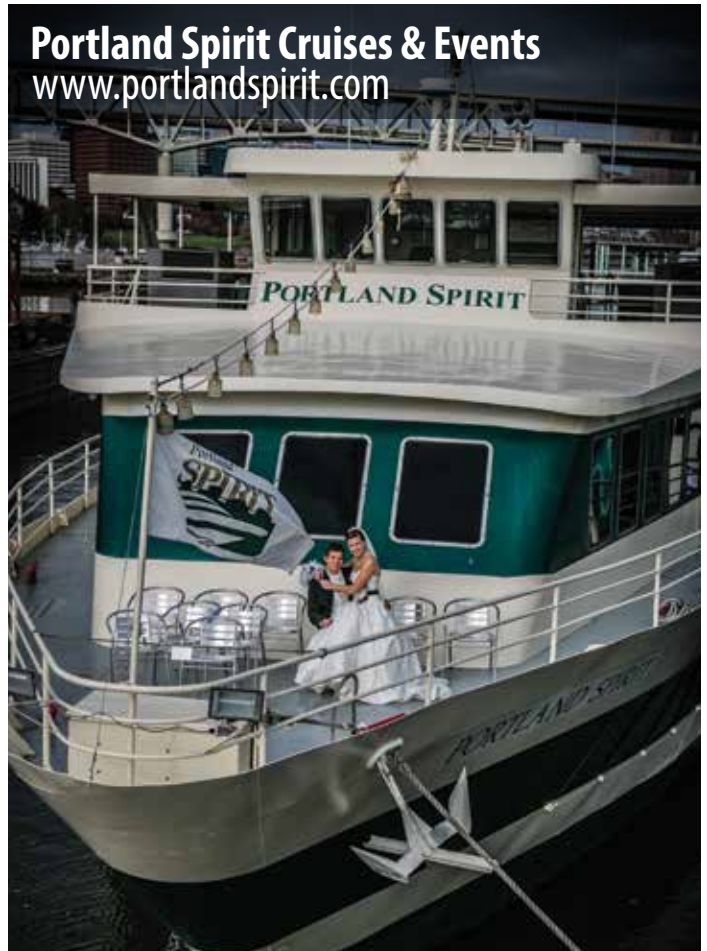
I would write a column for your magazine about marriages, births, obituaries... like in the New York Times. That would be my dream job.



Phil Tobin

Congregation Neveh Shalom
Portland

I would love to introduce teens to scuba diving and exploring the oceans. My generation and the one before messed things up so bad that this next generation will have to save what's left of our seas. I would love to show the connection of the tiniest microorganisms and corals all the way up the chain to the gigantic pelagic of the oceans. In 1,500 + dives, I have learned just how fragile our oceans are. Any money earned would go into conservation programs to save the oceans.



Marshal Spector

At MJCC Centennial Gala
Portland

I would make all the arrangements to have Bruce Springsteen play in Jerusalem. And I'd make sure Israelis could hear the deep spiritual roots of his music.



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NEXT MONTH: *Where do you take out of town visitors?*

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Israel is 66

Israeli culture spawns innovation for the world

By Mylan Tanzer

One of the starkest memories I have of coming to Israel for the first time in the '70s and moving here in 1981 was the seeming absence of any urban planning in the cities or in the national transportation grid. Growing up in Portland, going to university in Seattle, working in San Francisco and having traveled throughout the West and much of the eastern United States, I was accustomed to cities whereby residential, commercial and industrial areas were well delineated, created with at least some future demands in mind and with a certain degree of thought given to aesthetic factors. I grew up with the interstate system that took you great distances between cities and also solved transportation problems within many large urban areas.

Israel was a complete shock. As a child, we had spent several months living in Guadalajara, Mexico, where I was exposed to third-world poverty and an absence of infrastructure in the poorer sections of town. I knew Israel was not a third-world country, so I expected the infrastructure to more closely resemble what I knew in the States.

I remember my first experience at the old Tel Aviv central bus "station," which was a rambling, disorganized collection of bus stops spread out through the Neve Sha'anán neighborhood. Shops, falafel stands and small factories on the ground floors of residential apartment buildings, all suffocating under a blanket of exhaust fumes from the busses navigating the maze of small streets and alleyways, exacerbated by stifling heat and humidity much of the year. Once you finally got on a bus, routes to cities other than Haifa were slow, frequently on narrow two-lane roads or directly through the clogged roads of towns or villages.

As a student and then as an immigrant, I eventually came to understand the

basic reality here. Governor Moonbeam, aka Jerry Brown, in one of his more understandable statements, once said: "The reason that everybody likes planning is that nobody has to do anything." Well, unfortunately for planning, Israelis are doers. From day one of the Jewish return to the land, Israelis have been understandably preoccupied by survival, and when you literally don't know what tomorrow will bring, you do what needs to be done – today. This explained why things looked this way, and at the same time illustrates why Israelis are such skilled improvisers, which ironically is one of the more positive and successful things about Israel.

However, since the late Yitzhak Rabin implemented a large-scale public works program to upgrade the transportation infrastructure 20 years ago, urban planning has improved too. New industrial parks have been established to distance light industry from residential areas. Blights like the old Tel Aviv central station have been replaced, and monstrosities built due to weak building codes overseen by corrupt officials have been exposed. The recent conviction of Former Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and 12 others in the "Holyland" Project scandal when he was Mayor of Jerusalem reflects this.

Yet the survival-based philosophy of "get it done now" without considering the ramifications is still the dominant strain in our DNA. With our improvisational skills and our more recent emphasis on planning, we might be onto something.

Israel's greatest success, outside of our physical survival, has been the creation of a robust economy against all odds, spearheaded by the science and high tech that gave us the moniker "Startup Nation." Improvising is the key to innovation, and we innovate because we have been dealt a bad hand in terms of geography and natural resources. The land is arid, so we

Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israeli Independence Day is celebrated this year on May 6.

As the ancient land of Israel is central to many of the world's religions, modern Israel plays a central role in world technology. From cell phones to drip irrigation, innovations developed in Israel have spread around the globe.

Israel's rebirth is truly worth celebrating.

INSIDE:

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excel at water and agricultural technology. We have little oil, so we find alternatives. We are surrounded by enemies, so our military technology has to be superb, and it is, creating lucrative spin-offs, especially in communications. The relationships forged during mandatory military service foster networking in civilian life. A flood of immigrants in the 1990s gave national brainpower a mighty boost. The results are the envy of almost everyone outside Silicon Valley.

Saul Singer and Dan Senor, who coined the term “Startup Nation” in their outstanding 2009 book *Startup Nation, the Story of Israel’s Economic Miracle*, describe this confluence of circumstances that enabled a 65-year-old nation with a population of 8 million to reach a level of economic growth that “at the start of 2009, saw some 63 Israeli companies listed on the NASDAQ, more than those of any other foreign country” at the time. Today only China, a nation of some 1.3 billion people, exceeds Israel.

Their premise is that Israel is the startup nation because it is a county of immigrants with compulsory military service. They write that immigrants must think outside the box, be creative and improvise to survive and succeed in a new country where one starts from scratch and has nothing to lose. IDF service provides potential entrepreneurs with opportunities to develop a wide array of skills and contacts. They also believe that IDF service provides experience exerting responsibility in a high-pressure, life-and-death, relatively unhierarchical environment where creativity and intelligence are highly valued. IDF soldiers “have minimal guidance from the top, and are expected to improvise, even if this means breaking some rules. If you’re a junior officer, you call your higher-ups by their first names, and if you see them doing something wrong, you say so.”

The vaunted 8200 unit is the IDF’s cyber intelligence unit. Responsible for many technology advances employed by the IDF to keep Israelis safe, the soldiers of Unit 8200 take their skills with them when they leave the army and go on to develop technologies that have changed the world. For high-tech companies, 8200 is a special number for firms seeking top talent in engineering, communications or other areas of technology. Alumni of 8200 established Check Point, ICQ, Palo Alto Networks, NICE, AudioCodes, Gilat, Leadspace and Ezchip, to name just a few companies.

Sanjena Sathian of OZY.com writes, “The military is a powerful networking tool. Especially when it’s mandatory. Compared with the U.S., where less than 1% of the population serves in the military, or even India, where only around 3% join the military, about 50% of Israel’s population joins up, and they find an organization that prides itself on being tech-driven. The experience delivers all the obvious byproducts: loyalty; a tough-as-nails attitude, instilled at a young age; a strong alumni network; and future partnerships aplenty which creates a lot of founding teams coming out of the same army unit.”

Even a partial list of Israeli inventions and innovations is mind boggling. In chemistry Israel has won three Nobel Prizes in recent years. Israel creations include: in optics, the world’s smallest video camera as well as the PillCam for nonintrusive digestive tract procedures; in biotech, the nanowire, thinner than human hair; in computing, the USB flash drive and laser keyboard; in software, ICQ, Babylon, Viber (recently sold to

Japanese mobile operator Rakuten) and Waze (recently acquired by Google). These software successes were created by partners who met in the IDF. More world-changing Israeli innovations can be found in physics, agriculture, economics, theoretical computer science, energy, consumer goods and, of course, defense – including the Iron Dome missile defense system, the Protector unmanned surface vehicle, the MUSIC system that introduces countermeasures against surface-to-air missiles and the Injured Personnel Carrier, which allows an injured soldier to be carried on the back of another soldier.

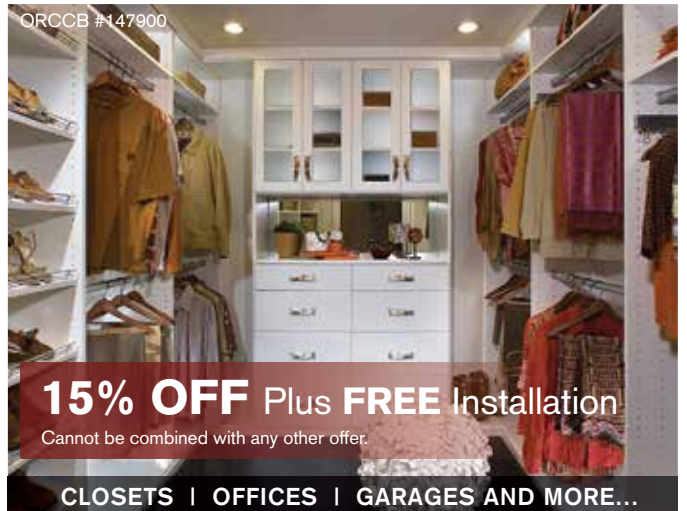
Israel’s startup success continues unabated. Israel is among the world’s leading patent producers and is ranked number one in the western world. The UN’s Intellectual Property Organization awarded Israel the status of a World Patent Center, which includes only 15 nations.

There is not a cell phone on the planet that does not contain at least some components conceived and/or developed in Israel. At March’s World Mobile Congress in Barcelona, almost 200 of the 1,700 exhibiting companies were Israeli, so this trend of Israeli mobile technology will continue into the distant future.

Israel has 30 startups in the running for Red Herring magazine’s top 100 pre-exit tech companies. This is the third highest of any other nation in Europe (where Israel competes), after England and France. Ventures that make it on the list are on the fast track to success, either through IPOs or exits as more than 200 have done in the last five years, including Israel’s AdapTV, Peer39, Vigilant Technology and Waze.

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As further evidence of Israel's success, Israel generates far more venture capital per person than any other country in the world – a whopping \$170 as opposed to the second-place U.S. with \$70 per person in 2012.

So what does this mean for the future of the startup nation? With nine out of 10 Israelis descending from immigrants, and with compulsory military service here for the foreseeable future, Israelis will continue to improvise and innovate. The ecosystem necessary for sustaining and further developing this amazing

environment continues to grow. Incubators and accelerators have sprung up in Israel as well as

Silicon Valley and are multiplying. Recently, graduates of Unit 8200 who have enjoyed great financial success established EISP, a new accelerator for startups of more recent 8200 graduates and others.

For all of Israel's startup success, industry veterans and financial observers point out the difficulty in turning tech startups into big companies. For all the comparisons with Silicon Valley, Israel has not given birth to an Intel or a Google. Its best companies are often bought by American giants while still in their infancy. The biggest homegrown technology company is Teva, a drug maker, which

is listed on NASDAQ at a value of \$43 billion. In technology the biggest is Check Point, a security specialist founded by 8200 veterans. Also on NASDAQ, it is valued at \$11 billion – “no minnow, but no whale,” according to one expert.

Building a business requires more than money and technology. Companies need customers, and a country of 8 million people doesn't have many. So Israeli firms are often global virtually from the start, putting them on the buyout or IPO radar early on.

Now that young Israeli companies are applying their technical brilliance to consumer products as much as to designing semiconductors or security software, broader skills matter more. In a blog post last July, Adam Fisher of Bessemer Venture Partners encouraged them to think about their entire business model, including product design and marketing, from the outset. Some startups, he wrote, had made this mental leap, but the “tech crutch,” a model of focusing on technology alone and then selling to foreign multinationals, was “increasingly unsustainable” in the face of competition from China, South Korea and Taiwan.

Building businesses also requires people willing to be the 50th employee in someone else's firm. But in a nation of startups, most want to be their own boss. The common theory is that after their stint in the army, many young Israelis have had enough of being told what to do, and they grow up thinking they know best anyway. About three-quarters of Israeli startups have fewer than 10 employees.



Why Can't We All Just Get Along?

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with renowned author **Yossi Klein Halevi**

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Yossi Klein Halevi is a senior fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, contributing editor of the *New Republic*, and internationally respected commentator on Israeli and Middle Eastern affairs. He is author of *Like Dreamers* and *At the Entrance to the Garden of Eden: A Jew's Search for God with Christians and Muslims in the Holy Land*.

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And making a business into something not merely big but enormous means resisting those tempting offers of a few million dollars – or even a few hundred million dollars – from bigger companies. Given a certain payoff for selling and an uncertain future going it alone, many people take the money. Several companies have rejected offers of hundreds of millions of dollars only to fail a few years later. So leaving the task of building a company to someone else may not be such a bad idea. Maybe this is our place in the technology innovation food chain. It's not that bad. Most countries cannot even fantasize about such a status.

When you visit Israel and feel exasperated by the “balagan” (roughly translated as chaos or mess) in daily life, think of it as if you have entered the house of a creative genius who has no time to organize, clean or remodel, but only to succeed through work and create to pay the rent. The truth is I am not sure the creative genius really wants it any other way. So I don't get too upset when I trip over the laundry in the hallway or slip on a wet kitchen floor. It's OK with me. It's worth it, and in any case, it's getting better. 

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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ISRAELI COMPANIES GIVE HOPE TO PEOPLE WITH BRAIN INJURIES WORLDWIDE



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu took U.S. President Barack Obama to meet the EIMindA team including founder Amir Geva who demonstrated the brain imaging technology. Photo by Pablo Martinez Monsivais.

By Ilene Schneider

The statistics are staggering. Concussions affect as many as 4 million Americans annually. More than 45 million young people involved in sports in the United States incur the risk of a concussion. The cost burden from concussion-related injuries on the healthcare system is estimated at about \$17 billion per year in the United States alone.

Because clear markers or tests for concussions have been hard to find, and because loss of consciousness occurs in less than 10 percent of concussions, athletes and others may not know the extent of their injuries, which may last a day, a week or a year. If people go back and play sports before they are fully healed, they can suffer irreversible damage.

Researchers from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev have come up with answers for that and other traumatic brain injuries. From the Zlotowski Center for Neuroscience and other departments at the Beersheva campus of the university,

these researchers have developed partnerships with companies in Israel, the United States and elsewhere.

EIMindA, a BGU spinoff headquartered in Herzliya, Israel, has developed a 40-minute test based on brain mapping and imaging to detect and manage injuries from concussions and other brain-related disorders. The company's Brain Network Activation (BNA) system uses a hairnet-like cap with attached electrodes to do noninvasive recordings of multichannel electroencephalography event-related potentials. After acquiring the data, the system performs a comprehensive multidimensional analysis of the recordings.

"Traditional tests are inconclusive and no better than talking to a patient," explains Dalia Dickman, Ph.D., vice president of clinical and regulatory affairs at EIMindA. "This test is much like an X-ray of a broken bone to determine whether there is a concussion."

She adds, "Pain measurement is subjective. Now we can score it, see what the baseline is and whether drug therapy or other treatment improves the patient's condition."

Founded in 2006 EIMindA was based on the research of Ben-Gurion University Professor Amir Geva. BNA is a noninvasive tool for the visualization and quantification of specific brain functionalities, according to Dickman. Its platform architecture is based on three elements: a data acquisition site, BNA analysis software and cloud-based, big-data management and reporting tools. Using signal processing, pattern recognition, clustering and machine-learning techniques, the technology maps neural pathways, showing data points in multiple dimensions such as time, location, amplitude and frequency.

Nearly 1,000 people have undergone the procedure on an experimental basis as EIMindA has developed partnerships with universities, hospitals and companies in the United States and Israel. BNA technology, which is currently being reviewed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, was demonstrated to 14,000 attendees at the recent AIPAC Policy Conference in Washington, D.C., in March.

A recent clinical research study involved 150 Minnesota hockey players with and without concussions who underwent BNA measurement during the season as compared to preseason baseline scores. The study also correlated the BNA test score over the course of the hockey season to the current standard of care measures.

In a collaboration of EIMindA and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Sports Medicine Concussion Program, researchers evaluated 112 children with and without concussions, looking at their brain activity at four post-injury time frames. The research confirmed that BNA differentiated between people with concussions and people in a control group, showed a recovery pattern over time and distinguished between types of concussions.

"This test adds another level of information for physicians," Dickman says. By looking at injuries at the



Re-Step shoes look like high-top sneakers, with a difference on the bottom.

functional level of neurons and mapping electrophysiological activity of the brain, it provides real-time, closed-loop treatment options for concussions and other diseases and injuries of the brain as well.”

Meanwhile, another Israeli company founded in 2006 is helping patients with cerebral palsy, stroke and brain injury to relearn how to walk. Simona Bar-Haim, scientific director of the laboratory of rehabilitation and motor control and walking at the Zlotowski Center for Neuroscience, is responsible for the scientific basis of Step of Mind Ltd. activities.

A physiotherapist with a Ph.D. in neurophysiology, Bar-Haim developed the idea of applying chaotic perturbations to facilitate motor learning. She and her colleagues at Ben-Gurion University conducted preliminary studies that suggest the effectiveness of the proposed approach in this patient population.

“Walking is a function of rhythmical movement and an adaptation to overcome obstacles,” Bar-Haim explains. “Brain damage is asymmetrical. Because the amount of damage is different in each hemisphere, the person’s legs are functioning differently from one another.”

In addition, she says that traumatic brain injury is not confined to one area of the brain. It can be a continuous process that lasts many years, and improving walking and balance can help to interrupt the progression. By changing the environment for walking, Bar-Haim hopes to change the processing in the areas of the brain that are responsible for walking.

Working with Merck, the pharmaceutical company, Bar-Haim and her colleagues are performing a study called Middle East Stepping Forward, in which children and teens with cerebral palsy walk on a split treadmill that operates at two different speeds. Because one belt moves at 2 kilometers per hour and the other at 4 kilometers per hour, the subject is walking at a different speed on each leg.

Based on the same principle that alters the angle of walking, Step of Mind produces high-technology shoes that physical therapists can use to train patients with brain damage to walk again. With the idea of ultimately developing shoes that are affordably priced enough to allow patients to use them for home treatment after undergoing physical therapy, Step of Mind recognizes the difference in the angle of pressure on the feet of the patients. Using special software, the shoes provide readouts to measure gait parameters, show progress and make recommendations to physical therapists. MRI analysis reveals further information.

The special shoes are used in rehabilitation facilities at the Reuth Medical Center in Tel Aviv and at a clinic in Turkey. They are sold in both countries, and the company is negotiating with companies in France and the United States. Step of Mind was one of 16 Israeli companies chosen by the Merage Institute in Irvine, CA, to make a presentation to American investors.

Working with subjects throughout the Middle East was a revelation to Bar-Haim and her colleagues in several ways. For one thing, people with cerebral palsy and other brain disorders tend to move less and need to be encouraged to walk.

As she says, “You have to change the lifestyle of patients. You can change the plasticity in their brains and make the body able to do something, but you also have to change their behavior. The kids in the study said they walked better, but they may not have been motivated to walk more. We have to focus on disability advocacy, so that parents learn that they are part of the decision making.”

Bar-Haim also learned that in some countries there is no acknowledgement of cerebral palsy. There are no assistive devices, not even wheelchairs, she says. In one country she and her team had to give up the study, because there were personal issues with the families who were being shunned by their neighbors for acknowledging that their children had cerebral palsy.

She concludes, “This is not about brain science. It’s about children.” ❧

Ilene Schneider is the owner of Schneider the Writer, a public relations firm specializing in health care, high technology and service enterprises, as well as a longtime Jewish journalist. She was a participant in the Murray Fromson Annual Media Mission to Israel sponsored by the American Associates, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Inc. (“AABGU”) for to visit and report on Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

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Shiran Halfon gives a face to Israel in Portland

By Deborah Moon

Israeli Fellow Shiran Halfon has spent the school year increasing Portland-area college students' understanding of and connection with Israel. Now she hopes to promote those same values for the greater Jewish community with the May 5 communitywide Yom Ha'azmaut celebration.

The Israeli Independence Day event will begin at 5 pm at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center, 6651 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland. The program begins with a variety of options including kids' activities, an Israeli shuk (marketplace), a lecture by Portland State University Judaic Studies Professor Nina Spiegel and an exhibit of Israeli photos. An assortment of Israeli food will be for sale. At 7:30 pm the Israeli band Habanim Shell Shimon will perform. Following the concert, an Israeli dance party will begin about 9 pm.

"My vision is to bring together the different age groups celebrating together," says Shiran. "There will be something for each age to enjoy with a big performance at the end for all the community to come together as a whole to celebrate Israel's independence. I want the entire ambience to be very Israeli – warm, happy and excited."

Shiran says the band has toured in a lot of U.S. Jewish communities and has a great repertoire of Israeli and American Jewish songs.

In the previous two years, the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland had brought two shlichim (Israeli emissaries) to town. For this school year, federation teamed up with the Greater Portland Hillel to bring Shiran to town, with



Shiran Halfon (fourth from right front) at "Jews & Brews," a casual happy hour for students at PSU.

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- 5:30-6:30 pm *For adults:* **History of Israeli Dance and Culture** with PSU professor **Nina Speigel**
- 6:30 pm *Main event:* Performance by **The Sons of Shimon** with Israeli Dance Party until 9 pm!
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Israeli band Habanim Shell Shimon

80% of her time devoted to working with college students on Portland-area campuses.

“I came here for a purpose,” says Shiran. “A personal connection brings Israel to them in a more personal way.”

Apparently she has done just that.

“In only six months, Shiran’s impact has been dynamic,” says PDX Hillel Director Rachel Hall. “She has given our Jewish student leaders direct support with their efforts towards Israel education, advocacy and cultural awareness on our Portland campuses. Shiran has infused every aspect of Portland Hillel’s

programming with a sense of Israeli pride. Jewish students now have a piece of Israel on their campus, making Israel not just a place, but a person to fall in love with. They are proud to introduce Shiran to both their Jewish and non-Jewish friends. Hundreds of students have interacted with Shiran and, in turn, hundreds of students have had a positive interaction with Israel. We so are grateful for her presence on our Portland campuses.”

Shiran says developing relationships with the students has been a pleasure. Simply spending time together and deep conversations are both enjoyable.

“My favorite program was a leadership retreat at the beach in November,” she says. “I had three days with 22 students, and they had nowhere to escape. There was a lot of laughter, conversations that inspired me and I believe the students. It helped us develop personal connections and start the year great. ... On Saturday evening we did Havdallah around the bonfire with lots of singing. It gave the students a sense of community and togetherness.”

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“I came here for a purpose. A personal connection brings Israel to them in a more personal way.”
Shiran Halfon

Shiran arrived in Portland Sept. 1. She grew up in Shoham, near Tel Aviv. She considers herself secular, but in a traditional family in a small city in Israel that means celebrating all the holidays and keeping kosher.

She says her biggest “crisis” in moving to Oregon was the food. Though she does not keep strictly kosher here, she was used to the distinctive flavors of Israeli food and lots of fresh vegetables.

“Then I discovered burritos,” says Shiran. “So I’ve been exploring different Mexican restaurants. I fell in love with the food carts. I think Portland has lots of authentic Thai and Vietnamese food, which I’m becoming more open to.”

She hopes her stay helps students and other community members become more open to Israel and fall in love with the Jewish homeland as much as she is enjoying the beauty of Oregon. 

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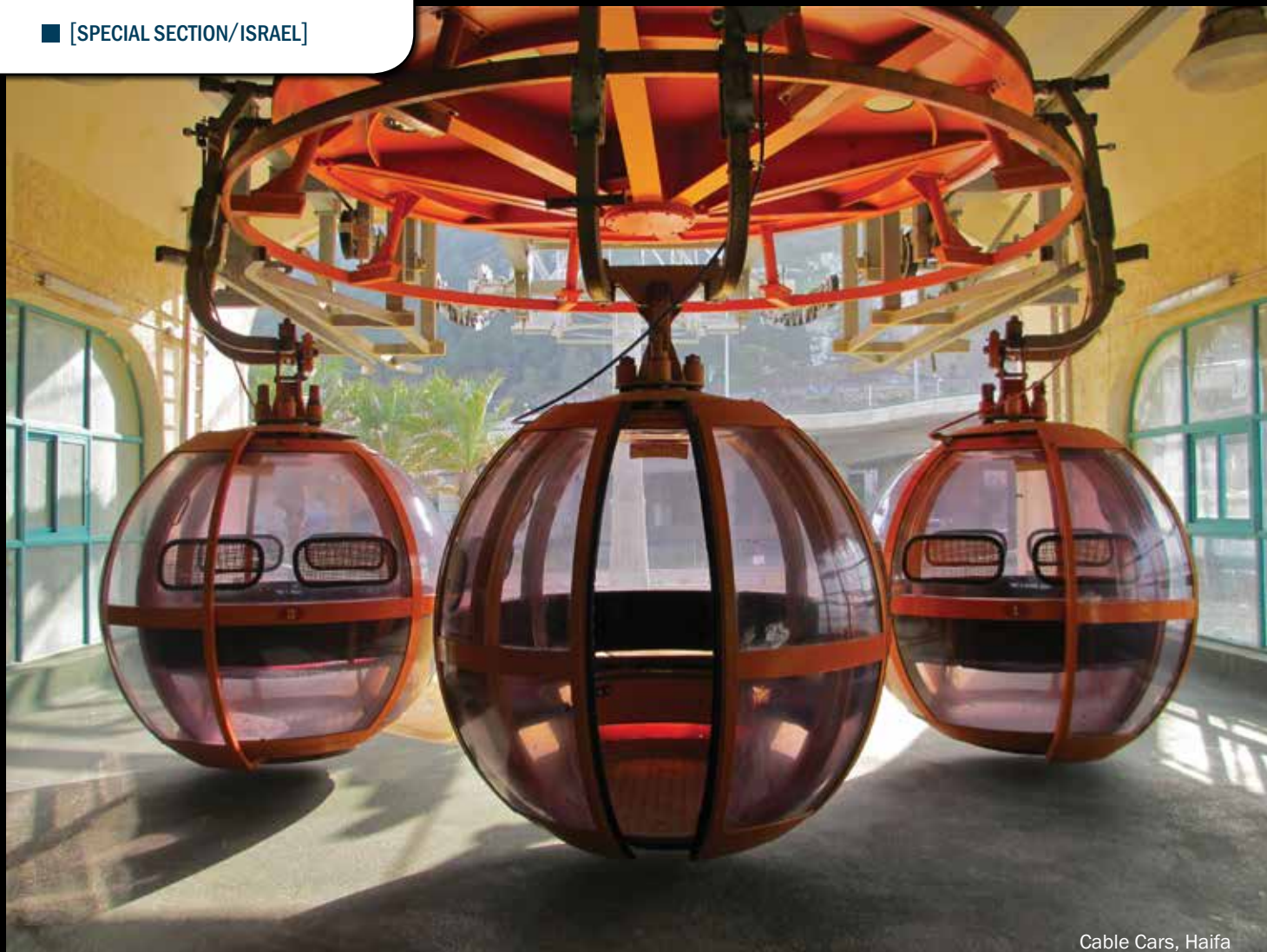
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Cable Cars, Haifa

CAROLE GLAUBER'S PHOTOS EXPLORE DIVERSITY OF HAIFA NEIGHBORHOODS

By Elizabeth Schwartz

Most news coverage of Israel focuses on the Palestinian conflict or complex geopolitical issues. But Israel exists independently of current events; it is also a country full of ordinary people living in an extraordinary place. It is this aspect of Israel that photographer Carole Glauber sought to capture in her exhibit of pictures from Haifa, which will be on display at the Oregon Jewish Museum in June.

Glauber and her husband, Harry, lived in Haifa for six months during 2012-13, while Harry did medical research at Rambam Hospital. "Haifa is a beautiful city; it's a Mediterranean environment with palm trees and lovely winter weather," says Glauber. Haifa's mild climate makes it an ideal place to take photographs in all seasons. Inspired by her work with the Portland Grid Project, whose members document every square mile of Portland through pictures, Carole began taking photos of Haifa's many diverse neighborhoods. "Haifa is a city of neighborhoods, like Portland," she explains. "Wadi Nisnas is mostly Christian Arabs, while Ahuza is a mix of

modern Orthodox and secular Jews. The Vizhnitz neighborhood is filled with members of the Seret-Vizhnitzer Hasidic sect." Glauber visited more than 20 neighborhoods during her stay in Haifa, seeking each neighborhood's unique character. "If you go to the Technion, for example, everything is modern, while the buildings in Wadi Nisnas are old Haifa style built with Jerusalem stone."

Many of Glauber's Israeli explorations began on a bus. "Riding the bus gives you an inside view into the city," she explains. "Everyone takes the bus: Arabs, Druze, Haredi, kids by themselves. One time we were in Tel Aviv on the bus but didn't know where our stop was. Four or five people chimed in to tell us when to get off the bus, and someone warned us to be careful crossing the street. Israelis are very approachable and some of the friendliest people I've met. We never encountered a situation where people were hostile." Glauber was particularly drawn to the diversity of the Israeli people. "I was interested in how people get on together and people who are really making an effort to learn about each other. My day-to-day experience in

Israel was that a lot of folks are just getting on with their lives. That reality doesn't come across in the media."


Along with her photos, Glauber wrote a blog, "Letters from Haifa," which chronicled her experiences living in a foreign country. "The

letters begin with my being new to the country, and then they transition to sharing stories of the amazing people I met. I want the blog to communicate positive aspects of Israel. There's so much negativity out there; I wanted to show the positive things because they are everywhere."

"Letters from Haifa" has been read by people in more than 40 countries and is also featured on The Exchange, an opinion forum of The Centre for Israel & Jewish Affairs in Canada.

One facet of Israeli life that Glauber particularly admires is its blend of intellectual freedom and creative expression. "I think beauty and intellect are combined everywhere in Israel, through their wonderful art and music, and through their technological innovations. Israelis are very creative and very smart, and they're free to express themselves. Israel is the only country in the Middle East where that's possible. Israel is just a dot on the map, but its output and variety of people and landscapes almost make it seem supersized."

Although Glauber blogged at great length about her encounters with Israeli people, most of her photographs showcase places; people are largely absent. "My photos are about observation, discovery and how things appear at a given moment," Glauber says. "It's interesting to look at a place from different points of view and different angles. The photos provide information and a sense of place and time."

Another thing missing from Glauber's pictures is any documentation of conflict. Glauber makes no apology for this. "My photos are about my experience; they're not about politics or objectifying people. They're about Israel as a place and an experience. You have to have an idea in mind to look at something in a different way." 



Carole Glauber



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Rabbi Weintraub is co-founder of Encounter, an organization dedicated to strengthening the capacity of the Jewish people to be constructive agents of change in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. A winner of the Grinnell Young Innovator for Social Justice Prize, she is a Conservative rabbi and a graduate of Harvard University. Rabbi Weintraub teaches and writes frequently about Jewish war ethics.



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Carole Glauber's photographs of Haifa will be on display at the Oregon Jewish Museum beginning June 11. Her blog, "Letters from Haifa," can be found at journeys.caroleglauber.com/category/letters-from-haifa. For more information, go to caroleglauber.com.

ISRAELI CRAFT BEER COMES TO OREGON



By Deborah Moon

As the son of a Conservative rabbi, Austin Clar expected to find many connections and insights when he spent a year studying in a yeshiva in Jerusalem. What he didn't expect to find were some wonderful Israeli craft beers and the key to his career when he returned to the United States.

Thanks to that discovery, Israeli craft beers are now available in Oregon for the first time.

Before he left for Israel in June 2011, a friend who worked in the craft beer industry introduced Austin to the culture.

"When I got to Israel I didn't expect to find anything aside (from) Goldstar, Maccabee, and Carlsberg – per usual – but I did," says Austin. He first encountered Israeli craft beer when he visited a friend in Haifa. "We went out to dinner to a great Japanese fusion restaurant called Giraffe and, lo and behold, I discovered Malka bottles on their menu! I ordered a Malka Pale Ale and he a Malka Blonde. Shortly thereafter I was hanging out and shopping for food and such with a dear friend of mine from my Hebrew school days who has lived in Jerusalem for about a decade now. We went to grab lunch at a little cafe/restaurant that had live music playing and found they had Alexander on their menu – I bought a Green (their IPA) and an Amber (their Biere de Garde) and really enjoyed them."

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Austin and Zach at the Giraffe.


Those two chance encounters sent Austin on a quest for other Israeli craft beers. He searched the little bodega, liquor/wine and grocery stores in the German Colony/Talpiot neighborhoods of Jerusalem and bought bottles of whatever he found.

"Eventually I realized there were about eight or so breweries I could find on a regular basis." When Austin returned to Dallas, he joined Sublime Imports, founded and owned by Mike Hammond, who used his familial and business ties to Spain to import Spanish craft beer.

"As I became more and more involved in the company as a whole, I suggested we look into Israeli craft beer. Mike and I began reaching out to all of the breweries I could remember, and now we are the U.S.'s first and only importer of Israeli craft beer!"

They began with one brand – Malka. Located in the upper Galilee town of Yehiam, at the foot of the 12th-century Montfort castle, Malka is one of the first microbreweries in Israel. Malka maintains a tradition of handcrafting small batches of beer, specializing in traditional Belgian, German and English styles while imparting a local Israeli twist – using natural water from the Ga'aton Springs and local flavors, says Austin, who adds that their beer is of course kosher.

Sublime Imports is now licensed and ready to add Alexander beer, another one of the best craft breweries in Israel, says Austin. Alexander beer should be available in Oregon sometime this summer.

Austin says they targeted Oregon among their initial places to market because Oregon has "a great beer community that is well educated and open to all forms of craft beer. In the beer industry, San Diego, Portland and Bend, and the Seattle/Tacoma areas are all known for having great local/craft beer scenes; it was a no brainer." 

Life on the Other Side

The Moods of May

by Anne Kleinberg

May beckons, bringing all the gloriousness that comes with it. Spring is already on its way out and summer is sending forth its message. The Jacaranda trees are awash with lilac flowers, the pinks and purples of bougainvillea are everywhere and the smell of jasmine fills the air. Yes, even in Israel we enjoy the scents and sights of this delicious season.

But it is the holidays of May that most impact life here – two very special days that touch each and every life. Yom Hazikaron, when the country collectively mourns its dead from wars and terror, and Yom Ha'atzmaut, when we celebrate Israel's independence. It is a strange time – difficult for many, emotional for most.

My first Remembrance Day for Israel's Fallen (as opposed to Holocaust Remembrance, which is commemorated in April) stunned me in its solemnity. Traffic stopped, sirens wailed, restaurants closed down, TV stations broadcast the names of the dead and radios played sad music. It is no different today, 21 years after I decided to call this country home. And the day still stuns the soul in its sorrow.

There are the inevitable unfortunate incidents of defiance – the Haredim (ultra religious) do not recognize this day, and therefore they do not stop their usual routines. Their neither stand at attention during the mournful wail of the siren nor stop their cars. They do not consider themselves part of this country in the way that the rest of us do. They offer nothing (unless you consider yeshiva learning a viable contribution to society), but they take what they can. They are generally despised by the rest of the population on this day.

Of course the Arabs do not participate. I do not wish to politicize this column, so I won't take the subject further. But I always smile a bit cynically when I think about the state they would be in if we had not settled this land.

Then, as if by the waving of a magic wand, night falls and everything is reversed. We are expected to dance and be merry, celebrating the miracle of the land of Israel gaining "official" recognition from the United Nations as the home of the Jews, the former Palestine now an independent state with the right to call itself Israel. It's Independence Day! Let the barbecues begin!

As I witness the emergence of anti-Semitism around the world, I wonder, once again, about its origins. I've heard all the reasons – we killed their lord, we burned their children, we are moneylenders, we are corrupt, we own the media, we don't

accept others into our circles. Oh, just give me a break! Are you kidding me? Are they all lunatics?

Wake up world! Look around you! Syria! Iran! Iraq! South Africa just two decades ago! Want to tell me that we're the bad guys? I DON'T THINK SO! Yes, we have our faults – plenty of them (I can write you a list). And yes, we have refugee problems, and religious problems, and political corruption and unfair treatment to many citizens, and even less fair treatment to non-citizens. OK, I admit it! Nu? What country doesn't? Want to tell me you'd rather live in a place where your leader lives in a lavish palace while his people die of starvation? Where a tyrant gasses his citizens? Where a Nobel Prize has *never* been awarded to one single person? I didn't think so.

So if you're going to bitch about the country that I've called home for the last 20 or so years, then I suggest you get your tushes over here and see what's really going on. Experience the love on the streets of Tel Aviv, join the dancing in the ancient alleyways of Jerusalem, hang around on the beaches or swim with the dolphins in Eilat, travel the enchanting countryside of the Galilee, have a fish dinner on the Kinneret, experience the ancient juxtaposed with the modern in the gorgeous town of Caesarea.

Or don't.

Just please don't make comments about a place you've never visited or you don't really know. Don't you dare call us an Apartheid State and absolutely do not support the voices raised against us. When boycotts, sanctions and divestments are mentioned – give them a piece of my mind. Tell them to go stick it where the sun don't shine. Tell them to find another scapegoat and to leave us the hell alone already. I'll put this country up against theirs anytime – when it comes to quality of life and caring for citizens.

And when I started, I thought I was going to write about barbecues and fireworks. 

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 and casacaesarea.com.



Misty Guerriero shares Israeli vintage fashions with the world





By Kira Brown

A fashion connoisseur and importer of vintage fashions from around the world, with a large Israel-fashion influence, Misty Guerriero of Vintage by Misty is one of the most style-inspiring people on the planet! Her beauty and spirit, adorned in the most luxurious of patterns and materials, are wickedly chic and intoxicating. With a large online international client base through her website and Etsy store, the self-described “daring dresser” offers eclectic fashion pieces from around the globe, including vintage couture, Israeli vintage and unique items for the home.

I chatted with the ultra-chic fashionista about her travels, fashion and “fabulosity,” and her best style advice for women and men. Her replies have been edited for brevity and clarity.

What influence does your Jewish heritage play in your fashion sense?

My heritage and travels play a huge role on what influences me in fashion. I am drawn to color, prints and texture – this might have to do with my caftan and fabric obsession! Fashion is fun, you should try to influence yourself daily whether it’s from a country you love, old pictures of movie stars or your city’s street style.

How often do you visit Israel for fashion? Do you source a lot of your vintage fashion finds from Israel?

I visit once a year but love to stay for a month or so. Yes, I have plenty of sources that I collect from – the vintage scene in Israel is what I like to call “underground.” To find the good stuff you must know people and of course speak the language. The thing I think people forget is that everybody in Israel comes from another country, so the fashion is diverse. You have a lot of great vintage that comes from Russia, Morocco, Europe and Yemen.

There are so many talented people in the fashion scene in Tel Aviv – it gives me goose bumps! Everyone is so different and does their own thing... which is inspiring. My favorite vintage finds are designers like Gottex, Maskit, Yitzchak Bier and Ilana Goor.

Do you have family in Israel?

Yes, my husband’s family all live in Tel Aviv. I also have plenty of friends who live there (They visit us, too). I visit once a year ... my husband visits at least three times a year. I am very lucky because he knows my style so well that he shops for me – what woman wouldn’t love that!

How has the Internet influenced your business growth?

The Internet and social media are amazing tools for any business. I have an online shop via Etsy. I would say 10% of my sales are inside the U.S., and the rest go out of the country. That’s a huge demographic that I would have never reached if Vintage by Misty were not online.

What are your favorite pieces in stores now?

That’s a hard question to answer – my collection of vintage is curated. I love every piece because of the story behind it. I do love when a client sees a tag in Hebrew, because it shocks them to know that it came from Israel. Why? I think it’s because people think of religion when Israel is brought up and nothing else, so it’s nice to educate them on the fashion of Israel.

You have so many amazing pieces and have the most impeccable taste. So I wonder: Have you ever sold anything that you wish you had kept?

Everything! LOL ... I love to spread the vintage love, it makes me happy to see my pieces going to good homes.

Where’s next on your travel list to source new and fabulous fashion finds?

When I travel I always try to include Israel; this year I’m going to travel through France and Italy then visit Israel. I am working on a vintage-inspired collection for my shop with a very famous Israeli designer. I am hoping to launch spring of 2015 – the line will include jewelry and dresses.


What’s your best style advice for women?

Be creative. Your body is a blank canvas – it’s fun to add color, print or texture to all your looks, and vintage is the perfect way to start. Take risks but don’t go so BIG you’re not going to be comfortable. That leads to being unsure with your look – then you’ll never wear that piece again.

And for men?

Fits and thinking outside the box. Don’t dress older or younger than you are – this can make you look dated. Also, incorporate accessories, ties, bow ties, belt buckles, cuff links and hats.

Who’s your go-to designer for everyday women’s wear?

Right now I love a mix of Rachel Pally, Nightcap and Camilla – all great designers with easy fits for any woman’s body type! 



Vintage by Misty: vintagebymisty.com

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 and Ken Downing of Neiman Marcus. Kira also offers virtual style consultations for women and men. Contact her at kira@fashionphoenix.com.





Ben Killen Rosenberg continues family tradition of public art

By Kerry Politzer



Artist Ben Killen Rosenberg is slowly beautifying Portland, one block at a time. While our city might not yet boast the public art of Barcelona, it is increasingly adorned with the whimsical creations of the painter/sculptor. The outdoor walkway at Legacy Emanuel Chronic Wound and Outpatient Burn Clinic is embellished with Rosenberg's colorful sculpted turtles, while vibrant sea creatures populate his marine-themed mural at A Child's Way Kindergarten Preschool.

Rosenberg helps to foster a sense of community with his work. At Richmond Place, a temporary housing facility, he taught children how to sculpt clay pieces for an outdoor installation of ceramic flowers. He also worked with Russian and Vietnamese children from Lutheran Family Services on a mural.

He has been featured in two exhibitions at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center, where he also taught art classes for several years. At Temple Beth Israel, he taught a class for children in which they made Judaica-themed projects.

Rosenberg continues the legacy of his mother, noted muralist and sculptor Lilli Ann Rosenberg. Working with her husband, Marvin, Lilli installed elaborate mosaics all over Boston, New York, and Portland and Jacksonville, OR. The couple's artwork can be seen at the Henry Street Settlement Center in New York, the Brookline Jewish Community Center, the Park Street subway station in Boston and Portland's Helen Gordon Child Development Center, among many other sites. Says Rosenberg of their Portland installations, "(They installed) some really cool little toddler chairs made from concrete, mosaic and clay at Helen Gordon, a cool bench at a low-income housing on NE

Alberta and a water feature at the Federal Building. They did some amazing work."

The artist was born in New York; his family, including two sisters, later moved to Boston. As an adult Rosenberg moved to Portland and his parents moved to Jacksonville. Rosenberg maintains a collection of his parents' pieces at his Richmond studio, where he has worked for 20 years.

With such a creative family, it's no wonder that Rosenberg began making art at an early age. He explains, "My mom encouraged me to draw a lot. And whenever we got in the car, she always situated me with a view from the window, because I was enamored of looking at buildings. Because my mom was an artist, she used that to help nurture it as something to embrace and keep doing. She was always bringing me to museums, and we would always visit New York City because they had a lot of close connections there." At only 7 years old, Rosenberg printed his first illustrated book, *All About Life*. He says, "It was about my version of how life started. It talked about dinosaurs, and about how all of a sudden there were cities, and fire departments and police departments. It is a reflection on what I saw in New York City."

Rosenberg continued to illustrate and create ceramic pieces. Eventually, he would study painting and printmaking in Rome. "I realized that was my calling," he remarks. When he moved to Portland, he began to cultivate his passion for monotypes, which are a type of print created by painting images on a plate and transferring them to paper with an etching press.

The artist is incredibly prolific. Over the years, he has created countless illustrations for publications such as *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times* and *The Oregonian*, and he is always working in various mediums. He explains, "Right now, I'm



Ben Killen Rosenberg: benkillenrosenberg.com | benrosenbergillustration.com

painting watercolors, trying to focus on several bodies of work. I'd like to do a children's book about my dog."

Humor features prominently in many of Rosenberg's works. "I started discovering ceramic art that deals with humor and irony. One of my idols is Robert Arneson, who would do


lots of funny pieces about himself, self-portraits in clay. I have made everyday objects out of clay; in the house here, I made an actual size telephone, a dartboard, a frying pan with eggs in it, a beehive. I've also made things that we're uncomfortable with, like a toilet, a urinal. The other thing I did, I started making these crazy teapots; each one is fired a different way."

Another project of Rosenberg's is constructing houses out of foam core. He says of this project, which was featured at the Disjecta Biennial, "I made houses that really struck me in my neighborhood. I took stuff from my mother's studio that she left behind, pieces of leftover scrap foam core. This was something we talked about doing together before she died. I just loved this idea of building."

Rosenberg does not shy from the controversial. While visiting Israel in 1988, he got an up-close look at the largest protest of Orthodox Jews at the Western Wall. He crafted clay pieces of the conflict, and also painted images of Orthodox and secular Jews who were arguing over the issue of theaters opening on Shabbat.

Currently, Rosenberg teaches art appreciation, history, watercolors and drawing at Clark College in Vancouver. During his free time, he visits the beaches of Manzanita to gather inspiration for his latest round of watercolors.

When asked about what inspires him, he ponders, "What intrigues me? I'm always looking for the unexpected. We all just keep walking – things just keep going by us all the time, and people spend their whole life not noticing. I notice things, and I start to question them. If they give me enough interest, I investigate them more."

He explains that his artistic view can be summed up in a line from a poem by Edna St. Vincent Millay: "All I could see from where I stood." 

Kerry Politzer is a transplant from New York to Portland. She has written for IN New York, WHERE Traveler and Dessert Professional.



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Inspirational Portraits

Artist's process and subjects offer inspiration for next generation

Story by Deborah Moon | Photos by Pete Perry

Artist Theresa Weil hopes her new exhibit featuring portraits of women leaders will inspire young people to follow their ideas – to think outside the box and become creative problem solvers.

From her inspirational subjects to her inspiring quest to create a meaningful exhibit, the clear message is that people, or even just one person, can make good things happen.

“If you don’t see an opportunity, go out and create your own opportunity,” says Theresa, who did just that when she decided to create the *Because She Cares* exhibit, which features 24 cut-paper-collage portraits of women who lead Oregon nonprofits. A biography of each woman accompanies her portrait. When Theresa decided she wanted to create a meaningful body of artwork, she herself determined the parameters, reached out to women executives and promoted the project – with far-reaching results.

The exhibit debuted Feb. 25 with a one-day exhibition in the State Capitol Galleria Lobby, then traveled to Bend in March for the Muse Conference for Women. In April Portland Community College’s Southeast Center featured the portraits in its new Students Commons building as the first art to hang in the lobby. This month the exhibit will be in Portland’s Mittleman Jewish Community Center from May 11 to 16 and moves to the Outside In Health Clinic for most of June.

It has been well received.

Before the debut of the full exhibit in Salem, State Sen. Elizabeth Steiner Hayward displayed six of the portraits in her office. “The women Theresa chose to portray have all made substantial contributions by developing or growing nonprofit organizations... Women’s contributions to the state are generally undervalued, so her work serves to bring recognition to some key members of our community,” says the senator. “The exhibit was really well received, both in terms of the artistry and creativity, and in terms of people recognizing the women in the portraits and telling stories about interactions with them. Art is a great way to connect with people, and Theresa’s work is a great example of that.”

When the exhibit comes to the MJCC on the Schnitzer Family Campus this month, it will be a bit of a homecoming for Theresa. In the late 1990s her son and daughter attended Portland Jewish Academy, which shares a campus with the



Above right: Theresa Weil in front of a self-portrait.


Above left: Theresa Weil’s portrait of Marian Fenimore, formerly head of Jewish Family and Child Service and now administrator of Sinai Family Home Services.

MJCC. When her children attended PJA, Theresa was a frequent participant in the school’s arts nights and served as an artist-in-residence for several classes. When the exhibit is at the MJCC, Theresa will meet with PJA middle schoolers and talk to them about the exhibit and the women it highlights.

During her artist talk at the MJCC (7 pm, May 13), Theresa says she also plans to reflect on the legacy of the Jewish community and art. “Jewish musicians, artists and art patrons have enriched our culture,” says Theresa.

“The MJCC is proud to host Theresa Weil’s *Because She Cares* exhibit, not only because the work is amazing (and the artist is Jewish), but mainly because the exhibit has the power to make a long-term impact,” says MJCC Operations Manager Jordana Levenick. “Theresa’s exhibit will surely inspire young women to become leaders to make our community a better place. Featuring 24 women who lead nonprofit organizations around Oregon, this exhibit will appeal to anyone who loves mixed-media art and has a passion for community building.”

When she was selecting women to include in the exhibit, Theresa says she choose not just women in leadership roles, but women who were making a difference in many diverse areas of society. “This project is about the diverse community these charities serve and the diverse group of women,” says Theresa. “All these women make our state a better place and continue to be mentors for young women to create and lead.”

Her exhibit website (becauseshecares.org) describes the women she chose: “Without exception they are passionate about what they do. And don’t doubt for a second that their work changes lives, neighborhoods and their entire communities. They’re there for the homeless, the poor, the elderly, children with learning challenges or critical illnesses, teenagers living on the streets, the hungry, those suffering from abuse, women trying to re-enter the workforce, and many of the arts organizations that bring joy and balance to *all* of our lives. What they do comes from their heart.” 

Eugene Arts Scene: The Book of Esther Rocks Eugene

By Joseph Lieberman

A beautiful, courageous and savvy Jewish girl charms the king, outsmarts the bad guy and saves her people. What's not to love about the Purim story? But now it's been re-imagined as a daring ballet driven by the beat of live rock and gospel music resonant with power and spirit. It doesn't get much better than that.

Eugene is the lucky venue that snagged this world premier of "The Book of Esther: A Rock Gospel Ballet," and the Jewish Federation of Lane County has been quick to reserve a large block of discounted tickets for the Sunday matinee on May 11 as a fundraiser.

This original work was conceived and choreographed by the Ballet Fantastique's artistic director, Donna Marisa Bontrager, and her daughter, Hannah Bontrager, the dance company's executive director, in an unprecedented collaboration with the national award-winning UO Gospel Singers led by Andiel Brown.

The legendary Esther is probably the most enthralling of the relatively few women mentioned by name in the Jewish Bible, and one whose gutsy decisions and astute actions resonate today with contemporary women. The ballet's narrative begins when Queen Vashti is banished by the drunken King Ahasuerus, and most of us are familiar with the high drama that follows. For thousands of years, knowing the story has been no spoiler to the excitement it generates with each retelling. And what a retelling this is!

"It's that dramatic, theatrical narrative which so attracted us to 'The Book of Esther,'" Hannah tells OJL. "Ever since we formed Ballet Fantastique 14 years ago, it's been about retelling compelling stories. Unlike classical ballet, which in a more abstract way is about movement set to music, we are starting with the narrative, and then the dance and music grow organically from that. In this, I think we're unique, not only in Oregon but in the nation."

Ballet Fantastique's previous productions include "Pride and Prejudice" set to jazz in the Roaring Twenties, and "Cinderella" as a rock ballet.

The core dance members are two men and six women, including Hannah and her sister, Ashley.

"We were very much born into a family of dance," Hannah says. "We used to put on performances in our basement even before we learned to write. We'd rope in our less-than-willing friends and cousins to participate."

Their Canadian-born mother, Donna Marisa, worked for many years with New York ballet companies and was also a concert pianist. She was one of 10 dancers invited to perform as part of the international Feast of the Tabernacles in Jerusalem, Israel.




Leanne Mizzoni as Esther. Photo by Stephanie Urso

In midcareer, Donna Marisa discovered the Russian Vaganova Syllabus and became an expert master teacher in that pedagogy. She uses it exclusively in training the members of Ballet Fantastique and believes in never giving an audience something too "predictable." At the same time, she takes pride in producing original work that is accessible and fun to experience.

For "The Book of Esther," Mordechai is being played by Andiel Brown, who has a solid background in dance in addition to his leading the UO Gospel Singers.

"With a chorus of 25 voices, we're not just having the Gospel Singers stand around in the background," Hannah says. "They'll actually interact with the dancers at times and be part of the story. The musicians as well are on stage."

That's an example of the process involved in each original Ballet Fantastique production. "It's a conversation between the choreographers, musicians and dancers, suggested by the story, and evolving slowly from each of these sources and the musical score," Hannah says. "Artistically and logistically, there have certainly been some challenges in staging our production with such a large choral group, but things have progressed harmoniously." 

The Ballet Fantastique production of "The Book of Esther" will run Friday, May 9, to Sunday, May 11, at the Soreng Theater in the Hult Center, Eugene. To order discounted tickets (\$28 tickets for just \$26) for the 2:30 pm Sunday matinee on May 11 as a fundraiser in support of the Jewish Federation of Lane County, contact jewishfederationlc@gmail.com.

The Huberman Violin



Joshua Bell performs in the Oregon Symphony's Classical Series at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall May 17, 18 and 19. He will also perform in Salem May 16. Photo by Lisa Marie Mazzucco

By Joshua Bell

My violin is 300 years old.

Known as the Gibson ex Huberman, the revered instrument came into my life one fateful day during the summer of 2001. I was in London, getting ready to play a “Proms” concert at the Royal Albert Hall and decided to stop by the famous violin shop J&A Beare to pick up some strings. As I entered the shop, Charles Beare was just coming out of the back room with a stunning violin in hand. He told me that it was the famous Huberman Strad, and of course I was instantly intrigued.

I soon learned all of the known details of the violin's remarkable history, which is complete with twists and turns to rival the film that I had only recently finished working on – “The Red Violin.” Believed to be one of only five or six instruments made in 1713 by Antonio Stradivari in Cremona, Italy, the violin has belonged to many, including the English violinist George Alfred Gibson. But its connection to Bronislaw Huberman is what I found particularly fascinating and somewhat personal.

Huberman was a Jewish Polish violinist who lived from 1882 to 1947. He was a child prodigy who was revered for his remarkable virtuosity and daring interpretations. Huberman studied under Joseph Joachim in Berlin, and by the age of 11 he was already touring Europe as a virtuoso. It was during one of those early tours that he met the pianist Arthur Rubinstein, who was only 6 at the time, and had not yet achieved the legendary status that he came to hold. The two musicians remained lifelong friends.

At 13 Huberman had the honor of performing the violin concerto of Johannes Brahms in the presence of the composer himself, who was stunned by his interpretation. According to biographer Max Kalbeck, “As soon as Brahms heard the sound of the violin, he pricked up his ears, during the Andante he wiped his eyes, and after the Finale he went into the green room, embraced the young fellow, and stroked his cheeks. When Huberman complained that the public applauded after the cadenza, breaking into the lovely Cantilena, Brahms replied, ‘You should not have played the cadenza so beautifully.’ ”

Huberman became one of the most celebrated musicians of his time, but in 1929 his contribution to humanity took on an added dimension. During that year he visited Palestine and came up with the idea to establish a classical music presence there. During Hitler's rise to power, Huberman had the foresight to realize he could save many Jewish artists while fulfilling his desire to start a Palestinian Orchestra. Huberman auditioned musicians from all over Europe. Those selected for the orchestra would receive contracts and, most importantly, otherwise impossible-to-get exit visas from their homeland to the British

Mandate of Palestine. Huberman raised the money for the musicians and then their families, even partnering with Albert Einstein to set up an exhaustive U.S. fundraising trip in 1936. By the end of that tour, the money for the orchestra was secured and 60 top-rate players had been chosen from Germany and Central Europe. All in all, it was a fantastically successful tour, barring one particular performance at Carnegie Hall on Feb. 28. That night Huberman chose to play the second half of his concert on his "other violin," a Guarneri del Gesu. During the applause following his performance of the Franck Sonata, Huberman's valet walked on stage to inform him that his Stradivarius had been stolen from his dressing room. The police were called while Huberman tried not to panic, continuing optimistically with his encores. The instrument had previously been stolen in 1919 from a hotel room in Vienna but was recovered days later when the thief tried to sell it. This time, Huberman was not so lucky.

There are several versions as to exactly how and why the violin was stolen, but what we know for sure is that the instrument ended up in the hands of a young freelance violinist by the name of Julian Altman. Some say Altman's mother convinced him to steal it; others report that Altman bought it from the actual thief for \$100. Regardless, Altman took great pains to conceal the violin's true identity, covering its lovely varnish with shoe polish and performing on it throughout the rest of his career, which included a stint as first chair with the National Symphony Orchestra during World War II.

Heartbroken, Huberman never saw his Stradivarius again. However, his great dream was fulfilled when the new Palestine Orchestra made its debut in December of 1936 with the great Toscanini on the podium. I like to imagine that my own relatives might have been in the audience on that opening night, as my grandfather was born there and my great grandfather was part of the first aliyah of Russian Jewish immigrants to Palestine in 1882. As for his violin, it was

played by its suspected thief for more than 50 years. In 1985 Julian Altman made a deathbed confession to his wife, Marcelle Hall, about the true identity of the instrument. She eventually returned the violin to Lloyd's of London and received a finder's fee, and the instrument underwent a nine-month restoration by J&A Beare Ltd., which noted it was like "taking dirt off the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel."

The instrument was then sold to the late British violinist Norbert Brainin of the Amadeus String Quartet. Previous to my fortuitous encounter with the violin at J&A Beare, Brainin had once let me play it after a rehearsal of the Mozart g minor string quintet, which I had the pleasure of playing with him one evening in the 1990s. "One day you might be lucky enough to have such a violin," he had said prophetically.

And so here I was in 2001, buying some strings at the violin shop when I was reintroduced to the 1713 Stradivarius. As it was handed to me, I was told it was being sold to a wealthy German industrialist for his private collection. However, after playing only a few notes on it, I vowed that this would not happen. This was an instrument meant to be played, not just admired. I fell in love with the instrument right away, and even performed that very night on it at the Royal Albert Hall. I simply did not want it to leave my hands.

This violin is special in so many ways. It is overwhelming to think of how many amazing people have held it and heard it. When I perform in Israel with the Israel Philharmonic, I am always touched to think how many of the orchestra and audience members are direct descendants of the musicians Huberman saved from the Holocaust – with funds raised by concerts performed on the very same instrument I play every day. Who knows what other adventures will come to my precious violin in the years to come? While it certainly will be enjoyed and admired long after I am not around anymore, for the time being I count myself incredibly lucky to be its caretaker on its 300th birthday. 🎻

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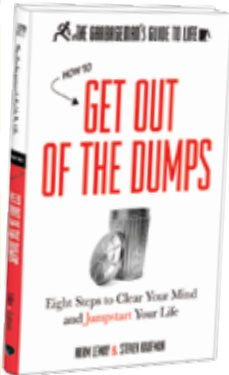
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Poker, aging and taking out the trash

Steven Kaufman



My father is 82. When he told me about the Thursday poker game at the Elsie Stuhr Senior Center in Beaverton, it sounded like a great idea. I'd learn to play cards and see my dad, who always attended

the Thursday dance in the large ballroom down the hall. When I sat down for the first time, I felt a little out of place, being far younger than the rest of the people around the poker table.

I'll never forget that game. I had a very good hand and ended up going one on one with a gentle, angelic-looking woman named Barbara. I bet big. She matched me. When I turned my cards over, I felt intensely guilty for what I was about to do to her. She looked my hand over, nodded slightly and said in a grandmotherly voice, "I'm sorry, dear." I had a flush. She had a full house and took half of my chips without batting an eye.

That's when the lesson began.

I've always looked at older people through the lens of a life already lived. They were the sum total of their traits: false teeth, gray hair and bad hearing. I had no connection to them. Their chapter was over. I was still in the middle of mine.

Then I got to know them. There was Ken, who used to be a fireman and did watercolors when he travelled through Europe. And Nick, who used to build ships, and Jerry the former accountant. Every one of those people at the table used to be my age, with families and jobs and responsibilities. They walked without canes and had busy, packed lives and hurried from place to place because the day just didn't have enough hours in it. Just a few short years ago, they lived my

life. And in a few short years, I would be living theirs. In fact, it's happening now. To a 20-something, I'm ancient.

That wasn't the lesson, though.

I co-wrote a book about getting rid of mental garbage: a guide that acts like waste management for your mind. Barbara was interested in the book and bought a copy. When she finished it, she bought five more and handed them out to her family to read. Nick bought one for himself. Two weeks later, he bought another one for his ex-wife. Word spread, and pretty soon the folks in the ballroom were buying copies.

Why would people in their supposed "twilight" years be interested in a book about mental trash? I thought about the friendships I was forming around that poker table, and the answer slowly became clear. It doesn't matter that a person is 70 or 80 years old. They want to get rid of the burdens they've been carrying around no less than a person in his or her 30s.

This realization blew up the stereotype I've had about older people: they're rigid, they're done learning and they can't (and don't want to) change. You see, I had this notion that once a person retires, they magically shed all of the emotional burdens they carried throughout their life. However, once I began to see those people at the Stuhr Center as having burdens no different from mine, I realized the folly of my thinking. We all want a lighter load, no matter how old we are.

Now I don't care if Rick can't hear me very well, or that Mike's hand trembles when he deals. It doesn't mean they're old, any more than having a driver's license means I'm young. They're just people living their lives. They still have dreams and desires and ambitions just like me. Sure, they may look different than they did 30 years ago, but the desire to dump their trash is no different from anyone else. Knowing that I'll still be working to




Thursday afternoon poker at the Stuhr Center.

better myself gives me something to look forward to, even when my back starts to hunch over and my skin starts to wrinkle.

The Torah considers old age a virtue and a blessing, and Leviticus instructs us to honor and respect the elderly. What I've learned is that respect goes a lot deeper than just giving up your seat on the bus. It's recognizing that the elderly aren't invisible – that their decades of hard work, achievement and learning aren't suddenly worthless just because they don't have a job or they're past a certain age.

A year has gone by, and I still play poker at the Stuhr Center. Truth be told, I'm not much of a card player, but I don't care. When I come away from that table, I feel like a winner.

Every time. 



Steven Kaufman is co-author of the book *The Garbageman's Guide To Life: How To Get Out of the Dumps* (thegarbagemansguide.com). Known among friends as a brainiac with an incessant curiosity, Steven graduated with honors from Stanford University. He traveled the world helping Fortune 500 companies clean up their operations and now spends his time talking trash – that is, passionately teaching and speaking about waste management for the mind.



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Fighting Isolation with Inclusion

By Liz Rabiner Lippoff

Friendly House's mission is "to create a thriving community for people of all ages and backgrounds through quality educational, recreational and other life-sustaining services." A Portland institution since 1930, Friendly House in Northwest Portland has three core service areas: children's programs, community recreation and education, and community services. According to Mya Chamberlin, director of community services, most programs are available free or at low cost, but people across the economic spectrum participate.

Friendly House is always adapting its programming to accommodate its population. Demand for senior services, for example, has grown as aging Baby Boomers

swell the population. Just last year, Friendly House added "Community Concierge" to its already robust roster of senior services. It provides personal assistance and service coordination for members of the community who actually do have the means to pay for services. Their neighbors asked for it, Chamberlin says.

"They told me, 'You have senior programs for people with limited means but nothing for us.' Some say they actually choose Friendly House Community Concierge as a way to 'give back,'" Chamberlin notes. "Entire families have grown up here."

One interesting senior program, Elder Resource Alliance, was created in 2001. Later called Gay & Gray and recently renamed SAGE Metro Portland, it directly addresses the unique needs of LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) seniors.

"It was a risk," Mya acknowledges. "We came out of the closet, as it were."

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LIVE WELL. RETIRE BETTER.

Would funders pull money from Friendly House because of this program? Most funders, though, embrace it.” It is also in line with today’s widespread focus on cultural sensitivity and awareness, a hot concept in healthcare but also in employment, education and other environments.

A lot of seniors feel marginalized, “invisible,” but it can be especially difficult for gay seniors. Many of them have already faced years of discrimination. Social activities organized by the greater LGBT community tend to skew young. And their straight peers may be uncomfortable with homosexuality.

SAGE provides advocacy, housing assistance, case management, education, and social and support groups. In 2013 the program won Portland Monthly’s “Light A Fire Award,” in the “Honoring our Elders” category.

SAGE participant David Sheriff, 71, says he found Friendly House at a critical time. “I was feeling very vulnerable about a lot of things ... health issues ...



Friendly House Director of Community Services Mya Chamberlin talks to attendees at the SAGE barbecue last summer.



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David Sheriff participates in a Pride weekend last summer.

finances," he remembers. "It was eye opening to meet so many others who were experiencing the same stuff I was.

"We are part of the larger LGBT community, but we have our own set of concerns as we get older. For example: if we move to a care facility, do we have to go back into the closet? Will we be subject to ridicule?"

"Loneliness. Isolation. How we relate to the gay and lesbian population around us. And the health issues. It is so rewarding to be able to sit with people who, when I say something, they just get it."

Other organizations are beginning to recognize this growing demographic group. Robby Sherwin is a board member on AARP's relatively new Oregon State Diversity Advisory Council. "The need to address senior LGBT housing, health and societal issues is only growing exponentially, as the population of all boomers cross that imaginary threshold into "age-related issues."

In the Jewish community, Cedar Sinai Park strives to maintain a welcoming environment on its campus, which includes Robison Jewish Health Center and Rose Schnitzer Manor, as well as in the affordable housing apartments it owns.

In his 16 years as CEO at Cedar Sinai Park in Portland, David Fuks has had only had one resident, years ago, who reported being uncomfortable.


"It raised the bar from our perspective to be sure this is an open, sensitive place where everyone is welcome," Fuks says. While Cedar Sinai Park doesn't have a specific program or service delivery model that focuses on LGBT residents, with employees who come from all over the world, cross-cultural

competence is a priority both in terms of service delivery and workplace policy and practice. It is a campus, Fuks says, where people must feel safe.

The “Guide to LGBT Friendly Senior Housing in Oregon, 2014,” produced by SAGE, cites all four of Cedar Sinai Park’s subsidized affordable housing buildings in Portland with four stars.

Rabbi Michael Cahana of Congregation Beth Israel in Portland acknowledges that this can be a sensitive issue. For many, the Biblical text expressly rejects homosexuality. In our American “culture wars,” he says, the antigay voice was often the religious voice.

“In large segments of the Jewish community, however, we have taken the ideal of inclusion to be essential,” Cahana says. “I think that Jewish organizations that are welcoming should be very public about it.”

For those who want to raise their level of awareness, Friendly House offers quality diversity training for students and professionals in the fields of nursing, social work, naturopathy, gerontology, adult in-home care staff and senior housing providers, as well as to government employees, LGBT organizations and others. 

Liz Rabiner Lippoff is a medical marketing consultant, freelance writer and community volunteer. LizInk.biz

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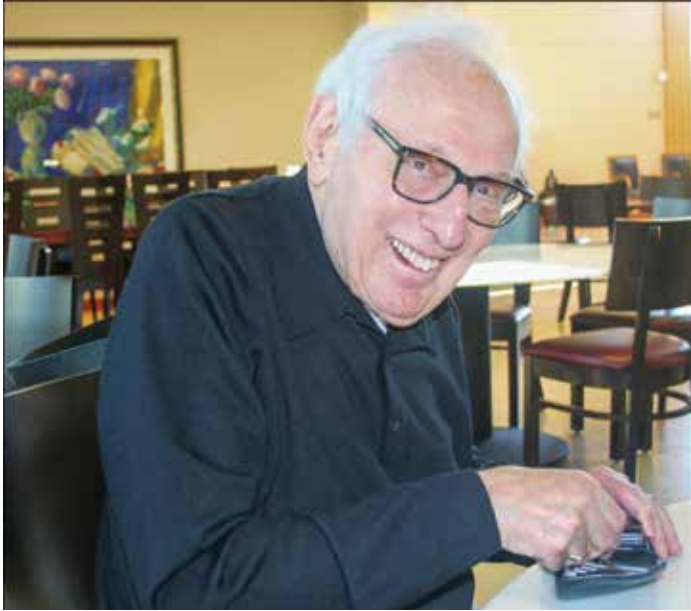
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ACTIVE INDEPENDENT SENIOR LIVING

94-year-old Herb Crane can't stop moving

by Polina Olsen



Herb Crane calls himself a creature of habit. Doing the same thing every day is how he likes to live. So, it's no surprise that the Mittleman Jewish Community Center's January Member of the Month has been working out for 35 years. His recent switch from another athletic club is one change Herb recommends.

Of course, at 94 years old, Herb has seen wafts and waves. Only his sense of humor and positive outlook have remained the same. We sat down for coffee and a long talk one morning between his exercise routine and lunch date with a friend.

"I grew up in Atlantic City, New Jersey – Sodom and Gomorrah," says Herb, who was born in 1919. "This was during the Depression and Prohibition. Liquor, gambling and prostitution were illegal, and Atlantic City offered all of it. They officially called us The World's Playground, but our non-official slogan was 'Give 'em what they want.'"


Herb grew up working in his father's hardware store. "My father was from Lithuania, my mother from Bessarabia," he says. "I graduated high school in 1937, got married and volunteered as a combat infantry man in WW II. I grew up very Jewish and I still am. They say 'However I choose to practice or not, Judaism is where I belong both by heritage and by choice.' That describes me."

Herb joined a hardware distribution business after returning from the armed forces. In 1951 he came to Portland to develop hardware departments in Fred Meyer stores.

"They called Portland the little old lady on the Willamette," Herb says. "It was old-fashioned, the most liberal conservative town I ever knew and the most conservative liberal town. I loved the openness of the people. At that time, if you were waiting for a bus, anyone would stop and pick you up. Portland had parks as big as Atlantic City. That was something my family loved. Portland was and is a town designed for comfortable living."

Herb went on to start his own sales-representative business employing as many as six people. "I sold anything you can find in a Lowe's: plumbing, hardware, paint, electrical appliances," he says. He and his late wife had three children and joined Congregation Neveh Shalom, where he is still a member. At age 94, he has outlived his children but enjoys grandchildren, great-grandchildren and even one 5-year-old great-great-grandchild. "The secret to my longevity are the genes I inherited from my mother, Herb says. "She lived until she was 97½."

For the past 39 years, Herb has lived in a condominium overlooking the water in Sellwood. His much-younger wife works in the office at Fred Meyer. "I get up every day at 8 am," he says. "I have orange juice only, drive to the MJCC and work out for a half hour or so. There are nine or 10 machines I use. John, the trainer, picked them out when I first came. I like to sit in the steam room afterwards."

Herb has other interests. Shakespeare is his favorite author. "He describes life as a tale told by an idiot," Herb says. "It was a description then and certainly is now. We live in Sellwood and there are good restaurants. I try to go to lunch with old friends every day, however at this age, I've outlived three generations of them. When you live long enough, you experience all of life's ups and downs. I've had a number of tragedies, but put it all together and it's been a good go." 


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Magic at Rose Schnitzer Manor



Eddy Shuldman leads a writing workshop at Rose Schnitzer Manor each week. Photo by Polina Olsen

By Polina Olsen

“The Point of the Lesson is to Liberate our Internal Editors” is displayed in large letters across a projection screen. The Rose Schnitzer Manor’s upstairs activity room is dimly lit so residents can read easily. Elderly students, some in wheelchairs, gather around a large wooden table for the weekly writing class led by veteran artist and educator Eddy Shuldman.

“There’s always a part of our brain that says, ‘I can’t say that,’ ” she begins. “I say, ‘Yes you can.’ Edit it out later if it’s harsh or too personal. But don’t silence creativity.”

Over the years, creativity has flourished under Eddy’s leadership of the class through nuances of fiction, nonfiction, poetry,

prose, memoir, fantasy and drama. This day’s exercise in free association helps students loosen up. They began by writing a story around the word “private” and every minute incorporate a new word ... tire... clogging ...

“I wrote rubbish,” says Sam, the only man in the room, as the session ends.

“We feel everything we write must be a gem,” Eddy replies. “I would like to give us all permission to practice.”

Cedar Sinai Park resident Diane Budner has attended Eddy’s class for three years. “I hadn’t written since my high school newspaper,” she says. “I thought, ‘What would I write about,’

but Eddy draws it out. She gives us a prompt like ‘She put her book down, got up and went into the room.’ From there I start writing. My stories seemed to be lying there waiting to get out.”

Evelyn Hirsch, 85, moved from New York to be near her daughter. “I used to write plays and short stories and still do,” she says. CSP residents recently preformed her musical “The Purim Spiel,” with Rabbi Abby Cohen playing the high executioner. The writing class has introduced her to genres such as rhyming poetry. “Eddy brings out the best,” she says. “I’ve been taking the class for four years and hope to continue for many more. We love her.”

Others with expertise join the group for special projects. Carole Glauber, author of *Witch of Kodakery: The Photography of Myra Albert Wiggins*, integrated her photography workshop into the writing class.

“Eddy decided they should write poetry about their photos,” Carole says. “I discussed and demonstrated new ways of looking at their environment. They’re at Rose Schnitzer Manor and used to seeing things the same way.” On a field trip around the campus using mainly borrowed cameras, Carole urged students to look up and down, find patterns and zoom in on details. A poetry reading and exhibit in Zidell Hall followed.

“To have someone professional as a guide for how to take pictures was a new and refreshing experience,” says CSP resident Marion Gans, who moved from Connecticut in 2012. “And Eddy not only knows her subject but has teaching skills and sensitivity to people. If Rose Schnitzer Manor didn’t offer anything else, I’d stay here for this class.”

Still Marion’s poem “Portrait of a Bitch” drew uneasy gasps during the Zidell Hall poetry reading – until her corresponding photo of Precious the service dog flashed across the screen. “Of course, the dog’s parents got the biggest kick out of it,” Marion says. “I don’t know if they showed Precious her photo, but they did have it framed.”

A March writing class ushered in a new and unusual topic. “We’re going into the realm of Magical Realism,” Eddy announced as students pulled up their chairs and arranged their notes. “It’s a relatively new genre where magic elements are embedded in an otherwise realistic story. Imagine Chayim walking down the hall with his walker and suddenly he is elevated above the floor and floating. I want to use the book *Like Water*



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Marion Gans took this photograph of Precious during the combination poetry/photography workshop. Photo courtesy Marion Gans

“We’re brainstorming. When you make a nice roast you marinate it. That’s what you’re giving your brain.” said Eddy Shuldman.



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Portrait of a Bitch

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Coy, devious paths to circumvent plans
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Of gossip that stirs up a scandal...
Does she foment confusion while smiling and fawning
Pretending to care while me-first is her mantra
Is it all just an act, this demeanor so cordial
Is she really an ally or smooth operator?

She heeds a command: sit, beg; we'll contend
The cute little pug is human's best friend.

Marion Gans

Portrait of a Bitch, by Marion Gans

for *Chocolate*. It's an imaginative love story with recipes and home remedies. It takes place in Mexico in the early 1900s and uses Magical Realism. For example, when Pedro gives Tita pink roses, they turn red when she touches them."

The class would not begin by writing Magical Realism, but rather step-by-step study elements leading up to it. "We're brainstorming," Eddy said. "When you make a nice roast you marinate it. That's what you're giving your brain."


Exercises began with two lists. "Think about your own life or a fictional character's and list times you wanted to rebel," Eddy said. "Now make another list. Think about a time you struggled to figure out how to assert your personal identity. Maybe you wanted to be independent, and someone wanted you to just stay home and get married. I would love to hear one possible scenario from each of you."

After concentrated writing for several minutes, some students put down their pens and began to read.

Marion: "My fictional character rebels against her family and works for a Republican candidate."

Diane: "In college, I saw someone my father didn't want me to see."

Sam: "In 1948, instead of flying home, I join the Israeli army. It's asserting identity. The war is real, but my idea is fantasy."

Eddy continued with examples from greats like *Beloved* by Toni Morrison and *100 Years of Solitude* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez. Then it was time to break until the next week. Homework meant finding someone with Netflix and streaming the film version of *Like Water for Chocolate*. "The movie is pure Magical Realism," Eddy said. "It would be great if you could get together and have a movie party. There's a Roku here. Have popcorn." 

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Before Oregon had a Sephardic community, it had David Solis-Cohen



PORTLAND'S NUMBER ONE BOOSTER – David Solis-Cohen, scion of a prominent East Coast Sephardic family, was an important civic and religious leader in Portland for half a century. Photo courtesy of OJM/OJM 02493

By Sura Rubenstein

Next month Portland's Sephardic community will be celebrating "A Centennial of Sephardic Life in Portland," with a major exhibit at the Oregon Jewish Museum and other activities.

But before there was a Portland Sephardic *community*, there were individual Sephardic Jews who made their way to Oregon – and who became important leaders both in the Jewish community and in civic life.

The most notable was David Solis-Cohen, scion of a prominent Philadelphia Sephardic family, who came to Portland in 1878 by way of California.

"Without doubt, he was the single most important Jew of that Oregon community," historian William M. Kramer wrote in a 1996 publication of the Western States Jewish History Association. "(He) served with equal vigor his nation and his faith."

Kramer describes Solis-Cohen as "the perfect blending of American and Jew," noting that while his mother was Sephardi, his father was Ashkenazi, and he was descended from both colonial Jewish and immigrant stock. He was religiously observant, enjoyed leading services in numerous congregations and was also a noted writer, merchant, lawyer and public personality.

Born in 1850 in Philadelphia, Solis-Cohen was active in Jewish and cultural life there before moving to California in 1877, where he helped found a synagogue in Oakland and a Young Men's Hebrew Association in San Francisco.

But it was in Portland, where he moved a year later, that he found a home and a community.

"The city breaks upon the traveller's view like a vision," he wrote to the *Jewish Record*, a Philadelphia publication, describing his experience of sailing up the Willamette River.

He was, Kramer says, the city's "Number One Booster." After working as a bookkeeper for a local firm, he began his own business, the Golden Rule Bazaar, also known as Cohen, Davis and Company, a wholesale dealer and importer of toys and notions. It soon became the leading wholesaler in its field throughout the Northwest.

By 1889, Kramer reports, Solis-Cohen was regarded as "prominent among the younger of the businessmen who have materially advanced the mercantile interests of Oregon."

Solis-Cohen served on the executive committee of the Portland Chamber of Commerce and as director of the Portland Trust Company, was vice president of the Franklin Building and Loan Association, and was commissioner of the State Board of Charities and Corrections from 1890 to 1892. He also served on the state Board of Immigration and as

Portland's police commissioner.

Solis-Cohen's youngest brother, Isaac Leeser Cohen, eventually joined him in Portland, working first with his brother and then becoming involved in the developing motion picture business. Their sister, Salome Solis-Cohen Bernstein, also settled in Portland, where she became a leader in the Council of Jewish Women and also was among the city's first kindergarten teachers. Her husband, the attorney Alexander Bernstein, and her brother, David, became law partners.

—●●●●●—
"The city breaks upon the traveller's view like

a vision," David Solis-Cohen describing his experience of sailing up the Willamette River.

—●●●●●—
Kramer describes Solis-Cohen as "a man for all synagogue seasons," who was especially active in congregations Beth Israel and Ahavai Sholom, but also in many others, including Congregation Ahavath Achim, the Sephardic synagogue founded in 1916.

Solis-Cohen participated in laying the cornerstone for Beth Israel's second synagogue, at Southwest 12th Avenue, in 1888 and spoke at its dedication a year later. He repeated both roles a generation later, when a new synagogue was built at the congregation's current location in Northwest Portland. At both dedications, it was Solis-Cohen who was given the honor of lighting the *ner tamid*, the eternal light.

"The Jewish religion is above all things a religion of the home," he said at the dedication of the second Beth Israel. "The law is not merely to be deposited in our temples – it is to be a living symbol of light, to always be with us."

He also was part of the cornerstone ceremonies for Congregation Ahavai Sholom's first two synagogues – and

Edgar Lazarus II, whose ancestors were among the early Sephardic arrivals in the United States, made important contributions to Portland life as an architect and in the city's sports community.

According to a biography by Edward H. Teague, head of the University of Oregon's Architecture & Allied Arts Library, Lazarus said that his family, longtime residents of Charleston, SC, came to the Americas from Spain in the 16th century with the explorer Hernando de Soto.

Lazarus was born in Baltimore, MD, in 1868, and graduated from the Maryland Institute of Art and Design in 1888. After briefly working for the military in Washington, D.C., he moved to Portland in 1891, where he at times was a partner in several prominent architectural firms as well as being a solo practitioner.

He is perhaps most noted for his design of the Vista House at Crown Point, but he also designed the Clatsop and Morrow County courthouses, a 1903-04 extension of Portland Pioneer Courthouse and the Palace of Architecture at the 1905 Lewis & Clark Exposition. He also was supervising architect for the Portland Customs House and designed numerous private homes.

In the Jewish community, Lazarus designed the first Neighborhood House and the Ahavai Sholom synagogue on Southwest Park Avenue.

He was a founding member of the Oregon chapter of the American Institute of Architects, also serving as chapter president. He also was a founder of the Portland Hunt Club and designed the first Multnomah Amateur Athletic Club building.

Lazarus died in Portland on Oct. 2, 1939, at the age of 71. Carl Gohs, a Portland architectural writer, said in a 1969 article in *The Oregonian* that Lazarus "is among the least known of major architects to have practiced in Oregon."

For more information about Edgar Lazarus, see a biography by Edward H. Teague, head of the University of Oregon's Architecture & Allied Arts Library: pages.uoregon.edu/ehteague/lazarus

as Gary Miranda notes in a history of Congregation Neveh Shalom, Solis-Cohen is reported to have officiated at the laying of cornerstones of every synagogue built during his 50 years in Portland, and of several outside the city as well.

"One would be hard put, in fact" Miranda says, "to find an organization of which (Solis-) Cohen was not a prominent member. What he didn't join, he was elected to."

Although Solis-Cohen and his wife, the former Bertha Kahn of Portland, had no children, he was actively involved in children's religious education at both Beth Israel and Ahavai Sholom, and also promoted adult education.

He was an organizer and founder of B'nai B'rith lodges and also of the B'nai B'rith (later Jewish Community) Center, and was involved as well with the Royal Arch Masons, the Ancient Order of United Woodmen and the Elks, where he served as an exalted ruler.

Kramer notes that the Masons made Solis-Cohen their poet laureate, while the Elks named him "the Bard of the Portland Lodge," both in tribute to his writing and speaking skills. In Philadelphia, Solis-Cohen wrote for two local papers, and later published poems, plays and other works.

His musical, "Esther," was produced in Portland in both 1880 and 1894, Kramer records, with proceeds from the first production divided between Ahavai Sholom and Beth Israel, and from the second donated to Portland religious schools.

Solis-Cohen worked closely with Rabbi Stephen S. Wise during his tenure at Beth Israel, and, like Wise, became a leading supporter of the nascent Zionist movement. He was a featured speaker at the inaugural meeting of the Zionist Society of Portland in 1901, and by 1903 had become its president.


Judith Margles, director of the Oregon Jewish Museum, notes that "Portland's Jewish community was unusual in its broad and vital support for Zionism" during the early years of the 20th century, when Solis-Cohen was active.

Solis-Cohen died at his home in Northwest Portland on Nov. 7, 1928, at the age of 78. His wife, Bertha, who was



PHILADELPHIA ROOTS – This photo shows David Solis-Cohen as a teenager in Philadelphia, where his mother's Solis family had lived since 1803. Solis-Cohen, one of nine children, was eventually joined in Portland by a brother, Isaac Leaser Cohen, and a sister, Salome Bernstein. Photo courtesy of OJM/OJM 03525

at his side, died just seven weeks later, on Dec. 26.

Rabbi Julius J. Nodel, writing in his centennial history of Congregation Beth Israel, said Solis-Cohen held a unique place in local history. "(He) was identified with all Jewish efforts in Portland," Nodel said. "For him, Judaism was one whole concept. He threw his weight behind any movement that drew Jews from different facets together." 

Sura Rubenstein is a Portland writer. In the interests of full disclosure, she is also the guest curator for "Vida Sefaradi: A Century of Sephardic Life in Portland," an exhibit opening June 11 at the Oregon Jewish Museum. For details about the exhibit, visit ojm.org.

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Pew study confirms trends seen by Hillel director

By Will Rubin

All across the United States, Jewish organizations are seeing a trend among young adults that's been long in the making. According to the latest Religious Landscape Survey conducted by the Pew Forum, nearly one-third of Jewish young adults (ages 18-29) don't identify as religious, with only 15% of all Jewish adults saying that Judaism is based mainly on religion.

In the eyes of Andy Gitelson, executive director at Oregon Hillel in Eugene, the numbers reported in the Pew study don't represent an aberration, but rather a confirmation of what he's seen in his life's work.

"I think if you were shocked by what you read in the Pew study, you've had your eyes closed the last few years," Gitelson says. "I'm not nearly as focused on observant Judaism as my parents were, and my parents weren't as observant as their parents were."

Active in Jewish communities in Indiana and Maryland before coming to Eugene, Gitelson feels that the basic model of introducing and educating young Jews hasn't evolved to meet the demands of the Millennial generation. Gitelson cited a Miami synagogue that integrates texting and social media into its weekly services as an example of the innovation needed in Jewish communities.


"We need to be creative without trading in our values," he says. "In what ways can we utilize multi- and social media as a way to reach out to a population? The younger generation has totally different communication skills than previous ones."

Gitelson and those working directly with college populations aren't the only ones concerned with the dulling of Jewish identity. Rabbi Boris Dolin attended the University of Oregon and returned to Eugene as a rabbi at Temple Beth Israel.

Dolin, who worked at TBI while in college, says that nowadays the only young adults he sees regularly are those who work in the Talmud Torah program. Dolin admits that even he wasn't active in Jewish life away from campus, a trend he continues to see today.

"In some ways, Hillel is a bubble on campus, and it's an incredible bubble to be in," Dolin says. "Jewish life is so diverse that getting students to see some of that while they're still in college is very important, not only for religious identity but for career building and networking."

Dolin and Gitelson have talked previously about creating partnerships between the Hillel on campus and the nearby synagogue, focusing mainly on outreach to graduate students who may not be comfortable in the undergraduate atmosphere of Hillel. Both are committed to adapting to the current representation of Jewish life while keeping true to its religious roots.

"I think if we stay more traditional in our current format and structure of Judaism, we can still stay more connected to current and future generations," Gitelson says. 

Will Rubin is a junior at the University of Oregon majoring in journalism. A lifelong resident of Eugene, Will has covered the Oregon Ducks for the Oregon Daily Emerald and AddictedToQuack.com; he currently writes for DuckTerritory.com.

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MISHLOACH MANOT - Children from Camp Gan Israel prepare to deliver mishloach manot, gifts of food for Purim.

PURIM FUN - Children at the Gan Portland Jewish Preschool, including Shaina Franco (below) and Ori Haliva (below left), dress up in costumes. The school put out Purim costumes for dramatic playtime in the weeks leading up to Purim to encourage the children to role play the different characters.



Tulen Center teaches kids self-defense and self-confidence

By Jenn Director Knudsen

The traditional 10-year anniversary gift is tin. But at Tulen Center the milestone gift is something more permanent and much less flimsy: self-confidence. And the center does that out daily, not just for special occasions.

Tulen Center, in Scholls Plaza in Raleigh Hills, teaches the Indonesian martial art of Poekoelan Tjimindie Tulen. The center's founders, husband/wife team Jeff Denson and Silvia Smart, write on the center's website that Poekoelan "draws on the most effective elements of judo, kempo, kung fu and karate."

They continue, "Since Poekoelan is a complete martial art, it's much more than just self-defense. (Our) students find well-being and empowerment of body, discipline of mind and strength of spirit."

In the 10 years since Tulen Center's founding, Denson and Smart each have earned the art's highest level, Goeroe (pronounced GOO-roo), which is a fifth-degree black belt. As their center has gained adherents through creative and increased programming, it's turning out ever more confident kids, teens and adults. Since 2003, Tulen Center has grown from four students of all ages to 84 Poekoelan practitioners.

Take Zoë Drozdowski, 11, who attends Maplewood Elementary School and has been training in Poekoelan since she was 8. At first, this petite fifth-grader found the idea of Poekoelan itself exotic, but soon she was hooked on the martial art for more profound reasons.

"It being a martial art form from Indonesia was the first thing that attracted me to participate. The caring and kind staff and peers keep me going back," she says. And it's a good thing she does. She shares the following story: "When I got hit by a fourth-grader last year, I had the confidence to stand up for myself and tell him to back off."

Chris Binnett recounts a similar Tulen Center effect on his daughter, Audrey Binnett, 10, also a fifth-grader.

Chris is a long-time practitioner of Shaolin Kung Fu and wanted a martial art to be part of his daughter's life, too. Chris says he likes Poekoelan's inclusion of meditation, which helps connect the mind to the body. "The most important thing (in martial arts) is connecting the self with the body through physical motion, and Tulen Center does that," Chris explains.

Audrey, who attends Raleigh Park Elementary School, has been practicing Poekoelan for three years and recently



Henry Smart-Denson, Kavin Iyengar, Megan Godsby, Alter Wiener, Joe Charters and Ozzie Graham.

Survivor inspires students

Holocaust survivor Alter Wiener recently spoke to children at the Tulen Center, a martial arts studio celebrating its 10th anniversary. Wiener is the author of *From A Name to A Number: A Holocaust Survivor's Autobiography*.

"Alter Wiener was amazing," says Silvia Smart, who founded Tulen Center 10 years ago with her husband, Jeff Denson. "I keep running into parents and kids who were there, and we are all still talking about this with our families and in our communities. What a man!"

Wiener has shared his life story with 877 life audiences beginning in November 2000. "My audiences are schools (elementary, middle and high schools), universities, churches, synagogues, prisons etc.," says Wiener. "According to my records I spoke in aggregate to 137,000 people. This figure doesn't include those hundreds of thousands of people who heard me on nine TV and radio stations."

Comments from Tulen students include:

Jade, age 10: Thank you for coming to talk to us. I learned many things from you, especially to be thankful for what I have.

Joe, 11: I sincerely thank you for your sacrifice in reliving your life to educate and inspire the minds of today's youth.

Henry, 13: It's hard to imagine these things happening to anybody. What can we do to make sure this never happens again?

Megan, 15: There is so much to learn about history and how it applies to what's happening in the world today. Mr. Wiener helped me see those connections.

Emilia, 15: In school, in all my history classes over the years, we've never learned about the Holocaust. Why not?

earned a rank that allows her to teach other students – both children and adults – key skill sets.

Just as Poekoelan emphasizes flexibility of mind and body to all its students and teachers, Smart and Denson demonstrate their flexible thinking via ever-expanding activities and courses at Tulen Center.

“No-Go-Yell-Tell!” is a popular, brass-tacks self-defense class for kids that Smart instructs at the center, as well as at recreation centers, schools and other venues around town. Tulen Center also hosts “One Hour of Power,” a self-defense class for girls and women ages 12 and up.

In addition to offering a bevy of classes taking practitioners through every level of the discipline, the center runs summer camps and community-building events, like family nights at the Copper Monkey Event Center in Beaverton, where students and their parents cut loose playing laser tag and video games that are throwbacks to the Pac-Man-centric 1980s.

Smart instructs a variety of one-off self-defense classes for free all around the Portland metro area, including at Portland State University, recreation centers, and elementary, middle and high schools.

Tulen Center classes and activities always are upbeat, but are infused, too, with a sense of the real world.

For example, Tulen Center’s Ken Westin – a Poekoelan black belt – has a background in the technical side of law enforcement, including having developed technologies used by

the U.S. Homeland Security Investigations’ Child Exploitation Investigations Unit.

In January – and likely again in the future – Westin instructed the center’s first “Cyber Self-Defense” workshop that includes topics like cyber-bullying, online privacy, malware and basic home-computer security.

Explains Smart: “Although our program provides skills for dealing with physical dangers, we are quite aware of how the virtual world has become intertwined with our daily lives.”

Dangers indeed are out there, and self-preparation should become a way of life. So, too, must the basics, like listening to and respecting authority figures and cleaning up after yourself.

Kati Carney, mother of Thomas Carney, 6, said her son’s beginning Poekoelan classes are very disciplined. “I’ve never seen a class with kids those ages where no one breaks off; they all just listen, pay attention and stay together. They all have a lot of focus,” Kati says.

Chris Binnett, Audrey Binnett’s dad, is a big Tulen Center fan; he wishes its instructors could reside on his daughter’s shoulders.

“In most aspects of her life, she’s almost flaky and unguided,” Chris says of his daughter. “But for some reason, the Goeroes (Smart and Denson) got her number early. She works hard and always wants their respect. I keep joking with them, ‘Could you get her to clean her room?’”



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Portland teens grow in Israel



Joseph Spector, Matan Horenstein and Jordan Runstein flash the Oregon "O" symbol during a visit to the Western Wall in Jerusalem. The three are on the Bar Ilan Israel Experience Program.



Josh Braunstein, Maya Hendin and Isaiah Elder at Tmol Shilshom in Jerusalem.



Shoshi Singer (on left) visits an IDF base after her Midreshet HaRova gap year team ran for the IDF in the Jerusalem marathon.

By Deborah Moon

Several Oregon teens are spending a gap year in Israel before they start college in the fall. Maya Hendin, Matan Horenstein, Joseph Spector, Isaiah Elder, Josh Brauntstein, Shoshana Singer, Avi Berne, Gabe Adler and Jordan Runstein are all spending this year deepening their connections with the Jewish homeland.

Many benefits are associated with students spending a year between high school and college to travel, volunteer, study, intern or work. The American Gap Association (americangap.org) reports, "(T)here are reams of anecdotal and qualitative data about the myriad benefits of gap years. Generally, these include: increased maturity, greater 'ownership' of the student's education, increased self-awareness, greater global awareness, fluency in a foreign language, and of course self-confidence."

A gap year in Israel offers the additional benefit of an incredible Israel experience to deepen teens understanding of their heritage and culture.

"Israel offers thousands of years of Jewish history, cities that fuse the ancient with the modern, a variety of ethnic communities living side by side and global leadership in many of today's most relevant fields – it's the ideal place to take a year 'on' before college," according to Masa Israel (masaisrael.org), a joint project of the Government of Israel and the Jewish Agency for Israel.

We connected via email with four of the Oregon teens currently in Israel and asked them about their experiences.

Maya Hendin is in the Nativ College Leadership Program. She attended Portland Jewish Academy from kindergarten to eighth grade and spent many summers at Young Judaea day and overnight camps. She and her family are long-time members of Congregation Neveh Shalom. In the fall she plans to attend Western Washington University.

Matan Horenstein is on the Bar Ilan Israel Experience and plans to attend Yeshiva University in the fall. His family belongs to Congregation Shaarie Torah. He attended PJA until fourth grade and spent summers at Camp Young Judaea West and NCSY Summer Camps in Israel.

Also on the Bar Ilan Program and a Shaarie Torah member is Joseph Spector. A PJA student until fifth grade, he spent summers at Camp Young Judaea West and NCSY Sports Camp.

He plans to attend the University of Oregon in the fall.

When Shoshana (Shoshi) Singer's family moved to Portland from Minnesota, she entered second grade at PJA, where she remained through fifth grade. Her family belongs to Congregation Kesser Israel, and she attended Camp Young Judaea West. When she finishes her gap year with Midreshet HaRova, she plans to attend Brandeis University.

Following are the teens' comments on their experiences thus far. Their answers have been edited for brevity and clarity.

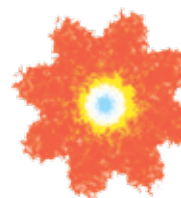
What has been the highlight of your year so far?

Maya: There hasn't been one single moment that has stood out above the rest, but my volunteering in both Jerusalem and Karmiel have been extremely rewarding and memorable.

Matan: The traveling aspect has been incredible. I have traveled from north to the south of Israel, and I've seen different cultures in every city. I've been to Tsfat, an elevated city surrounded by gorgeous mountains and full of ancient Jewish history, and to the lowest point on Earth, the Dead Sea – so salty you float. The other part is the education aspect. I've been able to learn with different rabbis and professors on topics ranging from the modern literary approach to the ethics of our forefathers. I have made several friends I will cherish for the rest of my life.

Joseph: Experiencing Purim in Israel. It has always been one of my favorite holidays, and it was even better in Israel. It was very special to see people dressed up, giving tzedakah and offering mishloach manot. On the first day of Purim, we had a beautiful, and meaningful, festive meal on campus with singing, dancing and storytelling. The next day we went to Jerusalem for Shushan Purim, something we can't experience in America. It was incredible to walk around with friends and feel that we wouldn't have been able to come to Jerusalem if it weren't for Mordechai's and Ester's efforts in the Purim story. It was a very uplifting feeling.

Shoshi: There are two very different facets. The first is having the chance to develop through hard work,



learning how to grapple with Jewish texts and asking questions that get to the core of being both a good Jew, and more universally, a good human. The second relates more to the chavayot (experiences) outside of the Midrasha. By spending Shabbatot in a different place each week and doing hikes and tours all over the country, I have learned quite a bit about our people, our land and how I view myself impacting both.

What about Israel/Israeli society surprised you?

Maya: I knew that Israel was a Jewish state, but it became more real while living here. For example, I work on a farm and every seventh year, they don't grow plants from the ground; everything has to be grown in pots or on tarps in greenhouses. This is for shmita, which I didn't realize that Israel follows even for the nonreligious farms like the one I volunteer on. The coming year on the Jewish calendar is shmita, so we are preparing for it.

Matan: The diversity. I've always learned that Israel was a diverse country, but this year was really an eye opener. On my Bar Ilan campus, you can find Muslims, Christians and Jews of all different races and denominations.

Joseph: Although Israelis may seem rough around the edges, there is a real sense of brotherhood here. Everyone is always looking out for everyone. Although some Israelis don't love American teenagers, most commend our efforts to speak Hebrew and integrate in society. **Soshi:** Things always seem to work out here. In general I find the people plan less, but that lends itself to the beauty of spontaneity and helping each other. Israelis will put in extreme effort to help a stranger. The sense of caring and brotherhood is something I will sincerely miss.

Is Israel more important to you now?

Maya: Israel was real to me before, but now it feels less like just a religious center with ruins and beaches and hummus and people yelling, and more of a place where people have their everyday lives. Even if I knew that before, this year I was really able to experience it.

Matan: Absolutely. Israel is not only the country where all Jews can feel safe, but it also ensures the preservation of Judaism. In Israel, I feel comfortable and safe walking the streets wearing a kippah. Israel is also a light unto nations. The amount of medical and technological advancements discovered in this country is mind boggling.

Joseph: I have been heavily involved in the Israel Advocacy Program designed to teach us about how to defend and advocate for Israel on college campuses. I have learned that Israel is an important place for a lot of the world. I plan on being an advocate, defender and voice for Israel on my college campus using my hands-on and personal experience and interaction with the people in the places actually involved in the conflict – something a lot of anti-Israel groups on campus do not have.

Soshi: Absolutely. This country is beautiful, but underlying the physical beauty is the meaning infused in living a life here. Sometimes it feels like a dream – to walk in a land given to our ancestors, to see soldiers (people my age or even younger!) be proud to fight for Eretz and Midinat Yisrael, or to pass children playing in the streets of Jerusalem and thus fulfilling the prophecy in Zechariah Chapter 8. I feel blessed that this is a reality in our homeland.

Anything else you want to share?

Matan: I've been taking courses on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and I've been able to travel and see what we hear about on the news (and what we don't see on the news) for myself. The conflict is far from being black and white. I visited an Arab village that is split in two by the green line. I also spent Shabbat in a settlement deep in the West Bank and saw their lifestyle. I got the chance to speak with people in both places, which is something I will never forget.

Joseph: I cannot stress enough how important it is for teens in our community to attend summer and gap year programs in Israel. It is the land of our forefathers and our land now. I have had the best year of my life so far. One experience that stood out to me was when my friends and I were having a picnic and wanted some soda. We went into the falafel shop around the corner and asked if we could buy some. He said, "We don't have soda but I have falafel." He went on to fill a bag with falafel balls and said, "Yehudi, L'Yehudi (Jew to Jew). Shabbat Shalom." That experience is what Israel is all about. ♻️



Maya Hendin volunteers on a farm in Israel.

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Tivnu Builds on Social Justice

Local gap year program allows teens to connect with tikkun olam

By Susan Jacobs

Many Jewish youths seeking a gap year experience between high school and college head to Israel. Steve Eisenbach-Budner has no qualms about that – as a teen, he participated in a Young Judea program in Israel before the term “gap year” was even invented. Yet he recognizes that not every young adult has the desire to travel that far.

In response, the 50-year-old social activist has launched Tivnu: Building Justice, a comprehensive Jewish gap year experience based in Portland. He is recruiting students ages 17-20 for the nine-month program, which begins Aug. 26.

Tivnu (Hebrew for build) participants will work on construction sites with representatives from Habitat for Humanity, creating affordable housing structures in greater Portland. When they put down their hammers and saws, they will study social justice issues – learning what Jewish tradition has to say about poverty, charity, communal obligation and collective responsibility.

Guided by professional educators and guest speakers, students will examine rabbinic texts, Yiddish poetry, modern American-Jewish literature and film – looking at food, housing and health care issues through a Jewish lens. In addition, they will volunteer at local nonprofits, working with people currently experiencing homelessness.

“A big piece of the program is learning tangible life skills, such as budgeting, cooking and working communally as a group,” Eisenbach-Budner says. In addition, he promises ample time for group camping, hiking, rafting and exploration of the beautiful Pacific Northwest.

To date, six young adults are registered for the pluralistic program, with many more considering it. He hopes to attract 15 to 20. Eisenbach-Budner wants a broad spectrum of the Jewish community to participate. In an effort to facilitate this, the food will be kosher, and the program will be Shabbat observant.

The cost is \$26,000, which includes full room and board. Tivnu has done private fund-raising and has received a significant matching grant from the Jewish Social Change Matching Fund. Much of the money will go toward financial aid and scholarships.



Last summer J-Build participants pose in front of a Habitat for Humanity home that they were working on. Tivnu partnered with the American Jewish Society for Service and Camp Tel Yehudah for this J-Build project.

For Eisenbach-Budner, founding a nonprofit like Tivnu represents a culmination of his life work. A native New Yorker, he grew up in a middle class housing project cooperative, originally built for garment workers. He describes it as “a super-charged political atmosphere, populated by Jewish anarchists, democratic socialists, unionists, communists

and members of the Workmen’s Circle.”

In his early years at the coop, he learned about civic engagement and Jewish values, all while gaining a respect for physical labor. “It gave me firsthand experience in knowing how important affordable housing is to a family. I didn’t realize what a special place it was until after I left,” Eisenbach-Budner says.

After college, Eisenbach-Budner moved to Israel, where he did construction work alongside Palestinian laborers. When he returned to the States, he worked as a carpenter in Boston while his wife, Deborah, pursued graduate work in Jewish education and Judaic studies at Brandeis University. A dozen years ago, the couple relocated to Portland, his wife’s hometown. “I had worked as a carpenter and contractor for 15 years. I did nice kitchens for people who had nice houses. It was all fine, but it wasn’t answering my soul’s purpose,” Eisenbach-Budner says.

He began volunteering with Portland YouthBuilders, a nonprofit alternative high school/job training program for at-risk youth. This turned into a decade-long, paid position that changed the course of his life.

“I trained young people how to build houses, and also taught them soft skills such as how to get along with your boss and the importance of showing up to a job site on time. It was very inspiring, and I felt like I was doing something useful,” Eisenbach-Budner says.

“But around five years ago, I decided that I wanted to wrap in the Jewish and social justice piece in a more direct way. I gave some workshops and then ran a weeklong program. Then I got the idea of a Jewish gap year program in the U.S.,” he says. In September 2012, Eisenbach-Budner received a \$100,000 fellowship from the Joshua Venture Group, which funds Jewish start-ups. He left his job at YouthBuilders to focus on Tivnu.

Tivnu partnered with Camp Tel Yehudah and the American


Jewish Society for Service to offer two Jewish-based, service learning programs for high schoolers in the summer of 2013. He is repeating that in 2014, this time working in partnership with USY and the Reform movement. Summer programs cost \$2,600 and accommodate 20 to 30 teens per session.

Tivnu Community Outreach Coordinator Marissa Block stresses that youths don't need to know about construction in order to participate.

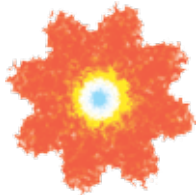
"They will teach you," says Block, 28, who is pursuing a master's degree in Leadership for Sustainability Education at Portland State University. She is a dedicated volunteer at Tivnu.

Block, who holds an undergraduate degree from Skidmore College, did a gap year program in Israel at age 25.

"Through Eco-Israel, I spent five months living and working on a mostly sustainable, educational farm that has compost toilets and solar ovens and showers. It was a transformative experience. But a crucial piece that was missing was social justice. My understanding of sustainability has expanded to include spirituality and social justice. This is addressed in Tivnu," Block says.

For more about Tivnu: Building Justice, visit tivnu.org. 

Susan Jacobs is on the staff of the Jewish Journal MA. This story originally appeared in the Jewish Journal MA and is reprinted with permission.



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Oregon's Jewish youth groups connect teens to their heritage



TZEDAKAH - Oregon Jewish Community Youth Foundation teens Joshua Sherman and Rachael Diamond lead a youth foundation discussion on funding needs of Jewish organizations for allocations by their peers.

By Melissa Diamond

Discovering one's Jewish identity is a lifelong journey. At 17 years old, I have attended both private Jewish day school and public high school. Surrounded by my Jewish peers, my elementary and middle school years were a time when I was able to study Judaism and easily embrace my heritage.

It wasn't until I began 9th grade that I experienced what it is like to be the only Jew in the room, struggling to represent my religion while simultaneously striving to fit in with the many strangers I hoped to impress. This tense feeling does not stem from a shame of my Judaism. I love celebrating Hanukkah, spending my summers at Jewish camp and even traveling to Israel. It also does not come from any anti-Semitism among high school students; my school is a generally diverse and accepting place. Most simply put, it is just hard to be the odd one out, and while I was lucky enough to go to Jewish day school, some of my peers never had the opportunity to make other Jewish friends.

Fortunately, Portland has many Jewish youth organizations that offer the social and cultural benefits of Jewish day school. These organizations provide teens with a community not found at school, yet correspondingly teach them to be proud of their Judaism outside the group.

There are a few different varieties of youth groups in Portland. First, there are the non-denominational and citywide groups open to any Jewish teen. Portland has three - BBYO, NCSY and the Oregon Jewish Community Youth Foundation. Eugene also has NCSY and BBYO chapters.

"BBYO's mission can be summed up in one phrase - more Jewish youth, more meaningful Jewish experiences," says

NCSY SERVICE PROJECT - Thanks to a generous grant from a private donor in California, Operation Peanut Butter and Jelly was in full force in Portland this Purim. On Purim morning, teens from NCSY's Jewish Drivers Ed Program - including clockwise from front left: Sammy Schnitzer, Harry Herzberg, Tao Oulman, Isabelle Kendall and Jonah Rothstein - made and packed 50 care packages including a first aid kit, gloves, hats, socks, hand sanitizer, tooth paste, tooth brush, tissues, a water bottle, orange, granola bar and of course, a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. Then later in the afternoon, the packages were brought to the Right 2 Dream Too homeless shelter in downtown Portland.

BBYO's Portland Director Sam Swire. BBYO has 80 members in four Portland chapters that meet weekly. "Sometimes they will have a board game night, sometimes they won't even meet at their regular location and decide this week's meeting will be having pie at Shari's or dinner at Red Robin," says Swire.

What makes BBYO unique is its commitment to youth leadership. "The adult supervisors, who are BBYO alumni, are there to provide support and make sure everything is safe. The teens are doing all the programming," says Swire. "The teens are given a lot of freedom in how they program, and as a result of that, not only are there more creative ideas that come out but also more leadership skills and more of a sense of responsibility."

NCSY is also a nondenominational youth group. NCSY is focused on creating a Jewish identity in teens, and can achieve this in a number of ways that appeal to different people. "Every person is different," says NCSY's Portland Director Doovie Jacoby. "Some people just want to learn Hebrew, some people want to learn more about Judaism, some people want to study, some people just like the culture and club. There is something for every person. And for people looking to connect with Israel, we will help them get there."

Activities include weekly Latte and Learn meetings at Starbucks, Jewish Student Union meetings at school during

lunch and Israel trips, allowing NCSY to impact teens in a number of ways. "After NCSY, participants go on to make much stronger Jewish choices in life," says NCSY Oregon Director Meira Spivak. NCSY does not charge for membership, which distinguishes the group and makes it available to any Jewish teen. "Anyone is welcome, and what I love about NCSY is when I look around the room and see teens from every single synagogue – and it doesn't even matter," says Spivak.

Tzedakah is one of the core values of Judaism, and if you want to specifically explore this area of your Jewish heritage, OJCYF is the perfect group for you. OJCYF, which is sponsored by the Oregon Jewish Community Foundation, brings Jewish teens into a professional environment where they will learn about philanthropy through the allocation of money they raise. "We have meetings once a month where we learn about how nonprofits work and how money is given and distributed. We learn what it means to be a nonprofit organization through both Jewish and non-Jewish organizations," says Rachel Rothstein, an OJCYF advisor.

In addition to the monthly meetings, OJCYF members go on site visits to organizations they are considering donating to, as well as put on the annual benefit dinner where the majority of the money is raised. "Following the dinner, there is a large allocations process. Organizations submit requests for grant money. Teens start to really think about how their money can be used in different ways and see the impact that different organizations can have on a community," says Rothstein.

If you are looking to further connect with your synagogue, Portland's largest three synagogues, Congregation Beth Israel, Congregation Neveh Shalom and Congregation Shaarie Torah, offer affiliated youth groups. Portland Area Reform Temple Youth (PARTY) is Beth Israel's chapter of North American Federation of Temple Youth. NFTY is affiliated with Reform Judaism and the organization Netzer Olami, a worldwide Zionist youth movement. PARTY brings teens opportunities for social activities but is also enriched with social justice and worship. NFTY's mission is conveyed through 13 principles, which include "the unity of the Jewish people," "the centrality of the State of Israel to the strength and survival of the Jewish people" and "the obligation to work for justice for all."

For members of Neveh Shalom and Shaarie Torah, United Synagogue Youth is available to Conservative Jewish youth. At Neveh Shalom, weekly meetings are held at the synagogue, but USY also holds frequent social events. "We've gone to laser tag," says Rothstein, who is an advisor for USY as well as OJCYF. "This year we had a sleepover, as well as regional overnights. We went to Camp Solomon Schechter twice – in the fall and in the spring. At these overnights we have a combination of learning, fun and dance, as well as raising awareness about Israel and social action."

A former member of USY, Rothstein demonstrates the longevity of involvement in synagogues and Jewish life after participation in the group. "USY is unique in that it is active in its synagogue community. Many of the teens teach at Sunday school, and they come to all the festivals and holidays," says Rothstein.

YOUTH GROUP CONTACTS

BBYO

Sam Swire,
Portland: 503-345-9451, sswire@bbcamp.org
Ben Molloy, Eugene: 503-349-6605
bmolloy@uoregon.edu

NCSY/JSU

Meira Spivak - Oregon Director:
503-757-3037 meira@ncsy.org
Doovie Jacoby - Portland Director:
503-504-1301 doovie@ncsy.org
Shira Melul - Eugene Director:
541-221-1934 shiramelul@ncsy.org

USY


Neveh Shalom: 503-246-8831
Shaarie Torah: Dorice Horenstein,
503-226-6131 education@shaarietorah.org

NFTY

Beth Israel, Rachel Hirsch advisor:
rachelhirsch@pdxhillel.org 503-758-7811

While there are many youth groups to choose from, it is clear that in any organization teens will gain a greater connection to their Jewish peers and to their Jewish communities. "BBYO has brought me closer to the Jewish teens around me and helped me keep in touch with my Jewish culture," says BBYO teen Sophie Rubin.

"Those that have been connected with youth groups have been involved in Judaism for a longer time. They have more interest and tend to do more in college, and really have more of a Jewish connection in life," says Rothstein.

For teens, being an active member in a Jewish community is instrumental in fostering a lifelong Jewish identity. Whether you are looking to maintain your Jewish activity after Jewish school like I am, or you are hoping to discover your Jewish peers for the first time, Oregon's youth groups give you that opportunity. 



Fighting pediatric cancer

Rabbis' shorn heads symbol of individual's ability to change the world

By Rabbi Elizabeth Dunsker

On April 1 I had the overwhelming, emotional, terrible, sad, joyful, exuberant and powerful honor of having my head shaved on a stage surrounded by my similarly shorn colleagues. We came together to raise money through shaving our heads for St. Balderick's Foundation (not a religious organization – no such saint exists). St. Balderick's raises money for research grants to fight pediatric cancers.

Several months ago, Sam Sommer, the 8-year-old child of my colleagues Rabbis Phyllis and Michael Sommer, had a third occurrence of his acute myeloid lymphoma. Though no medical options remained for “Superman” Sam, Phyllis and another colleague, Rebecca Einstein Shorr, wanted to fight it in some way. They wanted to raise money and awareness for childhood cancer, and thought they might find 36 rabbis willing to help.

Though more than 70 of us heeded the call to shave our heads, the group remained “36 Rabbis Shave for the Brave” to retain the significant number of double chai or double life. To date, my hair has sold for \$7,600. Altogether 100 have helped with fundraising and volunteering at the event. We have raised just shy of \$600,000, but our goal is to make it to \$613,000.

Superman Sam died in December. Our hard work could not save him. But in his honor, we (those of us who shaved, those who helped, those who donated) have raised enough to fund almost six one-year research grants, making this the top fundraising effort St. Balderick's has ever had. Less than 4% of all cancer research money in the United States goes toward pediatric cancers. There was no cure for Sam, but together we hope to help cure the next child – to keep the next family from losing a dear one.

I did not know the Sommers personally before I agreed to shave my head, but I was so moved by their family's pain and struggle. Their pain spurred me toward action. Taking part as one of the “36 rabbis” reminded me that each one of us has so much power to add blessing into the world. Each of us can add hope, each one of us can do the work of tikkun olam and heal the world just a little or a lot. The evening of April 1 was filled with so much love for the Sommers, pain for their loss, joy and exuberance at the feeling of making a difference in the world, and the feeling that I was so very lucky to be included in the work. In my work as a rabbi, I find many moments of blessing taking part in people's lives – sharing their painful moments and joyous ones. This year marks my 18th year, my chai year as a rabbi, and this moment was one of the most moving I have had the privilege to take part in.

So I am shorn. My hair went to save lives, and it was the easiest donation I have ever made. My bald head and those of my colleagues is a symbol that changing the world is within the grasp of each one of us. In her blog, Phyllis Sommer wrote a beautiful Dayenu tribute to the event and ended it with “if only Sammy had been here to see it ...” If only.

To help us get to \$613,000 visit: stbaldricks.org/participants/mypage/660841/2014. 

Rabbi Elizabeth Dunsker is the rabbi of Congregation Kol Ami in Vancouver, WA.



JKids & Teens too Events

Tot Shabbats:

Every Friday. Shabbat experience from 9:10:30 am at Neveh Shalom, 2900 SW Peaceful Lane. Includes singing, Shabbat stories, age appropriate service and play time. Free. Contact Leah Conley at 503-293-7307 or lconley@nevehshalom.org

First Saturday. 9:30 am at Beth Israel, 1972 NW Flanders. 503-222-1069 or bethisrael-pdx.org

First and third Saturday. 10:15 am at Neveh Shalom, 2900 SW Peaceful Lane, Contact Leah Conley at 503-293-7307 or lconley@nevehshalom.org

Second Friday. 6:30 pm at Temple Beth Israel, 1175 E 29th Ave, Eugene. info@tbieugene.org

Second Saturday. 10:15-11:45 am at Kesser Israel, 6698 SW Capitol Hwy. Contact Sarah for more information, ysfgold@gmail.com or kesserisrael.org

Last Saturday. 10:30 am at Havurah Shalom, 825 NW 25th Ave. 503-248-4662 or havurahshalom.org

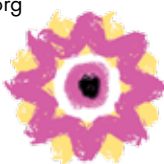
First, second and third Saturday. 10:30 am at Shaarie Torah, 920 NW 25th Ave. 503-226-6131 or shaarietorah.org

Third Saturday. 11 am at Chabad Jewish Center, 9604 NE 126th Ave., Vancouver, WA. Followed by a Kiddush lunch. RSVP: info@jewishclarkcounty.com

Fridays, May 9 and 23. Joy of Challah! An Early Taste of Shabbat with Maayan Torah Day School. 11:15 at Neveh Shalom, 2900 SW Peaceful Lane. Maayanpdx.org or 503-245-5568

Youth Services:

First Saturday. Community Minyan/Family Service. 10:30 am at Shaarie Torah, 920 NW 25th Ave. 503-226-6131 or shaarietorah.org



Last Saturday. Youth Minyanaires. Youth-led middle school service. 10:30 am at Shaarie Torah, 920 NW 25th Ave. 503-226-6131 or shaarietorah.org

Last Saturday. Torah Yoga for Preschoolers and Parents. 10:30 am at Shaarie Torah, 920 NW 25th Ave. 503-226-6131 or shaarietorah.org

Weekly/Monthly Teen Events:

BBYO. Meetings for 8-12 graders each Tuesday 7-8 pm at the MJCC. sswire@bbyo.org or 503-345-9451

NCSY Latte and Learn: Thursday nights 7-8 pm at Multnomah Starbucks, 7737 SW Capitol Hwy. doovie@ncsy.org or 503-504-1301

NCSY Monthly Middle School Program. 2:30-3:15 pm at the Cafe at the MJCC. Contact doovie@ncsy.org or 503-504-1301 for upcoming dates.

Special Kids and Teens Events and Activities:

May 4

Jr. Kadima (3rd- to 5th-graders) Game Day. noon-2 pm at Congregation Neveh Shalom, 2900 SW Peaceful Lane, Portland. \$5, snacks included. RSVP to Kelsey at kkaplan90@gmail.com

May 10

P'nai Or Simcha School's Shabbat in the Woods. 10 am-noon at Tryon Creek. Led by Rabbah D'vorah Kolodny. Meet for morning prayers in the covered area then hike with music and mindfulness. Multi-generations connect with Hashem and community on this beautiful path. Music, Kiddush and Story Time for children follows 12:30-1 pm. 503-248-4500.

May 18

Lag B'Omer Kids & Family Back-to-Nature Day at Neveh Shalom. 9:30 am-noon at 2900 SW Peaceful Lane, Portland. mberwin@nevehshalom.org or 503-246-8831

May 25

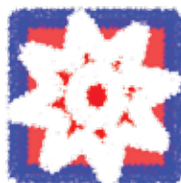
Kadima (6th-8th graders) Sky High Trampolines! Join us at Sky High for a jumping fun! 1:30-3 pm at Sky High, 11131 SW Greenburg Road, Tigard, \$15. RSVP to Kelsey at kkaplan90@gmail.com

May 19

Hebrew Language Storytime with PJ Library. 10:30-11:30 am at Beaverton City Library, 12375 SW 5th St., Beaverton. Contact Caron Blau Rothstein at 503-245-6449 or pjlibrary@jewishportland.org

May 31

Neveh Shalom presents Shavuot and Shabbat in the Park for Young Families. 5-7 pm at Willamette Park. Bring a dairy picnic for Shavuot and gather with family and friends for Shabbat kiddush, challah and storytelling. Free. Contact Leah Conley at LeahC@foundationschoolpdx.org or 503-293-7307



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- Goody bag for each child

Regular Price: \$180.00 for up to 10 non-member adult or child guests. **Current Special: \$90!**

Outside food, cakes, and decorations may be brought in for birthday parties.

www.portlandaquarium.net
16323 SE McLoughlin Blvd
Milwaukie, OR 97267
503-303-4721
facebook.com/portlandaquarium



1. **FACES J STREET U** – (From left) Portland State University students Kyle Hubbard, Jessen Fox, Iris Summy, Robyn Gottlieb and Gabriel Erbs attended the J Street U Town Hall in Baltimore, April 4-8. The student town hall brought together more than 300 students from some 60 campuses nationwide for three days of education and action. J Street U Portland State students were supported by the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland and J Street Portland. Interested students can email J Street U Portland State at jstupdx@pdx.edu.



1



2

2. **NEVEH SHALOM ROCKS** – Held April 6, the Neveh Shalom auction chaired by Glen Coblens (on stage), opened with a rousing version of Steve Miller’s “The Joker,” with words changed to suit the occasion. The crowd of 180 got on their feet and sang “We are Neveh Shalom.” The mitzvah moment alone raised nearly \$30,000 to support the congregation’s work for families, individuals and the greater community. Attendees dressed as rockers included Eduard and Luiza Vaynberg. Photos by Jeremy Hill/asideofsoul.com



3

3. **CAFE SHALOM** – Dancers entertain residents at Robison Jewish Health Center at Cedar Sinai Park on March 20. Dancers included Debbi Montrose, Melba Davidson, Jeff Baker, Tamera Patrick, Esther Oulman Swart, Duane Robbins and Brian Davis. Coordinated by Melba Davidson and Duane Robbins, Cafe Shalom dancers (sites.google.com/site/pifdnews) have been entertaining CSP residents each month for more than 20 years on the third Thursday of each month. Photo courtesy Debbi Montrose



4

4. **BENEFITS OF ICE CREAM** – Smiles on the faces of Carl Preschoolers from Congregation Shaarie Torah are just one benefit from eating Ben & Jerry’s ice cream. The preschoolers enjoyed free scoop day April 8 at the Uptown Ben & Jerry’s. For another benefit, Jimmy Chi, the owner of the B&J Uptown locale, is donating 100% of the proceeds that come into the ice creamery on May 18 to Lift Urban Portland. From left, Jimmy Chi, Jerry Greenfield (*the Jerry of Ben & Jerry’s*) and Nikki Director, a Lift UP board member and chairman of the food drive, talk about the upcoming benefit.



5

5. **BB CAMP REAL DEAL** – B’nai B’rith Camp’s Real Deal Casino Night Fundraiser attracted 160 people including Elle Holzman and Stacy Cullen, and Max Mantell and Anne Pernichele Mantell. Held April 5 at the Airport Sheraton, The Real Deal Goes to Coney Island casino and carnival-themed fundraiser netted \$70,000 for B’nai B’rith Camp.

6. **VINTAGE HOLLYWOOD: A BLACK AND WHITE AFFAIR** – National Assistance League and its Greater Portland chapter honored Jay and Diane Zidell with The Operation School Bell Award April 12 at the chapter’s annual fundraising gala. The Zidells received the award for their generous support of the chapter’s philanthropic program Operation School Bell, which provides clothing for Title 1 children in need. Through the Zidell’s generosity the Portland chapter was able to clothe more than 2,600 children this school year. The award has been presented twice since the program was implemented in 1998.



6



KADDISH FOR BERNIE MADOFF RETURNS TO STAGE

A Kaddish for Bernie Madoff, created and performed by Alicia Jo Rabins, returns to Portland for four encore performances 7:30 pm May 8, 10 and 11, and 2 pm May 11.

A Kaddish for Bernie Madoff is an original song cycle about the spiritual implications of the 2008 financial collapse. Through contemplative prose and captivating melodies (sung and played on looped violin), visually accompanied by a mesmerizing new animation piece by Portland artist Zak Margolis, Rabins leads us through her investigative journey. Did Madoff succeed because he understood human desire, she asks? And what would the ancient rabbis say? Following its initial sold-out run, Boom Arts presents the encore run at Lincoln Hall Studio Theatre, Portland State University, 1620 SW Park Ave., Portland. Tickets: boomarts.org.

CELEBRATE OUR CARING COMMUNITY MAY 15

Jewish Family & Child Service hosts the second annual Celebrating our Caring Community Luncheon on May 15. Support JFCS and hear guest speaker Howard “H” White, vice president at the Jordan Brand. The luncheon promises to be a memorable celebration of “Making a Difference since 1947.”

White was one of the driving forces behind turning the Air Jordan product line into the Jordan Brand in 1997. As a field representative responsible for Nike’s NBA athletes and partners on the East Coast, White became a mentor to many young athletes on Nike’s roster including a budding star from the University of North Carolina named Michael Jordan. White served as Jordan’s first sports marketing representative at Nike.

White focuses on being a positive role model through his “Believe to Achieve” programs and dialogue, which inspire kids to reach their full potential through focus, sacrifice and positive role models.

JFCS provides social services to individuals and families within a context of Jewish values. In the last fiscal year, JFCS assisted 1,200 individuals and families in Portland, converting obstacles into opportunities; hopelessness into hopefulness; isolation into connection with family and community.

Register online jfcs-portland.org or 503-226-7079.



JEWTOPIA LIVE! COMES TO PORTLAND MAY 18

Cedar Sinai Park brings the hit show Jewtopia: Live! to Portland for the first time. Jewtopia: Live! takes place on Sunday, May 18 at 4:30 pm in the Performing Arts Center on Portland Community College’s Sylvania campus. This is a fundraising event to benefit the

residents of the Robison Jewish Health Center.

The world of Jewtopia began as a stand-up routine by young Jewish comedian Bryan Fogel. It was developed into a stage play in Los Angeles that became a record-breaking smash hit. Eventually moving to New York City, it enjoyed a remarkable off-Broadway run for years. Its popularity spawned a book (*Jewtopia: The Chosen Book for the Chosen People*) and was the basis for a major motion picture.

Fogel has created a condensed, multi-media version of his show and taken it on the road as *Jewtopia: Live!* It offers the same

infectious humor, combining stand-up comedy, storytelling, clips from the movie, and lots and lots of audience interaction. This hilarious take on the experience of being Jewish in the modern world has been performed to rave reviews at Jewish agencies all over North America.

Tickets: cedarsinainpark.org/jewtopia or 503-535-4422

2014 SONG OF MIRIAM HONOREES NAMED

The Jewish Women’s Round Table announces its 22nd Annual Song of Miriam honorees. The Song of Miriam Awards honor women who volunteer their time and energy to ensure the continuity and vibrancy of the Jewish community of Oregon and Southwest Washington.

The awards brunch will be 10 am to 12:15 pm, Sunday, June 1, at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center, 6651 SW Capitol Highway, Portland.

The 2014 honorees are: Naomi Angier of Congregation Beit Haverim, Terri Warren of Women of Reform Judaism/Beth Israel Sisterhood, Judith Kahn of The Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning, Adele Thompson of Havurah Shalom, Charlene Pinn of Jewish Family & Child Service, Charlene Zidell of the Jewish Federation of Greater Portland-Women’s Philanthropy Committee, Hadassah Neal of Congregation Kesser Israel, Lori Abeson of Congregation Kol Ami of Vancouver, Elissa Burian of Kol Shalom, Beverly Bookin of Congregation Neveh Shalom, Debbi Montrose of the Oregon Holocaust Resource Center, Rivka Gevurtz of P’nai Or of Portland, Sara Kahn Glass of Portland Jewish Academy, Donna Silver Jackson of the Robison Jewish Health Center Sisterhood, Diane Zidell of Congregation Shaarie Torah Sisterhood, Laura Fritz of Congregation Shalom Bayit, Kate Farrell of Congregation Shir Tikvah, Karen Konick of Temple Beth Sholom and Kathy Schindel of Temple Beth Tikvah.

The D’var Torah and HaMotzi will be given by Rabbi Abby Cohen of Cedar Sinai Park with music by Barry Lavine.

Past honorees Marki Maizels and Barbara Barde will emcee the program. Door prizes have been donated by the synagogue gift shops and area businesses. Please bring a can of food for the Oregon Food Bank.

Reservation forms: jwrt.org. Mail check made out to JWRT to Jerrie Roth, 1231 SW Texas St., Portland, OR 97219. Reservations postmarked by May 22 are \$23 (thereafter \$32), \$10 for children 12 and under, and \$36 for patrons (all include 3% donation to Mazon). For brunch questions, contact Jerrie Roth (503-246-4367) or Leslye Epstein (leslyee@comcast.net).

SHAARIE TORAH TO HONOR BARRY BENSON JUNE 8



The Men’s Club of Congregation Shaarie Torah will honor Barry Benson with the Harry R. Nemer Service Award at 6 pm, June 8, at the synagogue, 920 NW 25th Ave., Portland.

The award honors outstanding volunteer service to Shaarie Torah members. Since joining Shaarie Torah, Barry has devoted much of his volunteer time and energy serving as a leader of the congregation. He is

a past president and serves on the board and several committees. He also serves as co-president of the Mittleman Jewish Community Center. Event chairs are Richard Cohen and Steph Kotkins.

Cost for the dinner is \$36 with dinner proceeds going to support numerous programs and needs at Shaarie Torah. For sponsorship information or reservations, contact Congregation Shaarie Torah at 503-226-6131.

Through May 4

OJM Exhibit: The Seder: Meanings, Rituals & Spirituality by Samuel Eisen-Meyers

Through May 28

OJM Exhibit: Sara Harwin's "Illuminated Letters: Threads of Connection" and "Illuminated Manuscripts: Exhibiting the Written Word"

Through June 1

After the Revolution by Amy Herzog; directed by Tamara Fisch. Wednesdays-Saturday at 7:30 pm, Sundays at 2 pm at Portland Playhouse. katie@portlandplayhouse.org or 503-488-5822

May 1

The Oregon Youth Community Youth Foundation Celebration & Benefit Dinner. 5:30 pm at the MJCC. Adults: \$72, students: \$36. ojcf.org

Laureen Nussbaum, *Remembering Anne Frank*. 7:30 pm at Austin Auditorium, LaSells Stewart Center, Oregon State University, Corvallis. Free. Oregonstate.edu/holocaust or 541-737-3421

May 2-June 22

Portland Center Stage presents "The Last Five Years," by Jewish composer Jason Robert Brown. 128 NW 11th Ave. pcs.org or 503-445-3700

May 2

Art by Millie Schoffield at First Friday Community Shabbat Dinner. 6 pm at Chabad Jewish Center, 9604 NE 126th Ave., Vancouver, WA. RSVP: info@jewishclarkcounty.com

Social Justice in Policy and Education. 10:30 am-6 pm, OSU Memorial Union, Corvallis. Free. Oregonstate.edu/holocaust or 541-737-3421

In Quest of Conscience. 7:30 pm at LaSells Stewart Center, OSU, Corvallis. Oregonstate.edu/holocaust or 541-737-3421

May 4

Everything Old is New Again, OJM Celebrates 25 Years. 5 pm at Benson Hotel, 309 SW Broadway. \$100/person. Ojm.org or 503-226-3600

Women's Day of Jewish Learning. 1:30-4:30 pm at MJCC.

Yom Hazikaron Commemoration. 8-9:30 pm at MJCC.

Garrick Ohlsson in Recital. 4 pm at Newmark Theatre, 1111 SW Broadway. \$45-\$54. 503-228-1388 or portlandpiano.org

Peace, Teach, Learn, Practice. Featuring the Oneness Coalition. 6:30 pm at Temple Beth Sholom, 1274 Cunningham Ln S, Salem. 503-362-5004 or tbsholom.org.

May 5

Yom Ha'atzmaut/Israel's Birthday. See page 18

Modern and Postmodern God Concepts. By Temple Beth Tikvah, Bend. 7 pm at St Charles Hospital, 2500 NE Neff Rd, Bend. \$6. 541-388-8826

Beth Israel Adult Education Presents: Readers' Theater: A Biintel Brief. 7 pm at 1972 NW Flanders. Bethisrael-pdx.org or 503-222-1069

May 6

Israeli Folk Dancing 7-8 pm instruction, and 8-10 pm open dancing at Cafe Shalom, 7045 SW Taylors Ferry Road. Repeats each Tuesday. 503-314-1567 or allisuev@gmail.com

May 8

A Kaddish for Bernie Madoff. Repeats May 10 and 11. See page 69

May 9

Cirque du Hope Gala benefitting Parkinson's Research. 5 pm at the Sentinel Hotel. ProGala.org

Portland Chamber Orchestra presents Pictures at an Exhibition. 7:30 pm at Liberty Theater, Astoria. \$15-\$30. Portlandchamberorchestra.org or 503-771-3250

Dance Dawnenen Kabbalat Shabbat. 7:30-9:30 pm at P'nai Or and St. Mark Presbyterian Church, 9750 SW Terwilliger Blvd. 503-248-4500 or pnaiorpxd.org

Exploring the Limits of Righteous Rage with Rabbi Melissa Weintraub. 7:30 pm at Havurah Shalom, 825 NW 18th Ave. Havurahshalom.org or 503-248-4662

May 9-11

The Book of Esther. See page 39

May 10

Women's Tefillah. 9:30 am at Portland Jewish Academy. Open to women and girls. Kiddush follows. ericahg@comcast.net or 503-246-3185

A Farewell to Rabbi Greenstein: Shalom Chaverim at Neveh Shalom. 7 pm at 2900 SW Peaceful Lane. nevehshalom.org or 503-246-8831

May 11

Portland Chamber Orchestra: Pictures at an Exhibition. 3 pm at Lewis & Clark College. (See May 9)

An Evening with Yale Strom. 7:30 pm at Neveh Shalom, 2900 SW Peaceful Lane. Viewing of "The Last Klezmer" with discussion and performance. \$10/person. nevehshalom.org or 503-246-8831

May 11-16

Because She Cares portrait exhibit. See page 38

May 12

Why Can't We All Just Get Along? Forging a Peace between Israelis and Palestinians with Yossi Klein Halevi. 7 pm at MJCC.

May 13

Willa Schneberg reads from her poetry collection "Rending the Garment." 7 pm at Broadway Books, 1714 NE Broadway. broadwaybooks.net or 503-284-1726

It Takes a Village: Supporting Families Caring for Elders. 7 pm at Rose Schnitzer Manor, 6140 SW Boundary St. RSVP to 503-535-4212 or Irit.Mandelsberg@cedarsinainapark.org

May 14

Global Business Awards Lunch Honoring & Giving Tribute to Emily Gottfried, z'l. 11:30 am at Portland Hilton, 921 SW 6th Ave. \$100. 503-224-4193 or 503-248-0600, ext. 29

May 15

OJM Music: Guitarist Peter Zisa performs Tansman and Tedesco. 7 pm at OJM. \$10, OJM members/\$8, students/\$5.

Jewish Dad's Night Out with Rabbi Bradley Greenstein. Free. Lucky Lab Tap Room, 1700 N Killingsworth St. jgreenberg@nevehshalom.org or 503-293-7313

Jewish Family & Child Service: Celebrating Our Caring Community Luncheon. See page 69

May 16

PDX Live! 7:30 pm at Neveh Shalom, 2900 SW Peaceful Lane. nevehshalom.org or 503-246-8831

May 18

AIPAC Oregon Annual Event. 10:30 am-1:30 pm. Location and registration: 206-624-5152 or seattle_office@aipac.org

Cedar Sinai Park Presents: Jewtopia: Live With Brian Fogel. See page 69

Temple Beth Sholom Annual Auction. 4 pm at Eola Viticulture Center, 215 Doaks Ferry NW Road, Salem. 503-362-5004 or tbsholom.org

Interactive Study Group on Zionism. 10 am at MJCC. Series by MJCC and Hadassah.

May 19

PSU's Lokey Lecture: Guest lecturer Prof. Devin Naar speaks on Sephardic Jewry. 7:30 pm at Smith Memorial Student Union, room 238. 503-725-2305 or knud@pdx.edu

"One of Eleven" Holocaust survivor film. 7 pm at MJCC.

May 21

Maayan Torah Day School Dinner. 5:30 pm at MJCC. \$45 before May 7, then \$54. 503-245-5568 or portlandjewishdayschool.org/dinner

May 23

North Coast Shabbat Group. 8 pm services led by David Fuks at the Bob Chisholm Senior Center, 1225 Ave. A., Seaside. Call Bev Eastern, 503-244-7060

May 24

Women's Torah Study at Neveh Shalom. 12:30 pm at 2900 SW Peaceful Lane. mberwin@nevehshalom.org

May 28

OJM Talk: Woody on Rye. 7 pm at OJM. \$8, OJM members/\$5, students/\$5.

June 1

Song of Miriam awards. See page 69

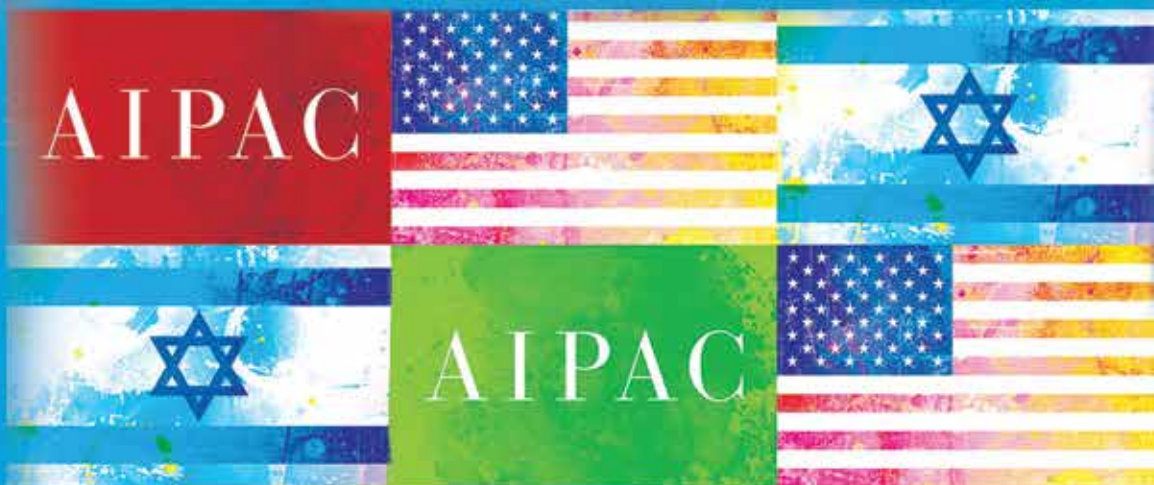
Have Medicare questions? We have answers. 1:30 pm at Rose Schnitzer Manor. RSVP by May 25: 503-535-4004

Add events to our calendar at ojlife.com. Click on "Add an event" at lower right of home page.

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

MJCC is the Mittleman Jewish Community Center, 6651 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland. 503-244-0111, oregonjcc.org

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For more information, contact the Seattle AIPAC office at
(206) 624-5152 or seattle_office@aipac.org.





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