



**JT**  
NEWS

THE VOICE OF

**JEWISH**

WASHINGTON

# AS THE WILDFIRES BURN

## Israel comes to our aid

STORY ON PAGE 14

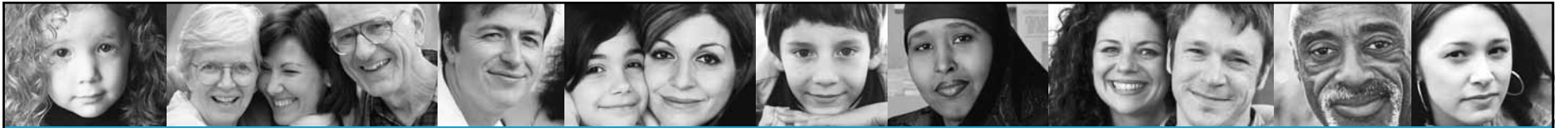
**KIDS MAKE PEACE PAGE 6**

**A DAY OF JEWISH MUSIC PAGE 18**

**ISRAEL: AN INTRODUCTION PAGE 20**

MICKEY NOAM ALON





## September Family Calendar



Introducing

### JFS Stories that Matter

Visit [blog.jfsseattle.org](http://blog.jfsseattle.org) and subscribe.

#### FOR ADULTS AGE 60+

##### ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

A community-wide program offered in partnership with Temple B'nai Torah & Temple De Hirsch Sinai. EO events are open to the public and are at 10:30 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

##### Tour of the King County Brightwater Treatment Plant

■ **Thursday, September 18**

##### Modern-Day Exodus: Stories from the JFS Refugee & Immigrant Service Centers

■ **Tuesday, September 30**

RSVP Ellen Hendin or Wendy Warman,  
(206) 461-3240 or  
endlessopps@jfsseattle.org.

#### FOR SURVIVORS OF INTIMATE PARTNER ABUSE

##### Kids Club: 11-Week Parent/Child Class

■ **Register by Monday, September 15**

Contact Project DVORA (206) 461-3240 or  
contactus@jfsseattle.org.

##### Solutions to Senior Hunger

■ **Ongoing**

JFS is helping eligible seniors sign-up  
for food stamps.

Contact Carol Mullin, (206) 861-3176  
or cmullin@jfsseattle.org.

#### FOR THE COMMUNITY

##### Kosher Food Bank

■ **Wednesday, September 3**  
**5:00 – 6:30 p.m.**

Contact Jana Prothman Lissiak,  
(206) 861-3174 or jlissiak@jfsseattle.org.

##### Addressing Addiction & Substance Abuse with Our Aging Loved Ones

■ **Tuesday, September 9**  
**6:00 – 7:30 p.m.**

Contact Leonid Orlov, (206) 861-8784 or  
familylife@jfsseattle.org.

##### Healing-Focused Text Study: Judaism as a Source of Strength during Recovery

■ **Wednesdays, September 10 & 17**  
**7:00 – 8:30 p.m.**

Contact Laura Kramer, (206) 861-8782 or  
lkramer@jfsseattle.org.

##### Welcome, Baby!

■ **Thursday, September 11**  
**7:00 – 9:00 pm**

Contact Marjorie Schnyder, (206) 861-3146  
or familylife@jfsseattle.org.

##### JFS at the Sephardic Bikur Holim Annual Bazaar

■ **Sunday, September 14**  
**9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

Contact Jane Deer-Hileman, (206) 861-3155  
or volunteer@jfsseattle.org.

##### Sha'arei Tikvah

*Celebrations for All*

##### Rosh Hashanah Service

■ **Thursday, September 25**  
**4:00 – 6:00 p.m.**

Contact Marjorie Schnyder, (206) 861-3146 or  
familylife@jfsseattle.org.

##### AA Meetings at JFS

■ **Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m.**

Contact (206) 461-3240 or ata@jfsseattle.org.

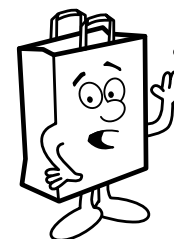
#### VOLUNTEER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Contact Jane Deer-Hileman, (206) 861-3155  
or volunteer@jfsseattle.org.

Family Mentors for  
Resettled Refugees  
Farmers Market Gleaning  
Friendly Visitors for Seniors

# One in 6 Americans face hunger.

You can  
help.



## JFS Community- Wide Food Drive Sept. 25 – Oct. 5, 2014

[jfsseattle.org/FoodDrive](http://jfsseattle.org/FoodDrive)

Share your Food Drive collection  
photos and use #JFSsort.



JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE

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ALL IN A WEEK'S NEWS



**Combat babies**

Since the beginning of Operation Protective Edge, the number of women seeking sperm donations from men who have served in combat has spiked, reports Rambam Medical Clinic in Haifa. Of the 60 women who have requested insemination treatment, about half have requested combat background, putting it up there with height and intelligence. Dina Amnipour, the sperm bank's director, suggests that the military operation has added a dimension to what women see as the ideal man.

Source: *The Times of Israel*



**No Hebrew allowed**

A Satmar Orthodox synagogue in the Hasidic village of Kiryas Joel in Monroe, N.Y. has banned the use of spoken modern Hebrew. A sign at the entrance reads that it is "forbidden to speak in our synagogue in the language of the heretics, the impure 'Hebrew.'" The main language in Kiryas Joel is Yiddish. The sign is in Hebrew.

Source: *Heeb Magazine*



**Tricycle backpedals**

The Tricycle Theatre in London, which sparked accusations of anti-Semitism after refusing to host the UK Jewish Film Festival due to it being funded by the Israeli Embassy, ended its boycott and will accept unlimited funding from the embassy. After realizing its major Jewish supporters would pull their funding and even boycott the theater itself, the Tricycle reversed its decision and will host the film festival in years to come.

Source: *The Jerusalem Post*



**Ice bucket challenge splashes Israel**

MK Dov Lipman of the Knesset's Yesh Atid party poured a bucket of ice water on himself as part of the viral Ice Bucket Challenge raising money for ALS. The challenge has been taken by such notables as Oprah Winfrey, Bill Gates, Steve Ballmer, and Macklemore, and has raised over \$15 million for the incurable neurodegenerative disease. Participants accept the challenge and then challenge three others, who have 24 hours to pour water on themselves or donate to charity. Lipman challenged three other Yesh Atid members.

Source: *The Times of Israel*



Coming up September 5  
**ROSH  
HASHANAH  
PREP**

JTNews is the Voice of Jewish Washington. Our mission is to meet the interests of our Jewish community through fair and accurate coverage of local, national and international news, opinion and information. We seek to expose our readers to diverse viewpoints and vibrant debate on many fronts, including the news and events in Israel. We strive to contribute to the continued growth of our local Jewish community as we carry out our mission.

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JTNews (ISSN0021-678X) is published biweekly by The Seattle Jewish Transcript, a nonprofit corporation owned by the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle, 2041 3rd Ave., Seattle, WA 98121. Subscriptions are \$56.50 for one year, \$96.50 for two years. Periodicals postage paid at Seattle, WA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to JTNews, 2041 Third Ave., Seattle, WA 98121.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**A new start** 5  
 Rabbi Jason Levine of Temple Beth Am notes that with the turnover in so many of our Jewish leaders over the past couple years, he's excited about the opportunity for unity and a bright future.

**Kids make peace** 6  
 While war has been raging in Gaza, two dozen kids from Jerusalem joined 11 kids from the Seattle area to begin the long process of learning how to make peace.

**The unsigned letter** 7  
 The letter written by Seattle City Councilwoman condemning Israel's actions in Gaza went unsigned by the rest of her colleagues.

**Fall reads** 9  
 As the nights grow longer and the heat begins to dissipate, we've got some great reads for curling up with a mug of hot tea.

**Northwest Jewish Family Talking to kids about Gaza** 12  
 As kids start heading back to school, there will likely be talk about the war this summer. Here are some tips to help them understand the situation.

**Israel comes to our aid** 14  
 As the wildfires in Eastern Washington wound down, a team of Israelis came to the area to help with the cleanup.

**A cure for Ebola?** 16  
 A researcher at Ben Gurion University of the Negev has been examining the blood of survivors of the Ebola outbreak in the hopes of finding a cure.

**Make music, not war** 18  
 Move over, Bumbershoot! This Labor Day weekend the musical fun is going to be at Seward Park, for an all-day, all-Jewish music event.

**Changing minds about Israel** 20  
 Through a series of meetings and text messages, the story of how one woman has pushed through the negative, anti-Zionist atmosphere to understand so many people's love for Israel.

**MORE**

**Letters** 5  
**Crossword** 6  
**M.O.T.: The hoopster** 8  
**Abba Knows Best: Change is a-comin'** 9  
**Lifecycles** 19  
**The Shouk Classifieds** 17

REMEMBER WHEN



From the Jewish Transcript, August 16, 1965. The newly formed Congregation Ner Tamid shows off its first board of directors. The Bellevue synagogue wasn't long for this world — five years later it merged with Herzl Congregation and became the Herzl-Ner Tamid we know today.

Welcome, new advertisers!  
 Josh Johnson/Windermere Real Estate  
 Prep Scholars • Thistle Theatre

Tell them you saw them in JTNews!





# THE CALENDAR to Jewish Washington



For a complete listing of events, or to add your event to the JTNews calendar, visit [jewishsound/calendar](http://jewishsound/calendar). Calendar events must be submitted no later than 10 days before publication.

### Candlelighting times

August 22 ..... 7:49 p.m.

August 26 ..... 7:26 p.m.

September 5 ..... 7:22 p.m.

September 12 ..... 7:07 p.m.

## FRIDAY 22 AUGUST

11–11:30 a.m. — *PJ Library Song and Storytime Jewish Junction Style*

☎ Jewish Junction at 206-384-6020 or [info@jewishjunction.net](mailto:info@jewishjunction.net) or [jewishjunction.net](http://jewishjunction.net)  
Free, fun storytime every Friday. At Ravenna Third Place Books, 6504 20th Ave. NE, Seattle.

11:15 a.m.–12 p.m. — *Tots Welcoming Shabbat*

☎ Irit Levin at 425-603-9677, ext. 209 or [ILevin@templebnaitorah.org](mailto:ILevin@templebnaitorah.org) or [www.templebnaitorah.org/SECC](http://www.templebnaitorah.org/SECC)  
Includes singing, prayer, and sharing some challah and grape juice. Every Friday for children 5 and under. Free. At Temple B'nai Torah, 15727 NE Fourth St., Bellevue.

## SUNDAY 24 AUGUST

3:30–5:30 p.m. — *Film and Bar Mitzvah Project Fundraiser: A Small Act*

☎ Stroum Jewish Community Center at 206-232-7115 or [saraht@sjcc.org](mailto:saraht@sjcc.org) or [www.sjcc.org](http://www.sjcc.org)

A Kenyan U.N. human rights lawyer finds the Swedish Holocaust survivor who changed his life as he pays it forward. Event raises funds for Micah Tratt's Bar Mitzvah project to sponsor a child's education in Tanzania. SJCC members/seniors/students \$5; guests \$8. At the Stroum JCC, 3801 E Mercer Way, Mercer Island.

## MONDAY 25 AUGUST

4 p.m. — *Student Israel Education and Advocacy Trainings for the Israeli Community*

☎ Nurit or Einat at [eastsidehasbara@gmail.com](mailto:eastsidehasbara@gmail.com)  
Educational sessions for middle school and college students about how to respond to misinformation about Israel. High school student session is Tuesday, Aug. 26 at 4 p.m. Register via email. Free. At Eastside Torah Center, 16199 Northrup Way, Bellevue.

## THURSDAY 28 AUGUST

10–11 a.m. — *PJ Library Neighborhood Song and Storytime*

☎ Alexis Kort at 206-525-0915 or [alexis@templebetham.org](mailto:alexis@templebetham.org) or [www.templebetham.org/community/families](http://www.templebetham.org/community/families)  
For toddlers and preschoolers. With snacks and an art project. Free. At Temple Beth Am, 2632 NE 80th St., Seattle.

10:30 a.m.–12 p.m. — *Life Depends Upon It*

☎ JFS Endless Opportunities at 206-461-3240 or [endlessops@jfsseattle.org](mailto:endlessops@jfsseattle.org) or [www.jfsseattle.org](http://www.jfsseattle.org)  
Associate director of philanthropy of The Nature Conservancy Deb Crespin will discuss conservation challenges. At Temple De Hirsch

Sinai, 1441 16th Ave., Seattle.

## MONDAY 1 SEPTEMBER

10 a.m.–12 p.m. — *TDS Preschool Dedication*

☎ Sasha Mail at 206-722-1200 or [sashamail@tdsseattle.org](mailto:sashamail@tdsseattle.org)

Dedicating the TDS preschool wing. Free. At Torah Day School of Seattle, 1625 S Columbian Way, Seattle.

## FRIDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

6–7 p.m. — *Kinder Kabbalat Shabbat*

☎ Alexis Kort at 206-525-0915 or [alexis@templebetham.org](mailto:alexis@templebetham.org) or [www.templebetham.org/community/families](http://www.templebetham.org/community/families)

Designed especially for kids 6 and younger. Greetings, candle blessings, challah, prayers, dancing, and more. No RSVP required. Open to all. At Temple Beth Am, 2632 NE 80th St., Seattle.

6–8 p.m. — *NCSY Freshman Shabbaton*

☎ Ari Hoffman at 206-295-5888 or [thehofffather@gmail.com](mailto:thehofffather@gmail.com)

Includes Saturday night trip to the Washington State Fair and Sunday BBQ at Alki Beach. Open to all Jewish 9th graders. \$50. At Bikur Cholim Machzikay Hadath, 5145 S Morgan St., Seattle.

7:30–9 p.m. — *Special Shabbat Services to Build Love of Israel*

☎ 425-844-1604 or [www.kolaminw.org](http://www.kolaminw.org)  
Shabbat services dedicated to cultivating a love of Israel and the Jewish people. Rob Jacobs, director of StandWithUs Northwest, will speak. At Congregation Kol Ami, 16530 Avondale Rd. NE, Woodinville.

## SATURDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

10:30 a.m.–3 p.m. — *The Jewish Practice of Dying: A Life Affirming Journey, Part 1*

☎ 206-527-9399 or [info@betalef.org](mailto:info@betalef.org) or [www.betalef.org](http://www.betalef.org)

Using the book "One Year to Live," discuss the importance of living mindfully, each moment, hour and day. Potluck lunch. Members free/non-members \$10. At Bet Alef Meditative Synagogue, 1111 Harvard Ave., Seattle.

8:30 p.m. — *NCSY's Trip to the WA State Fair*

☎ 206-295-5888 or [thehofffather@gmail.com](mailto:thehofffather@gmail.com) or [www.seattlencsy.com](http://www.seattlencsy.com)

NCSY's annual trip to the Puyallup fair. Open to all Jewish 9th–12th graders. \$10. Meet at BCMH, 5145 S Morgan St., Seattle.

## SUNDAY 7 SEPTEMBER

5–8 p.m. — *NCSY's Annual Alki Beach BBQ*

☎ 206-295-5888 or [thehofffather@gmail.com](mailto:thehofffather@gmail.com) or [www.seattlencsy.com](http://www.seattlencsy.com)

BBQ, volleyball, football, Frisbee and friends. Bus leaves BCMH at 5 p.m. or meet at Alki Beach at 5:30 p.m. \$10. At Alki Beach, West Seattle.

5:30 p.m. — *WSJHS Gala at MOHAI*

☎ Lisa Kranseler at 206-774-2277 or [lisak@jewishinseattle.org](mailto:lisak@jewishinseattle.org)

Community-building event to support the Washington State Jewish Historical Society and the Jewish Archives. Shalom! Open for Business exhibit on display. At MOHAI — Museum of History and Industry, 860 Terry Ave. N, Seattle.

## NUCLEAR IRAN: BEYOND the BOMB

With the rise of Hamas in Gaza, ISIS in Iraq, a civil war in Syria, join others to hear from Michael Singh, an expert on Iran, as he discusses these regional threats under the shadow of Iran's nuclear program.



Featuring:  
**Michael Singh**  
Managing Director and  
Lane-Swig Senior Fellow  
at the Washington Institute



Moderated by:  
**Reuven Carlyle**  
State Representative,  
36th District

**September 18, 2014 • 7:00pm**

Location provided upon RSVP. This free event is part of AJC Seattle Speakers Series.

**RSVP: [www.ajcseattle.org/singh](http://www.ajcseattle.org/singh) by September 10, 2014**

For more information, please contact the AJC Seattle office at 206-622-6315 or [seattle@ajc.org](mailto:seattle@ajc.org).

**AJC** Seattle  
[www.ajcseattle.org](http://www.ajcseattle.org)

JEWISH MUSIC FESTIVAL

# SPARK

MOSHAV BAND, SASSON, NISSIM, ARI LESSER & MORE

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31 • 12-6PM

SEWARD PARK AMPHITHEATER

KIDS KORRAL, VENDORS, KOSHER FOOD TRUCK, ZULA LOUNGE

ADVANCE TICKETS \$18 AT [SPARKSEATTLE.ORG](http://SPARKSEATTLE.ORG) CHILDREN 14 AND UNDER FREE

## THE RABBI'S TURN

## Writing the next chapter of Seattle's Jewish Community

**RABBI JASON LEVINE** Temple Beth Am

Who says that we only get one chance for a first impression?

We are currently in the midst of reading D'varim, the book of Deuteronomy, the final book in the Torah. The crux of this book is a series of farewell addresses by Moses to his people as they stand on the banks of the Jordan River, ready to cross into the Promised Land. Moses recounts what has befallen the people over the past 40 years, reiterating many of the lessons and teachings. The word "Deuteronomy" itself means "second law," as does Mishnah Torah, one of the Hebrew nicknames for the book. Therefore, one would expect that this book is mostly duplication.

However, Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch notes that while the series of speeches in essence repeats text from the earlier books of Torah, of the 100 mitzvot issued in Deuteronomy, 70 of them were actually new. Moses was giving these instructions to an entirely new generation: With only a couple of exceptions, none of the original slaves who left Egypt remained. This generation was certainly not like the last, and needed new laws and directions to guide them. Once a ragtag bunch of former slaves, Moses and his judges had built this community into an organized, structured, and lawful nation, unified in its collective purpose and shared destiny.

In Deuteronomy 6:20-22, we find passages recognizable from our Passover sederim. The fourth child, the one who is too young to ask, is told, "We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt and God freed us from Egypt with a mighty hand. God wrought before our eyes marvelous and destructive signs and portents in Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his household."

Consider the audience: Not one of those listening and reciting these verses was a slave in Egypt. But they had already accepted upon themselves the shared communal history and responsibility of their parents. We, as the Jewish people, repeat this bold statement every year at our seder table.

To me, that moment on the banks of the Jordan River represented a major milestone in the building of their community. Regardless of their unique individual experiences, the Israelites realized they must unite as they stepped into the unknown, as another chapter of their collective history began.

This pivotal moment in our text



reminds me of our own community here in Seattle. Although I have only been in Seattle for a year, it seems that we, too, are beginning a new chapter. In the past couple of years, there have been new heads to many Jewish organizations, including the Federation, Hillel, Jewish Family Service, and day schools.

There has been a high level of rabbinic turnover, even in the past few months, as was detailed in a recent issue of JTNews. Perhaps for some it is the end of an era. For me, I see it as a new beginning.

There is such an unbridled joy of being part of a community that is unique and significant to our Jewish people. I once had a non-Jewish teacher who had taught a large number of Jewish professionals, and he commented on how amazed he was that "community" was the ever-present trope for each of them. In Judaism, we need community to pray, to mourn, and to celebrate. We support each other through difficult times as well as times of triumph. Community is central to who we are as a people.

Yet at times we can feel so segmented, living in our own silos. The geography of this region and restrictions on our time create obvious buffers, but it needn't be this way. To be engaged in more than just your own synagogue, school, or organization is not a drain, but rather an expression of our shared values and destiny. Just a few weeks ago, two dozen Jewish agencies came together in solidarity with the State of Israel, including synagogues of many denominations, organizations with vastly different missions, and, perhaps most excitedly, Israel organizations, which, in many communities, would never collaborate. But here, in Seattle, we made it happen! We stand together, as one people. I was honored to witness such a communal gathering.

We are just turning the page on a new chapter of life in the Seattle Jewish community. Let's build it together! Let's building meaningful relationships and connections with Jews you might not otherwise meet, so we can teach and inspire each other. I encourage our community to push ourselves to explore someone else's Jewish journey, uniting in shared experiences and rejoining in our different paths. It is an exciting time ahead in 5775 in Seattle's Jewish community. It's our first chance to make a second impression, as the turn the page to the next chapter of Seattle's Jewish community. Let's write the future together!

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### A PUBLIC THANK YOU

I'm writing to publicly congratulate Robert Jacobs of StandWithUs Northwest for his leadership and advocacy during this heart-wrenching month of conflict in Israel.

We reside in a community in which there's a "multivocality" of opinions regarding the Middle East. It is essential that Seattle's Jewish community have an atmosphere in which these diverse — and sometimes divergent — sentiments about Israel's future are heard and respected. That said, the 2014 Hamas-Israel War has proven to be an inflection point for global Jewry, one that has galvanized Jewish communities around the world. Indeed, while civilian casualties are always tragic, the moral clarity of Operation Protective Edge — a defensive action to protect the citizens of Israel and preserve the security of its borders — is for many Americans — Jewish or otherwise — beyond question.

In Seattle, I believe that no individual has done more to proactively engage our community, educate the public at-large about the core facts concerning this war, and defend Israel's actions against those who choose to vilify it than Rob Jacobs.

Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel famously stated, "The opposite of love is not hate, it's indifference. The opposite of art is not ugliness, it's indifference. The opposite of faith is not heresy, it's indifference. And the opposite of life is not death, it's indifference." To Rob and the leadership of StandWithUs, todah rabah for raising your voices, mobilizing our community, and making a difference on behalf of Israel and the Jewish people!

**David Chivo, Mercer Island**

### ABOVE THE FOLD

In my many years working as the editor or reporter on newspapers in Massachusetts, Connecticut and Pennsylvania, and most recently as editor/publisher of The Jewish Transcript, I am shocked — and angry — that the JTNews ran what appeared to be a paid half-page ad blasting Israel, for fighting back against Hamas rocket attacks, under the guise of a news story in your Aug. 8 issue, page 14. Oh yes, inserted in the fourth paragraph the tiny, two-line acknowledgment: "We also condemn the indiscriminate rocket attacks by Hamas against the civilian population living in Israel. We stand in solidarity with the ordinary people of Israel and their desire for security, and in particular with the Israeli anti-war movement."

Compounding this severe breach of journalistic integrity, is the headline set in regular news headline style: "Seattle City Councilmember Kshama Sawant's letter to the president." A general, no-information headline. And this lengthy missive, which runs for half a page, is set in blue type, at an angle, as a paid display ad would be handled, but giving the deceptive impression this is a straight news story.

I know JTNews has given ample space to the now debunked and fading J Street. These are the self-professed friends of Israel. This well-financed group describes itself as Jews and others who care about the tiny nation of Israel. Right. But it is always critical of the way Israel is forced to defend itself, as it must in Gaza, and wherever else rockets and terror come from. Of course most J Street heroes live half a world away from the daily Hamas rocket attacks. Difficult to be braver than that — without risk.

But still curious to learn who, if anyone, paid for that pro-terrorism ad in the JT. Or, is it all just an error in failing to properly label this a paid ad atop the ad?

**Phil Scheier, Shoreline**

**Editor's note: The printing of Sawant's letter, with a note offering information on how to contact the councilwoman, was an attempt to make readers aware of the proposed letter and to suggest that our readers contact her with concerns. We apologize if this created any confusion.**

### TIME TO TALK

I believe that there is a substantial, well-funded, anti-Semitic movement in Seattle as well as other large communities in Washington State ("Seattle solidarity events find various ways to support Israel," Aug. 8). Who is funding the movement can only be laid at the doorstep of anti-Semites even though they profess other far-fetched reasons.

The influx of immigrants who have come to Washington with their minds filled with hate is dramatically opposite of the immigrants that came to this country for a better life in earlier years. The Jews, Italian, Germans, Irish and others all came to work, learn, integrate and become Americans. Not so, of many recent immigrants who bring with them their ill-conceived idea that anyone not believing as they do is simply "evil."

These people, along with poorly informed others, represent the anti-Semitic BDS movement. Any other explanation other than believing that Israel is a terrible country filled with Jews who must die, is a pretext. This is regardless that Israel is the only country in the Middle East that allows freedom for gays, people of all colors, Jews, Christians, Muslims and all other faiths. They come to Israel to live in peace and receive all the benefits that are provided by that freedom. Yet the demonization of Israel continues. Israel, America's greatest ally in the Middle East, is even disregarded by our current administration in Washington who have also abandoned the Saudis, Egyptians and Christians and many others.

Yes, I believe that this community is divided between the haters and the people who search earnestly for a better life. Simply put, it is between those that prefer a better life over those that prefer death. It is time to talk.

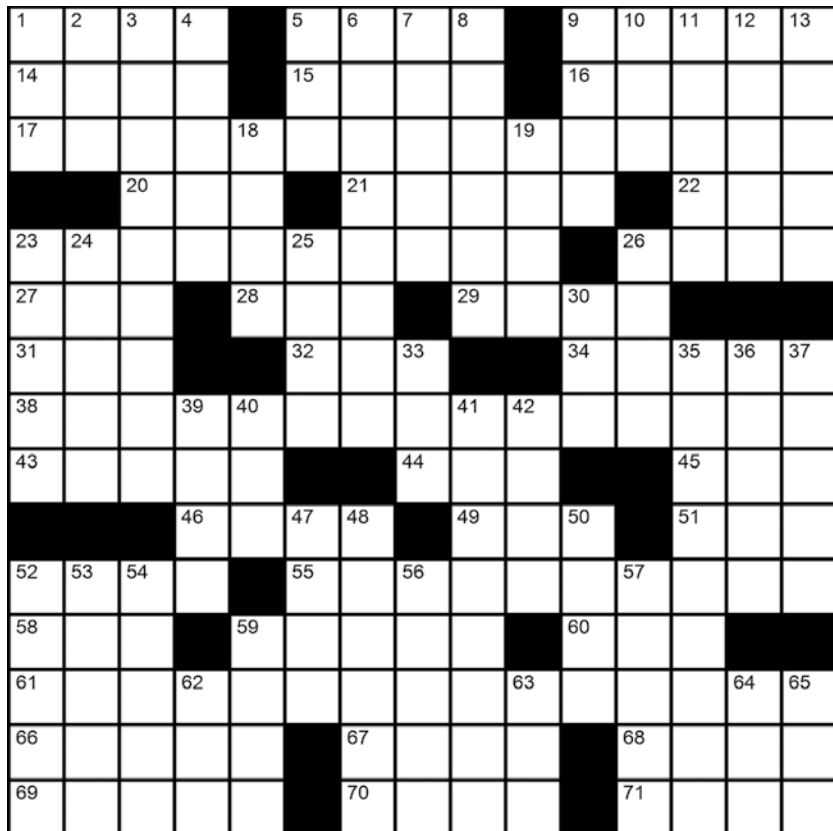
**Jack Kalman, Palm Desert, Calif.**





## Root for the Underdog

by Mike Selinker



Playwright Neil Simon says, "Sports is the only entertainment where, no matter how many times you go back, you never know the ending." Some of our most memorable sports stories are when athletes overcome long odds to defeat a titanic foe. Here are some outcomes we might not have expected.

### ACROSS

- 1 Frozen heroine  
5 Chicken \_\_\_\_ (Italian dish, colloquially)  
9 IRS action  
14 Apricot centers  
15 Role for Ron  
16 Nocturnal sound  
17 Team that demolished the favored Denver Broncos in Super Bowl XLIX  
20 C, in Arabic numerals  
21 Verb often after "abort"  
22 Wet wiggler  
23 Injured gymnast whose 1996 Olympic vault ended decades of Eastern European rule  
26 He played Pierce  
27 Business abbr.  
28 Comic Costello  
29 Make a frowny face  
31 Acronym for a team that leaves out "of Anaheim"  
32 Boofy hairstyle, for short  
34 Realtor's offerings  
38 No. 6 seed that won the 1983 NCAA basketball tourney over Houston's favored Phi Slama Jama  
43 Teapot issuance  
44 Alternative to com or gov  
45 \_\_\_\_ v. Wade  
46 Tater  
49 601, in historical texts  
51 Tavern quaff  
52 Finn of literature  
55 Undersized horse who surprisingly defeated the vaunted War Admiral  
58 British verb-making suffix  
59 "The top 2 percent," purportedly  
60 Roll for a lawn  
61 Unexpected semifinal victory of the 1980 US men's Olympic hockey team  
66 Honeydew, e.g.  
67 Hollywood's Tim or Tyne  
68 Summer buzzer  
69 Eat away at  
70 Church section  
71 Man-eating giant

### DOWN

- 1 Short records, for short  
2 Prevaricate  
3 You may see one railing against it?  
4 Family of finance  
5 Elected sort, for example  
6 It opens on a camera  
7 Stadium feature  
8 Get-together  
9 Pale  
10 "\_\_\_\_ Paloma Blanca"  
11 Rod  
12 Ticked off  
13 High-end electric car  
18 Work hard  
19 2012 Affleck drama  
23 Potter's devices  
24 Pass, as a law  
25 Like a pillow  
26 Upon  
30 TV dial  
33 Have as a debt  
35 Buccaneer's activity  
36 Danger from spoiled food  
37 Clay pigeon  
39 Chore  
40 What a roadie may carry  
41 Weirdos  
42 LBJ's youngest daughter  
47 One picking up drugs or computers  
48 "Don't worry about it," in Spanish  
50 Meets the standard of truth  
52 Blackjack player's command  
53 Hip-hop singer who has coached on *The Voice*  
54 Hip-hop singer who has coached on *The Voice*  
56 Music licensing org.  
57 African river also known as the Zaire  
59 Cart locale  
62 Alter, as a level of a videogame  
63 Site of rods and cones  
64 Firebird, e.g.  
65 Summer in Paris

Answers on page 15

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Edited by Mike Selinker and Gaby Weidling. Crosswords of Wisdom, 1538 12th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98122

## In a summer of war, a group of kids works toward peace

JOEL MAGALNICK Editor, JTNews

The vast difference between the deep green valley outside of Mt. Vernon and the dusty Jerusalem hills these two-dozen 12-year-olds call home was the first clue they had entered something potentially life-changing. For these kids, divided evenly among Jews, Muslims and Christians, their first summer with Kids4Peace brought them together with kids from the U.S. to learn about each other's religious beliefs, build skills in empathy and conflict resolution, and — because it's camp — have a good time.

Omar, one of the Muslim kids from Jerusalem, said he joined the program because he wants to make change.

"I was tired of facing conflict and racism every day," he said.

What Omar has found is a community of peers.

"We're slowly learning about each other's faiths and religions, and learning about each other and learning about our differences and similarities," he said.

Joining the 24 kids from Jerusalem are 10 more from the Seattle area, plus one from Houston, and nine teen counselors that hail from both parts of the world.

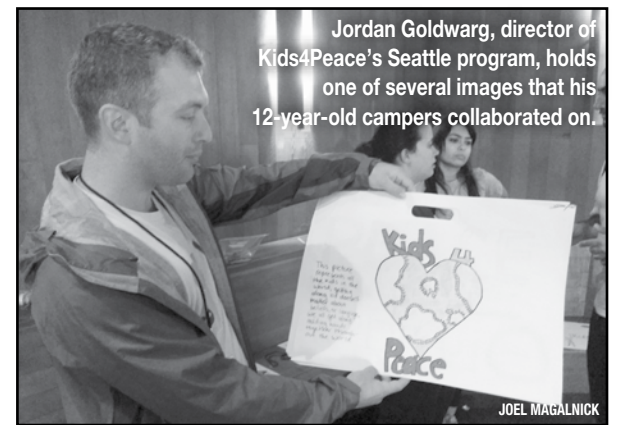
Kids4Peace launched in 2002 as a grassroots program on the East Coast, and has grown to eight locations across the U.S. The intent is to bring kids of the three faiths together, starting at age 12, and keep them involved year-round in the program and with each other until they graduate from high school. While the first years are devoted to building their peacemaking skills, by age 15 these kids are learning how to ask and discuss the hard questions about the ongoing conflict. At the same time the kids meet, so do their parents.

"It has become a very powerful experience to be able to meet people from communities that they otherwise would have very little exposure to," said Jordan Goldwarg, who runs the Seattle Kids4Peace program.

This year, its first in Seattle, is an attempt to turn the camp into a more professionally run program. That includes a partnership with Camp Brotherhood at the Treacy Levine Center outside of Mt. Vernon, which according to Fr. Josh Thomas, Kids4Peace's executive director, "was built for us," he said. "We feel that our mission and their mission are so well aligned that we're excited to have a home here."

The camp, a 200-acre facility devoted to interfaith relations and peace building, was founded by two close friends, the late Rabbi Raphael Levine of Temple De Hirsch and Father William Treacy, a Catholic priest.

Thomas, an Episcopal priest who runs



Jordan Goldwarg, director of Kids4Peace's Seattle program, holds one of several images that his 12-year-old campers collaborated on.

the program from North Carolina, said Seattle has rallied around Kids4Peace in its first year.

"We have a lot of community support, a lot of people who are making this possible: Deeply involved parents, religious leaders and friends across the community," he said, "so I'm excited to see what comes to life here."

Both Goldwarg and Thomas noted that this year was a difficult one given the war in Gaza.

"After about three weeks of a lot of tension where people really withdrew into their homes and their own communities, we started little by little gathering again," Thomas said. "Folks from across the lines of conflict started realizing they do have a partner on the other side."

Goldwarg noted that none of the families dropped out of the program due to the war.

"Every single parent said, 'We want our kids to go, we want them to have this experience,'" he said.

Thea, a Christian camper from Jerusalem, knew about Kids4Peace because her brother went through it. "I'm happy to be here," she said. "I've learned that the most important thing is to listen, because if you don't listen you just miss this stuff."

The entire camp takes part in services from each religion, and Annika, a Christian camper from Seattle, said she found the Shabbat services very educational.

"I learned also a lot about the Muslim tradition," she added.

Though the counselors are on-site to work with the kids, they're getting an education as well. Ala, a Muslim counselor from Jerusalem, said the youngsters have found creative ways to connect to one another.

"The kids, from the beginning, they saw each faith as a group," he said, "but now you can see that they are all knit together, making new friends."

Sarah Rose Shneur, a counselor from Kirkland, learned about Kids4Peace through the Livnot Chai Jewish community high school program.

"I've been really wanting to be part of something that would make a big change

## Seattle Councilwoman's Gaza letter met with swift opposition from community, council

EMILY K. ALHADEFF Associate Editor, JTNews

Seattle City Councilwoman Kshama Sawant's letter to President Obama and Congress to denounce "Israel's siege and blockade of Gaza and the occupation of the West Bank" and to end "all U.S. government and military aid for Israel" was met with staunch opposition.

Sawant read the draft of her letter at a City Council meeting Aug. 4 and asked her fellow council members to sign on to it. She invited feedback and amendments to the letter from the public through Aug. 11.

Upon learning about Sawant's proposed letter, the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle issued an action alert. According to president and CEO Keith Dvorchik, 1,025 unique individuals sent a standardized letter of opposition to either Sawant or the entire council, resulting in 8,226 letters altogether.

At a City Council meeting on Aug. 11, Sawant received negative responses from Councilmembers Tom Rasmussen, Sally Clark, Sally Bagshaw, and Jean Godden. Mike O'Brien, Bruce Harrell, and Tim Burgess were absent. Nick Licata sympathized with Sawant, but is writing his own letter.

After being delivered defeat, Sawant concluded that she would send the letter herself.

"It was very clear to the City Council that there were a lot of people who did not want them to send the letter," said Dvorchik. "I think it had a strong impact on the decision not to sign the letter."

Dvorchik said the Federation has reached out in the past to Sawant to discuss the Jewish community's concerns regarding Israel, but Sawant has not responded.

Opposition also came from KIRO radio host Jason Rantz, who challenged Sawant



Seattle City Councilwoman Kshama Sawant

on "The Jason Rantz Show" on Aug. 6.

"Do you acknowledge Hamas wants to kill Jews?" Rantz asked, before reading an excerpt from the Hamas charter.

Sawant sidestepped the question.

"This is a stalemate," she said a few minutes later. "The only way out is to put in place a meaningful situation of peace. For that we can't rely on the Israeli state; we need working people on both sides."

"I totally agree," said Rantz. "I would just argue that you can't do that with a group like Hamas in power."

Later on during the three-hour show, U.S. ambassador to Israel Ron Dermer called in to discuss the situation and to address Sawant's position.

"Anyone who would put such a resolution forward is either doing something out of some ideology or simply doesn't know the facts," he said.

"When all the facts are known," he added, "people who rush to judgment against Israel frankly I think will be embarrassed, and they're going to have to retract a lot of what they said."

In a letter to the council he shared with JTNews, Seattle resident David Shayne stated that Sawant's letter displayed "a profound lack of understanding of the causes of the violence" and said that it would not be "a good use of public revenues and your time to engage this issue."

Though Shayne clarifies that his points are his own, he goes on to say, "I know my sentiments are shared by hundreds if not thousands of voting Seattle residents. We are paying close attention and we will remember next election time how each Councilmember acts on this issue."

Sawant will be running for reelection in 2015.

### ◀ KIDS4PEACE PAGE 6

in the world, that's making a difference," she said. "I feel like a lot of Americans don't understand what's going on, especially kids my age, so I'm going to be informing them and educating them about what's going on and try to promote peace within my own school."

According to Goldwarg, the annual cost for each camper is about \$3,000. Families are responsible for \$1,200 of that cost, with additional scholarships available to those who need it. The majority of the balance

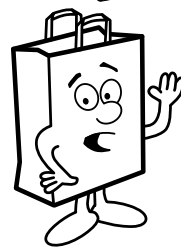
comes from private donations, with some additional foundation funding.

The campers and counselors acknowledge that they are on a difficult path, and that for some even taking part is a big risk. While most have support from families, it's not always the case with their friends.

"A lot of people say there's no way, it's an impossible mission," said Ala. "But if you believe it, and you can live it, yes it can be. Just believe in it and dreams come true. Why not?"

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# The hoopster, and living with MS

DIANA BREMENT JTNews Columnist

**1** Ben Eisenhardt had the same childhood ambition as many kids.

“Professional basketball is a dream [that] starts from kindergarten,” he says. But his aspiration is now reality. Soon, the 6’10”, 215-lb. forward will head to Israel to play for Euroleague’s Elitzur Yavne.

Ben will also make aliyah, an opportunity that was wrapped up in his decision to play there.

“I’ve always been aware that I was eligible for Israeli citizenship,” he notes.

The Bainbridge High School basketball star started his collegiate career at Division-1 Cal Poly. He transferred to Whitman College after contracting a bad case of valley fever, wanting to be closer to home, and to have time to focus “on things other than basketball.” The economics major, who graduated this past May, didn’t exactly leave basketball behind. He was named All-American as a junior, singled out as one of our country’s top players.

Ben has been busy filling out “a lot of forms,” and meeting with representatives of various Israeli agencies. On arrival in Israel,



**M.O.T.**  
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the Tribe

he expects to “jump right in and start practicing” in Yavne, south of Tel Aviv. As a 23-year-old, his military service will only last six months and will fit around his sports schedule.

“They’re excited,” Ben says of his parents, **Ted and Kellan**, but nervous, “like any parent would be.” It helps that he has family there. In fact, Ben’s only other trip to Israel was for his cousin’s Bar Mitzvah six years ago.

Ben’s been working hard this summer with retired basketball player **Alvin Snow** and strength trainer **Tim Manson**. In his minimal free time he reads and sees friends.

“God willing, my brain will be good for a long time,” he says, but “my body’s only capable of doing this for a finite period,” so this is the time to go and “go as hard as I can.”

To do that in Israel, “to pursue that part of my Jewish identity,” he adds, “it’s a great opportunity for me.”

**2** Back in April, I interviewed young entrepreneur **Marcus Schiller** and his dad **Michael Schiller** about Marcus’s homework reminder system called



JOEL DAMES PHOTOGRAPHY

**Marcus Schiller at his Bar Mitzvah, with his dad Michael.**

Brain Bands (launching soon). Learning then that Michael has multiple sclerosis, I wanted to talk to him more about his work and managing his life since diagnosis in the mid-1990s.

A big sports fan, he had always been active, playing basketball and running, but in 1994 “I woke up one morning and couldn’t feel my legs,” he says. A diagnosis of a herniated disc led to surgery, but the numbness persisted. After more tests he was told he wasn’t going to walk again.

“It was a crazy, sad and bitter time,” he says. He became depressed.

At the time he was struggling to complete a big work project. As he tells it, his business partner literally yelled at him to get out of his funk and pull himself together. They successfully completed the job and Michael “immediately started physical therapy,” learning how to walk and balance. “It’s all about how to balance,” he says, and muscle strength.

An active member of the greater Northwest chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society as a fundraiser and public speaker, Michael says “I’ve easily raised \$150,000 for [them].”

While his limitations are increasing, he’s not ready for a scooter or wheelchair.

“What I really hate is when people say ‘sorry,’” he says. He appreciates peoples’ sympathy, but “I look at myself as very fortunate. My wife went through breast cancer; she could have died.... MS isn’t life threatening, it just changes your life.”

His brain, he adds, “works just fine.”

Growing up on Mercer Island, where his parents Babette and Irving still live, he returned there to live 20 years ago, to give his kids the same opportunities he had, including the chance to attend Hebrew school at Herzl-Ner Tamid Conservative Congregation. He spent most of his child-

► PAGE 16



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## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

### Program helps defray costs of traditional Jewish funerals

A traditional Jewish funeral can be beyond the means of low-income observant families in the Seattle area.

For those families, there is an answer. The Community-Sponsored Funeral and Cemetery Program, funded by the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle, helps defray the costs and ensure the families’ wishes for a traditional service are carried out.

The program was formally organized about 15 years ago. Between 2005 and 2014, the program has helped cover costs for 46 traditional Jewish funerals, according to Carol Mullin, Director of Emergency Services for Jewish Family Service, which administers the program.

Mullin said the program is available to help any Jewish family in the Puget Sound area with a financial need. “For observant Jewish families, there is no other choice than a traditional funeral and burial,” she said.

JFS administers the program in partnership with the Seattle Jewish Chapel and

the Bikur Holim Machzikay Hadath, Seattle Sephardic Brotherhood and Herzl Memorial Park cemeteries.

Seattle Jewish Chapel is the only observant funeral home in the Seattle area.

The need for the program emerged when refugees from the former Soviet Union began arriving in the Seattle area. Many of the refugees were older adults who did not have the means to cover the costs of a traditional Jewish funeral.

For low-income families that request the program’s assistance, the chapel and cemetery discount the value of their services. Families are asked to contribute toward the discounted costs. The Jewish Federation

covers whatever costs families cannot pay.

To assess need, JFS sets an annual household income threshold of 200 percent of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ poverty guideline. For a household with two people, for example, the threshold would be \$31,460. Families in need are put in touch with the program by, for example, rabbis, caregivers and hospice services, Mullin said.

While the program has limited resources, it’s there for people who need a helping hand to give their departed loved ones a traditional Jewish funeral. “We appreciate that the Federation is funding this program,” Mullin said.



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# Books for fall: Good reads for when the nights get longer

DIANA BREMENT JTNews Columnist

## Holocaust

Sometimes the idea behind a book is as successful as the book itself, but sometimes the idea is more interesting than the end result.



The story behind Dan J. Puckett's "In the Shadow of Hitler: Alabama's Jews, the Second World War, and the Holocaust" (Alabama, cloth, \$44.95), falls into the first category. A black Southern Baptist,

Professor Puckett intended to write about "how Nazism, war, and the Holocaust affected African Americans' demands for civil rights." He decided on two chapters on the Jewish community, and wanted to tackle those first. But his research so intrigued him that it changed his book to an entire volume on the subject. His very detailed account is packed with fascinating anecdotes, revealing Alabama's small Jewish community as a microcosm of the nation, reflecting both unity and factionalism side by side. Puckett explores conflicts between established families of German Jewish descent and more newly arrived, and often more observant, Eastern European Jews. He describes the pro- and anti-Zionist movements and their leaders, and efforts to help refugees, both abroad and those few able to come to the States.

Alabama was different than other states in one way: In 1943, the state legislature passed a resolution favoring the establishment of a Jewish nation in Palestine. On a sadder side, Alabama's Jewish communities' considerable efforts on behalf of European Jews did not seem to spill over into the fight against racism in America — at least not at that time.



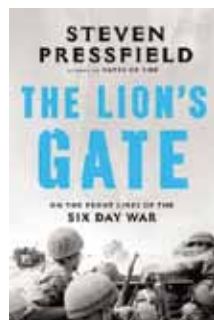
Conversely, Steven L. Richards' "Sitting on Top of the World," (independent, paper, \$17.50) has a fascinating back story in a weakly executed book. Richards was rightly intrigued by the story of Kurt

Walker, born in Germany to a Jewish mother and Protestant father. The doomed relationship ended when Kurt's father aligned with the Nazi Brownshirts. The poverty-stricken family divided, with infant Kurt and his mother living with her parents and Kurt's brother living with his paternal grandparents. Interned at Gurs with his mother and grandparents during the first part of the war, Kurt is rescued by the Quakers, eventually finding foster homes in the U.S. It is many years before he learns that he has a brother. Richards tries to create both a history and a historical novel, one that is sometimes confusing

in its narrative, and far too long. Shifts in perspective and time are frustrating, but curiosity may drive the reader to stick with the story to the end.

## Israel

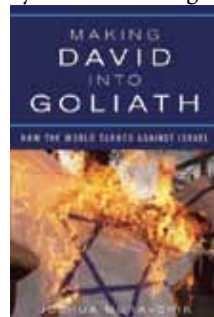
Any recent book on Israel was written long before the current conflict between Israel and Hamas, but you can't help read them in the context of current events.



"The Lion's Gate: On the Front Lines of the Six Day War," by Steven Pressfield (Sentinel, cloth, \$29.95). The author of numerous fiction and non-fiction books about war, Pressfield felt it was time to turn his attention to his own religious tribe. He calls this "hybrid history," not a comprehensive historical account, but a collection of personal narratives from those who were there. While most will be unfamiliar to American readers, many of them are Israeli military heroes and some have written their own books. The words of Moshe Dayan and his daughter Yael are here and we also hear from some Americans who volunteered.

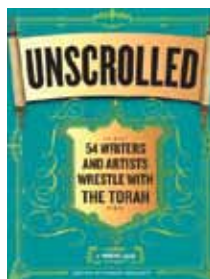
"I am a Jew," writes Pressfield. "I wanted to tell the story of this Jewish war, fought by Jews for the preservation of the Jewish nation.... I don't pretend to be impartial. At the same time, I have tried, despite license taken, to tell the story straight."

In "Making David into Goliath," by Joshua Muravchik (Encounter, cloth, \$25.99), the author brings a professorial eye to describing Israel's metamorphosis from a championed underdog to one of the world's most despised nations. A fellow at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, Muravchik shows



how pressures of terrorism, oil and demographics led Israel to its current status. The Non-Aligned Movement in the UN, the predominance of Edward Said's work on college campuses, the after-effects of the Lebanese War, and even Israel's own "adversary culture," all enter into the author's analysis.

## Torah



"Unscrolled: 54 Writers and Artists Wrestle with the Torah," edited by Roger Bennett (Workman, paper, \$18). Divided into 54 portions for its annual (or triennial) reading in the synagogue, the Torah has been subject to interpretation and exposition for over 2,000 years. This entertaining and creative approach to Torah could be viewed as midrashic in nature. Each of 54 creative and contemporary writers have been assigned parashah and offer a short piece of creative writing expressing a theme of that portion. Some of them are serious, some are ironic, some are funny, and some are quite touching. Editor Bennett has skillfully summarized each portion.

## Fiction



"After Auschwitz: A Love Story," by Brenda Webster (WingsPress, paper, \$16.95). Webster skillfully blends two subjects, Auschwitz and Alzheimer's, in this short novel about survival and dependence. Through the eyes of aging Italian filmmaker Renzo, we learn how his wife Hannah survived the concentration camps and how he helped her recover from her trauma. With his memory failing, now he is dependent on her, and fighting for every inch of his own survival. This is like a long and sometimes painful visit with the couple. We see their faults and imperfect love, and leave wondering if knowing what happens in old age helps us cope any better?

## Food

"Dairy Made Easy," by Leah Schapira and Victoria Dwek (Artscroll, paper, \$15.99). A fun approach to all things dairy, this little cookbook features color photos of each dish and recipes easy enough for a beginner and fun enough for a more experienced cook. Appetizers, main dishes and desserts are all included.

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- JFGS partnered with camps, freeing camp resources for serving children



### PJ Library

- 2000+ families get free books with Jewish content
- Song and Story events connect families to community

## Innovative Programs



### Human Services

- Startup funding enabled Kline Galland to expand health care services
- Helping programs strengthen Jewish connections for people with special needs



### Jewish Education

- Professional development for teachers
- Supporting experiential education programs for teens

## Advocacy



### Voice in Olympia

- Securing state grants for JFS, Holocaust center buildings
- Protecting budgets for human services



### Israel and World Jewry

- 28 local teens received Israel experience scholarships in 2013-14
- Community events to rally support for Israel





# As school resumes, how to talk to children about the Gaza war

By Jack Wertheimer

NEW YORK (JTA) — With the new school year nearly upon us, Jewish educational leaders are scrambling to prepare their teachers to discuss this summer's Gaza war. The most pressing challenge is to design age-appropriate conversations: At which grade level might classroom discussions include potentially frightening topics, such as the wounding of non-combatants, kidnapping of young Israelis and sirens warning of incoming rockets? And how should teachers address the tough issues of civilian casualties in Gaza and the flagrant hostility toward Jews and Israel that has erupted in many parts of the world?

These questions are difficult enough, but are especially freighted with anxiety because they hold the potential to revive stereotypes of Israel that North American Jewish schools have been trying to counter. When Israel was forced to wage three major wars during its first quarter century, its image as an embattled enclave overshadowed everything else about its existence.

In recent decades, though, Jewish schools have endeavored to present a more rounded picture of Israeli life. Without denying the existential challenges facing the Jewish State, teachers have drawn attention to the rich tapestry of Israeli culture — its diverse inhabitants, culinary treats and eclectic music, for example — and, of course, its technological wizardry. School trips to Israel have highlighted the country's natural beauty and its enjoyable recreational scene, even while exploring the strong connections between the land and the

Jewish religion. Educators are understandably loath to resurrect the earlier imagery that simplistically portrayed Israel as a country permanently on war footing.

Responses to the Gaza war require North American Jewish schools to address a second topic that had been pushed to the background in recent years — anti-Semitism. Now, with the blatantly negative media coverage of Israel's prosecution of the war and the resurgence of anti-Semitism around the globe, the subject warrants considerably more attention.

As they formulate a school response to the war, educators might consider three important lessons derived from "Hearts and Minds," a recent report on Israel education in North American Jewish schools:

First, one size does not fit all students. Classrooms this September will contain some students who are largely ignorant about the Gaza war and others who have been exposed to it up close. The diversity of students and their families adds a considerable measure of complexity to an already challenging situation. All of this places a great responsibility upon teachers to prepare differentiated responses to a broad range of students.

Second, when teaching about Israel, it is imperative to work with students' minds as well as their hearts. Jewish schools have focused their attention especially on the latter, an understandable approach with younger children. But by their middle school and high

► PAGE 13

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# Change is a-comin'. Hopefully.

By Ed Harris



On a recent trip with my now-adult daughter to see family in Florida, I reminisced about her initial visit to the Sunshine State, when she hadn't even reached her first birthday, and wondered where all the time went. One minute, she was an adorable baby, screaming endlessly throughout the night, making uninterrupted sleep an impossibility, and then you turn around to find she's celebrating her third wedding anniversary to a wonderful son-in-law. Yet during this stretch of years, I've stayed the same, haven't I? Mostly, I suppose, if you ignore the increasing baldness and an inability to stay awake past 9:00 on a school night.

## Abba Knows Best

The changes in Seattle since we relocated from northern New Jersey have been no less dramatic than those of my family. When we moved here in 1990, the town had a great basketball team — the SuperSonics — but they rolled up the sidewalks at sundown, or so it seemed to a New York native like me. And that was Seattle. Downtown Bellevue was merely a handful of medium-sized office buildings and a few strip malls surrounded by sprawling parking lots.

Now the Emerald City is vibrant and bursting with energy, especially in certain trendy neighborhoods like Capitol Hill and South Lake Union. Bellevue is a bit too well organized and wealthy to qualify as cool, although I understand we have our own legal retail pot store, or will soon. Put that in your pipe and smoke it, New York. Yes, it's true the Sonics have decamped to some obscure Midwestern state, breaking many hearts in the process, yet they have been at least partially replaced by the Sounders, whose passionate soccer fan base validates Seattle's hipness bona fides.

Like almost all the other baby boomers, when we settled in the area, we bought a house in the suburbs, replicating in many respects the lifestyle of the generation that preceded us. Indeed, I have continued a personal family tradition inherited from my father — neglecting the yard. Our tired patch of dried-out scrubland stands in sharp contrast to the lush, green fairway-quality lawns of our two next-door neighbors. One of them has a yard maintenance company do the work for him at considerable expense; the other spends long hours in a combination of intense physical effort and tender loving care keeping all the vegetation verdant. I, on the other hand, do neither, avoiding both the expense and personal workload, much to the chagrin of my wife. I explain that life is a series of compromises, and every extra hour spent in tedious manual labor is an extra hour spent in tedious manual labor. She's had many decades of practice listening to my flimsy excuses of why tasks go undone. Add another to the list.

Regarding the home, which now has too many bedrooms and bathrooms, while we aren't empty nesters quite yet, we can read the tea leaves. Said daughter is married, our own personal version of the Sonics, her departure undertaken amid a shower of tears (mine, not hers). Our middle son is in college, and our youngest will be starting his second

year of high school in September. The allure of the Seattle coffee shop lifestyle beckons.

Our last legal minor among the brood, Izzy, is adamant about not wanting to move while still in high school. Nonetheless, he has made it quite clear that when we are finally bankrupted by his attending the most expensive college available, he also wants to make sure the school is located a considerable distance from home. Somehow, we're supposed to stay contently in place until he's ready to split the scene.

While I may be old enough to qualify for a senior discount at Sports Clips (why I bother with haircuts at all is another of life's mysteries), what would prevent the missus and me of partaking in the local hipster vibe on the other side of the lake? I may be bald, but I am not relieved of the burden of shaving and therefore can still grow a goatee, or even, dare I say it, a soul patch. How come the kids are the only ones allowed to dream of the future?

## ◀ HOW TO TALK TO CHILDREN PAGE 12

school years, students deserve to be exposed not only to the joyous dimensions of the Jewish State, but also to the complexities within Israeli society and outside of it in the tough neighborhood of the Middle East.

And third, teaching about other Jewish communities — their achievements and challenges — does not detract from a connection to Israel but strengthens the ties of students to the Jewish people and also Israel. In some parts of the world, notably in several European countries, Jewish communities are under siege. American Jewish students should not be shielded from these ugly realities. This is the time to teach students about the interconnectedness of all Jews, a lesson that will also strengthen their engagement with Israel and its people.

The Gaza war presents Jewish schools with a teachable moment, a time to explore with their students (in an age-appropriate manner) the asymmetrical struggle in which Israel is engaged and the surge in hatred confronting Jews — including children — in many parts of the world.

*Jack Wertheimer, a professor at the Jewish Theological Seminary, co-authored "Hearts and Minds: Israel in North American Jewish Day Schools," published last spring by the AVI CHAI Foundation.*

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# Despite a war back home, Israelis feel called to help in Pateros

**EMILY K. ALHADEFF** Associate Editor, JTNews

At the same time rockets were falling on Israel during the height of its devastating conflict with Hamas, the single biggest wildfire in Washington State's history ripped through Eastern Washington, consuming some 550 square miles and traveling up to an acre a minute through Okanogan and Chelan Counties.

In a mobile command unit trailer in Pateros, a tiny town perched above the Columbia River about three and a half hours from Seattle, Navonel Glick shows me a map of the state with massive green blotches representing the Carlton Complex fire.

Pateros, population 662 at last count, was one of the worst affected towns, with 20 percent of its buildings destroyed. "Tornadoes" of fire swept over the hills, leaving residents mere minutes to evacuate. Entire homes, entire family histories, literally went up in smoke.

Despite the war back home, Glick, the program director for IsraAID: The Israel Forum for International Humanitarian Aid, was here in Washington with a crew of six workers to help clean up the destruction for two weeks in late July-early August.

"We were sitting there in Israel throughout everything, and we heard about this," said Glick. "We thought it would be an opportunity to show that

life goes on back in Israel."

IsraAID was founded in 2001, and has been one of the first relief organizations to respond to nearly every major crisis, including Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the Haiti earthquake in 2010, the Japanese tsunami in 2011, and the Philippines typhoon in 2013. IsraAID linked up with Team Rubicon, an organization that brings military veterans to help in disaster zones, which was organizing the response in Pateros. They originally connected when both teams helped with floods in Colorado in 2013 and tornadoes in Arkansas earlier this year. Altogether, about 30 volunteers worked six to seven days a week, sifting through the rubble of destroyed houses, clearing out the plots, and discarding hardened globs of melted metal, glass, fiberglass, and anything else that isn't reduced to ash in a fire.

"We like to pride ourselves on being some very tough, rugged people that will do a job a lot of organizations will shy away from, but IsraAID is a step above



Voni Glick sifts through the rubble in Pateros looking for anything of value to the homeowners.

MICKEY NOAM ALON

us when it comes to that," said TJ Porter, an incident commander in Pateros with Team Rubicon. "On a personal level, everyone's just great to be around."

The morning of my visit, the IsraAID-team was in its final day of cleaning up the site of a destroyed home. The few objects that survived were stacks of dishes, blackened silverware that looks like it was unearthed at Pompeii, and a smattering of porcelain religious figurines. On one side of the property, in cruel irony, the fire line stopped about 20 feet from a neighbor's home. As we dismantled a lump of plastic that was once a gazebo, laundry dried in the hot breeze just a few yards away next to a perfectly intact prefab home on a patch of bright green grass.

The work of piling up rocks and twisted metal and tearing down charred trees in Washington was not like landing in the Philippines and seeing bodies in the street, Glick told me. But all disasters are handled with the same sensitivity.

"We talk a lot about working with the mind and not just the heart," said Glick. "It's easy to do more harm than good. You arrive in disasters and you try to keep a part of yourself there with the people. You have to make sure people don't become numbers, because they're not, and to try and respect every individual that you work with. But at the same time, you have to try and be levelheaded, and having a purpose and a meaning within the disaster really keeps you going."

But why, with crises the world over, was IsraAID here?

"We discovered this very weird thing," said Glick. "When there's a disaster in the U.S., everything's taken care of in the beginning. The period immediately after, the homeowners are left alone. It's because the U.S. is so developed that you have this issue."

Helping the homeowners in Pateros recover the few items spared by the fire, and clearing out the plots to rebuild or move on from, is more meaningful than even the victims might expect.

"That in and of itself has had a huge

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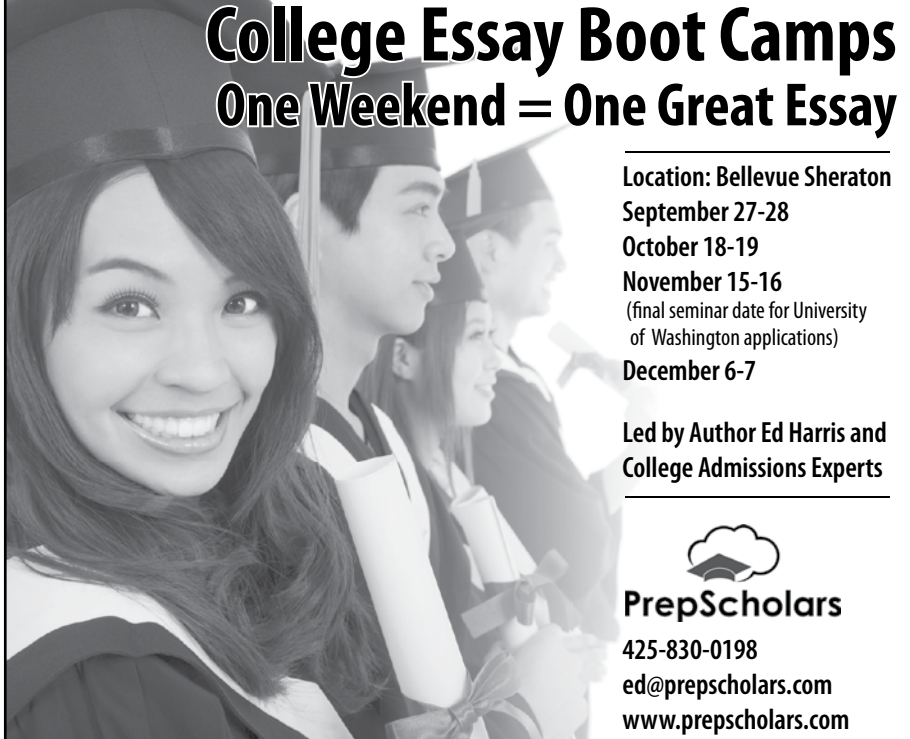


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impact on people,” said Glick. “Home-owners often don’t want to save anything. We go through the process as much as possible to take out personal effects. They’ll find things they thought were lost forever.”

In Glick’s experience, victims who are involved in the cleanup don’t suffer as much trauma. He recalled a young couple in Colorado whose newly built home had to be dismantled after the floods. As they watched, a smile crept onto their faces.

“They were finally able to let go of this mansion they had built...that they had never been able to live in,” said Glick.

IsraAID usually makes an effort to connect with the local Jewish community, particularly to inspire youth who struggle to find a connection to the Jewish people. Glick spoke at Temple De Hirsch Sinai and Congregation Beth Shalom over Shabbat Aug. 15-16.

Given that the disaster response community tends to consist of military and



EMILY K. ALHADEFF

local churches, it’s also a good opportunity to introduce Jews and Israelis to Americans who might not have ever met any.

“We’ve started a campaign that we call ‘haverim’ [friends] to do more missions like this,” Glick said. “Israel knows a lot, and a lot of times our groups do informal interactions. All these things together make it for us sort of unique but highly enriching and important experience.”

According to Bob Obernier, another incident commander, the cross-cultural interactions have been rich. He, for one, is proud to have learned how to say “I’chaim” correctly, which comes in handy around 5 p.m. when a metaphorical

“beer flag” goes up.

“We’re one-sided here in the States about what life’s really like in Israel,” he said. “All they want is to live a peaceful life. Same here.”

The Israelis, too, gain from their interactions with U.S. military veterans. Putting the veterans to work is part of Team

Rubicon’s humanitarian mission, motivated by the memory of an early Team Rubicon member who committed suicide — or, as one person put it, “lost his battle with PTSD.”

“Nobody understands what they went through,” said Glick. “It’s the first time they’ve had a purpose in decades. It’s very interesting to see a different side of America.”

Given that natural disasters are one of the sure things in life on this planet, Team Rubicon and IsraAID will probably meet again.

“There’s a strong connection to the U.S.,” said Glick. “It’s important to us to give back.”

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# The fight against Ebola: A strong defense makes a strong offense

**JANIS SIEGEL** JTNews Correspondent

The United States has little to worry about when it comes to the possibility of an Ebola virus outbreak here, according to Ben-Gurion University of the Negev Ebola researcher Dr. Leslie Lobel: It's not airborne, it requires direct contact with an infected human or animal, and the U.S. health care system has decades of experience successfully treating individuals who've returned from far-flung locations with similar infections.

But what keeps Lobel returning to Africa at least four times a year is his research testing the blood of nearly 120 people who were infected with the Ebola virus but either survived or didn't get sick. Their blood seems to mount a strong defense that protects them from succumbing to the disease.

"We're looking for those people who have the best antibodies to neutralize the virus," Lobel told JTNews. "We identified those survivors with the best immunity, taking the antibodies from their blood and then producing them so that they could hopefully be used as a therapeutic for future outbreaks of Sudan Ebola virus."

Lobel received \$1.2 million of a \$28 million, five-year National Institutes of

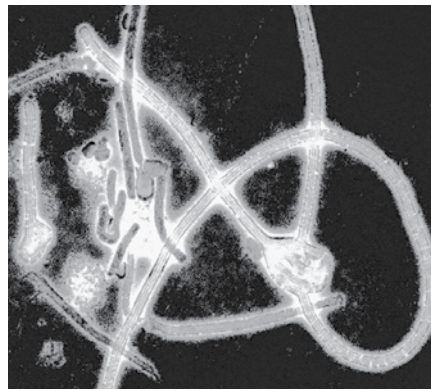
Health grant awarded to a consortium of scientists to create a center dedicated to finding a serum to fight against two hemorrhagic fever viruses, including Ebola. The grant will help Lobel isolate those antibodies while his team reproduces them for testing in animals.

Scientists have identified five stable strains of Ebola. Reston is not lethal to humans, said Lobel, and Tai Forest is so rare a strain that no one is very concerned with it. The other three are the Sudan, Bundibugyo, and the Zaire.

"The current outbreak is the strain that's known as Zaire," said Lobel. "That's historically been the most lethal although the case fatality rate of this current outbreak is not as bad as the original outbreak of Zaire — probably about 60 percent."

Lobel has been working with two Ebola strains and a related hemorrhagic virus, Marburg Virus, since 2002.

In Lobel's other study, his team has been collecting blood samples from survivors who have maintained their immunity over time. Every few months, Lobel and his group take the survivors' white blood cells, and identify those that produce the antibodies that are strongest at neutraliz-



MASUR/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

**A microscopic closeup of the Ebola virus.**

ing the virus.

"It's unlikely that people have different barriers to infection because viruses get into your mucous membrane and cuts in your skin," said Lobel. "It's a matter of the differences of the genetic makeup of a person that probably gives somebody a better capability of surviving. People's immune responses are very different."

Lobel's best guess, so far, is that an infected person who gets sick has an immune system that just doesn't make the right combination of antibodies to fend off the virus. But the precise factor in the survivor's blood is still unknown.

"The one thing we do know," said Lobel, "is that people who don't survive have a dysregulated immune response — it's not pro-

ducing the right combination of molecules to give an appropriate response."

Outbreaks of the Ebola virus, however, play a relatively small role in the spread of disease in the general population all across Africa, according to Lobel.

The more urgent health threats are infectious diseases like dysentery, cholera, childhood diseases, and plague as well as widespread crop failures and animal diseases, which he also researches.

"The animal diseases are the biggest problem in Africa and nobody talks about it because it doesn't affect people," Lobel said. "But interestingly, it affects people in a much larger way than Ebola."

Lobel cited malnourishment as an obvious effect, but also security concerns.

"When people don't have enough food, it leads to a lot of unrest," he said.

Researchers do know that outbreaks of other diseases, such as measles, are worse in the developing world, said Lobel, and that nutrition and general health do play a part in the ability to fight off diseases. But he is also clear that it's not the determinative factor.

"It may make a small dent," said Lobel, "but it's not going to make the difference between no people dying and 50 percent of the people dying. It's not a strong or weak immune system — it's the right response that counts."

## Varon case will go to trial

**JANIS SIEGEL** JTNews Correspondent

At an Aug. 19 hearing, Judge Jim Rogers denied defense lawyer David Marshall's request for more time to prepare for the upcoming trial of Eli Varon, 28, of Seattle, who is facing charges of Communicating with a Minor for Immoral Purposes. King County prosecutors filed charges in May 2014 following a Seattle Police Department investigation.

Although Marshall said he'd made little progress in his attempts to interview witnesses and that he still had "quite a bit" to do, Rogers further shortened the time Marshall has to prepare for trial, changing his requested starting date from Dec. 17, 2014 to Dec. 1, to allow both lawyers enough

time to seat a jury before the holiday recess.

"We may have quite a few witnesses," Marshall told the court. "We don't know yet."

According to Marshall, the Sephardic Bikur Cholim synagogue, where the incident allegedly occurred and where his client is a member, has retained legal counsel. Marshall told the court that he hadn't yet been able to meet with SBH lawyers.

SBH board president Simon Amiel declined comment about the synagogue's legal involvement.

A pre-trial hearing is scheduled for Oct. 24.

### ◀ M.O.T. PAGE 8

hood summers at Camp Solomon Schechter and is a 14-year veteran of the Schechter board. He and his wife **Dawn** are chairing the camp's big gala event this December.

**3 Short Takes:** While this paper has focused on new leaders in our local Jewish organizations and synagogues, there has been a flurry of movement within these organizations as well. **Jennifer Cohen** has taken over as direc-

tor of development at Hillel at the University of Washington. Jen was long active in the National Council of Jewish Women and has worked at what was then known as the Stroum Jewish Studies Program at the UW and at Jewish Family Service. She takes over for **Galit Ezekiel**, who has moved over to JFS as its senior director of administration and outreach. Also, BBYO announced the hire this week of its new director, former URJ Camp Kalsman counselor **Lauren Schwartz**.



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# Seattle's first Jewish music festival to ignite Seward Park

**BORIS KURBANOV** Special to JTNews



Moshav headlines at SPARK, Seattle's upcoming outdoor Jewish music festival.

NAOMI SOLOMON

Any time the word “music festival” is thrown around, people typically think of events like Sasquatch!, SXSW, or Bumbershoot. On August 31, Jewish music from around the world comes to Seattle for the city's first-ever outdoor Jewish music festival, SPARK.

Middle Eastern rock, contemporary Klezmer, Hasidic folk, and rap are just some of the music styles festivalgoers can enjoy at the Seward Park amphitheater on

the shores of Lake Washington. Blending music with booming Jewish pride and community, the festival aims to capture Jewish unity while providing a stunning backdrop, said Adam Simon, the festival's lead planner.

“The message is ‘we're better together,’” Simon said. “Any time you can bring together Jews to celebrate and to be happy together, that's a great thing.”

Headlined by the popular band Moshav of Israel and California, artists featured at SPARK include local hip-hop star Nissim, Klezmer-style bands Sasson and Erev Rav, guitarist and children's performer Eli Rosenblatt, and the talented Oregon-based spoken-word artists Ari Lesser and Ben Yosef.

“You don't have to be Jewishly inspired to appreciate being outdoors and listening

to creativity unfold — this is something that can unite both Jews and non-Jews,” said Simon. “Feeling the music reverberate through the crowd is something that people love.”

The amphitheater is a venue that has yet to be used for events such as festivals, but, thanks to its forested peninsula, its proximity to the beach and views of Mt. Rainier, its beauty can easily be compared to that of Washington State's most notable music venue, the Gorge, Simon said.

Seattle is one of the largest cities in the United States that lacks an outdoor Jewish festival. Along with his friend Ben Gown from Sasson, the idea to bring a festival to Seattle was born several years ago.

“I just thought [the amphitheater] was gorgeous — great views, built-in seating with unmatched views. I thought to myself, there's just something we can do to make this our venue our home,” Simon said.

SPARK, which is produced by the Eruv Coalition, a committee of congregants

from Seward Park synagogues, welcomes people of all ages. (The eruv is the border around observant Jewish communities within which Jews can carry items on Shabbat, when carrying is prohibited. In the case of the festival, it symbolizes inclusion.) A designated “Kids Korral” for children will feature coffee sack races, sports, and face painting. Kosher cuisine, including a falafel food truck and Ben and Jerry's ice cream, will be available as well.

“We want it to be a transcendent experience for Jews and non-Jews alike, and we wanted to have a quintessential festival for not only Jews, but for everyone who appreciates good music,” said Simon. “Music resonates with everybody, and we are very excited to have a chance to bring the amphitheater to life.”

## If you go:

**SPARK takes place August 31 from noon to 6 p.m. \$18/person. Advance tickets available at [BrownPaperTickets.com](http://BrownPaperTickets.com). Kids 14 and under are free.**

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## LIFECYCLES

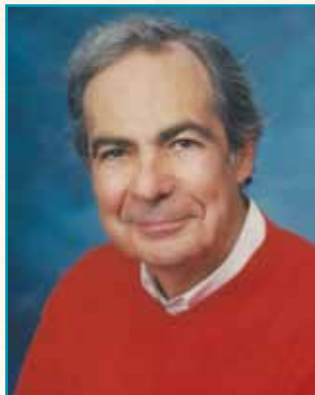
**RICHARD MAX FOREMAN**  
April 20, 1933–August 13, 2014

Born in Los Angeles on April 20, 1933 to Francis and Milton Foreman, Richard Foreman died on Wednesday, August 13, 2014. Richard, who also lived in Provo, Utah, moved to Seattle at age 16 and graduated from Queen Anne High School. He graduated from the University of Washington, where he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. After his first year of law school, he was drafted for the Korean War. He served in the United States Army Judge Advocate General's Corps, also known as the JAG Corps, for two years. He returned to the University of Washington Law School to complete his law degree. After serving as deputy prosecuting attorney for the City of Seattle, he began a very successful private practice.

He moved to Bellevue, where he was on the planning commission and then served 12 years on the Bellevue City Council. He went on to serve three terms as the mayor of Bellevue from 1972-1973, 1974-1975, and 1980-81. The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International named Richard a Paul Harris Fellow. On October 18, 1993, Slade Gorton named Richard attorney of counsel of the Supreme Court of Washington.

A major supporter of the University of Washington Law Department, Richard was an avid Huskies fan. He loved boating throughout the Puget Sound region as well as engaging in hearty political discussions. For the past two decades, one of Richard's favorite pleasures was helping to build Columbia West Properties and Pineapple Hospitality, where he worked closely with his wife and daughter. Friends, colleagues and co-workers described him as a man of great integrity, wit and humor. He enjoyed donating his time and service to legal aid.

He is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Diane; his daughter Michelle; son Steve; son-in-law Steve; daughter-in-law Yama; grandchildren Maxwell, Alexandra, Ariana, Philip; and his precious dog, Me-Too. Funeral services were held at Temple De Hirsch Sinai in Seattle on Sunday, August 17. Interment followed at Sunset Hills Memorial Park, Bellevue. Remembrances may be made to Jewish Family Service of Greater Seattle and the University of Washington School of Law.

**GEORGE GRASHIN**  
April 28, 1928–July 28, 2014

George Grashin, age 86, of Seattle, has passed away after a brave and courageous fight with cancer. He was born April 28, 1928 to Harry and Mary Grashin.

George was one of four siblings, all of whom were raised in Seattle. He attended the University of Washington and earned a degree in Business Administration. He worked for years in the retail business and was the owner of Frank More Shoes in downtown Seattle and several locations in the San Francisco Bay area.

George was one of the founders of Congregation Beth Shalom in Seattle's North End.

He founded the synagogue with a dozen other families and it now proudly serves many Jewish families in North Seattle. He was president of Beth Shalom for two years during a time of tremendous growth and purchase of the property where the synagogue stands today.

George is survived by his wife of 59 years, Barbara Anches Grashin, his three adult children, Mimi Preedy (Steve), Howard Grashin (Gemma), Jeff Grashin; three grandchildren: Melia Preedy, Ben Preedy and Gianna Grashin; his sister Shirley Zarkin (Sam) and many nieces and nephews.

George was an avid runner, bike rider and world traveler. He had a beautiful artistic talent that was reflected in his life, home and family. George had a huge circle of friends and relatives in Seattle and Indian Ridge (Palm Desert), California, who will miss him terribly. He was always ready with advice, encouragement, or as a good listener and was a man of great integrity.

The Grashin family would like to thank Dr. Saul Rivkin, Dr. Howard West, the nurses and staff at First Hill Swedish Cancer Institute, and also Dr. Robert Meier of Cherry Hill Swedish RadioSurgery, for their outstanding care and concern.

Remembrances may be sent to Swedish Cancer Institute, Arnold Medical Pavilion, 1221 Madison St., Seattle, WA 98104; Congregation Beth Shalom, 6800 35th Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98115; or Life Works Residential Agency, which supports his grandson with developmental and special needs, 906 New York St., Longview, WA 98632.

Burial was at Herzl Cemetery in Shoreline on Wednesday July 30.

**Bat Mitzvah**  
**TALEAH DINA LEVIN**

Taleah will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on August 30, 2014 at Herzl-Ner Tamid Conservative Congregation on Mercer Island.

Taleah is the daughter of Craig and Sandra Levin, and big sister to Kayla and Ziva. Her grandparents are Gail and Bob Levin of Bellevue and Eva and Itshak Sarfati of Mercer Island.

Taleah will enter 8th grade at Islander Middle School. She enjoys competitive and recreational dance, volleyball, swimming, skiing, music, and hanging out with friends.

For her mitzvah project, Taleah is working with Birthday Dreams, which provides birthday parties at homeless shelters and transitional housing facilities, and continuing her work with the National Charity League.

**Bat Mitzvah**  
**GILLIAN AVIVA SIMPSON**

Gillian will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on Sept. 6, 2014, at Herzl-Ner Tamid Conservative Congregation on Mercer Island.

Gillian is the daughter of Amy Wasser of Bellevue and the late Chuck Simpson. She is the sister of Harry and Ariel. Her grandparents are Stephen and Barbara Wasser of Schenectady, NY, and the late Jean and Charlie Simpson of Salisbury, MD.

Gillian is in 7th grade at Tillicum Middle School. She enjoys riding horses at the Little Bit Therapeutic Riding Stable in Redmond, and for her mitzvah project she is raising money for Little Bit for the ongoing care of the therapy horses.

**Bat Mitzvah**  
**SHAYNA ROSE WAGNER**

Shayna will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on August 30, 2014, at Herzl-Ner Tamid Conservative Congregation on Mercer Island.

Shayna is the daughter of Ilyse and Greg Wagner and the sister of Risa and Bailey. Her grandparents are Pauline and Jack Reiter of Mercer Island, Naomi and Gerald Beane of Oxnard, Calif., and Alvena and Stephen Wagner of Palm Desert, Calif. Her great-grandmother is Florence Parker of Camarillo, Calif.

Shayna is going into 8th grade at Issaquah Middle School. She just spent her fourth summer at Camp Ramah, and enjoys sports, playing percussion, skiing, riding her bike, playing with her dog, and spending time with friends.

**Bat Mitzvah**  
**JESSICA KATHERINE MANNER**

Jessica will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah Saturday, August 30, 2014 at Temple B'nai Torah in Bellevue.

Jessica is the daughter of Paul Manner and Denise Joffe of Mercer Island, and the sister of Karl and Matthew. Her grandparents are Phyllis Manner of New Rochelle, N.Y., the late George Manner, and the late Theodore and Gloria Joffe.

Jessica is an 8th grader at Seattle Country Day School. She enjoys dance, skiing, and playing cello. Her mitzvah project is with Crohns and Colitis research.

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JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE



# Changing minds about Israel, one person at a time

**RANDY KESSLER** *Special to JTNews*

As children, we were taught to not talk to strangers. But for those of us who care about educating our fellow citizens about Israel, talking with strangers is exactly what's needed.

I was recently invited by a friend to go see Alison Weir, founder of an anti-Israel organization called If Americans Knew, speak at a local church. I was wearing my kippah, so most people assumed (correctly) that I was a Zionist. I listened to Alison give a 90-minute presentation on the many alleged evils of Zionism, trying to make the case that American support for Israel is dangerous and must be stopped. She ended with a plea to share this (mis)information with as many people as possible, as well as with our Congressional representatives. The audience enthusiastically supported her call for boycott, divestment, and sanctions of Israel — except for one person, a woman I will call Rachel.

As I stepped out, Rachel followed me, introduced herself as a Christian from Snohomish County, and said she wanted to hear my side of the story. We talked for a few minutes, then traded cell phone numbers, and started having conversations via text message.

She asked if there were similar events put on by the Jewish community. While

there is a wealth of information online, there really aren't educational events open to the public that explain what Zionism is, so I offered to meet her for coffee and discuss her questions.

Before we had a chance to do so, I got the news: A broad coalition of Jewish organizations was putting on a community rally in solidarity with Israel. I invited Rachel to come to Seattle Center and hear from the Jewish community firsthand. To my delight, she drove down and listened as a congressman, community leaders, and an Israeli consular official told the crowd how much Israel wants peace with its neighbors, how much Israel regrets the loss of innocent life, and how difficult it is to fight an enemy like Hamas, which is committed to Israel's destruction.

The event had a profound impact on Rachel. She said the event helped expose the narrow-mindedness of her friend, and she expressed an interest in learning more about Judaism and the history of Zionism. She also saw how the pro-Israel community was well-behaved, that our messages were positive, and that we mourned the loss of innocent Palestinian lives as well as Israeli lives.

While my conversation with Rachel is only a few weeks in the making, I was able to help show the true face of the pro-Israel

community to someone who had been exposed to a horribly inaccurate portrayal of Zionism.

More importantly, it got me thinking about what our community could do to make the case even more broadly. While rallies are wonderful, they are generally a way of strengthening our own community. How do we get the message out to people who have been led to believe that Zionism is a destructive ideology? How do we present the facts to people who hear messages from both sides and are confused?

This question is particularly pressing now, as anti-Israel organizations are succeeding in making many Jews question Zionism, and turning others into outright enemies of Israel. The worst part is that many of them are using lies and propaganda to make their case.

At a time when anti-Semitism is rearing its ugly head all over the world, and Israel is under constant pressure to compromise the security of its citizens, we are all compelled to do what we can.

My experience shows that one person can make a difference. Just think what we could do if our community rallied around



MERYL ALCABES PHOTOGRAPHY

the idea of reinvigorating Zionist pride, and making the case to the Seattle-area community that Israel truly is a light unto the nations.

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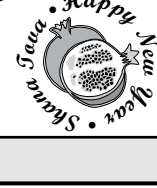
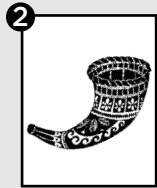
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