

# K.C. native to share work of Peres Center for Peace while home for the holidays

from **page 3**

for everybody else, but there are many more people who are really excited and interested in having that cross-cultural interaction," Portnoy, 29, explained.

At the Peres Center, Portnoy serves as coordinator for Development and External Relations. That means she's in contact with donors, funders or potential funders, writes grant requests and thank you letters, and handles a lot of the administrative things that keep the non-profit organization running.

The staff of the Peres Center is mostly Israeli. There is one other American among the 35 or so staffers besides Portnoy. She said she loves the people she works with and believes the Peres Center does incredible work.

"I think the Peres Center has a really amazing team of people who are really dedicated to what they do and who are

dedicated to the peace process."

Even though Portnoy spends a lot of time in the office, she has seen the Peres Center work first hand.

"I've gone to several different soccer games. In May we had our final Mini Mondial (World Cup) event, which brings together all of the participants from the soccer program. It was around 400 Israeli, Palestinian, Jewish and Arab kids. It was really amazing and an exciting event."

In her job, Portnoy works with all of the different departments and project managers.

"Even if I'm here in the office, I'm writing the reports so I'm hearing about everything that happens in every department. That's really exciting and interesting for me. My boss has started taking me into meetings where we are discussing new programs that we want to start so that's becoming very exciting

for me as well."

Portnoy pointed out that education is just one aspect of what the Peres Center does.

"There's an environmental program where we are working with partners on a master plan for the Yarkon River, which flows in Israel but the watershed is in the West Bank. That's important to everybody."

She said the Peres Center's impact can be seen in a variety of ways, including when Palestinian children are brought to Israel from Gaza and the West Bank for life-saving treatment that isn't available where they live.

"I really feel like I am taking part in a very important, positive step toward a better society, a better future," Portnoy said.

Under Peres' guidance, Portnoy said the Peres Center continues to grow.

## Netanyahu to address Jewish Federations after meeting Obama

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will address the annual Jewish Federations of North America's General Assembly.

Netanyahu will speak on Nov. 10 — the third and final day of the annual assembly, which is taking place this year in Washington.

His appearance will follow the day after Netanyahu meets with President Barack Obama at the White House. The two leaders have not met since Netanyahu launched a bid early in 2015 to kill the emerging Iran nuclear deal.

Iran and the six major powers completed the deal in July, but Netanyahu was not ready to discuss enhanced security cooperation with the United States until he was sure Congress would not kill the deal. Netanyahu did not want to be seen as giving the deal his tacit approval by agreeing to increased assistance.

Congress' deadline to kill the deal was on Sept. 17; several efforts to stop the agreement were unsuccessful.

The theme of this year's general assembly is "global Jewish security," a Jewish Federations of North America statement said. The conferences generally also attract a senior U.S.

administration official; that person has yet to be announced.

## Melbourne day school sexual abuse victim awarded \$1 million in damages

SYDNEY, Australia (JTA) -- A former student at a haredi Orthodox Jewish day school in Melbourne who allegedly was sexually abused by the principal has been awarded \$1 million in damages.

Justice Jack Rush said in Melbourne Supreme Court on Wednesday that the actions taken by the Adass Israel School in helping former principal Malka Leifer flee Australia in 2008 were "deplorable and disgraceful." The allegations of Leifer's behavior were raised shortly after she left Australia.

The school also has been criticized for failing to contact police.

Leifer was arrested in Israel, where she is facing extradition to Australia to face 74 charges of sexual abuse against girls at the school. Hadassah Ehrlich, who sued the school, is one of three sisters who allegedly were abused by Leifer. The offenses involving Hadassah Ehrlich allegedly started in 2002 when she was 15. The judge found the school liable "for the former student's pain, suffering, loss of enjoy-

ment of life, economic loss and past and future medical expenses." Rush ordered the school to pay Ehrlich \$912,740 in damages and ordered Leifer to pay \$107,500.

The school told JTA that it would not comment on the ruling.

In response to the decision, the president of the Jewish Community Council of Victoria, Jennifer Huppert, said in a statement: "Although the Adass Israel School is not affiliated with the JCCV, events at Adass concern all members of the community. The JCCV believes very strongly that Malka Leifer must be brought back to Australia to face justice. It is critical for the sake of the victims and for healing to be able to take place."

She added: "We are pleased to note that the current administration has been working towards improving policies and procedures regarding child sexual abuse, and they have been participating in this year's JCCV Child Protection Policy & Procedures Training. We hope that the administration of the school uses this knowledge to ensure a safe and secure environment for the children in their care." A second student who was an alleged victim of Leifer has started lawsuit proceedings against the school, the Australian daily The Age reported Sept. 17.

## obituaries

### DAVID ELIOT ROSENBAUM

David Eliot Rosenbaum died at the age of 73 on Sept. 13, 2015, in his home in Pasadena, California, from cancer. The son of

Rose and Abe Rosenbaum, now deceased, David was born in Kansas City, Missouri. He graduated from Southwest High School in 1960 and the University of Missouri Law School in 1967.

He was a practicing attorney up until the day he died.

He is survived by his wife Sherry; his brother, Stephen of Toronto, Canada; his daughter, Melanie Sullivan of Perrineville, New Jersey; his son, Robert of New York City and his two grandchildren, Alexandra and Joshua Sullivan.

Services were held at Louis Memorial Chapel Sept. 18. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the charity of your choice.

Online condolences may be left at [www.louismemorialchapel.com](http://www.louismemorialchapel.com).

Arrangements by The Louis Memorial Chapel, 816-361-5211.

### INA HODES WINICK

Loving and devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and sister; Dr. Ina Esther Hodes Winick, a longtime resident of Hastings-on-Hudson, New York, died on Sept. 13, 2015, after a year-long illness.

Born in 1936 in Kansas City, Missouri, she grew up in Kansas City, graduated from Southwest High School, and was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Colorado, where she met her New Jersey-born husband, to whom she was married for 57 years.

Ina Winick was the wife of Eugene Winick of Hastings-on-Hudson, mother of Janet Win-

