

Community

A CLOSER LOOK

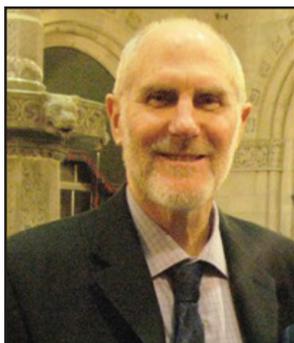
Jew'colades

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Community/Web Editor

Each year, the *Pittsburgh Business Times* presents the Diamond Award to a selection of the region's top CEOs, executive directors and equivalents at companies and nonprofit organizations in western Pennsylvania who have demonstrated exceptional leadership in the region. The Diamond Awards honor and recognize the most accomplished business leaders of small, medium and large for-profit companies, as well as nonprofit organizations.

This year, **Aryeh Sherman, Edgar Snyder** and **Mitchell Schwartz** were each awarded a Diamond Award.

Sherman, president and CEO of Jewish Family & Children's service, was one of four winners in the nonprofit category. Snyder, president of Edgar Snyder & Associates and longtime supporter of JF&CS and SOS Pittsburgh, was one of the winners in the large for-profit company category. Schwartz is founder and CEO of SMARTsolution Technologies LP.



Aryeh Sherman



Edgar Snyder



Mitchell Schwartz

aliya 16 days after their August wedding.

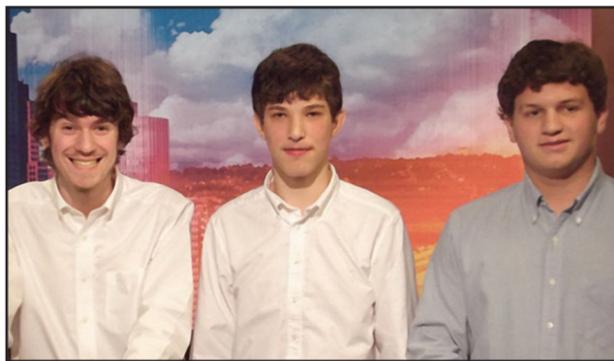
Melody and Avi are canvassing for votes from as many friends, relatives and strangers as they can. Visit thisismyisrael.com, read their story and vote for the local team.

Rabbi Scott Aaron, community scholar at the Agency for Jewish Learning, successfully defended his doctoral dissertation in April at Loyola University in Chicago and will be awarded a doctorate in educational philosophy at graduation ceremonies on May 9.

Aaron's dissertation, "A Grounded Theory of How Jewish Experiential Education Impacts the Identity Development of Jewish Emerging Adults," was also accepted for presentation at the international meeting of the Network on Research in Jewish Education in New York City in June.



Rabbi Scott Aaron



Pictured from left are Nathaniel Brodsky, Andrew Linzer and Avery Feingold.

Nathaniel Brodsky, Avery Feingold, and Andrew Linzer, Winchester Thurston School's Hometown High Q team, could win KDKA's Hometown High Q title for the third year in a row. Hometown High Q is a televised academic quiz competition

where area high school students compete in teams of three for academic grants and recognition.

Brodsky, Feingold and Linzer have defeated their opponents in preliminary rounds of the 2012-2013 season, setting the record for the highest score ever recorded along the way. They will compete in the semifinals and move on to the final rounds of competition if they win. The finale is tentatively scheduled to air at the end of June.

The trio took home the Hometown High Q title in 2011 and 2012. They are undefeated in competition, winning 10 straight rounds since 2010.

The team has taken home \$18,000 in winnings since they began competing in Hometown High Q. Their earnings have gone to support local service projects and to fund participation in academic tournaments.

Both Linzer and Feingold are Squirrel Hill residents. Brodsky resides in Point Breeze.

The Zionist Organization of America-Pittsburgh District continues with its 50-year-plus tradition of helping young people study in Israel. ZOA believes the trips reinforce students' commitment to Judaism and give them an appreciation of the centrality of Israel to Jewish life.

Endowments underwritten by Bernard and Esther Klionsky, Harold and Marla Scheinman, the family of the late Natalie and Ivan Novick, and the late Thelma Esman fund the program.

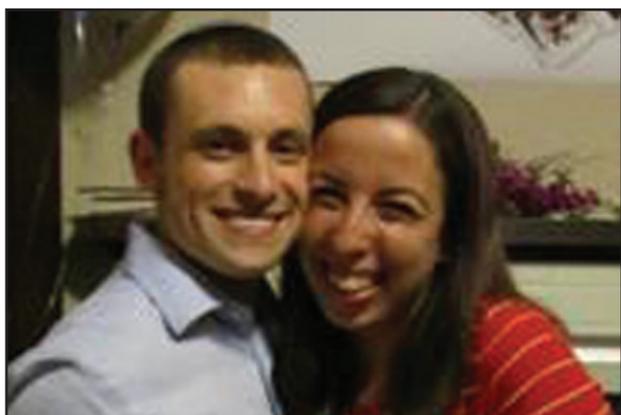
The Scholarship Committee, under the guidance of Chair Phyllis Silverman, announced a scholarship award of \$1,500 to **Isaac Miller**.

Isaac will be participating in a BBYO Passport educational program; this will be his first trip to Israel.

"For me, it is imperative to be appreciative of all that Israel has given and gives to the Jewish people," Isaac said.



Isaac Miller



Melody Mostow with fiancé Avi

Melody Mostow, 22, of Pittsburgh, was the only contestant interviewed by The Jerusalem Post for its coverage of the Nefesh B'Nefesh Wedding Gift Challenge contest.

Each contestant posts his or her photo, background or professional credentials and the story of their personal connection to the land of Israel.

Melody and her fiancé Avi, from Highland Park, Ill., met during their gap year in Israel and plan to make

Sneaker drive success



Community Day School photo

The Community Day School middle school student council organized a sneaker drive to benefit the Children's Village in Israel. CDS families, faculty and staff donated more than 70 new or gently worn pairs of sneaker to send to Israel for the children.