

# The Clackamas Print

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## Holocaust survivor to share his story with Clackamas

By Mandie Gavitt  
Arts & Culture Editor



Above: Alter Wiener in Tel-Aviv, Israel on August 4, 1950.  
Below: A family photo of Wiener's uncle Max's funeral in Haifa, Palestine in 1939. Right: A current photo of Wiener.

"My little brother at the age of eight was taken to Auschwitz. When I take a shower every day I look at the showerhead I say to myself, 'What went through the mind of my little brother, at the age of eight when he was taken to Auschwitz, and pushed into a gas chamber and instead of water, cyclone B gas choked him to death.' How much did that little boy suffer?"

Holocaust survivor Alter Wiener is no stranger to the cruelty mankind is capable of committing. Thirteen when World War II began, Wiener spent three years in concentration and labor camps until he was liberated at the end of the war.

Wiener will visit Clackamas Community College on Thursday to tell his story.

At the time of liberation, Wiener weighed only 80 pounds.

Wiener was the sole survivor of his immediate family. His mother had died when Wiener was a young boy and his father was murdered on Sep. 11, 1939 at the start of the war.

After the death of his father, Wiener was raised by his beloved stepmother Rachel. When Wiener was 15, Nazis stormed his home, taking Wiener with them.

"My stepmother pleaded with Germans: 'Don't take him away from me, he is such a

young boy. He needs a mother.' They slapped on her face, she fell unconscious and they took me away. I never saw her again," said Wiener. Rachel was murdered in Auschwitz along with Wiener's eight-year-old brother.

In total of 123 members of Wiener's family were murdered during World War II; most of these family members lived in the same town as Wiener.

Today, Wiener lives in Hillsboro, in a sparse one-bedroom apartment. His home is pristine with minimal belongings. There's a television, but Wiener said it is really only used to watch the news. Newspapers on his table range from The New York Times to Willamette Week. A blender sits out on the kitchen counter. He couldn't live without it as it prepares most of his meals; he has no teeth left, most of them were knocked out when he was punched by a German.

At the age of 85, Wiener knows about Facebook and email, which helps him speak to younger generations who grew up with online communication. He travels to various middle schools, high schools, churches and even prisons to share his story of what it was like to survive the Holocaust.

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All photos from From A Name to A Number

Alter Wiener will speak in the McLoughlin Auditorium Thursday, Oct. 27 from noon to 2 p.m.

## CCC staff fined for breaking election laws

By Patty Salazar  
News Editor

"Briefly, from a moral, philosophical and religious perspective, I believe and that in order for the greater good to be achieved in our society, our organizations, especially government as represented by its officials, should follow and play by the rules. It is important to avoid potential conflicts of interest. Moreover, it is incumbent upon citizens to be watchful," said Hugo Grimaldi, an accounting instructor at Clackamas Community College.

CCC staff members were fined by the Oregon Secretary of State's office for breaking election laws for the \$130 million ballot bond measure in May.

"I hereby request an investigation into these links since they appear to clearly violate Oregon state law regarding neutrality in bond election information," stated the complaint filed to the Secretary of State by instructor Dean Darris, his wife Tara Darris, his former student, Marlo Smith and Grimaldi.

Now, five months later, the Secretary of State office has fined Joanne Truesdell, the president of CCC; Tamera Barry, a communication specialist; Janet Paulson, the public relations official for CCC and Shelly Parini, the dean of college advancement. They were all notified on Thursday. Truesdell, Barry and Paulson were fined \$75. Shelly Parini was charged \$175. As dean of college advancement, Parini was in charge of overseeing and coordinating bond information activities for the May bond election.

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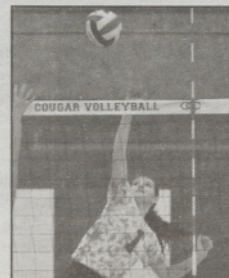
Electric vehicle charging stations come to CCC

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Halloween events scare off boredom

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Cougars volleyball spikes Multnomah

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