



# Jewish REVIEW



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## Rosenbaum honored with camp garden

By JEWISH REVIEW

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Brig. Gen. Fred Rosenbaum (OANG-Ret.) was honored July 22 at Camp Rilea near Warrenton where a Garden of Gratitude was named in his honor for his many years of service to Camp Rosenbaum.

Camp Rosenbaum—also named in honor of the retired Oregon Air National Guard assistant adjutant general—is a summer camp created 39 years ago by the authority of Gov. Tom McCall at the urging of Rosenbaum, then an OANG officer and chairman of the Housing Authority of Portland. The camp for at-risk urban youth is hosted each summer at the Oregon National Guard facility overlooking the Pacific Ocean.



The dedication of the garden, which includes a commemorative granite marker near the buildings used for the youth camp, attracted leading Oregon dignitaries, including two former governors, Vic Atiyeh and Barbara Roberts, Gresham Mayor Shane Bemis, retired senior military officers and housing authority officials from various Oregon counties—Rosenbaum is a past chair of the Housing Authority of Portland.

The entire ceremony took Rosenbaum by surprise. He said he had traveled to the

camp just "to see the kids."

"It was a big surprise. It just blew me away," he said. "I had to give an ad-lib talk."

The idea for the camp came about in 1970 when it occurred to Rosenbaum that the idyllically situated military base was also a good site for a camping experience for housing authority children who did not have the same summer camping opportunities as other children.

The goal of the one-week camping experience is to empower housing authority boys and girls ages 9 to 11 in Oregon and southwest Washington to take responsibility for their lives, make the right choices and turn away from the allure of trouble.

The camp is operated by volunteers from housing authorities, the Oregon Air National Guard, the Portland Police Bureau and several county, city and state law enforcement and fire protection agencies.

In addition to traditional camping activities, the children attend Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) classes taught by nationally recognized instructors. Counselors and staff serve as both teachers and role models to reinforce the messages.

Rosenbaum's interest in the welfare of children in difficult circumstances comes from his own experience. He escaped Austria at the outset of World War II as part of the Kindertransport, which moved nearly 10,000 children—without their parents—from Nazi Germany, Austria, Poland and Czechoslovakia to safety in Great Britain.

Rosenbaum was reunited with his parents later in Great Britain. They came to America where Rosenbaum enlisted in the U.S. Army and fought in the South Pacific.

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