

Hamilton Jewish News

SERVING HAMILTON WENTWORTH AND AREA

APRIL 2009 VOL 23:4/ NISAN 5769

AGREEMENT #40007180

DEBORAH LIPSTADT TALKS ABOUT HER DAY IN COURT



Deborah Lipstadt spoke at McMaster on March 19 in a lecture sponsored by Madeleine and Monte Levy, McMaster's Department of Religious Studies and McMaster University Library. PICTURED ABOVE: Deborah Lipstadt speaks with Jeff Manishen as Jewish Student Director, Judy Schwartz looks on. See story, page 11.

UJA goes back to donors

Urgent need to 'top up' campaign

If the UJA Federation Allocations Committee made its community funding decisions today for the coming fiscal year, our local agencies, our national partners and our obligations to Israel and global Jewish communities would be facing a decrease of up to 20% from their allocations in the previous year.

In response, the UJA Federation Board is considering launching a quick "Top-Up Campaign," going back to all donors for supplementary gifts to sustain the local infrastructure in the coming year. "The situation is really serious and we can't just accept it as it is" says UJA Federation President Dr. David Somer.

Discussions at a recent meeting of the UJA Federation Board of Directors were focused on the impact such draconian cutbacks might have on our ability to sustain the local infrastructure of schools and services. According to UJA Federation CEO Gerald Fisher "We face a bitter irony of having undergone a strategic planning process that identified "assisting the vulnerable" as our first priority. Now, the current economic climate has increased the number of people seeking our assistance and we may find ourselves even less able to help them.

UJA Federation Treasurer Jacki Levin said "To be fair, the "crisis" is not just a function of a downturn in the UJA campaign. The campaign projection itself is down by app. 7% from last year. This is very reflective of the experience of UJA campaigns across Canada this year. What is critically affecting our funds available for allocation is the related loss of secondary sources of funding." She mentioned the following:

- . a projected decrease in the campaign
- . expected reduction in earned interest
- . expected reduction from endowment interest
- . reduction of accumulated reserves used to meet our obligations this year.
- . an increased provision for bad debts

In total this represents a reduction of app. \$150,000 in funds available for allocation.

UJA Chairs David Horwood and Lisa Morris are bringing the UJA Campaign Cabinet together to discuss the possibility of the "Top-Up" Campaign. Consultations with major donors may take place over the next few weeks. One thing is for sure. The allocations process begins in early May. This means that the fundraising initiatives must conclude by the end of April. With Passover in the middle, it doesn't leave a lot of time.

Lisa is representing the Hamilton community at a national leadership conference this week and was unavailable for comment. David reminds us that "Our community has faced adversity in the past. We have always risen to the challenge. We will certainly be challenged now and we will make our best effort to sustain our community and to meet our obligations."

Incoming Federation president seeks to engage, unify the community

Larry Levin brings years of communal experience to his new role

WENDY SCHNEIDER

Larry Levin is a magnet for success. The three years that he was involved with the UJA campaign – two as chair and a third as co-chair – were the most successful campaigns in the community's history. The secret? Levin's focused commitment in engaging people who have never before felt an inclination to get involved.

As incoming UJA Federation president, Levin will be focusing a lot of attention on attracting new faces to the Federation board. What kind of people? "People who have skills to help our community but haven't felt invited, valued or drawn into what the Jewish community needs. So they give their talents in amazing ways in the broader community. We need to get some of those talents involved in our own community and with their help we can build a better tomorrow."

Levin's affection for Hamilton is deep-seated. He has called the city home since 1970 and all four of his children went to the Hamilton Hebrew Academy, where he served on the board for 12 years.

"People talk about the heyday of Hamilton Jewish life. They have such a glow when they talk about the old JCC and York Street. I'm not prepared to say that that opportunity to make a difference in a young person's life or in a Jewish Hamiltonian's life is gone forever."

Among Levin's top priorities will be to articulate a vision.

"Until there's a vision it's harder to attract people. Right now a lot of people don't know what the vision is. They don't feel responsible. They give to the campaign but don't really feel connected. I think they would contribute more if they knew the value of it and felt that they were making a difference. You can make a difference with your time, your involvement or your financial support. Nobody does any of those things if they don't feel responsible and connected."

And after the vision is



Larry Levin

articulated?

"Distilling that down into some manageable committee structure, engage the right board people and volunteers who are willing to put effort into the UJA campaign so you have the funding to implement these things. Without the ideas you won't get the resources; without the resources you won't be able to implement the ideas."

Can there be a unified Federation that truly represents the community?

"We have to make Federation a place where everyone can feel that their voices are being heard. But we also have to find a better way to disagree. To publicly criticize each other isn't helpful. So no matter what your view is you need a forum for discussing it."

Levin's background in organized dentistry makes him well suited to the task of building a new board and committee structure.

"Every person who sits on the board should have a connection with another agency and the agencies should be funneling in their questions and requests through that board member. The Executive Director's role is to support the president and the community by enacting their vision, but it has to be the lay leadership that provides that vision and inspiration. Staff can participate in the vision but you can't ask them to provide the leadership or the vision."

Continued page 2

An open letter about an independent Hamilton Jewish Middle School

As announced in the recent issue of the Hamilton Jewish News, Kehila Jewish Community Day School and the Hamilton Hebrew Academy have submitted a joint application to the Avi Chai Foundation for several cost saving initiatives. The most ambitious initiative, with potential implications for the entire community, was the development of an independent Jewish middle school.

There were several reasons for considering the creation of a joint middle school. Many students who start in Kindergarten at our Jewish day schools tend to end their Jewish education before or during middle school. By developing a combined environment where children from both schools can study together, we stand a better chance of keeping the most children in Jewish education longer.

An advantage of integrating students from the two schools into one location at the middle-school level is that we can best prepare them for their eventual role as leaders of a more cohesive local community.

In addition, the cost of the expensive resources necessary for the secular studies at the middle school level could be shared.

So, in the best interests of the entire community, both groups put aside their differences and worked together in this cooperative endeavour.

However, there were some incorrect and misleading facts in the Hamilton Jewish News article and subsequent communications that we would like to clarify. Kehila and the Hamilton Hebrew Academy plan to integrate only our middle schools—not our elementary schools. Our proposal only discusses the creation of a single Jewish middle school separate from the two elementary schools.

Rabbi Green, Kehila Board Chair Mario Stolar and Principal Leia Ger-Rogers worked for many hours preparing the Avi Chi application. No location was agreed upon, nor was any specified in the application. It was agreed that this middle school requires an independent board and governance structure to ensure that the entire community is served.

A critical aspect of the proposal is the plan to accommodate two streams of Judaic education in this middle school.

While Kehila and the HHA offer elementary-school grades, their mission and vision are distinct and unique. This diversity reflects the different needs and preferences in our community and is vital to providing our Jewish families with a choice that works for everybody.

Only by providing educational options can we ensure maximum engagement during our children's formative years.

We are hopeful that our application to the Avi Chai Foundation is successful. Regardless of the outcome, we are prepared to work with the HHA administration, the Jewish Federation and the overall community to make this vision of a new Hamilton Jewish Middle School a reality for the upcoming academic year.

The Board of Directors
Kehila Jewish Community Day School

Dialogue Committee Demise

Given the circumstances that overwhelmed the Arab/Muslim/Jewish Dialogue Group during the recent Gaza conflict, its demise was unavoidable. For those who opposed this initiative from the beginning, this development has brought a sense of affirmation. However, for many others it has brought a sense of both disappointment and renewed commitment to identify mechanisms of communication and cooperation that will be sustainable.

A column in the Canadian Jewish News published after the dialogue ended referred to the initiative as "a charade," "misguided," "embarrassing" and "divisive". Although this column certainly expresses the perspectives of some, it was not the only response to the situation. The UJA Federation office received a number of letters, emails and phone calls thanking the Jewish dialogue members for their commitment and hard work, expressing empathy for the disappointment in the initiative's demise, expressing their recognition of the importance of communication and urging them to continue to look for ways to come together. Here are just a few:

Respectful debate within communities is always healthy. But respectful debate between disparate communities is invariably healthier still. A very important, and pointed, debate is currently under way within Hamilton's Jewish community about the Hamilton Jewish Arab Muslim Dialogue (HJAMD), the grassroots initiative that had sought to open lines of engagement between different groups in our city.

It's been suggested by some, and repeated on these pages, that this initiative was misguided and wrongheaded from its inception. I think that's unfortunate.

I think it would be a mistake to judge the value of HJAMD by the tenor of its final days. HJAMD may not have been a perfect vehicle for community engagement, but then few perfect vehicles exist.

What is equally true, and more telling, is that during its lifetime HJAMD successfully engaged disparate communities in ways they have not previously engaged. I was party to that engagement, and I can only tell you that it provided an encouraging, even inspiring, reprieve from what has sometimes been an acrimonious and rhetoric-fuelled dialogue.

Dana Robbins, Publisher
Hamilton Spectator

While I respect Dr. Lawrence Hart, I must add my perspective to his view that the Hamilton Jewish Arab Muslim Dialogue Committee "turned out to be no more than a cynical public relations exercise that has fomented distrust, divided our community and made a mockery of civil discourse."

As a Hamilton broadcaster I frequently invited Dialogue Committee members to participate in my issues-oriented news talk program and at the most sensitive of times. I certainly witnessed difference of opinion and philosophy, yet Committee members invariably, openly and with care addressed the most challenging of Jewish, Muslim, Arab and greater Canadian community issues.

It was at my suggestion that Dr. Lorne Finkelstein, founding member of the

Dialogue Committee engage in initial discussions with then Hamilton Muslim Association president Javid Mirza. From that meeting the Dialogue Committee began to take form.

My experience during the years the Committee participated in my broadcasts was invariably positive and its outreach to the greater Hamilton community was not insignificant. A case in point. The 2006 Dialogue Committee sponsorship of a very successful public presentation of interfaith dialogue by Judea Pearl, father of slain journalist Daniel Pearl, and professor Akbar Ahmed.

Roy Green

Dear Lorne,

Trying to place ourselves in your shoes we can only imagine what you must be feeling. The word that comes to mind is betrayed. But take heart. We can learn two important lessons from the recent run of events. The first lesson is that the task is greater than any of us could have realized. After all the time and effort you spent nurturing to have a member of your group write such a hurtful letter reveals just how deep rooted is the problem. Unfortunately it is not a problem we can ignore and we hope that you will continue to work with our community to seek some resolution.

Second, is a lesson for our own community. While we can tolerate diversity in the Jewish community we can not afford intolerance and open animosity. We have enough enemies. The Federation's mission statement is guided by the values of "Tikkun Olam." We must recognize that Tikkun Olam and the process of becoming a strong, vibrant and enduring Jewish community in the greater Hamilton region, begins within our own community.

With thanks for all your efforts,
Lester & Carol Krames

Dear Lorne,

As a group you achieved a great deal and created a framework for an exchange of usually 'reasoned' opinion. I'm truly sorry it all had to end, but understand your views, thoughts and action at this time.

Lorne, I can best summarize what you mean to Hamilton and the greater objectives of conflicting communities by suggesting you take a walk to the Convention Centre and reacquaint yourself with your presence in the Gallery of Distinction. There's a reason you're there and it's because you are community leader.

Roy Green

My thanks to Lorne Finkelstein for his efforts in trying to bring our community together with the Arabs for better understanding. It is my hope that one day we may continue our efforts. Until then my thanks again to Dr. Finkelstein, and all those who tried the not possible and one day may be successful.

Phil Leon

LEVIN cont'd from page 1

How long does he think it will take him to achieve his goals?

"I don't see this as a short term project. You need to create a continuum. One of my goals is to put in place a path so that there's always somebody else moving ahead into the next position. I want the Federation to be such an interesting place that people will be lining up to be part of it."

Creating a better committee infrastructure, something he has learned a lot about from his years of involvement in organized dentistry, is another goal.

"If you don't build a model that has other people behind you that see themselves stepping into your shoes, it's not going to work. What are you doing today to ensure the continuity for tomorrow? One of the big pieces in all of this has to be a succession plan."

A people person, Levin is also eager to create community within the Federation. "How we treat our staff is very important. I don't think there's a harder working staff anywhere. We have to build celebration back into our interactions. Why can't we have a Federation dinner every year to honour the board, the staff, and our community leaders. We're going to have a lot of parties on my watch."

With so many hours logged in communal service, you might think that Larry Levin could justifiably spend his leisure time relaxing and spending time with his family. (The Levins recently had a grandson.) The question about what keeps him motivated to taken on such a big task is an obvious one.

"One of the things that motivates me to keep working in organizations is that I can both mentor young people and deal with peers who share my vision.

"I like working with people. I like the interactions with people when we have a common purpose and are trying to achieve something. That kind of dynamic is something I thrive on. I like a discussion that has a purpose. I like building things, whether it's interpersonal or a committee structure.. We're either moving forward or we're standing still and I hate standing still.

"I'd rather listen than talk. I look for the best in people. I don't get my back up. I'm like a camel. I can go longer periods of time in between getting a drink of water or a positive stroke. Some people have to carry a bottle around with them all the time – every two minutes they have to be sipping or getting compliments. I don't need it all the time."

One gets a strong feeling in talking to Levin that the qualities he is bringing to the role he has chosen to take on at this particular moment in time bodes very well for our community. We look towards the future with great anticipation.

CHAG SAMEACH



*To all our Donors, Friends
and Families during the
Passover festivities*

HAMILTON AMBASSADOR

Hilda Rosen
27 Haddon Ave. S.
Hamilton ON L8S 1X5
Phone: 905-529-4824
Email: irosen@cogeco.ca



Advertise in the Spring/Summer issue of the Hamilton Jewish News

Call 905-628-0058
or email wschneider@jewishhamilton.org
before April 15, 2009

INSIDE HJN APRIL 2009



UNITY CONCERT

PICTURED ABOVE: Evgenia Epshtein and Shoshana Telner thank the audience after their superb performance at a Unity Concert organized by the Adas Israel and co-sponsored by all the community Rebbetzin as a fundraiser for the Hamilton Mikvah.

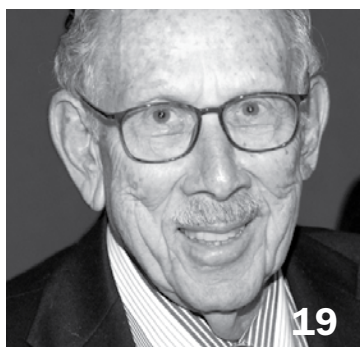


BENEFICIARY AGENCIES
4 ADVOCACY TRAINING
 Canada Israel Committee provides training

LOCAL EVENTS
11 HOLOCAUST DENIAL ON TRIAL
 Deborah Lipstadt recounts her day in court

UPCOMING EVENTS
16 CANTORS DO BROADWAY
 Five cantors perform at Beth Jacob fundraiser

COMMUNITY
18 HHA HONOURS ITS FOUNDERS
 Tribute event to honour founding board members



IN THIS ISSUE	
UJA Federation	1-3
Beneficiary Agencies	4,5
Local Events	6,7, 11
JCC	8
Community	9,10
Guest Voices	12
Special Mentschen	15
Community	16-19

COMING UP	
SPRING ISSUE	
• Deadline for booking ad space	April 15, 2009
• Deadline for receiving editorial copy	April 30, 2009
• Deadline for receiving ad copy	May 11, 2009
• Estimated Date of Arrival	May 22, 2009

Hamilton Jewish News

PLEASE RETURN UNDELIVERABLE CANADIAN ADDRESSES TO:

POB 7258
 1030 Lower Lions Club Rd.,
 Ancaster, Ontario L9G 3N6

Agreement # 40007180

Hamilton Jewish News is published 5 times a year by Hamilton Jewish News Inc. and Wendy Schneider

Circulation 2,000

EDITORIAL POLICY

The HJN invites members of the community to contribute letters, articles or guest editorials. Written submissions and advertisements must be forwarded by the deadline indicated in each issue. This newspaper reserves the right to edit, condense or reject any contribution for brevity or legal purposes.

Deadline for submissions: for the next edition of the HJN is February 27, 2009.

PUBLISHER
 Wendy Schneider

EDITOR
 Wendy Schneider
 wschneider@jewishhamilton.org

MANAGING EDITOR
 Gerald Fisher

TELEPHONE
 905-628-0058

FAX
 905-627-7099

UJA FEDERATION OF HAMILTON

PRESIDENT
 David Somer

PAST PRESIDENT
 Leslie Lasky

UJA CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIRS
 David Horwood
 Lisa Morris

VP FINANCIAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
 Shirley Molot

VP HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
 Vivienne Epstein

VP ADMINISTRATION
 Paul Roth

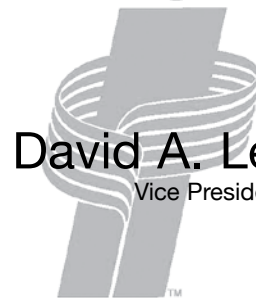
TREASURER
 Jacki Levin

HONORARY LEGAL COUNSEL
 Allen Wynperle

LEGACY ENDOWMENT CHAIR
 William Steen

BOARD MEMBERS
 Sol Algranti, Yves Apel, Steven Dembe, Joy Foster, Mark Gould, Cheryl Greenbaum, Norma Jack, Michael Kam, Howard Katz, Sandra Katz, Larry Levin, Monte Levy, Bonnie Loewith, Tom Martin, Sandy Morris, Shelley Rochweg, Hanna Schayer, Mario Stolar, David Streiner, Martin Strub, Harvey Waxman, Janet Weisz-Asa.

Phil Leon insurance broker inc.
 Est. 1965



David A. Leon, FCIP
 Vice President

21 Hunter Street East, Suite #103
 P.O. Box 1053
 Hamilton, ON
 L8N 3R4

Bus: 905.525.0001
 1.800.734.6362
 Fax: 905.525.1690
 dleon@philleon.ca

*"Discount rates available for B'nai Brith members.
 Plan underwritten by ING Novex Insurance Company of Canada"*



"I'm so fortunate that my vet highly recommended McCann Professional Dog Trainers!"

McCANN
 PROFESSIONAL
DOG TRAINERS
 Serving Southern Ontario

Call **1-888-681-7877** or register online
www.McCannDogs.com

More than 50,000 family pets and their owners trained! New sessions start every month.

ALBERT SNOW
 HAIR DESIGN GROUP

1036 KING WEST HAMILTON 905-525-0831
WWW.ALBERTSNOW.COM

*DARE to
 be YOU*

EXCLUSIVE
 TECHNIQUES | DESIGN | IMAGINATION



UJA Walkathon Sunday, June 7, 2009

Bayfront Trail (exciting new route)



Fun, games and activities for all ages during and after walk

Registration
10 am at Shalom Village

Rain or Shine

2009 Walkathon Chairs
Julie Dembe, Nicole Furst,
Tova Green, Rikki Gross

Proud, Strong, Growing Together

**Walk with pride to support
Jewish Social Services
and Shechafim School in Israel**

Pledge forms will be available at your school,
the JCC and online at www.jewishhamilton.org.
For more information call 905-648-0605.



Simon Deng speaks at Mac



A large community turnout joined McMaster JSA and IOC when they hosted Simon Deng. Pictured above, l to r, are Sharon Hart, Dr. Lawrence Hart, Monte Levy, Madeleine Levy, Anna Kos (JSA president), friend of Simon Deng, Simon Deng, Judy Schwartz, Ron Levitin (JSA chair of Israel Affairs), Rebecca Cherniak (president of Israel On Campus) and IOC and JSA member, Perri Maxwell.

JUDY SCHWARTZ

Simon Deng, a survivor and witness to the genocide of the people of South Sudan, was the guest of McMaster Jewish Students Association and Israel on Campus in early March. Deng spoke of his horrific life, when, at the age of 9 when he was given as a slave to an Arab family in North Sudan. After his remarkable escape, he chose to be the "Voice of the Voiceless" by working diligently for the freedom of his people.

The Sudan was the first African country forcibly transformed into an Arab Islamic

state. Several hundred Sudanese have managed to escape – Some managed to walk to Egypt, a fellow Muslim state, where they were shot at the border. Of those who managed to get into Egypt, 120 were murdered in Cairo in front of a UN building. Over 600 Sudanese refugees successfully made their way to Israel, where they were granted security and safe refuge. Israel, the country now being accused by its enemies of Apartheid.

BETH JACOB SYNAGOGUE PRESENTS

CANTORS DO BROADWAY

CANTORIAL CONCERT

& SILENT AUCTION OF JEWISH ART
FROM ARMAND GALLERY, TORONTO



FEATURING CANTORS:

ERIC MOSES – BETH SHOLOM SYNAGOGUE, TORONTO
BEN SILVERBERG – SHAAR SHALOM SYNAGOGUE, THORNHILL
MARSHALL LOOMER – BETH DAVID SYNAGOGUE, TORONTO
LAURA WOLFSON – TEMPLE ANSHE SHOLOM, HAMILTON
BEN SHARPE – BETH JACOB SYNAGOGUE, HAMILTON

Thursday May 21, 2009
DOORS OPEN 6:30 PERFORMANCE 7:30

REFRESHMENTS AFTER THE SHOW.
ADULTS \$25, SENIORS AND STUDENTS \$18
BETH JACOB SYNAGOGUE

FOR TICKETS CALL 905-522-1351 OR EMAIL
office@bethjacobsynagogue.ca

Jewish Social Services



Community members enjoy an evening of wine tasting at a JSS fundraiser.

Wine Tasting Evening

On February 22, Jewish Social Services was transformed into a beautiful party room, where 100 people tasted the newest Kosher wines, listened to music by Alan Papernack, enjoyed had refreshments and had a great time. Wine and wine experts were supplied by Simcha Wines. For all of us who thought Kosher wine meant heavy, sweet, concord grape we were in for a very pleasant surprise. If you missed the party this year, perhaps you will get a chance next year. For all wines purchased both that evening and up to two weeks before Passover 10% of the order will be given to JSS. Simcha wines has over 500 wines to choose, red, white, dry, semi dry sparkling. Thank you to all our hard workers and donors who helped make the evening a success. All the money donated will go to the Hamilton Kosher Food Bank. Unfortunately as the economy spirals downward more people are turning to the Food Bank to help them get through the month. All donations are tax deductible and go directly to the Food Bank. For more information call 905-627-9922 or mail your donation directly to Hamilton Jewish Social Services 30 King St East, Dundas, On L9H 5G6.

Handy Man Available

Reliable driver and handyman available. Call Yuri at 905-627-2215 or email yurir@cogeco.ca. Reasonable rates and references.

JSS Theatre Club

April 23

West Side Story at Stratford; Cost \$76

May 20

Sound of Music at the Princess of Wales Theatre in Toronto; Cost \$95

June 17

Me and My Girl in St Jacobs; Cost \$59

July 8

The Devil's Disciple in Niagara on the Lake; Cost \$85

August 19

Grounded at The Lighthouse Theatre in Port Dover; Cost \$49

October 14

The Heiress at St Jacobs Playhouse; Cost \$59

All shows leave at 10:15 am and return at approximately 6 pm from the Fortino's parking lot behind Boston Pizza on Main Street West. The cost includes transportation. Orchestra seating. Come out and meet new friends, and have an enjoyable fun filled day. Call Lillian at 905-627-9922, ext 25.

JSS Yiddish Club

Attention all lovers of Yiddish. We are in need of yiddish content for our programming. If you have a movie that you would like to lend us, please call Hilda at 905-529-4824. Your input would be greatly appreciated.

UJA Dollars at Work

▷ ADVOCACY TRAINING

As part of a series on how your UJA donations make a world of difference to our community's beneficiary agencies, the HJN focuses its attention this month on the advocacy training provided by the Canada Israel Committee (CIC) and the Canadian Jewish Political Affairs Committee (CJPAC)

Canada Israel Committee is making good on its commitment to strengthen the Israel Advocacy capabilities of smaller Canadian communities. Lay and professional leaders from smaller communities across the country gathered in Ottawa recently for two days of training workshops, seminars and meetings with MP's.

Jeff Shinehoft and Gerald Fisher were the Hamilton participants. They were joined in Ottawa by participants from the Maritimes, Kingston, Winnipeg and Calgary. The program was staffed by Judy Zelikovitz, CIC's National Manager of Community Services.

The group participated in a very focused training on issues such as speaking to the media and effectively communicating to elected officials led by Jordan Kerbel, Director of Communications for Canadian Jewish Congress and Richard Marceau, CIC's Director of Political Affairs. Seminars included a substantial briefing from Michael Grant, Director of the Middle East Desk of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Canada's policies towards Israel and from CIC President Shimon Fogel who discussed the Israel Advocacy Agenda in the face of the recent Israel election.

Other workshops included a session with journalist John Robson, CIC Government Relations Director David Cooper, Richard Ciano from the Manning Center for Political Activism and several other Ottawa "insiders" working with the various political parties.

The group also spent time on Parliament Hill. After attending a session of "Question Period" Shinehoft and Fisher held private meetings with Conservative MP's Terence Young from Oakville and Dean Allison from Glanbrooke – Niagara West.



Jeff Shinehoft and Elyse Hertzog with Irwin Cotler at a CIC reception in Ottawa.

Later that evening, the group attended the annual "Israeli Wines Meet Canadian Cheeses" reception, co-sponsored by CIC, CJPAC and the Canada Israel Parliamentary Friendship Group. Most every Member of Parliament was present. This gave group members the opportunity to employ their new "shmooze" skills with MP's such as Irwin Cotler, Bob Ray, Michael Ignatieff, Jason Kenney, Stockwell Day and Wayne Marston among others.

Perhaps the most unexpected event of the two days was an encounter with participants in CIC's Parliamentary Interns Program. The interns are recent university graduates with a deep desire to hone their political instincts. Perhaps a dozen in number, they serve as staff members in the offices of various MP's from all parties.

They were a very impressive group of bright and highly motivated young people, each committed to developing careers in politics and equally committed to Israel Advocacy. Their impact on their MP's was striking. As an example, a speech that was recently delivered in Hamilton

and very favourably received by the Jewish community, was written by a CIC intern. With CIC guidance, their Ottawa experience will prove invaluable to the participants as well as to the Canadian Pro-Israel community.

UJA Federation Executive Director Gerald Fisher was very pleased with the CIC effort. "Federation serves as Hamilton's connection to the expertise and resources available in our national agencies. The more we engage with our national agencies, the more capable we become as local leaders and advocates. I am especially pleased that Jeff Shinehoft has volunteered to participate in the CIC training program. Jeff has wonderful leadership potential and this training program will help him to develop it."

The next item on the national training agenda is a six day seminar in Israel, taking place at the end of April. Jeff is very excited to be a participant. "I am excited to continue my training and applying the acquired skills and knowledge in continuing Israel advocacy. Israel and Hamilton are united and I am proud to represent both."

Flick the Switch! A special conference for great volunteers to take it to the next level! Spaces are limited for this fabulous weekend and the cost is unbeatable ... only \$150 including hotel and meals!

Don't miss this incredible opportunity to meet other young leaders (25 - 45 yrs.) from across Canada. For more information contact elevine@jewishhamilton.org



You are already a standout in your local community. Take things to the next level.

Price: Only \$150 includes double occupancy hotel, all meals, all sessions and materials.

Register now at www.flicktheswitch.ca

Palestinian children exposed to hate-filled messages

P.A. media and textbooks provide a relentless message of hatred of Jews and Israel

GERALD FISHER

Itamar Marcus and Barbara Crook of Palestinian Media Watch were in Hamilton recently to present the results of their research into how Palestinian children are manipulated into seeking martyrdom in their ongoing war against the existence of Israel. They delivered their presentation in a private briefing to senior community leaders, to the Executive Committee of UJA Federation's emerging YAD group and to the general public through an open lecture at McMaster University.

Marcus, Executive Director of Palestinian Media Watch, explained that their research is designed to investigate the similarities and differences between the messages that Palestinian authorities deliver to western media in English and the messages they deliver to the Palestinian world in Arabic. The techniques employ are very simple.

They record Palestinian Authority television and translate it into English – without editorial comment. They do the same with

children's textbooks. What they discovered was truly horrifying.

Affirming our worst fears, the research revealed Palestinian media and textbooks provide an intense and relentless message of hatred of Jews and Israel and the glorification of suicide bombers as Islamic heroes. That message is delivered in a variety of ways. For example:

- Every team in a West Bank youth soccer league is named after a suicide bomber
- Every soccer trophy is named after a suicide bomber
- Music videos glorifying suicide bombers are incessantly repeated on P.A. television
- Children's TV characters like Mickey Mouse and Big Bird teach children the most vile lies and encourage children to murder Jews.
- Religious leaders continually pervert Islamic teachings to justify the murder of Jews and the destruction of Israel

Most shocking is the fact that it is not only Hamas that spreads

these ugly messages. The supposedly moderate Fatah movement controls all media and text books in the West Bank and they spread the same lies and indoctrination. It was truly heartbreaking to watch Palestinian TV interviews with children as young as six, talking with great animation about their desire for death and their belief that Allah wants them to violently sacrifice their lives as instruments of death to the Jews.

In his review of Palestinian textbooks, Marcus discovered an unceasing expression of hatred and contempt. Pages were filled with vile anti-Semitic cartoon characters, history and religious lessons that were demonizing beyond description. In contrast, Marcus presented images of Arabs found in Israeli textbooks, invariably suggesting respect and peaceful co-existence.

Marcus referred to a study done by a reliable Palestinian social researcher which revealed that a majority of Palestinians over the age of 50 were prepared to live in peace, side by side with

Israel. That percentage dropped as the age of respondents went down. His research also revealed that prior to the implementation of the Oslo Accords, a significant majority of Palestinians identified Israel as the most admired democratic country. Since the attempted implementation of the accords, that number has plummeted. He suggests these statistics are indicative of the impact of the hatred and contempt for Jews that children are taught on a daily basis.

Marcus ascribes this phenomena to the fact that prior to the Oslo accords, Palestinians had a great deal of contact with Israelis, either through the Israeli administration of the territories, or through the programs that brought water, health care, voting rights and education to the Palestinian population. Following the accords, the PLO came from Tunisia to take control of the administration and the Israelis left. Marcus suggested that it was the PLO that injected this contempt for Israelis into Palestinian culture.

Marcus further discussed the fact that much of the funding for these vile initiatives come from the international community, including Canada. Donor countries are generally unaware of the content that their generosity is purchasing. In fact, Palestinian Media Watch has been making similar presentations to various European parliaments and to the U.S. Congress. While in Canada, Marcus is presenting these same findings to the Canadian government.

However the phenomena emerged, its result is an entire generation of children that have been educated – indoctrinated really – into a psychotic hatred of Jews and Israel. Creating a culture of peace will require the intervention of the international community into the education and cultural affairs of the Palestinian population...not a likely prospect. As if the future wasn't uncertain enough, it is now apparent that the next generation of Palestinians will be even harder to bring into a peaceful settlement.



*Happy Passover,
from our family to
yours.*

Providing exceptional customer service and unique programs since 1941.

Find out why Dalton Timmis Insurance is a leader in its field and can be
"The Perfect Fit for Your Business Needs."

- Commercial Property and Automobile
- General and Professional Liability
- Personal Home and Auto Insurance

For more information and a free, no-obligation quote, please call:

Michelle Foster, BA, CIP, CRM

Account Executive

Direct: 905-304-2349

Toll-free: 1-888-385-8466, ext. 2349

michellef@daltontimmis.com

For a complete list of services offered, please visit us at daltontimmis.com



*Wishing you a
happy joyous
Passover*



DAVID SWEET M.P.

Ancaster - Dundas - Flamborough - Westdale
#3-59 Kirby Ave., Greensville, ON L9H 6P3
Tel: 905 627 9169 | www.davidsweet.ca



Cautious optimism expressed by Mac Jewish students

University's new Peace Initiative sets limits to freedom of expression

WENDY SCHNEIDER

A document recently published by McMaster University has created a sense of cautious optimism in the Jewish community, which had been bracing itself for another round of anti-Israel vitriol at this year's Israel Apartheid Week events.

The McMaster Peace Initiative has been hailed as an unprecedented achievement, and makes McMaster the only North American university administration that has taken a proactive approach to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict by laying out a framework for acceptable discourse and debate and condemning those actions and language that smack of demonization, delegitimization and racism. Months in the making, the initiative was spearheaded by the University's new Human Rights & Equity Services Director, Milé Komlen who worked collaboratively with Lawrence Hart, Jewish Faculty Association chair and Yaser Haddera, Faculty adviser to Muslim students.

Asked to comment on the collaborative process Komlen said he found it "very rewarding" to work with the various participants. "A lot of leadership was demonstrated by Dr. Hart and Dr. Haddera," he said, "who were really interested in elevating the discussion to something productive and scholarly," adding that this marked a significant shift in the way the issue had been dealt with on campus in the past.

Komlen stressed that the document is a "starting point", meant to "elevate the discussion on campus."

"It's too soon to expect that this document is going to cure ... all of the feelings that may have gone on in the past. It's really just a starting point for discussion... It's an ongoing process," he said.

No doubt all the participants who gathered in McMaster President Peter George's office



(Back Row, L to R) Judy Schwartz, director of Jewish Students Association; Vishal Tiwari, vice-president (education), MSU; Yaser Haddera, faculty advisor to Muslim Student Association and McMaster Muslims for Peace and Justice; President Peter George; Professor Lawrence Hart, Faculty of Health Sciences; Azim Kasmani, MSU president; Ilene Bush-Vishniac, provost and vice-president (academic). (Front Row, L to R) Anna Kos, president of Jewish Students Association; Kareem Mirza, president of McMaster Muslims for Peace and Justice; Mile Komlen, director of human rights and equity services; Rebecca Cherniak, president of Israel on Campus; Omair Rahman, president of Muslim Student Association. Photo by Christine Palka.

on the day of the signing shared a sense that they were making history. In addition to Drs. Hart and Haddera the signatories included JSA president, Jewish Student Association (JSA) president, Anna Kos, Israel on Campus president, Rebecca Cherniak, Kareem Mirza, president of McMaster Muslims for Peace and Justice, Omair Rahman, president of Muslim Student Association and Mile Komlen. Supportive signatories included Peter George, provost Ilene Busch Vishniac, Azim Kasmani, president of the McMaster Students Association (MSA) and Vishal Tawari, president elect of the MSA.

JSA director, Judy Schwartz, witnessed the signing.

"I'm very proud of McMaster," she said. "I think they're trying to make this an inclusive community. It [the Peace Initiative] may be tested on many occasions, but it's something unheard of and unprecedented in any university that

I'm aware of." Schwartz also expressed her gratitude to Lawrence Hart, chair of the Federation sponsored Jewish

Faculty Association for "his vision... and his understanding of the situation on campus," and Hamilton Jewish community

members. "I don't think there's been a single student who hasn't felt the support of the community."

JSA president, Anna Kos, who graduates this year, said she felt hopeful to see McMaster "taking steps to avoid what's going on on other campuses" and gratified that incoming Jewish students can feel reassured that their university cares about their well being. "I never felt more proud of being a McMaster student than I did on that day," she said.

Milé Komlen is also feeling a great deal of pride— in those who worked so hard on the composition of the final document. "This has been a tremendous trust building exercise... among the participants who agreed to sign on. It is a leap of faith," he said.

Leadership and leaps of faith seem to go together. The authors, the signatories and the University where it all happened all demonstrated a considerable amount of each. With a little luck and a lot of grace, perhaps the rest will fall into place.

EcoSuds Carpet & Upholstery Care
Chametz

We Get the Ugly Out

A beautifully clean and healthy home just in time for Passover.
Remember when you loved how your furniture and floor coverings looked?
Let Ecosuds bring that feeling back again.

We deeply clean:

- Upholstered Furniture
- Oriental/Persian/Area Rugs
- Carpeting
- Environmentally friendly
- Non-toxic
- Usually dry in just 1-3 hours.

Phone: 905-667-5624
email: phil@ecosuds.ca
www.Ecosuds.ca

18% of the proceeds of your cleaning
will be donated to the Hamilton UJA

Spring is our businest time of year.
Don't be disappointed.
Call today to book.

*Not intended to solicit properties currently listed for sale.

Wishing You a Very Happy Passover

Should you require information about real estate values in your neighbourhood, or wish a free home evaluation, please contact:

Judy Rosen
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

ROYAL LEPAGE
STATE REALTY BROKERAGE
INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED

Your Dedicated Real Estate Advisor™

Call: (905) 525-3737 or judyrosen@royallepage.ca



'Odious' comparisons to Holocaust new growth industry

Lipstadt: Those who hold negative stereotypes about Jews predisposed to accept Holocaust denial

WENDY SCHNEIDER

Speaking before a packed house at McMaster University on March 19, Holocaust scholar, Deborah Lipstadt revealed the complexities of Holocaust denial during a retelling of her famous encounter with Holocaust denier, David Irving. In 1996, Irving sued Lipstadt and her British publisher, Penguin Books Ltd. for libel because in her book, *Denying the Holocaust: The Growing Assault on Truth and Memory*, she referred to him as a "dangerous spokesperson" for Holocaust denial. The 2000 trial that granted Lipstadt and her publisher a resounding victory was the subject of a subsequent book *History on Trial: My Day in Court with David Irving*.

Lipstadt led her audience through a step-by-step analysis of the twisted logic behind Holocaust denial, which she characterized as the "ultimate form of verbal anti-Semitism." "For a prejudicial argument to work, it's got to make sense to the listener by fitting into stereotypes that are known," she said. For those who are predisposed to believing that Jews are motivated by greed and the pursuit of money, accepting that Jews perpetuated a Holocaust mythology in order to manipulate world opinion into giving them a state and collect reparations,



Former Buchenwald inmate and WW II vet Ed Carter-Edwards addresses a

facts. Knowing that British libel laws placed the burden of proof on the author of the alleged falsehood, Irving waited until her book was published in the U.K. before suing Lipstadt for libel. Many advised Lipstadt to simply ignore the charge, but Lipstadt thought otherwise.

"I said if I don't fight him he would win by default. He wouldn't have to prove anything. He could say, 'the court found she libelled me....Therefore my version... is true.' So of course I had to go up against him and fight him," she said.

Lipstadt described how her legal team, during four years of

family members who had been murdered during the war. For the rest of the day Lipstadt kept the list open in front of her.

On the final day of the trial, the judge delivered his long-awaited verdict: a 320-word ruling that was unequivocal in its denouncement of Irving. Somehow during the bedlam that followed, Lipstadt caught a glimpse of the elderly

woman who had approached her on the first day of the trial. That woman, who had "transformed a fleeting moment into a more profound one", became a symbol for all those in whose name Lipstadt had taken her courageous stand.

In her closing remarks, Lipstadt said that far more dangerous

which she called a "growth industry", is becoming increasingly accepted in many parts of the world, and "denies what the Holocaust really was...and is a form of complete distortion."

Responding to a question from the audience pertaining to the issue of freedom of speech on university campuses, Lipstadt said

There's a debate about who gave the order for the Holocaust, but to debate whether it happened or not is simply ridiculous...turning what a university stands for on its head.

Deborah Lipstadt

I said if I don't fight him he would win by default. He wouldn't have to prove anything. He could say, 'the court found she libelled me.... Therefore my version... is true.' So of course I had to go up against him and fight him

Deborah Lipstadt

would not present too big a leap of imagination. This stereotype has its earliest roots in the New Testament which portrays Jews as guilty of deicide and turning Jesus over for pieces of silver.

Holocaust deniers have routinely disputed the existence of gas chambers, the numbers of Jews who were killed (the term 'murder' is never employed) and the meaning behind The Final Solution. They have also questioned the veracity of Anne Frank's diary. "It is generally the first book by which many young people are introduced to the Holocaust," said Lipstadt, adding that "by pulling the ground out from the credibility of that book," they can claim that everything else about the Holocaust is false." Lipstadt also referred to the "immoral equivalence" used by Holocaust deniers when they claim that 'only' 68,000 people died at Auschwitz, a number, they say, was far less than the Germans killed in the bombing of Dresden. (Lipstadt places the death toll in Dresden at 30,000.)

Lipstadt told the story of her encounter with David Irving, whom she had described in her first book on Holocaust denial as a prolific writer and anti-Semite who deliberately distorted the

preparation leading up to the trial, were intent on "pulling the ground out from under" Irving's arguments by demonstrating that the evidence and documents he cited were deliberately distorted to support his claims. They also decided that Lipstadt was to neither give testimony during the trial nor talk to the press. She recalled the frustration she felt in remaining silent on the first day of the trial when she found herself outside the courtroom, surrounded by journalists she knew and respected while down the hall, Irving was enthusiastically engaging the press. Suddenly she felt someone grab her arm. A small, elderly woman had pushed her way through the crush of people and placed herself between Lipstadt and the throng and pointed at the number tattooed on her forearm. Addressing Lipstadt, she said, "You are fighting for us, you are our witness."

"It was as if she was saying, be strong and of good courage, but whatever you do, do not fail us," recalled Lipstadt, who in that instant said she found renewed conviction to say nothing to the press. Another woman handed her a piece of paper listing the name of each of her



Passover means many things to many people.



For Liat, it is a time to breathe a sigh of relief knowing that her daughter, Tamar will get some extra food at her Na'amat daycare and some food sent home for the family.

Despite the hardship that this single mother is facing, Liat tells her daughter how lucky they are; lucky to have friends at Na'amat —friends that care.

Give today, so that Liat and Tamar can have a better tomorrow.

Happy Passover from Na'amat Canada

Enhancing the lives of women and children in Canada and Israel since 1925

Na'amat Canada Toll Free: 1.888.278.0792 E-Mail: naamat@total.net Web: www.naamat.com

The Jewish Community Centre

HIGHLIGHTS

JCC EVENTS

Yom Ha'atzmaut

Wednesday, April 29 at 6:00 pm (details to follow)

Lag Ba'Omer

Tuesday May 12 (Details to follow)

Barry Foster Memorial Golf Tournament

Thursday, June 18 at the Beverly Golf and Country Club (call JCC for details)

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Yom Hashoah Memorial Service

Tuesday April 21, 7:00 pm at Beth Jacob Synagogue

Max Rotman Humanitarian Awards

Thursday June 4 at Temple Anshe Sholom



Joel Feldman

President's Message

It has been a busy month at the JCC.

The replacement of the bubble is complete and we are busy with tennis and many other activities. I welcome back all the Members and appreciate your patience and support.

We have been busy with the Purim Carnival, the Music Series, the Morris Black Public Speaking Contest and we had a great night at the Odessa / Havana concert on March 14, 2009. Annie and Laura are busy with programming for the rest of this year and the upcoming year.

In the past month, I have been approached by Community members on a number of occasions, regarding suggestions for programs at the JCC. These ideas have been great and involve programs for all ages and have involved increased programming with the synagogues.

These suggestions and feedback from the Community strengthen my belief that to be as successful as possible, it is imperative the JCC continues to plan programs with the community and not just for the community.

For those of you that have shared your thoughts and ideas with me, I appreciate it. For those of you that have some thoughts regarding programs you would like to see at the JCC and would support, I welcome your comments. For those of you that would consider getting involved and becoming part of a committee for an event, I welcome your involvement. For those of you that are members of the JCC and are ardent supporters, I appreciate you.

Please contact Annie, Laura or myself, and share your thoughts and ideas.

Camp Kadimah Job Opportunities

- Arts & Crafts specialist • Music & Drama Specialist
- Sports Specialist • Science & Nature Specialist
- Computers & Photography Specialist • Judaica Specialist
- K'tanim Specialist *
- Senior Counsellors (grade 11+)
- Junior Counsellors (grade 9 & 10)

If you would like to become part of the Kadimah team call 905-648-0605

**K'tanim is our youngest group of campers ages 18 months to nursery.*

After School Tennis with Frances Critchley

Spring session for students in grades 1-5

Fridays: May 1, 8, 22, June 6 & 12

From 3:00-3:45 PM or 4:15-5:00 PM

Cost \$50.00

Please register your child(ren) by April 20.

Mazel Tov to the JCC

It is with tremendous appreciation that I write this letter to thank the JCC for their excellent P.R. skills. After a crashing blow of the bubble coming down, the JCC immediately contacted Rosedale Tennis Club to attain guest privileges for the tennis players and offered to pay the guest fees. The bubble is now up and the JCC has re-opened. The tennis players were greeted with two free hours and a can of tennis balls. This is how you maintain and sustain loyalty amongst your members. Thank you and Mazel tov on a job well done.

Suki Garson

Congratulations

Congratulations to Frances Critchley our tennis pro, who competed in the International Tennis Federation circuit at the Mayfair Parkway Tennis Club in Toronto and won the singles title beating Anke Magnus of Ottawa 6-3 6-1 in the final.



NEW THIS SUMMER...

CAMP DIRECTOR

Laura Laengerer's passion for people paired with her positive attitude and her energy will ensure that this summer at Kadimah will be one to remember.

BOGRIM

Camp Kadimah would like to introduce Bogrim to our cabin groups. Bogrim is for campers who will be turning 8 & 9 by December 31st, 2009. Bogrim will accompany Gadna on our day and overnight adventures, as well they will participate in our new and exciting activities such as sailing, mad science, dance & cheer and sport special. Bogrim campers will also participate in our traditional specialties such as arts and crafts, science and nature, sports, computers and photography, drama and music and new this year cooking.

K'TANIM

This program is designed for children 18 months up to children entering nursery school in 2009

HIGHLIGHTS...

SAILING

Sailors (in Bogrim & Gadna) will learn basic terminology, knots and rules of the water through games and activities. On the water, they work on boat safety and basic boat handling skills. Our Sailors will travel to the Hamilton Yacht Club on July 7th, 8th & 9th and August 17th, 18th & 19th for a four hour excursion rain or shine.

MAD SCIENCE

Professionally trained Mad Science staff will spark the imagination and curiosity of our campers for a week of fun, hands on programs. Mad Science is the world's leading science enrichment provider that delivers unique, hands-on science experiences. This year Mad Science will join Camp Kadimah on July 20th-24th where they will engage our Bogrim and Gadna campers in activities that are entertaining and educational.

DANCE AND CHEER

This summer our Bogrim and Gadna Girls will participate in cheerleading instructed by experienced cheerleaders. They will learn organized routines made from elements of tumbling, dance, jumps and cheers. Cheerleaders will be here July 27th-31st & August 10th-14th.

SPORT SPECIAL

Bogrim and Gadna Boys will learn the skills and drills needed to play professional sports on July 27th -31st & August 10th -14th. Players with experience in Golf, Basketball, Hockey and Football will teach our campers the tricks of the trade.

For more information contact Laura 905-648-0605 ex 310





Our Hamilton Jewish Agencies need your help!

This year's campaign is short due to difficult economic conditions. All of us are feeling it – but a growing number of our fellow Jews are being pushed over the edge. This means that the demands on our local agencies, such as Jewish Social Services and our schools, will be even greater next year than they have been this year.

A reduction in our Campaign means that unfortunately we will have to reduce the funding for our beneficiary agencies at a time when their needs will be even greater than ever. As a community, we must not let this happen!!

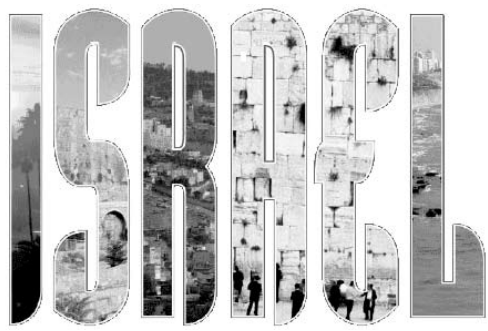
To ensure that we can at least maintain the funding of our local agencies at the current level, we must ask you and all members of our community to dig a little deeper and help by making a new pledge, or by topping up your contribution.

To those who have not yet made a pledge this year, we urge you to reconsider. Your support at this time is crucial. To those who have already made a pledge, thank you for your generosity. However a small increase from all will mean everything for the most needy amongst us, and will ensure the success of our local agencies. We must all rise to the occasion. It is during hard times like these that we can feel good about helping our fellow Jews by maintaining funding for the local agencies that keep our Jewish community strong.

Please step up to the plate by calling Chris Nusca at the UJA office, 905-648-0605, ext 306, to make a new pledge or to consider adding 10% to your current pledge.

Thank you so very much. Our community is counting on you.

Israel Experience Scholarships Available



Financial support is available to Hamilton students intending to participate in extended programs in Israel in 2009 through the Ralph Travis Israel Experience Scholarship Fund. Applications for other education programs in Israel may be considered on an individual basis. For information regarding recognized Israel Experience Programs, please go to www.canadaisraelexperience.com. The scholarship will be up to \$500 per student, depending on the number of applications and availability of funds. Participating families are expected to be in good standing with United Jewish Appeal. Application deadline for summer 2009 programs is April 30th. Applications available at 905-648-0605, ext 306.

The Ralph Travis Scholarship fund is an important part of the Federation's Legacy Endowment Fund. Additional contributions are welcomed. Please contact the federation office to learn how you can help support this wonderful initiative.

Pink Slipped? Now What?

DAVID CORSINI

So there you were minding your own business, doing the best job you could do and then WHAMO! You lost your job. If you have just joined the 71,000 other Ontarians who hold a winning pink-slip in the "2009 I Just Lost My Job Sweepstakes" mathematically speaking you're not alone. What can you do to survive this?

First thing is don't panic. Losing your job is exactly like losing a long relationship so it's natural to have intense feelings of anxiety and as such it is important to take some time, a few days or even a week to let your new reality sink in. However letting this fear take hold of you will impede your chances of getting another job soon.

An excellent way of counteracting the anxiety of job loss is to remember a few things.

First, it's nothing personal. It's just business. The fact that you have lost your job in a sweeping

layoff says more about your company's performance than your performance on the job. You need to understand that you are a victim of economic circumstances beyond your control and take solace in knowing that the career gods have not just singled you out.

Take stock. Now that you understand you are a victim of circumstance don't start acting like one. Take stock of your career and understand that you have a lot of experience to offer the next employer. The trick in taking stock is to take all that information in your head and put it down on paper. Reflect on your career and list all of the successes you have accomplished in each job you have

in. Your mission statement has to be properly packaged and neatly focused. Your mission statement should be focused on the things you do best, your successes and your experience. You want potential employers to immediately understand what it is you do and what you can do for them.

Focus your networking. Once you have taken stock of what you have to offer and formulated your mission statement let your world know you are a free-agent and on the hunt for a good opportunity. Again, take a moment to reflect on the people in your business and social network that can either help you or point you in the right direction to get your next job. Put your list together

If you want to reduce the anxiety of job loss you must remain active and that means treating the job hunt like a job.

Wentworth

METAL RECYCLING

495 Wentworth St. N., Hamilton, Ont., L8L 5X1

Tel: (905) 527-1707 Fax: (905) 528-4684

The Rochweg Family

Recycling Since 1933

Proud supporters of the Hamilton Jewish News



DINNER

that you won't want to miss!!

The 2009 Negev Dinner in Tribute to **SHIRLEY AND HILTON SILBERG**

Date: **Sunday, May 24th**

Time: **Reception - 5:00pm**

Location: **Hamilton Convention Centre**



Featured Keynote Speaker:

Dr. Charles Krauthammer, noted columnist for the Washington Post and contributor to the National Post

"Everyone is commenting that Mr. Krauthammer gave us one of the best talks we've ever had!"
-Michael Cook, Economic Club Of Southwestern Michigan



for their continued commitment and contributions to our Hamilton Jewish Community and to Israel

For tickets or further information, please call the JNF office at 905 527-5516

had; perhaps you increased sales by 30%, cut expenses by 12% or were promoted to manager in record time. Understanding what you have accomplished over your career is a great confidence builder at a time when you may not have a lot of confidence to draw on. And having confidence is not only vital in battling post employment stress syndrome but also key to in landing your next gig.

Another area to take stock of is your training. Although many candidates may not have completed a post secondary education, most in the mid-management ranks have been well trained by their company's corporate training programs. Employers spend millions per year in corporate training for their employees. Much of this in house training is through accredited industry-recognized institutes that issue certificates of completion. Take the time to reflect and list how well you have been trained by previous employers. You may be amazed at how well trained you are.

Formulate a mission statement. Your mission statement is your infomercial; it's your identity card to the business world. It's your answer to the question, what do you do? It encompasses all the pertinent things that you have taken stock

and call them. They may not be hiring right now but they may know someone who needs a great employee. Networking is like dating. At first there is lots of rekindling old relationships, meeting new and exciting people, some lunches, and great conversations but there is also a lot of rejection and blind alleys too. Knowing this going into the job hunt will keep you from stressing out during the process. The trick to successful networking is to continue expanding your network beyond your circle and keep networking until you land. It's a numbers game and the person who speaks to the most people wins. It's tough but you have to persevere.

Be proactive. If you want to reduce the anxiety of job loss you must remain active and that means treating the job hunt like a job. For the last umpteen years you got up every morning, put on a suit and went to work for a specified portion of the day. Leverage that routine. Get up at your normal work time, shower, shave, put on your suit go down stairs and work on finding a job for the next eight hours. This productivity will keep your momentum going. It will lend you energy to your purpose, boost your confidence and keep the anxiety of job loss in check.



Canadian Blood Services
it's in you to give
Blood Donors Needed!

Our community has joined the Partners for Life Program with Canadian Blood Services. Help us reach our goal of 20 units for 2009 by giving our partner ID number the next time you donate.

UJA Federation of Hamilton Partner ID # UJAF009824
Register online as a Partners for Life members at:
www.blood.ca/partnersforlife

If you are interested in booking an individual appointment or to find out if you are eligible, call 1-888-2-DONATE.

In the community

EVENTS

YAD MEETS ITAMAR MARCUS



YAD chair Mario Stolar with UJA Federation staff member, Elaine Levine.



Hamilton YAD spent an engaging evening with Itamar Marcus and Barbara Crook from Palestinian Media Watch. Pictured above, top row, r to l, Mario Stolar, Jeff Shinehoft, Rabbi Daniel Green, Joel Feldman, Itamar Marcus, Michael Kam, David Horwood, Tom Martin. Bottom row, l to r, Ron Levitin, Barbara Crook, Dana Horwood, Cindy Kam and Amy Katz Martin.



ABOVE: Dana Horwood, Cindy Kam and Amy Katz Martin

DEBORAH LIPSTADT AT MCMASTER



Deborah Lipstadt with Tom and Sasha Wesiz



...and with Gilda Ennis

AT THE JOHN C. HOLLAND AWARDS DINNER



UJA Federation President Dr. David Somer and Sherry Czamanski at the John C. Holland Awards Dinner, sponsored by the Black History Committee of Hamilton.

UNITY CONCERT FUNDRAISER



Rebbetzins Tova Green, Fajgi Itkin and Karen Selsberg at the Unity Concert fundraiser for the Hamilton Mikvah. Rebbetzin Paula Baruch was unable to attend the event.



Enjoying the Unity Concert

YISRAEL CAMPBELL COMEDY NIGHT



Rabbi Dan Selsberg and Yisrael Campbell at a Q&A following Campbell's performance at Beth Jacob.

**UPPERJAMES
TOYOTA**

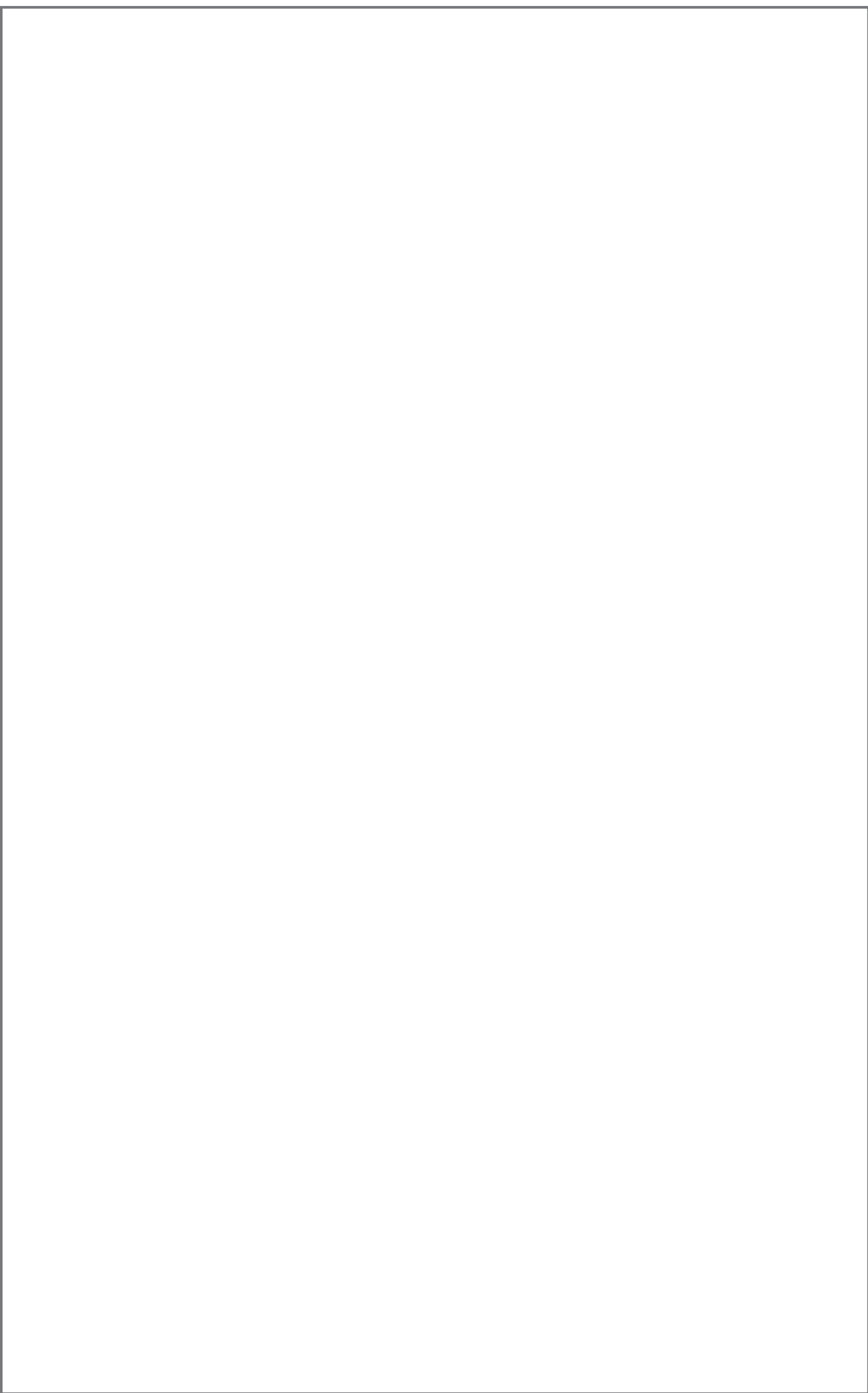
Parkway **TOYOTA**

www.upperjamestoyota.ca
 999 Upper James Street
 Hamilton, ON L9C 3A6
 (905)387-9287

Family Owned And Operated for Over 25 Years

Ilya Pinassi **Marik Pinassi**

GOOD SERVICE FROM YOUR GOOD FRIENDS



BETH JACOB SYNAGOGUE



Beth Jacob was rocking on Purim night with children's activities, games and bouncy castles. ABOVE: Children enjoy making masks following an interactive Megilla reading, specially designed for young children.

NATALIE SOBEL

Beth Jacob's first Shabbat Retreat, held on February 20-21, demonstrated community-building at its finest. In advance, congregants gathered together to brainstorm, cook, and set up. New connections were formed as we worked together. On Friday night, Egalitarian services led by Chazzan Ben Sharpe and Wendy Schneider transported congregants from the stress of the busy week to the joy and restfulness of Shabbat. We chanted Shalom Aleichem, blessings over the children, Kiddush, Motzi, and after the meal, Birkat Hamazon. The scrumptious meal was "fishatarian," with vegan options as well as child-friendly food. Shabbat morning had three services taking place in parallel: the traditional service in the chapel, a children's service, and a Learner's Service. The inaugural Learner's Service led by Karen Selsberg and Natalie Sobel was deemed important enough to repeat on a monthly basis. Before lunch, all gathered together in the lower foyer for a text study led by Rabbi Selsberg. The Rabbi prepared a handout of material from our traditional texts for study and discussion. It was truly moving and heartening to observe the foyer filled with congregants sitting around tables engaging with the text and with each other. Lunch was tasty,

congenial, and involved all of the rituals and singing traditional for Shabbat. After an afternoon of Sabbath rest, many congregants returned to hear a deeply thought-out and thought-provoking drash taught by member Rafael Kleiman during Seudat Shlishit—the third meal of Shabbat. After the evening service, the end of Shabbat was marked by lighting the Havdallah candle and all singing the enchanting Havdallah service. Families, singles, seniors, teens and children alike participated in this most uplifting Shabbat experience.

By celebrating Shabbat together, we have taken yet another step to rekindle the spiritual flame of our congregational community. The benefits of a connected spiritual community extend beyond the walls of the shul and past the boundaries of Shabbat. Beth Jacob is a traditional, egalitarian Conservative synagogue, where women and men may participate equally in all synagogue rituals, where women and men may sit together, and where all elements of the traditional services are included in the prayers. Membership is never necessary to pray in any shul. To join us for meals at the upcoming Shabbatonim, please call the synagogue to make a reservation: 905-522-1351.

"Cantors do Broadway"

IRA GREENSPOON

On May 21, 2009, Beth Jacob Synagogue presents Cantors on Broadway, a gala cantorial concert, featuring Cantor Eric Moses of Beth Shalom in Toronto, Cantor Ben Silverberg of Shaar Shalom Synagogue in Thornhill, Cantor Marshall Loomer of Beth David Synagogue in Toronto, Cantor Laura Wolfson of Hamilton's Temple Anshe Sholom and host Cantor Ben Sharpe for an evening of Broadway and frailach songs.

Sudbury born Cantor Eric Moses' connection to Hamilton was forged during his years as a staff member at Camp Ramah in the summers while enrolled in an MBA program at university, when he was encouraged by the late Rabbi Israel and Gloria Silverman to pursue a future in the cantorate. Through the encouragement of the Silvermans and others, Eric has become a renowned Hazzan, graduating from the Tel Aviv Cantorial Institute and he has not looked back. Cantor Moses has been the cantor at Beth Shalom Synagogue in Toronto since 2001. He is the immediate past president of the Toronto Council of Hazzanim of Ontario. He has collaborated with Hamilton's own Boris and Ardyth Brott on a number of projects including a concert held at the Adas Israel a few years ago. Cantor Moses has appeared at concert Halls across Europe, Israel, and North America. In 2000 he received the great honour of officiating next to the Chief Rabbi of Israel and the President of Poland at the worldwide memorial service for Yom Hashoah at Aushwitz-Birkenau. He has produced numerous concerts including tributes to Cantors David Bagley, Cantor Louis Danko and Cantor A. Eliezer Kirshblum and the Symphony to Broadway concert featuring the star of Les Miserables, Michael Burgess.

Eric Moses is not the only performer to have connections to Beth Jacob and Hamilton. Marshal Loomer's grandfather, Max Loomer was one of the earliest Talmud Torah teachers and Torah reader at Beth Jacob for many years. Max also served as the secretary for the Chevrah Kadisha for the cemetery as well as being a shoichet (ritual slaughterer) in Hamilton. Cantor Loomer, who has co-officiated at Shabbat

services at Beth Jacob alongside Rabbi Silverman and who has performed at past cantorial concerts, is looking forward to return to Beth Jacob.

Cantor Ben Silverberg grew up in Toronto. His father, Cantor Michael Silverberg served as cantor in Copenhagen, Denmark and in Toronto. After receiving formal training with Cantors Benjamin Maissner, David Bagley and David Nemtsov and studying voice with Guen Little of the New York City Opera, Ben began his professional career at Beth Jacob Synagogue, where he was truly loved, before taking on his current position as Cantor of the Shaar Shalom Synagogue in Thornhill. Currently he is the president of the Toronto Council of Hazzanim.

Laura Wolfson has served as educational director of the Temple Anshe Sholom Religious School since 1998 and as its Cantorial Soloist since 2005. Ms. Wolfson has trained locally with Lita Classen and has attended cantorial training workshops offered by the Union for Reform Judaism's Department of Music and Worship.

Beth Jacob's Cantor Ben Sharpe has been the synagogue's Cantor and Torah reader since 2006. Prior to joining Beth Jacob, Ben led High Holiday and Shabbat services and read Torah at Toronto synagogues Beth Tikvah, Pride of Israel and Beth Torah. He studied with Cantors Maissner and Nemtov and currently studies voice with Dr. Robert Loewen. When he is not officiating at Beth Jacob, Ben enjoys performing Yiddish and Broadway songs at Shalom Village in Hamilton, Baycrest Centre in Toronto and singing for young children at Kehila and the Hamilton Hebrew Academy. He also likes to play guitar.

Cantors Do Broadway promises to be a great evening of song and celebration as these five, very talented cantors take to the stage at Beth Jacob. Cantors Moses, Silverberg, Loomer, Wolfson and Sharpe promise a night you will remember for a long time. The evening includes a silent auction of Jewish art from the Armand Gallery in Toronto. Tickets are \$25.00 for adults and \$18.00 for seniors and students.

For tickets call the Beth Jacob office at 905-522-1351 or email office@bethjacobsynagogue.ca.



Waterhouse

Wealth of Experience

FOWLER & ASSOCIATES

Complete Investment & Estate Planning

Scott Thomson

Investment Advisor
905-528-6349

Dwight A. Fowler

Vice President, Investment Advisor
905-528-4254

Shane Fowler

Investment Advisor
905-528-0113

Toll Free: 1-800-775-0037

Fax: 905-528-6897

THE BRAND IS ROYAL. THE SLEEP IS DIVINE.

NOW AVAILABLE



1-800-NEW-BEDS (639-2337)

www.royalmattress.com

Elizabeth Hay headlines Na'amat Author Luncheon

Members, friends and literary enthusiasts of all ages will be joining Na'amat Canada Hamilton as they feature award-winning author, Elizabeth Hay, at the organization's 24th annual Celebrity Author Luncheon on Monday April 27th. Hay will join the ranks of recent celebrated authors, Nino Ricci, Edeet Ravel, and M.G. Vassanji, who have all been featured speakers in support of Na'amat Canada Hamilton.

Elizabeth Hay is the 2007 Scotiabank Giller Prize winner for her novel, *Late Nights On Air*, which was also named a Notable Book of the Year by the *Globe and Mail* and *Quill and Quire*. Hay's previous novels are *Garbo Laughs*, (Ottawa Book Award, Governor General Award finalist), and *Student of Weather*, (finalist, Giller Prize and the Ottawa Book Award.) Her story collection, *Small Change*, was also a finalist for the Governor General's Award. Hay's non-fiction works include *The Only Snow in Havana* and *Captivity Tales: Canadians in New York*. A former radio broadcaster, Hay received the prestigious Marion Engel Award in 2002 for her body of literary work. A native of Owen Sound, Ontario, Hay currently lives in Ottawa.

The Celebrity Author Luncheon is Na'amat Canada Hamilton's major fundraiser of the year, with proceeds dedicated to maintaining vital social services for women and children of all walks of life, living in Israel. These social service programs include a country-wide network of daycare centres, shelter and counselling for abused women and children, vocational high schools for troubled teens and countless other projects.

Since Na'amat Hamilton's first Celebrity



Na'amat Celebrity Author Elizabeth Hay

Author Luncheon in 1984, featured authors have included many high-profile names in the Canadian literary scene. Among them are: Robertson Davies, Margaret Atwood, Mordecai Richler, Pierre Berton, Anne Michaels and Timothy Findley.

The Celebrity Author Luncheon will take place at noon on Monday, April 27 2009 at the Adas Israel Synagogue (125 Cline Avenue S., Hamilton.) Advance tickets are \$20.00; students/seniors tickets \$18.00. Admission at the door will be \$25 for all. Ticket price includes a light lunch and door prizes. Tickets may be purchased at Bryan Prince Bookseller, 1060 King St. W. Hamilton, (905) 528-4508; Kool Klay Café, 36 King St. E., Dundas, (905) 628-6062; or by contacting Laura Ludwin at (905) 523-1325. Contact: Phyllis Shragge, Publicity Coordinator, (905) 526-9229 or pshragge@cogeco.ca. Maureen Bergart, Publicity Coordinator, (905) 628-8889 or mbergart@gmail.com

Charles Krauthammer to give keynote address at Negev Dinner

The Financial Times named Charles Krauthammer the most influential commentator in America in 2006. Weekly Standard editor and publisher, William Kristol, calls him the best columnist in America. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Distinguished Commentary, Dr. Krauthammer has been honored from every part of the political spectrum for his bold, lucid and original writing.

Charles Krauthammer is coming to Hamilton!!

The 2009 Annual Negev Dinner in tribute to Shirley and Hilton Silberg will feature Dr. Charles Krauthammer as the keynote speaker.

The late Meg Greenfield, editorial page editor of *The Washington Post*, called Charles Krauthammer's column "independent and hard to peg politically. It's a very tough column. There's no 'trendy' in it. You never know what is going to happen next."

Charles Krauthammer was born in New York City, grew up in Montreal and was educated at McGill University, Oxford University and Harvard University - MD, Harvard Medical School. In the mid 70s he practiced medicine as a Resident and then Chief Resident in Psychiatry at the Massachusetts General Hospital.

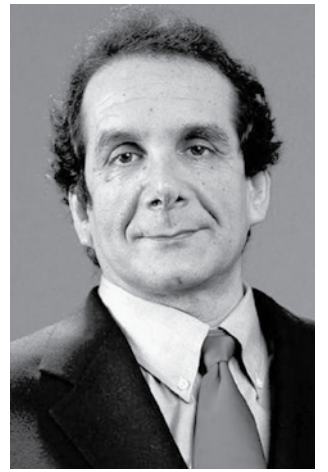
Then, in 1978 he quit psychiatry and came to Washington to serve as a science adviser in the Carter Administration and, later, speechwriter to Vice President Walter Mondale. In the mid-eighties he began writing a weekly syndicated column for *The Washington Post*, which now appears in more than 200 newspapers, and a monthly essay for *Time* magazine.

In his first full year as a syndicated columnist, he won the Pulitzer Prize. His *New Republic* essays won the highest award in magazine writing, the National Magazine Award for Essays and Criticism

He is a regular contributor to Fox news, appearing several times a week on *Special Report* with Brit Hume. And since 1990 he has been a weekly panelist on *Inside Washington*, a contributing editor to *The New Republic* and *The Weekly Standard*. Dr. Krauthammer is also a member of the President's Council on Bioethics.

In his speeches, Charles Krauthammer breathes new life into tired debates, offering clear and compelling arguments that everyone else overlooks and challenging conventional wisdom. An incisive thinker, he is a strong voice offering new perspectives on international affairs, U.S. politics, foreign policy and culture. He is widely known as a conservative, but he is also unorthodox to the core.

The Negev Dinner in tribute to Shirley and Hilton Silberg is scheduled to take place at the Hamilton Convention Centre on May 24th, 2009. The reception will begin at 5:00pm with Dinner commencing at 6:00pm. For tickets or more information, please contact the JNF office at 905 527-5516 or email Hamilton@jnf.ca





Wishing our clients & the community

Happy Passover

www.judymarsales.com



Jon Katz
Sales Representative



Judith Katz
Sales Representative



Nancy Somer
Sales Representative



Larry Szpirglas
Broker



Sarit Zalter
Sales Representative

Westdale
(905) 522-3300

Locke St.
(905) 529-3300

Dundas
(905) 628-2200

Jewish news at your fingertips
www.jewishhamilton.org



HHA honours its "Founding Fathers"



ABOVE: HHA Founders. Top row, I to ri, Ben Sauder, Dave Hoffman, the late Issac Waxman; Bottom row, I to r, the late Sam Netkin, the late Sam Katz and Zoltan Freeman.

As time inevitably marches on, we are often oblivious to the historic contributions of the visionaries and trailblazers of our past.

As the Hamilton Hebrew Academy celebrates 47 historic years of educating and inspiring our community's Jewish children, the school will pause to honour its Founding Fathers.

In an era which shunned parochial Jewish education as arcane and ghettoizing, a 27 year old Rabbi, Rabbi Morton Green, with the support of his Chairman of the Board, Mr. Max Hoffman a"h, set out to change the very fabric of the Hamilton Jewish community. Their shared goal: to establish a Jewish day school in Hamilton.

Their initial challenge was not only to attract prospective students but, more fundamentally, to establish a steadfast nucleus of support comprising individuals who would passionately

champion the cause of Jewish education. Several men of conviction rose to the moment and formed the initial Board of Governors of the Hamilton Hebrew Academy, thus becoming the "Founding Fathers."

On Wednesday, June 10th, 2009, the Academy will honour the legacy of these notable founders: Mr. Zoltan Freeman, Mr. David Hoffman, Mr. Samuel Katz a"h, Mr. Sam Netkin a"h, Mr. Isaac Waxman a"h, and Mr. Ben Sauder.

Each of these iconic names played a pivotal role in the growth and development of our Jewish community. We invite everyone to join us at this gala event, as we honour their great accomplishments and celebrate our Jewish future.

For more information on this historic evening, please call 905-528-0039 or visit www.jewishfuture.ca.

HAMILTON HEBREW ACADEMY

BRITTANY WERSTIUK & FAJGI ITKIN

It's always a beautiful day at the HHA and it turned out to be a beautiful day for a field trip to explore insects at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington. Recently, HHA students from senior kindergarten to grade four attended the traveling exhibit, Backyard Monsters. We had a wonderful experience in the RBG's beautiful new atrium. The children were delighted to meet Professor Buzz McFly who introduced us to the world of insects at the beginning of our adventure. We explored interactive displays, looked at some creepy crawlies under microscopes, and saw a live tarantula up close! Throughout the morning we learned about the anatomy of an insect, how insects use their antennae, and how insects make sounds. It was most exciting to see the variety of huge animatronic bugs. We saw a giant caterpillar, which towered over us and got up close and personal with a giant tarantula. They were so big that they made us feel like little insects on the ground!

The educational programs are connected to the Ontario science curriculum across the grades. The visit to the Royal Botanical Gardens served as the perfect introduction to the natural science topics that HHA students will be studying during the spring months.

We can hardly wait for our next exciting field trip beyond our school walls as we travel to Toronto to participate in the Passover Experience. There our classes, senior kindergarten through grade eight, will travel back 3330 years in a time machine to witness the harsh slavery, encounter the burning bush, visit Pharaoh's palace and



HHA students on a field trip

experience the ten plagues. We will watch the manna fall from heaven, receive the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai and bake our very own matza as we reenact Yitziat Mitzrayim (the exodus from Egypt). This interactive simulation will enable our students to relate more deeply to the events of the Passover story and the concepts studied in our Passover curriculum at school. Chag Sameach to all!

JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

A change of the original family name is often the case when experiencing difficulty in tracing relatives or family history. The spelling could have changed several times over the years, especially if your ancestor was illiterate. When the town clerk registered a birth, death, or marriage, it might have been written down the way they thought they heard it. This is especially true of Eastern European Jews, with unusual spellings of the same sounds such as "sz" for "sh" which evolved from "Szipielberg" to "Shpielberg", now "Spielberg". When immigrants arrived in the "new world", the customs officer may not have understood the name correctly, or heard it wrong, or the newcomer couldn't spell or understand English (or French). Other immigrants, seizing the opportunity to begin a totally new life and persona, deliberately changed their family name upon arrival at Canadian docks.

Particularly for Jewish genealogy, there is a special research tool called the "Daitch-Mokotoff Soundex", available at www.jewishgen.org, which was designed to allow matching of Yiddish surnames that sound similar. For one family name, "Karbelnik" for example, we have many variations, some or all of which could be a match. This name can be spelled Karabelnik, Carbelnik, Karbelnick, Kobernick, Kabalnik, etc.

Check the backs of old photographs; there may be names written there. If it's written in Yiddish or Hebrew, our genealogy group can help you find someone to translate. Official documents such as wedding certificates, birth certificates, or ketubas can also yield valuable information

such as place of birth, parents' names, etc.

One valuable resource is a book entitled "A Dictionary of Jewish Surnames from the Russian Empire" by Alexander Beider. In this book, one can find the original meaning and variations of family names, and geographical location of where the name is usually found.

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Hamilton & Area (JGSH) meets monthly, on the last Wednesday of every month. We meet at Temple Anshe Sholom, 215 Cline Avenue North, Hamilton, ON L8S 4A1. We begin with our Meet & Greet at 7:30PM, followed by our guest speaker.

Our April 22 meeting will feature Monique Charlebois speaking on the topic of "20th Century Survivor Searches- Challenges and Successes at the Office of the Public Trustee." Monique will provide examples drawn from searches for heirs of Jewish European descent, including Holocaust survivors. On May 20, Jerrold Landau will present "Holocaust Testimonies & Eastern European History: What can you learn from Yiskor books?". Yiskor (Memorial) Books recorded everyday life in the Jewish communities of Eastern and Central Europe. Groups of former residents, or landsmanshaftn, published these books as a tribute to their former homes and the people who were murdered during the Holocaust.

Additional Information about JGSH can be found on our website at www.jgsh.org or by contacting our president, Hazel Boon at president@jgsh.org or phone 905-524-3345. Please join us!

Every student can experience greater academic success and joy in learning!

Contact Summerhill Learning Studio for individualized tutorial instruction.

Preschool through Grade 8 :

Individualized remedial instruction in reading, writing, and mathematics
Curriculum support in core subject areas
Learning Strategy Development
Enrichment programming
Systematic Multisensory Structured Approach to instruction

High School Students and Adults :

Individualized remedial instruction in reading and writing

Summerhill Learning Studio
905-807-9513

After-school and Sunday morning tutorial times available

summerhilllearningstudio.ca
tutorial@summerhilllearningstudio.ca

Mary-Martha Starkman, B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed. 36 Beulah Ave. Hamilton

NOTICE

BETH JACOB CEMETERY

The Beth Jacob Cemetery Board has submitted by-laws to the Registrar of the Cemeteries Act (Revised). Any interested parties may contact: the Cemetery Board at

Beth Jacob Synagogue, 375 Aberdeen Avenue
Hamilton, Ontario L8P 2R7

TEMPLE ANSHE SHALOM



The Temple Religious School's Cafe Ivrit

On the third Friday night of each month Temple Anshe Sholom's bimah is rocking with a contemporary Jewish sound! Between the Shabbat Family Jam Band, the monthly "birthday blessings", and the sounds of children singing, the atmosphere is joyous. Our religious school students prepare their parts in the service, and look forward to their turn. This popular Family Shabbat service is followed by a congregational Shabbat dinner that is always well-attended. What a wonderful way for families to come together to celebrate Shabbat!

Our religious school students were very moved by the video about Shechafim School (which is now linked to jewish-hamilton.org). This year, they decided to send mishloach manot to the students of Shechafim for Purim. Containing personalized cards, homemade hanging snowflake mobiles, and picture books about kids in Canada, we hope they reached Israel in time!

During the week, our grade 7 students have opened Café Ivrit, a snack shop for hungry Hebrew school students who would like a snack before class starts. Students order from the menu in Hebrew and are served in Hebrew, and in this way have improved their vocabulary and

conversational Hebrew skills. Ben Rosen, who originally came up with the idea, smiles behind the counter with his friends while younger students crowd around while waiting to order. All proceeds will be distributed at the religious school's end of year Tzedakah Fair. Kol HaKavod to Ben and the Sha'ar class!

The Temple's Deborah Sisterhood hosted a lovely "Tea & Sweets: Seder for Women and Girls" prior to the start of preparing for Passover. Using a specially prepared women's haggadah, participants honoured four Jewish women who have contributed to the Jewish world. It was a lovely and meaningful exploration of the themes of Passover, through the eyes of women. The girls enjoyed a concurrent program of baking, songs, and activities, and joined the women partway through the seder. All proceeds were donated to an interfaith women's peace initiative in Israel.

Much energy is also now going into the planning of our First Annual Going For Green Golf Tournament at Glen Abbey, scheduled for August 30th. Proceeds will be shared with Disabled Veterans of Israel Canada – Beit HaLochem. For more information about the golf tournament or to purchase tickets please visit our website www.anshesholom.ca.

CHABAD LUBAVITCH

Friday Night, March 6, 2009- There are almost 100 university students sitting in Wentworth Hall enjoying a Shabbat meal right on Campus. For the fourth year the annual Shabbat 100 was a major success. Under the byline "Shabbat at the Saloon", students enjoyed a wild west themed dinner complete with tacos, southern baked chicken and cowboy hats. The theme, decorations, fundraising, invitation and cooking were taken care of by a team of very dedicated students. A big thanks to all those who helped out and specifically to Dustin Shulman who was student organizer of Shabbat 100. From Shabbat 100 we went straight to Purim. Chabad hosted a party on Monday night with sushi rolling and hamantash making, as well as Megilla reading and costumes.

Over the last few weeks Chabad @ Mac

MIDRASHA

In the past month, exciting things have been happening at Midrasha. We had our amazing Purim dinner in which we had a festive Mexican theme with lots of singing and discussions. In other news Yaakov Morel and Daniel Hosiassohn have started for the very first time a Jewish culture club otherwise known as "HECC" (Hebrew Educational Culture Club) at Highland Secondary School. The club takes place every Wednesday from 12:30-1:30. The numbers are phenomenal with 30-40 teens attending. Pizza is provided for the hungry teens who love participating

has also started a special kippa campaign. At the suggestion of two McMaster students we custom ordered kippas in the school colours with the name of our university imprinted. The goal behind "Kippas on Campus" is to show Jewish pride and wear the kippas on campus. The kippas are available in either English or Hebrew and are available for sale at Chabad.

This year the model matza bakery has taken on new proportions. In conjunction with Tzivos Hashem of Toronto, Chabad Lubavitch of Hamilton is making it possible for the students in our day schools to experience the story of Passover first hand.

-Shmura Matza is available for purchase through the Adas Israel office. Please place your orders early so we can ensure the Matza is available.

in discussions and the topics presented at the club. The teens at the club celebrated Purim with an interactive megillah, hamantashen, creating and decorating masks, and by playing Purim themed games. Every week a new topic is chosen from the many ideas the teens have shared an interest in learning about. These topics are all discussed in a fun, opened, relaxed and warm environment.

For more information about Midrasha classes, dinners and programs or our Jewish Culture Club please contact Yaakov Morel at yaakov.morel@gmail.com.

Gift exchange with Shechafim

LAURA WOLFSON

Students of Temple Anshe Sholom Religious School were very excited to open a package sent to Hamilton from the Shechafim Regional School in Israel. Inside they found a collage of painted fabrics and stamps, glitter-glued onto a framed canvas and bordered with multi-coloured paints. The letter accompanying it explained that the students and teachers who made the collage took a full week to make it. The process involved mixing the paints themselves, painting the fabric and drying it, cutting it into squares, gluing the squares to the canvas, bordering the squares with glitter, and then creating a lovely pattern of paint stamps in between the fabric squares. If you have watched the video about Shechafim School (linked on the Jewish Hamilton website) you will know that this was a significant effort. "Our gift to you is a very modest thank you for all that you have done and are doing for us in Shechafim and a sign of our happiness in knowing that you are our friends. With best wishes to all the Hamilton Jewish

community for the coming festivals – Purim and Pesach."

Earlier in the month, our students had made personalized mishloach manot for each student at the Shechafim school. Each student at Shechafim received a beautiful picture book about Canadian children and the kinds of activities they do (entitled "I Am Canada") with a personally addressed card for Purim, a hand-made snowflake or dove mobile, and a photo of the Temple child who sent it to her/him. In this way, we are continuing to develop a personal connection to our friends at Shechafim School.

The teachers and staff of Shechafim School are still looking for more Canadian professionals in the fields of special education, sports education, art therapy, music therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy and physiotherapy with whom to network. If you can be part of this professional information exchange with Shechafim School, please contact Laura Wolfson at (905) 528-0121 or lwolfson@

KEHILA JEWISH COMMUNITY DAY SCHOOL

JEFF TESSIER

Students from Kehila Jewish Community Day School took many of the top honours at the recent Morris Black public speaking contest. In the Grade 4 category, Arielle Earn placed first, Sari Horwood second, and Abby Shore third, while Spencer Smyth placed third in the Grade 5 category.

Kehila has participated in the Morris Black contest for several years. Students are allowed to choose the topic of their speech, which they then research using the tools and methods taught as part of the school's curriculum. In researching their topics and preparing the material for delivery, students develop skills in information organisation and patterning, while the preparation for the speech teaches them about information delivery and the proper methods for interacting with an audience.

Arielle Earn took first prize for her speech about the water crisis in Israel. The topic is of personal interest to Arielle, as her great-grandfather was a water engineer in Israel and was killed during the 1948 War of Independence while searching for water in the Galilee. Arielle's mother, Sigal Balshine, said, "I was so proud of her for gathering her research materials, writing the speech, and then practicing it so hard! She did it for her grandparents in Vancouver and her great-grandparents in Rechovot Israel by Skype. It was quite something to watch."

The contest is named in honour of Morris Black. Born in 1916, Morris was the son of Lithuanian Jewish immigrants and



Arielle Earn

lived in Peterborough until his death in 1970. Morris wrote in his will, "In place of mourning teach others the value of study and education," and left a sum of money that was to be used to establish an annual contest. The contest was originally an essay contest administered by the Canadian Jewish Congress for all small communities in Ontario. After Morris' son Rick moved to Ontario, it was changed to a public speaking competition and has been an annual event for the Hamilton Jewish community since 1978. A similar contest is held in Vancouver under the guidance of another of Morris' sons.

Kehila congratulates all of the students who displayed their excellent skills in research and public speaking at the Morris Black competition.

ADAS ISRAEL SISTERHOOD

The Adas Israel Sisterhood's official launch took place on Sunday, March 1st. In an effort to both inspire and offer support to Jewish students in Hamilton. Through the generous support of a special donor, the Sisterhood was able to bring Rabbi Lazer Brody to our community. Born in Washington D.C., the then secular Brody immigrated to Israel in 1970, became a commando in an elite special forces unit in the IDF and in the 80s, became baal-tshuva and was ordained a rabbi in 1992. He continued to blaze a unique path, from spiritual rehabilitation director of a major prison, to outreach with street youth to head of one of the major yeshivas in Israel. He has a daily web journal, a weekly radio show and has written several bestsellers, including "The Trail of Tranquility," and translated the "Garden Of Emunah," which has sold 800,000 copies in North America. The Waxman Hall was filled with a mix of University and High School students, professors from McMaster, members from all three congregations and individuals who had driven in from Toronto to hear

Rabbi Brody speak. Aware of the spectre of Israeli Apartheid Week hanging over our community, Rabbi Brody chose to focus on the positive developments that can arise out of this challenge. He emphasized to the students that his goal was to have them appreciate that they should appreciate their own intrinsic worth. He pointed out that this attack on the Jewish state has led to Jewish students identifying more deeply with their background and each other, to this community coming together as one to support the students. By standing together as proud Jews, by taking on more mitzvot, by defending Israel, Rabbi Brody confidently predicted that Israeli Apartheid Week would fail; it would not have the impact in Hamilton of previous years whereas the benefits of a unified Jewish community would continue to accrue. The accuracy of his prediction has amazed, inspired and invigorated many diverse members of Hamilton's Jewish community.

To Subscribe to Adas Israel Sisterhood newsletters e-mail adasisraelsisterhood@gmail.com.

