

# Hamilton Jewish News

SERVING HAMILTON WENTWORTH AND AREA

JULY 2009 VOL 23:5/TAMUZ 5769

AGREEMENT #40007180

## 2009 UJA WALKATHON "DOWN BY THE BAY"



David Horwood with daughter, Jamie, at Down By The Bay, this year's UJA Walkathon. See more pictures and story on page 7. Photo by Chris Nusca

## Federation priorities upheld in allocation decisions

*Despite campaign losses, most vulnerable are protected*

In what may have been the most difficult decision making process in many years, the UJA Federation Board of Directors has approved allocation recommendations for the 2009 / 2010 fiscal year. The total allocation of \$1,000,000 was \$146,000 lower than last year's record allocation amount. This reflects a decrease of 12.7% from the previous year.

Despite the shortfall, the UJA Federation Board made our goal of "Assisting the Vulnerable" a priority and ensured that the allocation to Jewish Social Services (JSS), Beth Tikvah Foundation and Camp Kadimah (where many children need assistance in order to attend) would not be reduced. In fact, the JSS total allocation has slightly increased to reflect the increase in the crisis management caseload during these difficult economic times.

In explaining how this decision was made, UJA Federation Treasurer and Allocations Chair Jacki Levin referred to the "four pillars" that define the basic UJA Federation mandate. Several years ago, the UJA Federation Board undertook a planning process with the CEO of United Israel Appeal of Canada, the highest ranking professional in the Canadian Jewish Community. That planning process

identified and prioritized the four key functions of all federations:

1. Assisting the Vulnerable
2. Strengthening Jewish Education and Identity
3. Supporting Israel and the Domestic Advocacy Agenda
4. Continuing Community Development

Rather than make across the board cuts - the Board instead chose to apply our funding based on these established communal priorities. On this basis, the allocation decisions essentially reflect the needs within each of the four pillars.

The education budgets reflect a nominal decrease. Support for Israel and the national advocacy agenda is based on a dollar amount set by United Israel Appeal and is reduced to reflect the national average of lower funds available. In Hamilton, the brunt of the reductions were absorbed by the JCC and by the UJA Federation budget itself.

In discussing the formulation of the dollar amount available for allocation, UJA Federation Executive Director Gerald Fisher explained that "The

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## Consensus building Federation priority

*Larry Levin lays out his vision for the community at the AGM*

WENDY SCHNEIDER

Something felt different at this year's UJA Federation's Annual General Meeting, held last May at the JCC. Perhaps it was a result of the large number of new faces, many of whom were being honoured that evening with a Shem Tov Award for being nominated by their respective organizations as outstanding volunteers (see photo page 3); or perhaps it was due to a series of memorable moments that resonated deeply among those assembled: Leslie Lasky being presented with the CeCe Schreiber Award in acknowledgment of his leadership over a lifetime of service; CeCe Schreiber, rising from her seat to read heartfelt remarks to mark the occasion; Beaming volunteers called up one by one to receive their Shem Tov award; outgoing UJA president, David Somer, thanking the Federation staff and Board of Directors for their support; Incoming Federation president Larry Levin's inspiring remarks, a rallying cry for community unity and inclusivity.

The AGM provided Dr. Larry Levin his first opportunity to address the community in his official capacity as president. In



Marnie Schreiber and Vivienne Epstein present Le Lasky with the CeCe Schreiber award.

his remarks, Dr. Levin laid out a vision of Federation as a vital and inclusive organization that, in addition to providing financial support for its beneficiary agencies, can play a vital role in building consensus and finding common ground.

Dr. Levin used this opportunity to personally extend his gratitude to outgoing President Dr. David Somer. Dr. Somer, who was unexpectedly thrust into

See **BUILDING CONSENSUS** on page 2

## Kehila / HHA collaboration creates Hamilton Jewish Middle School

Incoming President Dr. Larry Levin used the UJA Federation Annual General Meeting (AGM) as the venue to publicly announce the establishment of a Jewish middle school for Hamilton. This initiative is the result of a great deal of hard work on the part of the leadership of both schools as well as the facilitation provided by Dr. Levin at several long running, working sessions.

At the AGM, Dr. Levin made the following announcement:

Our Hamilton Jewish Community Day Schools have worked together in a collaborative effort to obtain a grant generously funded by the AVI CHAI Foundation. This grant will be used to establish a new and innovative, Jewish middle school initiative that will strive for complete inclusivity, educational excellence, and use interactive learning methods.

The two year grant will support the development of grades 6 and 7 in the first year, and the addition of grade 8 in the following year.

The new academic initiative will offer two tracks of Judaic Studies that encourage students to discover how Judaism brings meaning to their lives, while fostering a love of Jewish culture and a strong Jewish identity. The goal will be to cultivate informed, passionate and creative members of the Jewish community with

a love for Jewish learning and a strong connection to Israel. These two tracks will include:

Cultural Jewish Studies Track (CJST): This track emphasizes a conceptual approach to Judaic studies focusing on the relevancy of ancient and modern Jewish teachings and texts.

Source Based Jewish Studies Track (SBJST): This track emphasizes the skills required to interpret, analyze and appreciate classic Jewish texts, such as Mishna, Talmud, and Chumash.

In addition to a common general studies curriculum, both tracks will address the diverse needs of all students, including those who will be furthering their studies at local high schools, Jewish high schools and Yeshivot. Parents will choose which track best suits their children's needs. This new Jewish middle school initiative will utilize the existing facilities at the HHA.

The incoming Federation President, together with the leadership of the Kehila and the HHA, has worked very hard to develop a framework for this exciting new initiative, and we invite input from the

See **MIDDLE SCHOOL** on page 2

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Public Affairs and the Dialogue Committee**

On January 14 2009, while Israel was under rocket attacks from Gaza, The Hamilton Spectator published a one-half page article by the leading Arab/Muslim member of the Hamilton Arab/Muslim/Jewish Dialogue Committee in which this member vilified Israel's protective actions in Gaza and referred to Israelis as "assassins, thieves, terrorists and rapists."

The February issue of the Hamilton Jewish News reported that the Jewish members of the Dialogue Committee had resigned from the Committee because of "expressions of hostility directed against Israel" by the Arab/Muslim Committee member in question. The Hamilton Jewish News did not publish the hateful and inflammatory quotes that triggered the resignations. Instead, Hamilton Jewish News published five Letters to the Editor commending the Dialogue Committee for its good works. One can only conclude from this sequence of events that HJF still does not recognise that (1) the Dialogue Committee process was flawed from the outset, (2) that it provided no demonstrable benefits to the Hamilton Jewish community (3) that it siphoned off valuable resources from the Jewish Community that could have been more productively employed elsewhere (4) that it gave enemies of Israel and the Jewish Community an ill deserved mantle of respectability and (5) it has created divisions in the Jewish community that are even today deep and rancorous. In order to heal these wounds I suggest the incoming President of HJF (a) acknowledge publicly the past mistakes of the Dialogue Committee and (b) offer a public apology to members of the Jewish Community who were castigated and criticised by HJF for their opposition to the Dialogue Committee in articles published in the Hamilton Jewish News and Canadian Jewish News.

Ronald Berenbaum

**Response from Dr. Larry Levin,  
President, UJA Federation of Hamilton**

As new President I want to comment on the Dialogue Committee, which was recently terminated.

The Federation Board felt that if we engaged in a discussion, focusing on local issues, with Hamilton's Arab and Muslim communities through the formation of a Dialogue Committee, we might help to lower the stress locally.

The Federation Board, over the last three years had given their support to this initiative, and to the outstanding individuals working on our behalf.

Although the Dialogue Committee members had the best intentions and gave this initiative a great deal of time and effort, among other things, an article by Dialogue Committee member Ali Cheaib that was very hateful, prompted the resignation of the Federation from the Dialogue Committee.

However some members of our Hamilton community have felt that for a long time their dissenting voice was not being acknowledged when they said that the Dialogue Committee was ill advised.

I want all members of our community to feel valued and heard, both supportive and dissenting views. I welcome them all, and if some in the past have felt marginalized, I apologize for this, and will do everything possible to ensure we have an open and supportive discussion on all issues.

One of the most important responsibilities of Federation is in the area of Public Affairs, and the support for our Jewish students at McMaster and in our high schools, as well as our support for Israel.

I pledge my support and that of our Federation to continue, and where possible, increase our efforts in this critical area. I invite you to send me your thoughts and to help in this important work. Together we will make a difference in our community.

Best wishes,  
Larry Levin

**Teen Volunteer Coordinators  
for the 2009/10 school year!**

Have you completed Grade 9 or 10 at Westdale, Highland, Hillfield-Strathallan, Ancaster or Parkside? Are you looking for a great volunteer opportunity? Does recruiting teens and helping plan activities like Walkathon, Mitzvah Day or Telethons interest you?

We are putting a team together with one Teen Volunteer Coordinator from each school. To apply contact Elaine Levine at 905-627-9922 ext. 24 or email [elevine@jewishhamilton.org](mailto:elevine@jewishhamilton.org).



## BUILDING CONSENSUS

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the presidency two and a half years ago, presided over UJA Federation during its best ever fundraising results as well as to its strongest and most effective Israel advocacy challenges during the 2006 2nd Lebanon War as well as last January's conflict in Gaza.

Levin made it clear that, at the risk of creating controversy, a strong Federation sometimes has to make difficult decisions to serve the community's best interests. He went on to elaborate on the goals he has set for himself for the next six months: making Jewish education more cost effective, establishing a clear direction for Federation's Public Affairs Committee and finding a resolution for the ongoing question of the future of the Jewish Community Centre.

During a subsequent interview with the HJN, Levin elaborated on his goals. "We have a number of different schools working very hard to give their kids the best education possible and our community is increasingly having difficulty with the financial costs of providing this education," Resource sharing is a way to keep costs down. Levin himself has facilitated numerous meetings that helped Hamilton Hebrew Academy and Kehila representatives reach an agreement over their collaboration on a new Jewish Middle School initiative.

Levin's consensus-building skills will no doubt serve him well during the summer as he rebuilds a strong Public Affairs Committee that will develop Federation's position on anti-Semitism and the Middle East vis a vis the greater Hamilton community.

"I don't think many people in our community know what our position is", he said during a subsequent interview with the HJN. "One of the things I want [the Public Affairs Committee] to

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

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community.

We look forward to welcoming all of the community's grade 6 and 7 children in September 2009.

According to Levin, "This is a very important moment for our community. Recently released demographics indicate that there is really no substitute for Day School education as the primary mechanism for transmitting meaningful and sustainable Jewish identity to the next generation. We must take every possible step to make Day School education attractive and available for all Jewish children. This new Middle School, which strives for complete inclusivity, is a wonderful opportunity to transmit the gift of a Jewish education to many more students."



Cece Schreiber congratulates Les Lasky on winning the top leadership award named in her honour while proud daughter, Marnie, looks on.

do... is to say here's our position. These are the things that we stand for. Here's how we're going to respond to what's happening in the news."

Another priority for Levin is to move forward on making a decision regarding the sustainability of a Jewish Community Centre. "I think the JCC serves an important function for the community and we have to decide how we're going to express that function", he said, adding that the central question for community members is asking what kind of environment they're prepared to create for their children today and what kind of a legacy they want to leave for their grandchildren.

"Is Hamilton a way station on the way to Toronto?" he asked rhetorically, "If we're not ... we better have something here for our children and grandchildren to enjoy."

One of the nicer elements of the Annual Meeting agenda was the participation of each of Hamilton's three pulpit Rabbis. Rabbi Jordan Cohen of Temple Anshe Sholom delivered the D'var Torah, drawing on the

teachings of the celebration of Sh'vuot and its meaning in building an inclusive Jewish community. Closing remarks and benediction were provided by Rabbi Dan Selsberg of Beth Jacob Synagogue who, drawing on similar themes, charged both Federation leadership and the entire community with the responsibility of ensuring an inclusive and sustainable Jewish future for Hamilton.

Rabbi Daniel Green of Adas Israel Synagogue delivered the installation speech. With comments both heartfelt and humorous, Rabbi Green introduced Dr. Levin to the community in such a positive and encouraging light... all of it much deserved.

By the end of this event, there was a strong sense that the call for a renewed sense of community and inclusivity was being heard in new and very encouraging ways. Recognizing that the road ahead may not always be smooth, Dr. Levin was nevertheless very pleased with the tone set by this AGM to launch his presidency.

## PRIORITIES

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amount available for allocation is not predicated on the result of the UJA campaign alone. It is also a function of the result of the endowment fund, interest from short term investments, cash on hand, payments made on pledges over three years old and an estimate of doubtful pledges made on the most recent campaign. Given the economic circumstances of the past year, our result was actually slightly better than many other federations."

Fisher went on to explain that "Federations from Halifax to Vancouver all suffered campaign losses this year. Endowments suffered losses for the first time in years.

All other normal sources of income were also down. Anticipating fewer dollars in

the system, United Israel Appeal of Canada has dropped its own budget by 15%, meaning that national advocacy budgets are down and fewer dollars will be flowing to Israel this year.

All in all, it is not the situation we want for our community. Nevertheless, we have to admire our community's generosity during such a difficult financial period. Other communities found it much tougher than Hamilton. Indicators around North America suggest that it may be another year or two before the financial climate brightens enough to regain the current revenue losses. Gratefully, our local allocation process, reflecting communal priorities, will ensure that our most important services will continue to be fully supported.

# INSIDE HJN JULY 2009



## VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Community volunteers were honoured at Federation's Annual General Meeting. Pictured above, back row, l to r, are Julie Dembe, Cheryl Dembe, Archie Lieberman, Ryan Goldflus, Larry Szpirglas, Natalie Sobel; Front row, l to r, Dorothy Rosenthal, Bea Friedman, Stan Katz, Tamara Mindlen, Adele Wolpert Zur and Vivienne Epstein.



**UJA FEDERATION**  
**6 ASPER PROGRAM**  
 Record number of students participate

**SPECIAL MENTSCHEN**  
**7 UJA WALKATHON**  
 New route "Down by the Bay" a big hit

**SPECIAL MENTSCHEN**  
**10 ADIEU, BUT NOT GOODBYE**  
 Laura Wolfson bids fond farewell



**COMMUNITY**  
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 Long awaited launch takes place on Sept 16



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### COMING UP

<b>ROSH HASHANA ISSUE</b>	
• Deadline for booking ad space	<b>Aug 3, 2009</b>
• Deadline for receiving editorial copy	<b>Aug 24, 2009</b>
• Deadline for receiving ad copy	<b>Aug 28, 2009</b>
• Estimated Date of Arrival	<b>Sept 8, 2009</b>

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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 August 24, 2009.

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# the YAD report

## Israel advocacy mission informs and enlightens young leaders

10 years after Birthright, mission gives deeper perspective

JEFF SHINEHOFT

Almost 10 years after my first trip to Israel I had the opportunity to return through my participation in the Canada-Israel Committee Local Advocacy Training Mission to Israel. The Mission was well organized and highly professional and enhanced my passion for Israel.

During the course of the mission, we learned about Israel's geographical realities that make it vulnerable to terror attacks from hostile factions in both Gaza and the West Bank.

Sderot is a painful example of the horrible consequences of the usage of proximate lands as a springboard for terror. Seeing a large concrete bomb shelter next to where the children played was heartbreaking. Since 2001 thousands of missiles have been fired on Sderot from Gaza. The damage of these attacks has to be measured not only by loss of life but by the terrible damage to Sderot's infrastructure and the trauma suffered by its citizens.

Like any other responsible country would do, Israel has taken a number of measures to ensure safety for her citizens. One is the construction of a security barrier that separates the disputed territories from Israel. In constructing the barrier great care was taken to ensure that the least interruption would be caused to both Palestinian and Israeli life while ensuring safety from terror attacks.

One of the most pressing issues facing Israel is how to balance its security needs with humanitarian concerns, taking into account the needs of those most affected by the fence. The issue of safeguarding Palestinian rights falls under the auspices of Israel's Supreme Court, which allows applications from people who are not citizens of Israel, a true hallmark of a free and democratic country.

Israel's commitment to the rights of others is further illustrated by its policy of making it possible for other faiths to utilize religious sites. Israel's decision to leave the Temple Mount in the control of the Wakf is a historic commitment to broad access.

Among those who spoke to our group were two speakers from the Arab world. Bassem Eid, a senior field researcher for B'Tselem, the Israeli Information Centre for Human Rights, told us that the Palestinian people are "experts in losing opportunities". He posited that Hamas was being operated by Iranian remote control, and explained how a massive fracture between Hamas and Fatah, has resulted in the absence of a single representative voice. Abu Toameh, an award-winning Arab journalist who specializes in covering Palestinian affairs, told us that it is not possible for Israel to negotiate peace a regime that believes Jewish people cannot be trusted.



Jeff Shinehoft

We had an opportunity to meet with Alexandre Bilodeau from the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs stationed in the West Bank, who told us that the Canadian government is attempting to develop institutions required for independent Palestinian governance and the requisite security for Israel. He also emphasized that Canada is taking measures to ensure that Hamas, which it defines as a terrorist organization, in not either directly or indirectly a beneficiary of Canadian aid. The unintended impact of this policy is that the bulk of Canadian aid is provided to the West Bank, further increasing the divide between the West Bank and Gaza.

A key element of any successful negotiation is to have all decision makers at the table. Unfortunately, when it comes to the Israeli and Palestinian situation, there is no Palestinian entity that can deliver on the terms (security) of any agreement. These facts make arriving at a binding peace agreement extremely difficult.

Ido Aharoni, from Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, led a session on what has become known as Israel Branding. The Israeli government has come to understand the importance of presenting the real face of Israel to the world – one that contradicts a widespread perception of the country as a war-torn concrete jungle. Those involved in Israel advocacy are devising innovative public relation campaigns that present Israel as a thriving democracy and multicultural society based on passion, ingenuity, and fusion, with the hope that Israel's actions to defend herself will be seen in that context.

From the lush green valleys of the Golan Heights, to the beauty of the Negev desert, from the booming metropolis of Tel Aviv to the Old City of Jerusalem, Israel is majestic. We came away feeling that Israel, like Canada, is a vibrant democracy with the right to protect its existence in a free and secure manner.

## Young leaders gather in TO



PICTURED ABOVE: Hamilton's representatives at the YAD conference, a United Israel Appeal funded Canadian Young Leadership initiative. From l to r, David Corsini, Lisa Morris, Mario Stolar, Elaine Levine, Dafna Bener, Jeff Shinehoft, Annie Shinehoft and Dora-Ann Cohen.

LISA MORRIS

I was one of seven Hamiltonians who attended Flick The Switch 5769, a United Israel Appeal National Young Leadership Conference held in Toronto last May. The annual conference gives Canadian Jews between the ages of 25 and 45 the opportunity of meeting like minded young Jewish people from across Canada. The networking that goes on is endless. I have come to learn that you never know what knowledge you will gain from attending one of these events. For me it was feeling a stronger connection with the other Hamilton participants.

I believe I now have a better understanding of what our community needs. I learned that we have a lot of great people in our community who want to see it continue to thrive and prosper. We have a lot of raw talent that we need to harvest. If there is one thing that I want to pass on to the young adults of Hamilton it is this: Get involved. It doesn't matter what you do – just that you do something. There are so many opportunities. If you are between the ages of 25 and 45 and think this is something that would like to get involved, call Elaine Levine at 905-627-9922, ext 24.

## Rebuilding Jewish life in New Orleans

LISA MORRIS

Volunteering is one of the single most selfless acts we can do: YAD's (Young Adult Division) agenda is to bring young people ages 25-45 together. I recently participated in a Young Leadership conference where 600 young adults from North America (including 3 Canadians) traveled to New Orleans to help rebuild its Jewish community. We were the single largest contingency of volunteers to come to New Orleans at one time since Hurricane Katrina. We learned how a once vibrant Jewish community lost its entire infrastructure, almost coming to the point of extinction; how Jewish agencies from across the continent came together to help the Jewish community rebuild and how Jews and rabbis from different denominations are praying, teaching and learning under one roof while their synagogues are being rebuilt. We saw the New Orleans' Jewish community unifying around the single goal of rebuilding their city, and how a growing number of Jews of all ages are making New Orleans home. We built picnic tables, benches and garbage can enclosures; We painted murals; dug ditches and rebuilt fences. At the end of the day we were



Lisa Morris helping out in New Orleans

told that what we accomplished in one day would have taken the five employees at the community centre three months.

The experience made me realize something about myself: I like helping people and I want to help others in my own community discover the joy of volunteering.

Volunteers are the backbone of our community and the best way to engage people is to know their strengths and place them where they can do the most good. We need to engage, educate and motivate. All it takes is one person to have a good volunteer experience so that he or she will bring friends to future events. Are you that person?

## Give the Gift of Life

UJA Federation has joined the Partners for Life Program with Canadian Blood Services. Please give ID number UJAF009824 the next time you give blood. Call 1-888-2-DONATE to book an appointment to donate blood.

*I am glad to see that the UJA Federation is promoting the giving of blood. During my lifetime, starting in my early twenties, I have given the gift of blood 146 times. I was looking forward to reaching the 150 mark but medical circumstance has cut my goal short. It doesn't take much time. It doesn't hurt. It feels good.*

Allen Rams



# Jewish Social Services

**Are you a caregiver for someone with Alzheimer's Disease?**

Alzheimer's disease, the most common form of dementia, is a progressive degenerative disease of the brain which causes thinking and memory to become seriously impaired. As the disease progresses and affects different areas of the brain, various functions become impaired. Since individuals are affected differently, it is difficult to predict which symptoms each person will have or the speed of the progression. If you are a caregiver of someone suffering from Alzheimer's, the Alzheimer's Society can help. For more information call Chantal Mudahogora at 905-529-7030 or email chantalm@primus.ca.

**Credit Counselling**

Has the economic downturn made it difficult to get through the month? Please contact us and we can help you get the right financial counselling. Call Carol Krames at 905-627-9922 ex 21 or email carolkramesjss@hotmail.com.

**Looking for a hospital bed or mattress?**

We have just received a donation. Please call or email Carol Krames at 905-627-9922 ex 21 or email carolkramesjss@hotmail.com

**Job Club**

Temple Anshe Shalom and JSS have formed a Job Club. If you are looking for employment, want to network, and learn what is available in the community this is the place for you. For more information email carolkramesjss@hotmail.com or call 905-627-9922 ex21.

**JOB POSTINGS**

Handy Man available for home renovations and repairs. Call Rick at 905-547-4971

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*Wishing you a relaxing and safe summer*

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## The Meshuggena Warriors are back!



This summer your community professionals, a.k.a. the Meshuggena warriors, have decided to move on from dragon boat racing and test out their mental and physical prowess on indoor rock climbing! Come out to support them and other representatives from your organization on Sunday, August 16 from 10:00 am to 12 noon at "Gravity" located on Frid St. Hamilton. Funds raised by this communal effort will go towards providing funding for the JCC Maccabi Games. Support community unity and a worthy cause. To sponsor your community professional or to find out more information contact Chris Nusca at the Federation office at 905-648-0605, ext 306.

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# Asper Program leaves profound impact on participants

64 students and 14 chaperones made up largest ever Hamilton contingent of bi-annual Holocaust Education program

WENDY SCHNEIDER

One by one, they came up to the podium in a packed room at Temple Anshe Sholom, testifying to a powerful shared experience that had left each of them profoundly changed. The occasion was the graduation ceremony of the bi-annual UJA Federation of Hamilton Asper Foundation Human Rights and Holocaust program, an outstanding educational program that culminates in a trip to the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

UJA Federation of Hamilton President Dr. Larry Levin opened the program. Other speakers included students, chaperones and the organizers of the event, with a special guest appearance by Executive Director of the Asper Foundation, Moe Levy, who had flown in from Winnipeg to mark the occasion. Local elected leaders, including M.P. David Sweet, M.P.P. Ted McMeekin and City Councillor Lloyd Ferguson also spoke.

This year 64 students and 12 chaperones from two Hamilton school boards made up the Hamilton contingent – a far cry from the program's early days when the program was limited for only Jewish students to participate. The late Izzy Asper, however, had a bigger vision,



Asper Foundation Executive Director, Moe Levy, and Elaine Levine of UJA Federation present a memorandum for personal responsibility to Shari Levine and Leav Lipton.

whereby his Foundation, in participation with Jewish Federations across the country, would make it possible for hundreds of Canadian students from all ethnic and cultural backgrounds to experience the transformative effects of an outstanding educational experience.

In 2004, Madeleine Levy ensured that Hamilton would be a full participant in Izzy Asper's vision through the extraordinary success of a fundraising program she spearheaded under the auspices of UJA Federation in partnership with the local Italian community. The Perlasca event raised \$50,000 for Human Rights and Holocaust education that has since enabled dozens of local high

school students to be part of the Asper program.

In his remarks UJA Federation Executive Director Gerald Fisher acknowledged the outstanding staff support provided by Federation's Director of Program Development Elaine Levine, and described Madeleine Levy as "a real hero who had transformed the perception of the Jewish community through her outreach efforts in Human Rights and Holocaust Education."

Levine too, praised "Madeleine's passion, dedication and commitment to Hamilton's Asper program", adding that both David Asper and Moe Levy refer to Hamilton's Asper program as Canada's Gold Standard. "Madeleine is the

catalyst behind the outstanding success of this program."

In the end, however, the evening was about the student participants. Matt Flynn, head of the history department at Westdale Secondary School, was particularly impressed with the five to one student-chaperone ratio during the Washington trip, which made it possible for chaperones to draw their students' attention to particular aspects of the exhibits they might otherwise have missed and provide support during those moments when students were having a strong emotional reaction to what they were seeing.

Flynn recalled two moments in particular that elicited a powerful response in both him and his students. One occurred when his

Among all the testimonials given by the students of the 2009 Asper Program, one in particular reflects the veracity of Flynn's observations. The following words written by Vera Ellen Lucci say it all.

*"There is something about our pilgrimage you cannot exactly put into words; the contrast of your life and the horrors of the Holocaust. It hits hardest when you go home to your own bed, and your parents' bugs, with your fridge full of food or when you turn on your television, answer your text message, read the books you want to, even have the right to go to school. It's all of that, everyday things that have transformed me as a person on this journey. It's the contrast to our journey and the journey of millions. The contrast of our*

**"It was almost like watching a light bulb go on over their heads....No matter what their background – Asian, Native, Catholic, Jewish, self-described atheists, it was powerful to one and all."**

**MATT FLYNN**  
Westdale Secondary School teacher

group entered what appeared to be a small room, whose walls were covered with family photographs. On looking up, however, they suddenly realized that "the whole room was shaped like one big chimney, with three holes at the top." In that moment the act of gazing at photographs of grandparents with their children and couples on their wedding day brought home the true meaning of the number "six million".

Flynn said that "the most powerful moment in the museum" was coming upon a cattle car. "It was an actual cattle car... It's almost like you're being processed from a ghetto to a camp." It was a powerful moment and Flynn could see that his students were genuinely moved. "It was almost like watching a light bulb go on over their heads", he said. "No matter what their background – Asian, Native, Catholic, Jewish, self described atheists, it was powerful to one and all," he said.

*comfortable bus, but their boxcar, our shared bed for two, their bunk for ten, our warm food, and their cold soup. And we went home after three days. Over six million did not.*

*To live a humble and grateful life is what this journey has taught me. It taught me this world needs change.*

*Everything does happen for a reason. I firmly believe we have all been put here this evening for a reason. Let your reason be change. Be the change. Don't say someone else will do it, do not leave it up to your neighbour, it's you, regardless of your age, salary, colour or religion, it's us, we must be the change to eradicate prejudice. People will judge you on your actions and not your intentions. Act. If anything you take from this evening, take your actions, and take responsibility for them. Set the example. When you smile, the whole world will smile back, when you act, they'll do the same."*

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# UJA Campaign final results

Local results better than national average

The UJA 2009 Campaign closed at just over \$1,053,000. The figure was below last year's record campaign, but given the economic downturn over the past year, nobody was surprised by the result. In fact, the local result was better than the national average.

In providing context to understand the figures, UJA Federation Executive Director Gerald Fisher explained that the 2008 campaign closed with a grand total of \$1,150,000. However, that total included a one-time and not repeatable gift of \$50,000. When that is factored into the situation, the 2008 campaign really had a \$1,100,000 result. Compared to that, the 2009 result was down by \$47,000 or - 4.3%.

Fisher went on to explain that many communities, especially in the U.S. saw campaign losses of -15% to -30%, results that can be truly devastating.

"Given the economic circumstances, our result can be viewed as a very positive statement from our community about the vital importance of supporting United Jewish Appeal."

The UJA 2009 Women's Campaign was pleased to report that their result was actually up by close to 7%. Hamilton's Women's Campaign was the only

campaign in Canada to show a significant increase over last year. The Women's Campaign also added four new members to its exclusive "Lion of Judah" group. This is a real demonstration of the commitment of our community to do its best – even when times are tough.

Looking ahead to the UJA 2010 Campaign, the campaign leadership is committed to doing everything possible to regain the momentum of the previous three campaigns, which each set record levels of giving. According to Fisher, "every philanthropic endeavor is affected by the same circumstances. In a small community like Hamilton, every philanthropy targets the same donor population. In difficult economic times, the campaigns that are successful are the ones that are the best organized and the ones that make their case in simple yet compelling terms.

There are no Jewish issues more compelling than 'Assisting the Vulnerable, Strengthening Jewish Education and Identity, Standing up for Israel and the Domestic Advocacy Agenda and the Continuing Development of our Community.' We can always be a bit better organized and that is our goal over the summer."

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This coming Rosh Hashana you can support your community newspaper by letting your friends and clients know you're thinking of them.

Rosh Hashana personal greetings begin at \$30. Support your community newspaper. Advertise in the Hamilton Jewish News.

### Hamilton Jewish News 2009/10 Publication Schedule

#### Rosh Hashana Issue

Deadline for Booking Ad Space August 3, 2009  
 Deadline for receiving editorial copy August 24, 2009  
 Deadline for receiving ad copy August 28, 2009  
 Estimated Date of Arrival September 8, 2009

#### Fall Issue

Deadline for Booking Ad Space September 18, 2009  
 Deadline for receiving editorial copy October 1, 2009  
 Deadline for receiving ad copy October 15, 2009  
 Estimated Date of Arrival October 29, 2009

#### Chanukah Issue

Deadline for booking ad space October 26, 2009  
 Deadline for receiving editorial copy November 3, 2009  
 Deadline for receiving copy November 20, 2009  
 Estimated Date of Arrival December 1, 2009

#### Passover Issue

Deadline for booking ad space February 5, 2010  
 Deadline for receiving editorial copy February 12, 2010  
 Deadline for receiving ad copy February 26, 2010  
 Estimated Date of Arrival March 12, 2010

#### Spring/Summer Issue

Deadline for booking ad space April 24, 2010  
 Deadline for receiving editorial copy May 3, 2010  
 Deadline for receiving copy May 17, 2010  
 Estimated Date of Arrival June 4, 2010

### Hamilton Jewish News Advertising Rates

Business Card	\$72.00
1/8 page	\$105.00
1/6 page	\$138.00
1/4 page	\$210.00
1/3 page	\$300.00
1/2 page	\$410.00
Full page	\$690.00

The Hamilton Jewish News will publish five issues between September 2009 and June 2010. Advertisements that appear in all five issues are entitled to a 10% discount. For more information call 905.628.0058 or email wschneider@jewishhamilton.org.

## 2009 UJA Walkathon Down By The Bay



This year's UJA Walkathon was a landmark community event, with the collaboration of its three co-chairs, Julie Dembe from Temple Anshe Sholom, Tova Green from the Adas Israel and Rikki Gross from the Beth Jacob. The rain held out for the day and overall, the new 5k route which began at Shalom Village (allowing Shalom Village residents to participate) and followed the picturesque Bayfront trail proved to be successful. Once walkers completed the



walk they were entertained by the Hallelujah Drummers and enjoyed post walk activities and a BBQ. Funds raised from the Walk will be directed towards Jewish Social Services and our community's coast-to-coast partner in Israel, the Shechafim Regional Special Education School. This event couldn't have happened without the Shalom Village staff and all the many volunteers who stepped up to help – We Thank You!



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Mark your calendars for next year's Walkathon for

**Sunday, June 6, 2010**



Photography by Laurie Yanover and Chris Nusca

UJA CAMPAIGN 2009

# THANKS FOR CARING

A community is only as strong as its individual members and a strong community can achieve what an individual alone cannot accomplish.

It is because of compassionate, generous individuals like you, that our community can continue to depend on the critical services your UJA dollars support.

On behalf of the 2009 UJA Campaign team, we thank you.



www.jewishhamilton.org

## Where your money goes

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL CAMPAIGN 2009

**\$1,000,000 ALLOCATED**

### Assisting the Vulnerable **\$140,585**

- Jewish Social Services
- Beth Tikvah Foundation Hamilton

### Strengthening Jewish Identity and Jewish Education **\$395,711**

- Beth Jacob Hebrew School
- Hamilton Hebrew Academy
- Kehila JCDS
- McMaster Jewish Student Association
- Midrasha
- Temple Anshe Sholom Religious School
- Israel Experience Scholarships
- Birthright Israel/March of the Living
- Jewish Community Centre
- Camp Kadimah

### Support for Israel & National Organizations **\$159,134**

- United Israel Appeal Overseas
- Jewish Agency for Israel
- Canadian Jewish Congress
- Canada Israel Committee
- Canadian Council for Israel and Jewish advocacy (CIJA)
- National Jewish Campus Life
- JIAS

### Community Development **\$304,570**

- Legacy Endowment Fund
- Community Relations / Public Affairs
- Israel Advocacy / Holocaust and Human Rights Education
- Community Leadership Forum
- Genesis / Leadership Development
- Young Adult Division
- Kashrut Services
- Hamilton Jewish News

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William Shragge, Phyllis Shragge, Sidney Shumacher, Sonia Shumacher, Kevin Shuman, Ida Shuman, Emilia & Joseph Shusterman, Elaine Siegel, Robert Siegel, Shava Siegel, Hilton Silberg, Shirley Silberg, Michael Silbert, Paul Silvan, Steven Silver, Lily Silverstein, Linda Silvert, Frank Simkevitz, Myra Simon, Paul Simon, Stan Simpson, Esther Simpson, Joseph Singer, Emmy Singer, Sima Skarica, Susanne Slansky, Charles Small, Barry Smurlick, Peter Smurlick, Anita Smurlick, Carrie Sniderman, Barry Sobel, Beverley Sobel, Natalie Sobel, Ahuva Soifer, Hart & Patty Solomon, Jeffrey & Renee Solomon, Leslie & Elana Solomon, Elizabeth Solomon, Brian Somer, Nancy Somer, David Somer, Anita & Ian Spenser, Miriam Spinner, Mary Martha Starkman, Jay & Diane State, William & Sylvie Steen, David Steinberg, Cecile Steinberg, Kristine Stolar, Mario Stolar, David & Betty Streiner, Marvin Stringer, Andrea Stringer, Arlene & Jeff Strohl, Martin Strub, Jonathan Sussman, Adam Swaye, Gerald Swaye, Rochelle Swaye, Henry Szechtman, Barbara Szechtman, Abe & Suzanne Szerszewski, Fern Szpirglas, Sam Szpirglas, Anna Szpirglas, Roslyn Takefman, Jeanette Tauber, Anna Taylor, Michael & Pamela Taylor, Stan Tick, Liz Tick, Corinne Travis, Bernard & Alva Trossman, Arnold Tuchow, Aiden & Kathryn Tuite, Henry Turner, Peter & Beth Urbanek, Sonia & Michael Vaknin, Aranka Varadi, Darlene Varadi, Steven Varadi, Baya Vertes & Izzy Ferguson, Cindy & Gerald Vertlieb, Donna Vine, Ron Vine, Alexander Wolfstein, Mark Volman, Stuart & Deanna Waldenberg, Ed & Sally Waldes, David Wasserman, Gloria Wasserman, Eric Waxman, Gary & Ieta Waxman, Harvey Waxman, Pearl Waxman, Mark Waxman, Michael Waxman, Shirley Waxman, Rhona Waxman, Rochelle Waxman, Ruth Waxman, Stella Waxman, Shani Waxman, Alan Weddum, Norman Weddum, Morley Weinberg, Emmy Weisz, Sasha Weisz, Janet Weisz-Asa, Anita Weitzman, Wentworth Metal Recycling, Alain Wiesenthal, Norman & Renee Williams, Samantha & Mitchell Winemaker, Stephen & Cheryl Wise, Hy & Fae Wiseman, Sandra Witelson, Andrea Wlodarczyk, Leslie & Gail Wolfe, Marcelo Wolf, Denise Wolpert, Moura & Bernard Wolpert, Laura Wolfson, Neil Woolfson, Ida Wright, Allen & Marina Wynperle, Shirley Yaffe, David & Helen Yanover, Denise Yanover, Lawrence Yanover, Sandra Yanover, Sam Yanover, Stephen Yanover, Barry Yellin & Alma Arguello, Joel Yellin, Michele Yellin, Helen Yellin, David Yolles, Pearl Yolles, Gordon Zack, Barry & Lisa Zaitchik, Sarit & Mark Zalter, Edward & Lyudmela Zaltz, Milton Zaretsky, Bronislava Zarevich, Lorelei Zeiler & Bruce Greenberg, Marlene Ziser. Jerry Zikman, Roz Zikman, Jeffery Zucker, Shirley Zucker.

\* Deceased

We've done our best to be diligent in recording your name and we apologize if your name has been inadvertently omitted. If it has, please contact the Federation office at 905-648-0605 ext. 306.

## “Born Leader” inspires two generations

Sylvia Katz models commitment to family, community and Israel

BEVERLEY ABRAMSON

My mother had a dream and it has come true with the help of family and friends. Four years ago, she read an article describing an unusual high school program – Ginat Eden – that provides a safe haven for teenage girls at risk, located in a pastoral setting in Israel’s Jordan Valley. The story and photograph moved her and she began to follow the progress of the unique rehabilitation farm. She supported the school annually, eventually sharing her desire with family and friends to create a fundraiser in Hamilton.

Sylvia Katz is a born leader. She constantly inspires her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and friends with her indefatigable determination and wisdom. She leads with an invisible whip, a soft voice and lots of hugs and appreciation.

In awe of Sylvia’s relentless efforts, a small group volunteered to rally around her and held a garden party to benefit Ginat Eden and to honour this very special lady at the home of her granddaughter Amy Katz McLean on Sunday June 7th. The event welcomed 100 guests including Judith Berger, Ginat Eden’s Executive Director from Jerusalem and raised over \$15,000 to date.

Sylvia looks and acts like a woman half her age. Insisting, she is not a “numbers” person, she prides herself on her perseverance and doesn’t divulge her age or the number of grandchildren she has. Perhaps she doesn’t like to count her blessings.

She may not think that she’s a “numbers” person but throughout her lifetime after moving to Hamilton from Toronto to



Sylvia Katz’s children and grandchildren aspire to walk in her footsteps.

Photo by Bev Abramson

marry Nathan Katz in 1940, she managed to raise large contributions and elevate the profile of several community organizations in her capacity as president for her sisterhood at Adas Israel Synagogue and as president of ORT Hamilton often working with Nate by her side when he retired. She still enjoys canvassing door to door in her neighborhood.

Her support of Ginat Eden continues the tradition. Reluctantly she accepted the honour that the committee bestowed upon her, acknowledging that her beloved charity would get a more favorable response to the event if there was an honoree and a “face” to the fundraising.

Sylvia took charge and shepherded a small army of volunteers who baked, cooked, solicited donations and food, entertainment and put together an incredible event.

When asked what first captured her attention in the newspaper story, she recalled, “Learning about these young women who had to deal with such serious trauma, family and social problems and who were living in

recycled steel shipping containers, tugged at my heart. I felt compelled to make others aware of the important work of Ginat Eden and to enlist their support in this worthy cause”.

As a grandmother and great-grandmother of many girls, she was personally moved by the plight of these young women, who had lost connection to their own families and by the success of the innovative program and facilities, which helps them move toward independence, self worth and a bright future.

Sylvia lives her life as she expects others to. She models drive and commitment to community and especially to Israel, to her family. Her great-grandchildren have followed in her formidable footsteps. At very young ages they have learned the importance of assisting others by selling daffodils for Cancer Research, making and selling jewelry, setting up lemonade stands for various causes, donating a portion of their birthday and Bat Mitzvah gifts, and as part of a Bat Mitzvah program, participating in a program to feed and shelter the homeless.

After making endless visits and phone calls to solicit sponsors for the recent luncheon, I expressed the realization to my mother that I inherited the family trait. I lamented that I can’t take “no” for an answer - to which she responded by explaining, “You can’t take “no and you can’t say “no”!

Donations are most welcome by mail, phone or fax. Ginat Eden c/o Sylvia Katz 43 Bond St S, Hamilton, ON L8S 1S8, 905-527-8901 (p) or Howard Katz 905-522-2981 (f).

## Adieu, but not goodbye

Laura Wolfson’s colleagues sing her praises

WENDY SCHNEIDER



Laura Wolfson at a farewell bowling party organized by her community professional colleagues. Pictured above, l to r are Gerry Fisher, Elaine Levine, Laura Laengerer and Laura Wolfson.

Temple Anshe Sholom and Hamilton’s Jewish community professionals are sharing a sense of loss this spring as they bid a fond farewell to their respected colleague, Laura Wolfson. Wolfson is stepping down from her position as educator and cantorial soloist at the Temple in order to spend more time with her daughter while enrolling in a one-year’s Teacher’s College at Brock University’s Hamilton campus. Wolfson hopes to teach in the public school system one day down the road, but in the meantime, plans to be more available for her daughter.

Wolfson came to Hamilton eleven years ago to take on the role of education director at Temple Anshe Sholom. Two years ago she also became its cantorial soloist, a challenge she thoroughly relished and enjoyed.

While Wolfson’s impact on the Temple community has been considerable, so too has her influence on the greater Jewish community. An active participant in monthly community professionals meetings, Wolfson’s vision and creativity has spawned community projects like the Mosaice Mitzvah in Motion project, that had community children collaborate on two mosaics – one, which hangs in Shalom Village and the second which she delivered to the Shechafim School in Northern Israel as a gift from the Hamilton Jewish community. The Meshuggena Warriors, a dragon boat team made up of community professionals and representatives from local Jewish organizations was another Wolfson brain child that has resonated to such a degree that when dragon boat racing in the Hamilton area was no longer an option the group decided to try its hand at indoor rock climbing (see boxed ad on page 5).

An initiative about which Wolfson is particularly proud is the Jewish/Muslim children’s choir she organized, that performed at Hamilton Place before an audience of hundreds at an evening of dialogue between Judea Pearl and Akbar Ahmed. Referring to that performance, the Hamilton Spectator wrote, “the choir sounded

magnificent and it was inspirational to see the children – Jews, Muslims, Christians, Arabs alike – singing as one, separated... from the pain and the bitterness of their parents’ conflicts.”

Wolfson has said that it’s been hard to say goodbye to all the “fabulous people” with whom she has collaborated and has reassured her former colleagues that she will keep up her involvement in the Jewish community as a lay person. No doubt, they will hold her to her word, for it’s almost inconceivable to imagine future roundtable discussions without her creative input and wonderful sense of humour. The legacy she has left behind, however, is solid: a legacy that places the highest value on collaboration and unity among our community’s fabric Jewish organizations. Laura Wolfson, as all great leaders everywhere, has made it possible for those who come after to continue to build on her vision.

Below are Rabbi Jordan Cohen’s reflections on Laura.

*It has been a real pleasure and a privilege to work with Laura over the past few years. In a way it has been almost too easy, since we really come from the same place and share so much in common. We have been almost always on the exact same page, and Laura’s commitment to Temple Anshe Sholom and the Hamilton Jewish community over the past 11 years has been inspiring. Laura has not only served the congregation admirably as its Educator, the position she was originally hired for, and in recent years as Cantor, but Laura has also guided the congregation through two protracted rabbinic transitions, serving for lengthy periods as the congregation’s only full time professional. Yet, despite the demands of filling three positions, she always brings to the congregation her good cheer, sense of true caring, and a real sense of professionalism. I know the congregation will really miss her, and I know I will miss having her as my colleague. But, fortunately, she will still be with us in the congregation and community. I wish Laura nothing but success and good wishes in all of her future endeavours.*



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# Authors and audience alike praise Jewish Literary Festival

LIL BLUME AND ELLEN S. JAFFE

Start with Klezmer music and Yiddish songs; add readings, thoughtful discussion, food, and dancing; sprinkle with liberal amounts of tears and laughter; and end with the transmigration of souls and you have the 2009 Hamilton Jewish Literary Festival.

Over 100 people will confirm that they were stimulated, entertained, and challenged at Temple Anshe Sholom during the first weekend in June.

The Festival began with the evening service on Friday, June 5. Three of our guest writers, Sharon H. Nelson, Isa Milman, and Karen Shenfeld – poets from Montreal, Victoria, and Toronto – along with Ellen S. Jaffe (congregant and co-organizer of the festival) enhanced the service by reading their poetry. Sharon's poem "The Marks Of Our Single Species" spoke of the way language, communication, and community serve as bridges across deep water, even in uncertain or perilous times. The poem ends: Keep the lifelines/always/coiled.

Many participants related to Rabbi Jordan Cohen's sermon about growing up in a family that encouraged reading and the love of books. As a boy, he discovered Elie Wiesel's *The Gates of the Forest* in which Wiesel says, "God made man because God loves stories." This was an inspiring introduction to the theme of our festival: Where is home for the Jewish writer?

Following the service, our guest, Steve Stern, from Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, N. Y. gave his talk, *Radical Nostalgia: Some Thoughts on a Jewish Literary Sensibility*. He shared his surprise at discovering that ideas emerging in his own writing had roots deep in Chassidic folklore, even though his Jewish upbringing had been minimal, and talked about the mystical process of remembering what we have forgotten.

Saturday afternoon began with a moving performance by singer/writer Allan Merovitz from his show, *If Cows Could Fly*, followed by a panel discussion on our theme, moderated by Toronto writer, Nora Gold. Panellists Steve Stern, Sharon H. Nelson, Isa Milman, J.J. Steinfeld, and Edeet Ravel had come from coast to coast and places in-between. They shared their ideas and memories, and read passages from their published works which shed light on this theme. In her introduction, Nora talked about various meanings of home: a place where one feels comfortable, safe, and has a sense of belonging. She said this can be a place, a person, or writing itself, and is a counterpoint to "non-home," where one does not have this sense of belonging



Rabbi Jordan Cohen (right) celebrates Havdalah at the Jewish Literary Festival, with (left to right) Andy MacDonald, Suzanne Goldfluss, Ron Baecker, Lil Blume, Aha Blume, and Ellen Jaffe; musicians Charlotte Price and Jordan Abraham are in the background. About 40 other participants joined in the June 6 ceremony.

and welcome.

Afternoon workshops gave participants a chance for closer encounters with favourite authors. Edeet Ravel, award-winning author of *Ten Thousand Lovers* and other novels, spoke about growing up in a socialist-Zionist Kibbutz and how that affected her writing. She talked about the solitary nature of the writer's life and mentioned the importance of listening to her editors and readers.

The evening cabaret included the launch of an anthology of poetry, short fiction, and memoir created especially for this festival: *From Sinai to the Shtetl and Beyond: Where Is Home for the Jewish Writer*. We were helped with publication costs by a grant from the FootPRINT fund of Allegra Print and Imaging, and all participants received a copy. Sixteen writers read their work from the anthology. After this, Allan Merovitz, accompanied by Jordan Abraham on accordion and Charlotte Price on violin, taught us a spirited Chasidic wedding dance, with enthusiastic audience participation. The evening came to a close with the Havdalah ceremony led by Rabbi Jordan Cohen.

Sunday morning began with more workshops, including Isa Milman's slide show of the gravestones which inspired her book *Prairie Kaddish* (winner of the 2009 Jewish Book Award for Poetry) and a session by Toronto psychiatrist Dr. Ron Ruskin on pain and humour in Jewish writing.

The festival ended magically with J.J. Steinfeld's play, *The Finest Performance of the Greatest Actor of the Yiddish Theatre*. This play brought together the loss of Yiddish language, anti-Semitism, and dybbuks, all in the neurological ward of a modern hospital. Barry Bender played Jack Zwick, the "greatest actor" of Toronto's Yiddish theatre, and Rabbi Cohen also played a part.

Jewish and non-Jewish lovers of music and literature joined us from Hamilton, Toronto, London, and as far away as New

York City. Isa Milman perhaps summed up the reaction of many people in her letter of thanks:

"I was intellectually stimulated, embraced, engaged, challenged, connected, looked after and very

well fed." Victoria Fenner said she appreciated how the festival "deepened my knowledge of the Jewish experience."

We are grateful to many people who helped make this event possible, including Temple Anshe Sholom (especially Rabbi Cohen, the office and maintenance staff, and the Deborah Sisterhood), Wendy Schneider, and the Canada Council through the Writers Union of Canada and the League of Canadian Poets. We are also grateful for generous donations from local businesses and the many participants who added a donation to their registration. Every contribution is appreciated. Writers, performers, and "audience" -- who also became participants -- all found a home at Hamilton's Jewish Literary Festival.

## Cantorial Concert a Crowd Pleaser

Beth Jacob's Cantor Sharpe and colleagues perform a wide repertoire of songs

MARTIN WINER

It may seem at first counter-intuitive, but being a member of the Jewish clergy can be a most diverse and exciting career. The star of a Jewish clergy member can chart many courses, only some of which land him or her on the bima. Jackie Mason interspersed so many jokes in his sermons that he eventually went on to charge "a cover and a minimum". Then there is the story of the "Jazz Singer" starring Al Jolson in 1928 and Neil Diamond in 1980 remake which tells the mildly fictionalized story of a young boy Jolson, then Asa Yoelson, who must defy his father's cantorial dreams for his son to achieve stardom.

The May 21st 2009: "Cantors Do Broadway" concert hosted by Cantor Ben Sharpe skillfully mixed together all the aforementioned components into a well received, beautifully performed production. The concert featured Cantors Ben Sharpe, Eric Moses, Ben Silverberg, Marshall Loomer, and Laura Wolfson. Many of the cantors were given to bouts of stand up comedy in their introductions. There was a jocular banter between the cantors reminiscent of the "Three Tenors" Concerts. Comedy again showed up in a parody of Irving Berlin's "Anything I can do" which Judaically morphed lyrics like: "I can get a sparrow with a bow and arrow" into "I can bake a challah, while singing the havdallah".

The concert featured pieces showcasing pure chazzanut as well as more modern Hebrew songs such as "Hamilchamah Hachrona" (The Last War) – touchingly delivered by Cantor Ben Sharpe – which is a soldier's promise to his little girl that there would be no more war. The staple of the concert were the songs of Broadway which were all sung



PICTURED ABOVE: from left to right, Cantors Marshall Loomer, Ben Silverberg, Ben Sharpe, Eric Moses and Cantorial soloist, Laura Wolfson, who performed at Beth Jacob Synagogue's Cantors Do Broadway on May 21.

with great talent and occasional peppering of cantorial coloratura. The cantorial peppering was not out of place in the Broadway tunes as many of the composers were themselves Jewish. In fact, when gentile Cole Porter set out to write show tunes in a field dominated by Jewish composers, Richards Rogers, of composing fame, asked Porter how he planned to achieve success. Porter replied simply, "I'll write Jewish tunes".

The concert was hosted by the Beth Jacob in Hamilton and had a warm hometown feeling. Hamilton, it turns out, is not only famous for steel but has also forged many a fine Chazzan. Most of the cantors had ties to and origins in Hamilton and extended heartfelt appreciation to the city which had given so many of them their start. Notably, Cantor Ben Silverberg, now of the Shaar Shalom Synagogue in Toronto, had his first tenure at the Beth Jacob. The cantors recalled audience members who had given them a home on a Shabbat night, offered them a delicious meat loaf meal, or who had a friendly Werther's candy on hand whenever needed. Love for Hamilton

poured out from the cantors who had come to love the city that had come to love them.

The love was reciprocated by congregants who had taken these cantors into their hearts. Entre-act there was a 'Secondary Audio Program' provided by the audience members behind me discussing how cute and adorable the given cantors were. They provided running biographical commentary: This one was married, that one was single, one just had twins, but I never found out which one because, just then, the cantors burst back into song.

This love of cantors comes from their greatest charm: Despite some notable exceptions, most cantors are not national celebrities, but instead local heroes. The can have an almost celebrity status yet they remain accessible. As such, they are not judged merely on their musical talent but also upon their 'menschlachkeit'. The standing ovation at the end of the concert was an expression of both these sentiments for the assembled cantors with emphasis directed at host Cantor Ben Sharpe who concludes his tenure at Beth Jacob this summer.

# The Jewish Community Centre

## ▷ "IT'S ALL HAPPENING AT THE JCC"

### Introducing Camp Kadimah's head staff



The JCC is excited to announce that its beloved program director Laura Laengerer will be taking on the role of Camp Kadimah director this summer. She will head up a fabulous leadership team that includes Nomi Cuneo and Steven Gwartz.

Nomi has been a camper, an LIT, a CIT, a Junior Counsellor and the Computers and Photography Specialist for two consecutive years. It is no surprise that the time has come for her to be an Assistant Director. As you can see Nomi is passionate about camp and she can not get enough. Her positive attitude and creative ideas will certainly be an asset

to Camp Kadimah this summer. Nomi has just completed her first year at McMaster University and will be continuing this coming fall in pursuit of a social science degree and hopes to continue to work with youth.

Steven has been attending McMaster University for the past four years and is enrolled in Biochemical Engineering. Since 2006 Steven has been a member of the Jewish Students Association at McMaster and has been involved with coordinating special events. Steven enjoys swimming, science and nature, canoeing, cooking and playing the alto sax. Steven's sense of humour will add character to camp this summer.

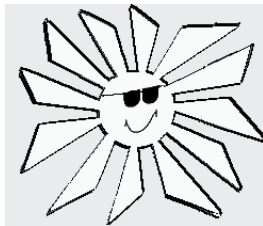
### Can you help?

Camp Kadimah is looking for the following: dress up clothes for drama, used cameras for computers and photography, a gazebo for K'tanim, children's picnic tables, coolers for our overnights and day trips and any other donations are welcomed. Your contribution to this summer will help make it the best summer ever!

### Help us fundraise!

Children lose their belongings on a daily basis, but this year you can be proactive by purchasing Mabel's Labels at [www.hamiltonjcc.mabel.ca](http://www.hamiltonjcc.mabel.ca). If you need Tupperware for your children please contact Dora-Ann Cohen or pick up an order form and brochure at the JCC. Proceeds from all sales will go towards Camp Kadimah camperships. At camp we will be running weekly penny drives and we will be happy to accept Canadian Tire Dollars. Every little bit counts. Help us send children to Camp Kadimah this summer.

### Sponsor some Sunshine!



by helping to send a child to Camp Kadimah this summer.

Every summer the JCC provides camperships to many children whose families are unable to manage the cost of day camp. For many of these children, attending day camp provides them with their only contact with the Jewish community.

Your contribution of \$200 will provide a child with a week of camp and allow us to continue an important tradition of helping children in our community. Please contact Laura Laengerer at the JCC at 905-648-0605 ext 310 if you would like to help or send a cheque directly to 1030 Lower Lions Club Road, Ancaster Ontario L9G 3N6.

On behalf of our campers, we thank you!



Joel Feldman

### President's Message

I recently attended an event at the Adas Israel to honor the Legacy of The Founding Fathers of the Adas Israel and the Hamilton Hebrew Academy. When I read the names of those being honored and listened to their story, I was inspired by their insight and hard work that helped them achieve their vision.

I am equally inspired when I think of all those that have worked so hard to build and strengthen all the Jewish Institutions in our community. I certainly understand the challenges of raising money for Capital Projects. However, I also understand that the Jewish community in Hamilton has been built by those that have overcome challenges and have achieved great things.

My term as President of the JCC has strengthened my conviction that the need and desire to have a new, modern and exciting JCC is there and it would help to build and strengthen our community. Although the JCC Capital Redevelopment Project will not be achieved during my term, I will continue to work with the Board of the JCC and community leaders that have the insight and dedication needed to achieve this goal.

I congratulate Dr. Larry Levin on becoming the new Federation president. I respect his dedication and hard work and I know he will be a partner in the building of a stronger JCC and a stronger Jewish community in Hamilton.

### Max Rotman Awards



PICTURED ABOVE: Daniel Hosiassohn, Tamara Sehayek, Ellie-Sheva Selevan, Devorah Leah Lavin, Samara Strub and Jessie Schoenberg missing: Tova Lavin

55 exceptional teens were honoured for their outstanding contributions and "dedication to serve the needs of their fellow man" at this year's Max Rotman Humanitarian Youth Awards. The keynote address was delivered by Mark chamberlain, president and one of the founding members of Trivaris Ltd. Additionally, he was recognized with the Hamilton distinguished citizen of the year for 2007 for his work on reducing poverty in Hamilton. Sylvia Katz was presented with the Honourary Max Rotman Humanitarian Youth Award for her constant dedication to her community. Thank you to Howard Katz, and Larry Szpirglas for their ongoing commitment to this event and ensuring that our youth are recognized for their endeavours.

## ▷ WERE YOU THERE?

### Yom HaShoah



Over 350 people congregated at Beth Jacob Synagogue to commemorate the Holocaust on April 21, 2009. Special performances made by Sara and Ruthie Pytko-Jones, Hamilton Hebrew Academy's Quartet, an accompaniment from Compass Rose Winds including Fran Cohen and Rabbi Dan Selsberg's moving keynote address all added to the already emotional program. Spencer Johnson, a grade 3 student from the Hamilton Hebrew Academy spoke beautifully about his grandfather's struggle and courage. The committee, Gilda Ennis, Benson Honig, Archie Lieberman, Nadia Rosa, Doris Shulman and Abe Szpirglas put forth all their efforts to make this Yom Hashoah Memorial Service special for the whole community.

### Yom Ha'atzmaut



Israel's birthday was celebrated with wonderful youth performances from the Hamilton Hebrew Academy and Kehila Jewish Community Day School. To set the mood, the tables were set up in the shape of a Magen David. The DJ did a great job getting all in attendance up on the dance floor to dance some horahs. New this year was the "After Hours Party" where Moriel Mesterman led our community in a sing song. Thank you to Racheli Chaimavitz and Ronit Mesterman who worked tirelessly to make this program the wonderful success it was.

### Comedy Night

On March 28, 2009 the lounge was full of laughter while Larry Smith kibbutzed and made us all smile. Shortly after, The Dunn Brothers band brightened the room with their amazing music, they even dedicated a song to Mr. and Mrs. H. Mueller for their many years of marriage. They led the dance floor and we all joined in. It was a great evening and we can't wait to do it again next year.

### Lag BaOmer

With over 120 people in attendance Lag Ba Omer was celebrated with a great BBQ led by our chef Charles Kravetsky. The youth activities were sponsored by B'nei Akiva which included archery, balloon shaving and more. Rabbi Shmuel Bloom and the shlichim led everyone in a sing song at the bon fire. Thank you to Eli Chaimovitz and Ollie Laengerer for putting on the beautiful firework display.

## JEWISH NATIONAL FUND



PICTURED ABOVE: Top row, l to r, outgoing JNF national president, Sharon Hart, Shirley Silberg, Hilton Silberg and JNF Hamilton president, Lorraine Cohen.

On Sunday, May 24th close to 500 people came to the Hamilton Convention Centre to pay tribute to Shirley and Hilton Silberg at the 57th annual Negev Dinner.

The dinner featured the Hamilton Hebrew Academy Choir singing Hatikvah and O Canada as well as a lovely Hebrew song to get everyone in the mood.

Israeli wine was flowing and the meal featured a nice variety of vegetables and chicken with a decidedly Israeli flavour much to the delight of the patrons.

We were entertained by Voices of the Savannah, a group of young South African singers and musicians who added a wonderfully new dimension to the evening.

The tribute to Shirley and Hilton featured a very cute game show theme in which friends and family explained why the two of them were so worthy of recognition by the Jewish National Fund. Their sons Brad and Mark spoke beautifully about their parents and Emcee Jamie West added his own words as a personal friend of the

Silbergs.

One of the highlights of the evening was a presentation by Keynote speaker, Dr. Charles Krauthammer. The audience sat mesmerized as Dr. Krauthammer give his assessment of the new Obama administration and how it relates to Israel's new coalition government led by Binyamin Netanyahu and the issue of the threat of Iran to, not only Israel but many Arab countries in the Middle East. His insightful comments as well as his dry sense of humour kept everyone captivated throughout his 45 minute talk.

Comments from those who attended the Dinner included adjectives like 'warm', 'amazing', 'one-of-the-best' and other superlatives.

The Jewish National Fund is committed to providing the community with high quality, memorable Negev Dinners as they provide a perfect opportunity to reveal some of the organization's environmental initiatives and how JNF-KKL is helping other countries around the world.

## HAMILTON HEBREW ACADEMY



Students in the roles of David Ben Gurion and his colleagues address students at the HHA on the Declaration of Independence of the State of Israel.

The Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration at the HHA was a day of excitement filled activity in all grades. The program was launched with a series of activities in grades 1 through 6 led by the students in grades 7 and 8. These interactive experiences included packing suitcases for making Aliyah; a Snakes and Ladders trivia game about Israel; making a giant puzzle of the map of Israel; learning about the wars; and a focus on Anne Frank and the Holocaust in the years prior to the declaration of the State of Israel in 1948 for grade 6.

Suddenly, the activities were interrupted by the dramatic announcement over the P.A. system that the U.N vote regarding Resolution 188, whether Israel would become a country, would be taking place in 5 minutes! Each student received a tally sheet to track the vote of each country and anxiously awaited the vote. The students kept track of the yes, no, and abstention votes, and they cheered and booed accordingly. With the wonderful news of Yes, We Have a State, the students embarked on the adventure of making Aliyah!

Carrying the flags of the major countries

from which people immigrated to Israel, the students traveled to a re-creation of the library in Tel Aviv where the Declaration of Independence was read. David Ben Gurion and his colleagues greeted the students and presented speeches on the defense of the land, the hard work ahead, education, and the Hebrew language. Then the student in the role of David Ben Gurion delivered an abbreviated version of the Declaration of Independence. A wonderful celebration then commenced with Hebrew songs and Israeli folk dancing.

The final segment of the program was a journey from Tel Aviv to the Kotel through a series of tunnels that the students had created. The Kotel was experienced via a huge screen and projection show. The choir sang and everyone joined in a prayer for the land of Israel. The students wrote notes on little slips of paper just as we do at the Kotel. These notes were put into blue and white helium balloons and released into the heavens. Delicious cake and ice cream capped off this very special Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration.

MIDRASHA - HAMILTON HEBREW HIGH



HHH Midrasha students with their teachers Shlomo Buzaglo, Yaakov Morel, and Shmuel and Taly Bloom

Midrasha Hamilton Hebrew High is an after school program which provides teens the opportunity to receive high school credits through a variety of Jewish educational classes. This after school program is for students from grade 8 to 12 and offers a variety of classes such as, Philosophy, Leadership, Media, Ethics and Hebrew. A large component of Midrasha is the social activities done outside of class time. These activities provide the students with an informal education that reflects Judaism. Some of these activities include movie nights, Shabbat dinners, trips and weekend getaways. Midrasha takes Jewish teens from Hamilton and inspires and engages them in exploring their rich Jewish heritage. And a king who took us to the mountain-top and pointed the way to the Promised Land.

Yes we can to opportunity and prosperity.....Yes we can to learning more about our Jewish culture, customs and beliefs.

Yes we can to heal this nation.....Yes we can to building a stronger more unified Jewish community in Hamilton.

Yes we can repair this world.....through our Jewish education at Midrasha, through

our friendly social gatherings we are able to be strong and therefore we can repair this world.

In today's society young Canadian Jews will encounter challenges, but always remember that no matter what obstacles stand in our way, nothing can stand in the way of millions of voices calling for change. Midrasha provides opportunities for teens to come together and partake in social events, inspiring classes and community gatherings which in essence prepares the next generation of the Jewish people.

But in the unlikely story that is America Judaism, there has never been anything false about hope, we want change. Midrasha is a program that runs from September to June creating outings, events for young Jewish teens to get involved, creating a space to come together once a week, and creating opportunities for their students to get involved in the community. That we are one people; we are one nation; and together, we will begin the next great chapter in our nations story with three words that will ring from coast to coast; from sea to shining sea- Yes. We. Can. To sign up email [midrashahigh@yahoo.ca](mailto:midrashahigh@yahoo.ca).

KEHILA JEWISH COMMUNITY DAY SCHOOL

JEFF TESSIER

Kehila Jewish Community Day School has developed a tradition of tracking our students' academic performance yearly for the past 3 years. These results give us a sense of how our students rank next to other participating private schools across Canada. As a small school it is vital to get a bigger perspective on how we "measure up". With this information, we improve our curriculum and adjust our expectations for each learning skill; we ensure that our students are ready to move to the next level with confidence, either within our school or at their next educational institution.

This year we added Kindergarten to our test structure, and the results were outstanding. Looking at each of the essential learning skills for success at school – which includes Reading and Mathematics skills for Kindergarten, and Reading, Mathematics, and Language for all other grades – Kehila JCDS came in at the 84th percentile nationally. This means that compared to all other participating schools across Canada (78 elementary private schools participated

this year) Kehila students' academic excellence was better than 84 percent of schools. Our students are above average in their skill development and 94 % of our students are one or more grade levels ahead of their currently enrolled grade.

This is Kehila's way of showing our parents, with credibility, that we are doing what we say we will do—providing quality education in an environment that fosters a love of learning. Parents have a peace of mind that their child will be ready and enriched when they leave our school – ready to face the academic challenges ahead with confidence and ability.

We balance our academic program with a strong integrated arts and global education program. Through the arts we teach our students how to develop visual and verbal compositions. All of this hard work has paid off with our students winning 4 top awards at the Morris Black Public Speaking Contest, and first prize for in a city wide poster competition to 'Stop Racism'. That is how we nurture our future community leaders!

CANADIAN MAGEN DAVID ADOM



PICTURED ABOVE: A motorbike purchased by the Hamilton Jewish community for Magen David Adom.

Canadian Magen David Adom is delighted to announce that a motorbike generously donated by the Hamilton Jewish community is now part of its fleet. The life-saving vehicle is stationed in the Carmel region. Magen David Adom provides emergency medical services to the population of Israel with mobile intensive care units, motorbikes and bloodmobiles that are all acquired thanks to generous contributors. With your generosity you assist MDA in

saving lives and thus perpetuate the saying, "Whosoever saves a single soul...its as if s/he had saved a whole world." We are most grateful to the Hamilton community for your support and interest in the humanitarian and life-saving work of Magen David Adom in Israel. Please accept our most sincere thanks for this substantial gift.

Yonatan Yagodovsky, Director, International Department, Magen David Adom.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS: KEHILA AT THE JCC

RINA RODAK

Two years into my eldest son's Jewish education, I remain content and proud of our decision to send him to Kehila Jewish Community Day School. There is a list of reasons why, only one of which is that he spends a complete day each and every week learning and playing at the JCC. I feel strongly that the students' level of comfort at the JCC and with our community leaders is but one necessary component of their education at a community school. In and of itself, it is a beautiful thing to see and hear the students learn how to bring in Shabbat weekly but it is even more beautiful and satisfying to see the smiles on the faces of JCC patrons who pass the scene on their way to the bubble, the tennis courts, or the gym. Those who have supported the JCC for years share a sense of pride when they see this generation at the facility. Moreover, it is a beautiful thing to expose these kids to the men and women who have been responsible for the care – and existence – of the JCC and Hamilton's Jewish community since its inception. A week does not pass when one of the kids does not ask me about the plaques on the walls – who is Max Rotman? Who is Barry Foster? Who is Morris Black?

While they are at the JCC the students use the meeting rooms for class work or choir practice, the computer lab with Morah Paula, the arts and crafts room with Morah Tzvia, the bubble with Morah Barb, and the tennis courts for after-school lessons with Frances. The cross country running club meets before classes every Friday morning. Community leaders, members, and visitors were invited throughout the school year to share a special experience or talent with the students who gather together on the



Kehila student Zane Ogus enjoying his time at the JCC.

floor in the main room in front of the fire place. The school day at the JCC is a full one and by the day's end, the students enjoy some well earned play on the play structure outside.

Zane and his brothers have celebrated their birthdays and attended a brit milah or two at the JCC, and they know that their dad and I both attend meetings there. By also allowing them to learn at the JCC as part of their formal Jewish education we further enforce an innate sense of community so that, hopefully one day, a long long time from now some other Kehila student will walk through the JCC, look at the wall plaques, and ask who is Zane Ogus and how do I earn a spot on his plaque?

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION WEEK

UJA Federation of Hamilton Holocaust Education Week will take place on

Sunday, November 1st  
Thursday, November 5th  
Monday, November 9th

Details in the next edition of the HJN

So, you think you're an artist?

We want to hear from you!

The Rosh Hashana issue of the Hamilton Jewish News will run a feature on the artists of our community. If you would like to be included please send a digital photograph of your work and a paragraph or two describing your art and your vision to [wschneider@jewishhamilton.org](mailto:wschneider@jewishhamilton.org). Deadline is July 31, 2009.



# Jewish Hamilton Project launched

Long-awaited oral history of Jewish Hamilton comes to Shalom Village

**B**illy Shaffir and Wendy Schneider are delighted to announce the launch of the Jewish Hamilton Project on Sunday, September 13 in the synagogue (formerly the Hess Street Shul) at Shalom Village.

Shaffir, a professor of sociology at McMaster University and Schneider, the editor of the Hamilton Jewish News, have dedicated hundreds of hours over the last five years towards putting together a fascinating oral history of Jewish Hamilton that covers a time period extending from the early years of the 20th century to the 1960s.

The Jewish Hamilton Project features interviews with Morley Balinson, Rabbi Bernard Baskin, Norman Bennett, Molly Beube, Sam Brownstone, Sonny Caplan, the late Albert Cohen, Saul Cohen, Bill Goldberg, the late Dave Goldberg, Gerri Goldberg, Ruth Goldberg, the late Abe

Lebow, Wilf Gerofsky, Marvin Goldblatt, Rabbi Morton Green, Paul Hanover, Sam Hebscher, Dave Hoffman, Harry Hotz, Cuppy Katz, Jack Katz, Harold Kudlats, Barbara Laskin, Ethel Levy, Minna Loewith, the late Chuck Matchen, Max Mintz, Bill Morris, Jerry Pollock, Edie Rochkin, Ben Sauder, Frank Shapiro, Shannon Shapiro, Esther Shecter, Aaron Shiffman, the late Harriette Smurlick, Molly Ann Schwarcz, the late Bill Stern, Stan Tick and Morris Waxman.

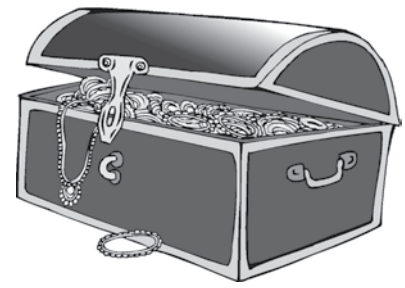
Shaffir and Schneider acknowledge the invaluable assistance of their colleague, Dennis Haradyn for his technological expertise and art direction in creating a beautifully crafted DVD that has succeeded in capturing the precious memories of so many long time Jewish Hamiltonians. They would also like to thank the many community members whose generous donations

made it possible for the dream of making a permanent record of cherished memories of the past a reality.

Schneider and Shaffir are grateful to Shalom Village for agreeing to host the launch. "The fact that the documentary will be screened in the former Hess Street Shul is absolutely perfect," said Schneider, "as it brings that historical period back full circle into the same setting that so many of our interviewees spoke about."

There will be two screenings of the Jewish Hamilton Project on September 13, one at 2:00 pm and the second at 7:00 pm. Tickets are free but community members are asked to register online at [www.shalomvillage.on.ca](http://www.shalomvillage.on.ca). The DVDs will be available for purchase beginning on September 13 for \$25. For more information call Wendy Schneider at 905-628-0058.

## "Going for the Gold" for UJA



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**Sunday, October 18th, 2009**

## The Jewish Hamilton Project

Remembering Jewish Hamilton, an oral history project created by Wendy Schneider and Billy Shaffir



**Sunday, September 13, 2009 at Shalom Village at 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm.**

Come for an evening of reminiscences about "the way we were". The evening will begin with the screening of portions of a documentary featuring interviews with long time Hamilton Jewish residents on their memories of Jewish Hamilton in the early years of the 20th century, followed by an opportunities for others to share their memories. Tickets are free, but please register online at [www.shalomvillage.on.ca](http://www.shalomvillage.on.ca). The event will take place at Shalom Village at 70 Macklin Street N. in the shul. For more information call Wendy Schneider at 905.628.0058.

Aaron Shiffman • Helen Yellin • Marvin Goldblatt • Edie Rodkin • Frank Shapiro • Shannon Shapiro • Norman Bennett • Molly Ann Schwarz • Rabbi Bernard Baskin • Rabbi Morton Green • Paul Hanover • Abe Lebow • Cuppy Katz • Max Mintz • Chuck Matchen • Aaron Shiffman • Helen Yellin • Marvin Goldblatt • Edie Rodkin • Frank Shapiro • Shannon Shapiro • Norman Bennett • Molly Ann Schwarz • Rabbi Bernard Baskin • Rabbi Morton Green • Paul Hanover • Abe Lebow • Cuppy Katz • Max Mintz • Chuck Matchen • Aaron Shiffman • Helen Yellin • Marvin Goldblatt • Edie Rodkin • Frank Shapiro • Shannon Shapiro • Norman Bennett • Molly Ann Schwarz • Rabbi Bernard Baskin • Rabbi Morton Green • Paul Hanover • Abe Lebow • Cuppy Katz • Max Mintz • Chuck Matchen • Aaron

How many exceptional young Jewish professionals are living in the Hamilton area?

We'd love to find out!

The HJN is calling for nominationis for its "? under 40" list. If you know of an exceptional young professional younger than age 40 who has demonstrated professional excellence and a commitment to community (both within and outside the Jewish community) please contact the HJN at 905.628.0058 or email [w Schneider@jewishhamilton.org](mailto:w Schneider@jewishhamilton.org).



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### NOTICE OF ADDRESS CHANGE FOR THE JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE OF HAMILTON AND UJA FEDERATION OF HAMILTON

As a result of the Wilson Street post office being closed, the Jewish Community Centre and UJA Federation now have a different address. The new address is.

1030 Lower Lions Club Road  
P.O. Box 81203  
Ancaster ON L9G 4X1

This change is effectively immediately. Thank you