

Hamilton Jewish News

SERVING HAMILTON WENTWORTH & AREA

JUNE 2000 VOL 14:5

SIVAN 5760

LET MY PEOPLE GO NEVER MEANT LET MY PEOPLE GO HUN-



In hundreds of towns and cities throughout the former Soviet Union, elderly Jews are hungry. Last year, the Hamilton Jewish community raised \$12,000 to provide 4075 meals to need elderly Jews in Kiev. This year the goal is \$15,000. Please help us make a world where no Jews ever knows hunger ... where no Jews are without food. Participate generously in this year's Walk or Bike To Kiev.

JOIN IN UJA FEDERATION'S

WALK OR BIKE TO KIEV

OUR COMMUNITY'S RESPONSE TO HUNGER

SUNDAY, JUNE 18

Register at the JCC 9:00 am

NEW! 6.3 km family-friendly route
through West Hamilton!

NEW! 30k rail trail BIKEATHON
Minimum Age 16. Register in advance

Lunch and Terrific Entertainment • New Play Structures
Prizes To Be Won (see page 2)

We'll fax you a sponsorship sheet or to donate the cost of
a Food Box - \$25 - call 648-0605 #306

All funds raised by this event will once again be delivered to needy
Jews in the FSU. Join our community Mission next Spring.
Call Paul and Susan Roth to sign up.

A program of UJA Federation, the JCC & Jewish Social Services

Lester Krames - Susan Roth chairs 2000

Spectator article angers commu-

Media articles on issues of Jewish concern have, over the years, elicited a range of responses, and a flurry of letters to the editor. However, no one newspaper article has elicited as many calls to the UJA Federation office as has a recent article by The Spectator community editorial board member Neville Newman. That piece, entitled, "We Need To Acknowledge Other Holocausts" which started from the premise that the Holocaust was not a unique historical experience, ventured into Israel's response to the Rwandan atrocities, and ended up portraying Jews as having hearts of stone.

The UJA Federation, as community spokesperson, in conjunction with its national affiliate organization, Canadian Jewish Congress, quickly coordinated responses on a number of different levels. These have included a UJA Federation lead delegation to the Spectator offices to emphasize the Hamilton Jewish community's displeasure with the Newman opinion piece. The community now awaits a response from

By PAUL LUNGEN

with permission from the Canadian

An article in the Hamilton Spectator that criticizes Jews and Israel for allegedly ignoring the suffering of genocide victims has angered the city's Jewish community and prompted demands for a meeting with the paper's editors.

The article is "factually wrong," "verges on a diatribe" and is "a slap in the face" to the Jews of Hamilton, said Patricia Tolkin Eppel, executive director of the Jewish Federation of Hamilton. "The whole thing was rife with inaccuracies, but it's the tone that worries me more."

Tolkin Eppel said the article "underplayed true Jewish emotions about the Holocaust and is dismissive."

Kirk LaPointe, editor in chief of the Spectator, said, "There's no question I feel no small piece of contrition over the way the article was phrased."

LaPointe acknowledged that "there are aspects of the article that didn't work," but he said the paper did not intend to offend the Jewish community.

"It's not in our demeanour or value system to offend either directly or through code language," cont'd p13

Allocation of UJA funds posing a chal- Relief Request Up

The 2000 UJA campaign winds down, although still with many active donors not yet heard from. In order that the UJA Federation Budget and Allocations committee may ensure that indeed No Single Gift Will Touch So Many Lives, please call the office (648-0605 #305) as soon as possible. The Budget and Allocations Committee (Louise Rotman, chair, Bill Halpren, Cele Steinberg, Harvey Waxman, Bonnie Loewith, Shirley Molot, Lowell Richter, Mark Gould, Howard Katz and Paul Roth) has heard applications from all beneficiary agencies and on June 12 allocated funds in accordance with the UJA Federation's priority setting mandate for care for the needy and vulnerable (a request for 20% increase in direct relief monies due to an influx of poor and sick Jews from larger communities), to educate children Jewishly (all education institutions are underfunded), to rescue those in danger (400,000 Jews remain in the Ukraine alone), and to strengthen Jewish identity in a wide range of community programmes.

The UJA Federation is the only community organization which provides so much value for a single \$1. Please make our task easier. As you read through the HJN (again funded and managed through the UJA

UJA Federation

Midrasha Program Offers High School

Hamilton Jewish News
POB 7258
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Ancaster, Ontario L9G 3N6

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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
THE NEXT
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THE HJN IS MON-UJA/FEDERATION
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The school year is coming to a close. In this stimulating year at the Midrasha High School, our fifty students have become enriched in many subjects of Jewish history and heritage while simultaneously earning high school credits. Students have increased their knowledge of Contemporary Jewish History- having learned topics which include medieval philosophers such as Rashi and R. Yehuda Halevi, the Spanish Inquisition, Hasidism, early Zionism and Holocaust. Students who participated in our course in Issues in Modern Jewish

Life have explored topics such as spirituality in Judaism, cult evading, and took part in a musical rhythm evening. Participants discussed issues such as body image and sport, interdating, substance abuse, women's role in traditional Judaism, and participated in an evening of testimony: a survivor's personal story of the Holocaust.

The students enrolled in the Hebrew Language Program have increased their fluency in spoken and written Hebrew and have become more knowledgeable of current issues in Israel and subjects of

Jewish/Israeli culture.

In appreciation of our students and in recognition of their hard work and academic achievements, the Midrasha will host an End-of-Year Ceremony on June 14, 2000 at the JCC at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend. Light refreshments will be served. Following the ceremony, the Midrasha is hosting an Open House with the opportunity to find out more information about the courses for school year 2000/1 and meet the staff.

The Midrasha is a joint program of the UJA Federation and Hamilton

Learning Centre and offers accredited high school courses in advanced Jewish education. Students learn more about their heritage and culture. As the teens from our community continue through public school furthering their secular education, the Midrasha provides an opportunity for these high school students to further their Jewish education in a parallel afterschool academic program.

The Midrasha provides courses at 2 credit levels in Judaic Studies: Ancient and Contemporary Jewish History, 3 credit levels of Hebrew Language, and

UJA/FEDERATION

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TO KIEV

Help Stamp Out Hunger and
Be Eligible to Win!

Thanks to our generous supporters
we have great prizes for you!
(You must be in attendance to win)

- 2 Tickets to The Lion King with limo to Toronto from Bay Limosine
- \$60 gift certificate from Bel Arte Camera
- 30 personal alarm systems from Canadian Tire, Dundas
- Stainless Steell Barbeque Utensil Set from Home Hardware,
University Plaza
- \$30 gift certificate from Litzens Sports
- Goldstar Microwave Oven from Peter Martin Appliances
- \$100 gift certificate and accessories from Scattalon Cycle & Sports
- Bike Gloves from Spin Cycle
- \$25 gift certificate from Hamilton Kosher
- Buffet Dinner for 2 at King Solomon's Table in Toronto
- Pickles from Strubs
- a gift for Dad from Westdale Florist
- \$18 gift certificate from Milk Street Clark Café in Toronto
- Water & Van support supplied by Day/Night Pharmacy

STOP PRESS

STATE OF ISRAEL BONDS HAMILTON PLEDGES \$1 FOR EACH REGISTERED PARTICIPANT! THANK YOU FOR PARTNERING ON OUR ASSAULT ON HUNGER IN THE FSU.

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648-0605 EXT. 306

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In Memory Of

JOE SPEHAR (memory of father): Corinne Travis. LUBA & AMNON SITCHIN (memory of sister Bernice): Gladys Dubo.

Special Occasions

MOLLY & SAUL EISENBERG (birth of granddaughter) Corinne Travis. DOLLY & RALPH COHEN (birth of granddaughter): Corinne Travis. ZVI & TOVA PINCUS (Happy Passover) Corinne Travis.

Speedy Recovery

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

In Memory Of

LEN VANEK, ARLENE LAX & FAMILY (memory of father): Jeff, Vicky, Jason & Trevor Sher

Special Occasions

JOE & CHERYL GREENBAUM (forthcoming marriage of your son, Dov to Sabrina Glick) Eppel Family.

KIEV HUNGER PROJECT

In Memory Of

DANNY STRUB: Frank Simkevitz

Special Occasions

SONDRA COHEN (Mazel Tov on your honour): Jack & Claire

MCMASTER JEWISH STUDENTS FUND

Special Occasion

FRANCES SIMMS (engagement of granddaughter Jennifer): Hilda & Moishe Gold.

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION PROJECTS

Speedy Recovery

NICK SCHWARTZ: Nadia & Alex Rosa

JEWISH SOCIAL SERVICES KOSHER FOOD BANK

In Memory Of

MORRIS GELBER: Leona Bergman, Robert & Marilyn Wasserman. Mother of SANDRA YANOVER: Sam & Odette Brownstone. PAUL YELLIN: Ida Shuman, David & Sheila Burman. Lieberman Family - memory of BENJAMIN: Shirley & Albert Yaffe. Laiman Family - memory of CHARLES: Shirley & Albert Yaffe. DAVID WALFISH: Judy & Daniel Berk. KEN LIVINGSTON: Bill & Gerri Goldberg. EDITH KAUFMAN: Sam & Odette Brownstone. Mother of David Papernick & family: Michele Yellin & Barry Yellin. MARTIN SILVAN: Carol & Lester Krames, Gail & Les Wolfe, Marilyn & Robert Wasserman. DOREEN LEES: Sam & Odette Brownstone. Jack Leon - on your recent loss: Carol & Lester Krames. EDNA SHAPIRO: Sam & Anna Taylor

Special Occasions

BARBARA BALONJAN (Mazel Tov on your retirement): Sylvia Katz, Howard & Nancy Katz, Beverly & Leslie. DORIS POPPER (Special Birthday): Minna Loewith. DOLLY & RALPH COHEN (birth of granddaughter): Albert & Shirley Yaffe. MAY MUNN (Special Birthday): Minna Loewith. CHUCK & BEA MATCHEN (birth of twin grandchildren): David & Sheila Burman, Sam Odette Brownstone. ANNA EKSTEIN (95th birthday): Minna Loewith. BRIAN & NANCY SOMER (marriage of Adam to Heather): Sam & Odette Brownstone. ROSE SWAYE (90th birthday): Minna Loewith. SAM & ANNA TAYLOR (50th Wedding Anniversary): Dolly & Ralph Cohen. MR. & MRS. STEVEN POSEN - David's Bar Mitzvah: Dolly & Ralph Cohen. Yael HART (Bat Mitzvah): Shirley Yaffe. NANCY SOMER

UJA Federation

JEWISH SOCIAL SERVICES

Emigrés from the FSU remember World



On May 10 the JSS sponsored a party for Veterans Day for senior members of the Former Soviet Union. The end of WWII is commemorated by veterans by a display of all the medals that were won for bravery and outstanding accomplishments. Members spoke that day about their friends that had passed away and wore their medals with pride and dignity. Although all are thrilled to be Canadian citizens they do not forget their past and memories of their years of serving the F.S.U.

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

BY CAROL KRAMES

Does it cost us more money to be Jewish? The answer is yes. We have to pay for kosher food, we have to pay for our children's Jewish education; we have to pay synagogue dues; we have to give to Jewish charities. This commitment, while hard on our finances, keeps us connected and keeps our Jewish community alive. One very important responsibility we have is to make sure our children go to as many activities as they can at our Jewish Community Centre. From the time our children are toddlers we have to teach them that being Jewish involves Jewish commitment to being a part

The JSS Chai Choir is expanding its membership. Join this popular and growing choir, which meets every Tuesday morning at 9:30 am at the JCC. Our repertoire is varied and a fun time is had by all under the instruction of choir master Leon Karan. For details contact JSS at 648-

Jewish Social Services Theatre Club

The JSS Theatre Club has made a second date to see Lion King on Wednesday, Sept 6 at the Royal Alex. If you are interested in joining us call 648-0605 to reserve and mail you cheque to Jewish Social Services, P.O. Box 7258, Ancaster, L9G 3N6 for \$85.

Theatre Club Schedule

June 22	Maggie's Getting Married	Elora	\$40
July 12	She Loves Me	Niagara on the Lake	\$54
July 19	In the Country of the Blue	Port Dover	\$32
July 23	Diary of Anne Frank	Stratford	\$70
Aug 16	Mamma Mia	Royal Alex	\$75
Sept 6	Lion King	Royal Alex	\$85
Sept 19	I Do I Do	Art Park	
Sept 10	Fiddler on the Roof	Stratford	\$70
Oct 24	Matchmaker	Niagara on the Lake	\$40

All trips leave at 10:30 from the Adas Israel Parking Lot. Everyone is welcome to join - space permitting. For further information call Carol Krames, 648-0605 #325 or Bea Matchen at 648-0605 #326.



Shalom Village
JULY
SUMMER

OUR THANKS TO ALL

We would like to thank all our friends who expressed concern and care during our daughter Celia's (Margalit Shulamit) stay at McMaster's Children's Hospital. The support strengthened us during a difficult time and proved to us that truly "Kol Yisrael Areyvim

Community Events

**NOT TO BE MISSED!
ZICHRON YA'ACOV YOUTH
BAND BRINGS MUSIC
TO HAMILTON AREA**

The 37 member Zichron Ya'acov Youth Band will be in the Hamilton area from August 2 to August 5, and will perform at the Burlington Park Centre at 7:30 pm on Wednesday, August 2. Please mark this in your calendars now. Included in their repertoire are Israeli, Jewish and classical works. The band members, aged 11 to 17, in addition to adult chaperones, will need home hospitality for three nights, and shabbat dinner. Bring some music into your home, by welcoming these wonderful Israeli student(s). Please call the UJA Federation office at

The 9th annual Canadian-American Regional Shabbaton will be taking place on the weekend of June 16-18, 2000 at Canterbury Hills Retreat Centre in Ancaster. Workshop offerings include: Traditional Jewish Healing, Israel Today, The Issue of Water in the Middle East, Crafting Visual Art from Family History, and Encountering the Other Other work-

shops on prayer, Torah study, storytelling and Jewish music and mysticism will also be offered. The plenary community workshop will be led by Elyse Goldstein. Havurah-style services and communal meals all enhance the special atmosphere created at this wonderful event. For more information contact Yael Greenberg at (905) 524-2687 or Barry Walfish at

The Community Calendar is provided as a service to the community by the UJA/Federation. Call Chris Nusca at 648-0605 ext 306 to inform the community of your

We Promised To Get You To Israel This Year!

The UJA Federation is pleased to introduce recipients of 2000 Israel Experience Scholarships through the



Noah Caplan Joda Eisenberg Rachel Itkin Rina Goldberg Carl Creatchman Dana Epstein

The UJA Federation thanks Corinne Travis for providing partnership monies through the RALPH TRAVIS ENDOWMENT FUND. We thank her for making a distinctive difference

in enhancing the Jewish education of these children.

To learn more about making a difference through the UJA Federation's Legacy Endowment Fund, please call in confidence to Patricia Eppel at 648-0605 #305.



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"People passed by me and all I could see was their

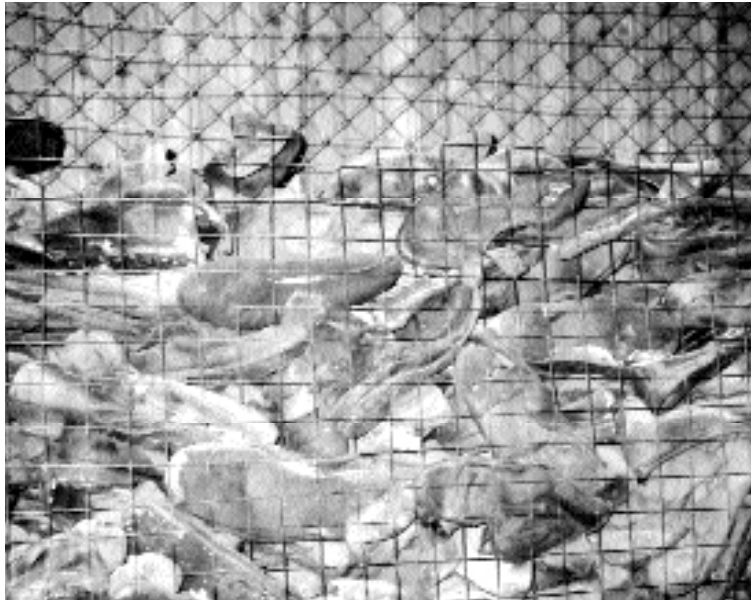
THE

**FORGOTTEN
DEATH**

BY
CATHERINE KATES

It was the best and worst experience of my life! From April 30 through May 14, I participated in The March of the Living. I travelled with a delegation called P2K- Partnership 2000, made up of teenagers from small communities in Ontario, delegates from Toronto and Montreal, as well as Israeli students from Eilat. I was blessed to meet one of the most inspirational and strongest people I've ever met, Judy Cohen, a Holocaust survivor who travelled with us.

Below is a journal entry I wrote in Majdanek, the camp I found most difficult emotionally.



There are 800,000 pairs of shoes at Majdanek

Photo by Ross Finkelstein

Rows and rows of barracks stretched out before my eyes. Behind me lay a main street, an apartment

building. People actually woke up every morning and opened their curtains to Majdanek. People were walking their dogs and pushing their babies beside these graves. I started weakly down the gravel path, my sight clouded by tears, my stomach churning.

...Soldiers' uniforms, prisoners' uniforms, dolls' heads smashed and broken. My eyes stop at the

display - one of the necklaces was almost identical to the one that hung round my own neck.

... I saw the cages but their contents were blurred. As I move closer I realized that the huge caged walls contained thousands and thousands of shoes. As I walk around the room I cannot comprehend the numbers of shoes I see before me. Women's shoes, men's shoes, big shoes, smaller shoes. I reached down and touched a large, high-heeled shoe. A woman who had put on her best shoes, dressed up to march to her death... A red shoe no bigger than my palm. I left and sat down on the steps in front of the barracks, my head in my hands. People passed by me and all I could see was their shoes.

I entered the building in front of me that read, "Baths and Disinfection". In the darkness I found myself staring into a gas chamber. I stood silent in a place where hundreds of

BY
JEFF ROCHWERG

One month ago, I embarked on a two week journey that will change the way I view the Holocaust forever. I had the privilege of travelling with four-hundred Canadians and seven-thousand Jews worldwide on the March of the Living. My trip lasted for two weeks, one in Poland where we toured numerous concentration camps, death camps, cities, cemeteries, and synagogues. The second week of the trip was in the Promised Land, Israel. We visited Jerusalem, the Golan, and had an opportunity to spend Shabbat with family or friends.

There is so much to say about March of the Living, my personal feelings, the sites, the people, but I will comment on one place we

cont'd p7

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The Forgotten Death Camp

cont'd from p6

visited during our stay in Poland; Belzec, the third most efficient death camp. Between 1942 and 1943, six-hundred thousand prisoners were murdered in the gas chambers. Our group was the only one in the entire Canadian contingent to visit Belzec, and there are many reasons why this camp is often forgotten. The first is the remoteness of Belzec, located in southeast Poland, literally in the middle of nowhere. There are no major cities nearby, unlike other camps where the towns can be seen from their boundaries. The second reason is the lack of survivors; only five lived. Belzec was a death camp where prisoners got off trains and walked straight into the gas chambers. The average prisoner spent forty-five minutes at Belzec, a shorter time period than our tour there.

The final reason is the condition of the camp. There is nothing left in Belzec; the Nazis destroyed absolutely everything. Today only memorials and rubble can be seen.

If there is so little to say about Belzec, so few survivors, so little evidence, such a remote location, why would I write about this place over all the others I visited while on March of the Living? By repeating the questions to myself I can develop an answer. If we don't talk about Belzec, who will? There is one thing that I have not said about this horrible place. The present day condition of Belzec is terrible. Garbage was strewn everywhere, it is a home to millions of mosquitoes and no one ensures that this site is maintained. Before we left Belzec, everyone helped to clean up the camp, picked up all

"I feel now that I have a stronger connection to

BY
ROSS FINKELSTEIN

Before I left for the March of the Living, a non-Jewish friend of mine asked what the trip is about. I began to explain how the first week of the trip was spent in Poland visiting the concentration and death camps, to learn more, and to come back and educate people about the Holocaust. She asked me, "Why would anyone want to remember something like that? I would just want to forget about it." I was sort of amused by her response, so I told her that what she just said is the reason I was going to go on the March. The point is to never forget what happened so that we can ensure this never happens again.

This trip was an emotionally overwhelming experience that I shall

never forget. Though there are so many instances which stand out in my mind, there are a few specific ones that I wish to discuss. One was at Auschwitz, where we walked into a room where mountains of shoes were displayed behind glass on both sides. We were told before we went into the room to try to put a person and a story to everything we saw that belonged to someone. This is much easier said than done. When I walked into rooms of luggage and cosmetics that were taken, I felt it hard to put a life to every single one. They all seemed to look the same. The shoes however, were easier to put a person to, because amongst all the faded coloured shoes, there was occasionally one that had its original colour still

remaining. To me, this really put in perspective the numbers of shoes that were actually there, and how many people they belonged to.

Another instance I wish to share was standing in Majdanek at the infamous dome of ashes. This enormous monument stands out in all March participants' minds. For me, however, it was not just the sight of hundreds of thousands of people's ashes that was so disturbing. What still haunts me are the little bones still intact on the bottom of the pile. I had never seen a real human bone before and it made me more ill than I've ever been in my life. At that point, after all the horrors I had seen, I could feel no more. I was too numb to be affected by the mass graves or the crematorium. I was too

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Dor L'Dor B'nai Mitzvah Family Project involves Grade six



Jeff and Naomi Levy and Joy Zians speak with a social service representative about volunteer opportunities

The JCC lounge was charged with palpable energy and enthusiasm on a Wednesday evening in May as 30 grade six students and their parents came out for the launching of an exciting pilot project undertaken by UJA/Federation's Dor L'Dor B'nai Mitzvah Committee.

The families had been invited to take part in a consciousness-raising program on how to make this very special year for their child more meaningful by participating in a family mitzvah project.

Laura Wolfson, principal of Temple Anshe Sholom's Religious School, helped families generate ideas for volunteering and representatives from a number of social service agencies, including Jewish Social Services, Beth Tikvah, Beth Jacob Synagogue, The Equestrian Association for the Disabled, UNICEF and Extend-A-Family were on hand to answer families' queries about volunteer opportunities.

In her introductory remarks, committee member Adele Wolpert Zur said that the impetus for the program arose "from a desire of a number of parents to put the mitzvah back into the Bar and Bat Mitzvah." Being Jewish and reaching the age of maturity, she said, "involves more than reading from the Torah, followed by a celebration. It implies a time of inner reflection as well as a time of looking outwards, of thinking of and giving to others." She said that it was the hope of the committee that the program would provide an opportunity for the b'nai mitzvah to involve themselves in the community and to commit to making a difference in someone's life.

At the evening's close Karen Saperson informed participants that a follow up session next spring will invite participants to celebrate the completion of their project.

Monica Bennett, from the Volunteer Centre of Hamilton and District was delighted with the opportunity to reach out to the community. Young people who volunteer, she wrote, are much more likely to make volunteering an integral part of their adult lives. This project, she added, "has created a new and unique opportunity for young people to become involved in their community at a crucial time in their lives."

If you were unable to attend that evening and would like to become involved in the project, please call Wendy Goldblatt Schneider at 628-0058.

"The rewards are unbelievable",

BY
WENDY GOLDBLATT SCHNEIDER

There wasn't one particular moment when Deanna Levy, 17, decided that she wanted to devote herself to helping people. There were, in fact, a series of moments that conspired to bring her to the place she now finds herself.

The first occurred when Deanna was in seventh grade when her father was critically injured in an industrial accident. Over the next several months she watched as he defied his doctors' predictions that he would never walk again. His ultimately full recovery was proof to her that, by sheer will and determination, one could overcome any obstacle.

Last spring brought with it another moment of consequence: As Deanna and her mother were reviewing brochures on summer student programs, one that advertised a month-long community service project at an Indian reservation in Montana caught her eye. As



Deanna Levy

soon as she saw it, she knew that it was exactly what she'd been looking for.

Apparently Deanna was exactly what the residents of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation were looking for. Deanna, her supervisor reported, was "an absolute dream" to have on the project. "She knew exactly what opportunities she had been given by being able to participate in the program and not a moment passed when she did not experience everything possible, helping the rest of us remember why we were there."

On her return Deanna

filled up her weekly calendar with volunteer commitments. Monday afternoons were spent at the communicative disorders department at St. Joseph's Hospital; Sunday mornings are spent at Temple Anshe Sholom Religious School where she donates her salary back to the school; Tuesday afternoons were spent interacting with developmentally disabled children at Charlton House. Recently she gave up her Tuesday commitment in order to work with Ennis, a four-year old Albanian boy from Kosovo. Ennis, whose family is being sponsored by the Temple Anshe Sholom, was a withdrawn child with academic and social difficulties. When Temple educator, Laura Wolfson, was informed about his situation, she immediately contacted Deanna and asked if she could find time to work with him. The turnaround has been dramatic, Wolfson reported. Under Deanna's tutelage, the child has blos-

Mission to Moscow reveals the

The Dor L'Dor Initiative is allied with UJA/Federations Canada's young leadership development program that seeks to nurture young Jewish leaders throughout the country. Among a number of national initiatives was a Fly-In to Moscow to introduce to participants the nature of the attempt to revive Jewish life in the Former Soviet Union. Vicky

BY
CAROLYN MOLOT
AND VICKY WYLSON SHER

Imagine 30 Jews walking through Red Square after an evening of merriment. Someone starts singing Adon Olam. Everyone stops, puts their arms around one another and joins in. Who could have predicted that in the year 2000, Jews would be dancing through the streets of Russia, celebrating and expressing their religious freedom?

From May 24 - 29, we had the honour of partic-



Vicky Wylson Sher & Carolyn Molot in Moscow's Red

ipating on a Canadian Young Leadership Fly-In to Moscow, that brought together 27 young Jewish leaders from across Canada and four representatives of the Young Israeli Forum. Over the five days we became a committed, close-knit group as we witnessed and participated in a new renaissance and celebration of Judaism in the Former Soviet Union. (FSU)

From the time of the

Russian Revolution in 1917 to the demolition of the Berlin Wall in 1990, religious freedom was banned in the FSU. During those 73 years, each citizen's nationality was identified as either Russian or Jewish. Those with one non-Jewish parent were allowed to choose between declaring themselves Russian or Jewish. Most chose to be Russian in order to avoid persecution. Over

cont'd on p9

UJA/Federation has been invited to register the Family B'nai Mitzvah Project with Our Millennium, a national program inviting Canadians to mark the millennium by coming together and doing something special for their communities. Thousands of people across Canada are coming together and choosing to mark the millennium with projects and activities that are benefiting the community and making a real and lasting difference. Hamilton-Wentworth currently leads the nation with more than double the number of registered projects than any other community in Canada.

UJA Federation



Moscow Fly-In

cont'd from p8

five generations of Communist rule, many people lost track of their religious heritage. As a result, it is almost impossible to estimate the exact number of Jews living in Russia today. Estimates range anywhere between 250,000 to one million still remaining.

Although many more will join the one million Jews who have already made aliyah to Israel, there remain a considerable number who remain in the FSU, the vast majority of them in Moscow.

Even considering the country's unstable economic environment and political agenda since Putin's election, and the very real threat that the door could once more be closed to Jewish emigration, Russian Jews want to

These buildings have nothing to offer but rooms. They do not have swimming pools, gyms or tennis courts. Yet they

reclaim and rebuild what is theirs. In fact, the Jewish community in Moscow is thriving. Meeting with people – young and old – from elderly welfare clients to Jewish day school kindergarten students, we were caught up in the enthusiasm and vibrancy of witnessing so many discovering and embracing their Judaism.

We visited two Jewish Community Centres in Moscow that were located in office buildings. The space was rented for the purpose of delivering programs, all of which attract large numbers of people from all age groups and backgrounds. These buildings have nothing to offer but rooms. They do not have swimming pools, gyms or tennis courts. Yet they are used by thousands of Jews. What they do offer

Congratulations to the following teens who canvassed their friends for UJA/Federation's Toonies For

- Lauren Adamo, Leon Apel, Talia Asa, Eva Bach, Brandon Banner, Harrison Banner, Adam Bender, Leah Bender, Adam Brown, Danna Brown, Eli Chaimovitz, Dora-Ann Cohen, Rochelle Colling, Avi constam, Carl Creatchman, Sara Cuneo, Adam Dembe, Joel Dembe, Brennan Drenfeld, Joda Eisenberg, Jesse Ennis, Yonah Eppel, Danna

People are talking

In the less than one year of its existence, the Dor L'Dor leadership project has generated an unprecedented level of excitement and involvement by a large and diverse cross-section of the community.

In response to this growth, the board of the UJA Federation has approved a further year's extension with funding through the United Jewish Appeal.

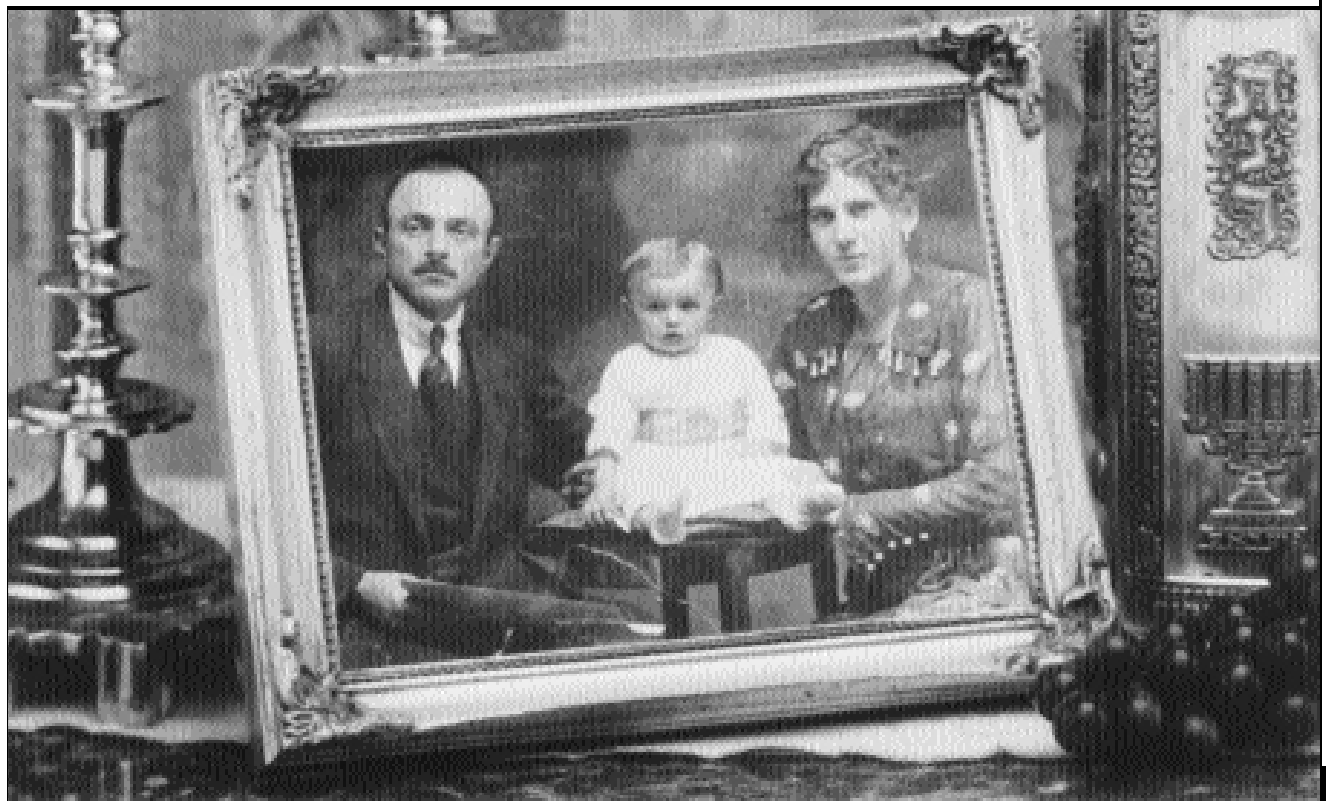
However, needs continue to outstrip the funds available. For this reason, we are interested to talk with community members who would like endow some part of the venture, and who would perhaps like to associate their family's name with it. There are many tax saving vehicles available to achieve this.

DOR L'DOR INITIATIVES

- B'nai Mitzvah Project
- Jewish Hamilton Website
- It Takes A Village Welcoming Committee
- Leadership Development Program
- Skills Bank
- Strategic Planning
- Moscow Fly-In
- Social Planning Committees
- UJA Federations National YAD (Young Adult Division) Initiative

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JCC Pages

The JCC... "It's Where You Belong!"

Attention students graduating
from Grades 6 & 7...
End the School Year by making
new friends at the JCC's
Night to Hang
Sunday, June 25
watch your mail for further details

CAMP KADIMAH

Junior Camp Ages 3-4 1/2 Senior Camp Entering Senior Kindergarten to Grade 2. Operating on a theme-week format from July 3- Aug 25, Kadimah offers a daily mix of physical and recreational activities, creative arts and crafts and specialises in Judaic and Israeli programming.

CAMP GADNA

For campers entering Grade 3- Grade 8
Two trips a week (sailing, fishing, waterparks and more)
Use of Laidlaw Transportation to out-of-camp activities.
July 3- August 25, 2000

FOR CITS

For those entering Grade 9 and 10

NEW PRICE: JCC members: \$20 Non Members: \$30
(2 week session) Interviews required



Sell your treasures at

The Biggest Garage Sale Ever! September 24

10:00 am - 3:00 pm at the JCC
(set up 8:30 am)

...AND TAKE HOME YOUR PROFIT!

Rent a Table/Share a Table to sell your
treasures for only \$36/8ft table.

Special area allocated for professional vendors \$50/8 ft table. The JCC will take care of
set up, advertising and clean up.

Reserve your table 648-0605

in advance by no later than September 13.

Limited tables available.

Cheque, cash, visa an dmastercard welcome

Your ideas can become community programs!

Program planning is now taking place for the Fall/Winter/Spring 2000/2001. Your suggestions are always welcome and the JCC will try to accomodate requests. Please call with suggestions or if you are interested in forming a committee for any particular program. Call us at (905) 648-0605.

Stories of Hamilton's "Hidden Children" told at Yom HaShoah com-

The community's Yom Hashoah program, held at the Adas Israel Synagogue touched the hearts of the community. Three hidden children of the community, Anna Schoenberg, Rosslyn Sole and Alex Rosa, had their stories told by children of today, bringing renewed promises of "Never Again".

M.P.P. Ted Chudleigh, who introduced legislation at Queens Park to achieve a provincial commemoration of Yom HaShoah, was among the speakers of the evening.

Thank you to the volunteers who helped make the evening moving and memorable: Irene Albert, Samantha Berlin Bromstein, Jack Freedman, Leia Ger Rogers, Sid Leon, Debbie Richter, Ron Richter, Melinda Richter, Nadia Rosa, Jack Rosen, Charles Schneider, Kaime Sherman. Thanks to Gary Frydman,



MPP Ted Chudleigh receives a plaque in recognition of his efforts to establish Yom Hashoa Day in Ontario. Pictured with him

chair of the Holocaust Committee and to Celia Berlin, Yom HaShoah program chair, whose dedication and commitment over the past 11 years in bringing this meaningful program to the Hamilton community.

Thank you to all the schools,

Beth Jacob Hebrew School, Kehila Jewish Community Day School, Hamilton Hebrew Academy, Temple PlayHouse for all the artwork, currently on display at the JCC.

Six community teens honoured at Max Rotman Youth Awards

Six Jewish teenagers were among 32 recipients of the Max Rotman Humanitarian Youth Awards held on May 28 at Hamilton's City Hall. The awards have been held in cooperation with the City of Hamilton since 1969. Each recipient has devoted countless hours of community service since entering high school and many began their volunteer commitments in elementary school. Long time chair, Howard Katz emceed the ceremonies, which featured Mayor Bob Morrow, who led the audience at the piano in Oh Canada. Aaron Lax volunteered for the 30th year by handing out programs. Harvey Waxman, appeared in a dual capacity, as proud father of one of the recipients and Jewish Federation president. JCC president, Virginia Mendes da Costa, read summaries of the



Tamar Klinghoffer, Rina Goldberg, David Waxman Deanna Levy, Darryn Epstein and Sarah Khayutin were among the Max Rotman Youth Award recipients

recipients' community service. Ron Foxcroft delighted the audience with his keynote address on what motivated him to create the Fox Whistle and to commend the young volunteers.

Max Rotman, the former physical education director of the JCC, was recalled with enormous affection for his untiring efforts in working with youth, by Howard Katz, Harvey Waxman and Ron Foxcroft.

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MORRIS GELBER: Rochelle Waxman, Harvey & Shelley Waxman, Cheryl & Stephen Quitt & Family, Danny & Elise Waltman & Family, Warren & Karen Waxman, Dr Mark Waxman & Children. DOREEN LEES: Irving & Pearl Waxman. BEN LIEBERMAN: Harvey & Shelley Waxman. SARINA MOSKOVITZ: Harvey & Shelley Waxman. MATILDA GROSSMAN: Rochelle Waxman. KATE PAPERICK: Abe & Gina Szpirglas, Larry & Fern Szpirglas, Harvey & Shelley Waxman. MARTIN SILVAN: Harvey & Shelley Waxman & Family. Harriet Robins: Eric Waxman. PAUL YELLIN: Danny & Elise Waltman & Family.

Mazel Tov

HOWARD & SHELLEY BROWN (on celebrating your 25th wedding anniversary): Harvey, Shelley, Joanne, Eric, Jay & David Waxman. DAVID MCLEAN & AMY KATZ (on your engagement): JCC Board of Directors & Staff. HOWARD & NANCY KATZ (on becoming grandparents): Abe & Gina

JCC YOUTH MACCABIAH

In Memory Of
Beloved Brother of POMERANTZ FAMILY: Jerry & Linda Bromstein.

JCC online!

Thanks to Mark Gould for his donation of a Pentium 3 Computer system enabling the JCC to get online. Watch for email and web page info.

THANKS TO OUR FABU- LOUS BINGO VOLUN- TEERS

AUBREY FRIEDMAN,
HOWARD EISENBERG,



Support the Israeli delegation of 46 young athletes by attending the International Children's Games Millennium Festival July 1-7, 2000

- 77 cities representing 32 countries
 - 9 sports
 - 3-day cultural festival
 - events to take place across Hamilton
- (For a full schedule of events call 546-2222)

Join the JCC and UJA/Federation in welcoming these athletes to Hamilton at a Jewish Community Barbeque Sunday, July 2 at the JCC at 4:00 pm

Sponsors are needed to cover the cost of the BBQ and for friendship gifts from the

You are cordially invited to the JCC/Beth Tikvah Golf Tournament Thursday, June 22 at the Beverly Golf & Country Club

Funds raised will support of the

CONSIDER SPONSORING A HOLE OR MAKING A DONATION

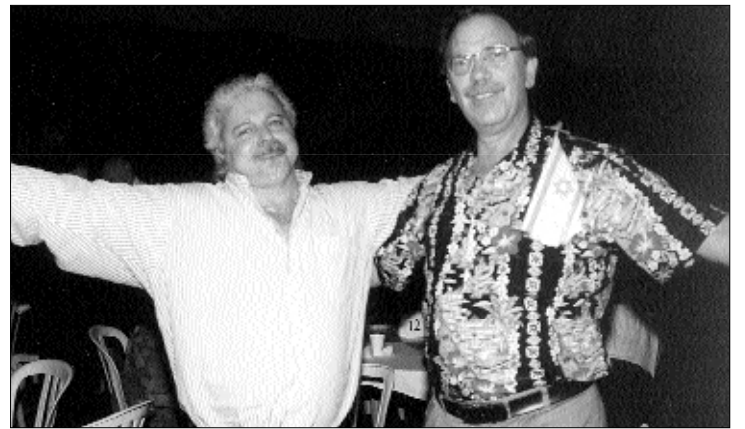
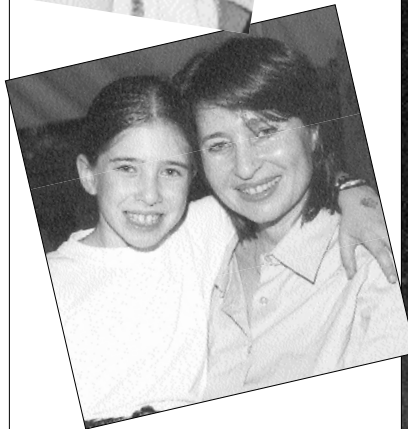
The benefit to the JCC and Beth Tikvah Foundation is beyond dollars and cents. Sponsor a hole at the tournament for \$300 and help provide for the needs of our youth as well as for those in the community with special needs.

A tax receipt will be issued and your name will be prominently displayed at a tee and in the program. For a donated prize your name will be acknowledged in the program.

JCC/Beth Tikvah Golf Tournament 2000 Hole Sponsors

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Yom Ha'atzmaut at the JCC

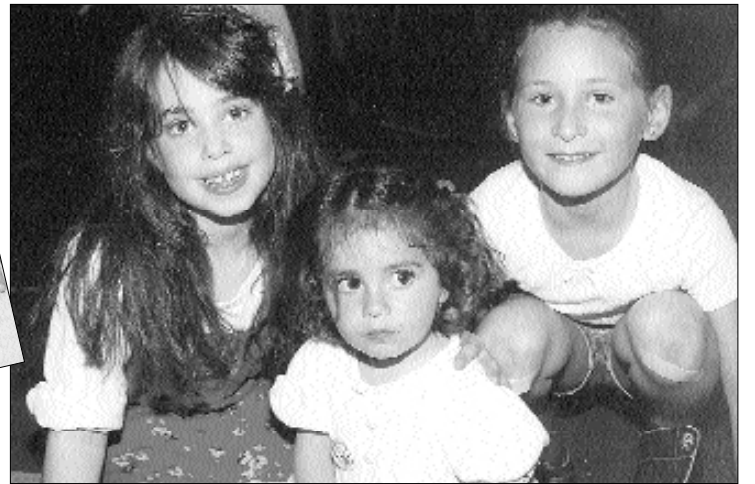


450 people, young and old, joined together to celebrate Israel's 52nd birthday on Yom Ha'atzmaut on May 9 at the JCC. Ethnic food and Israeli dancing was enjoyed by everyone throughout the evening.

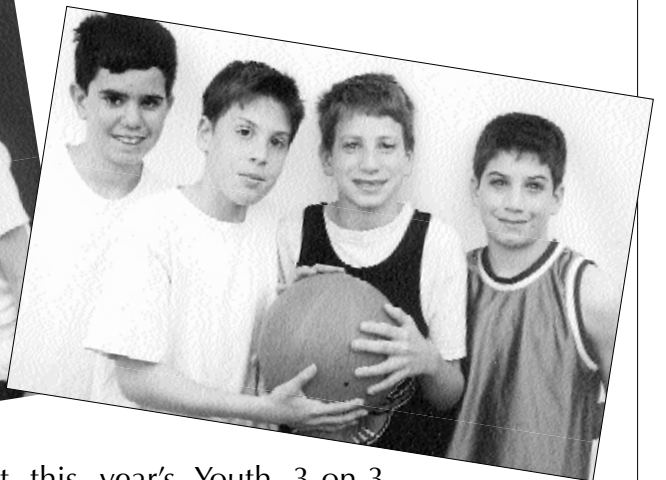
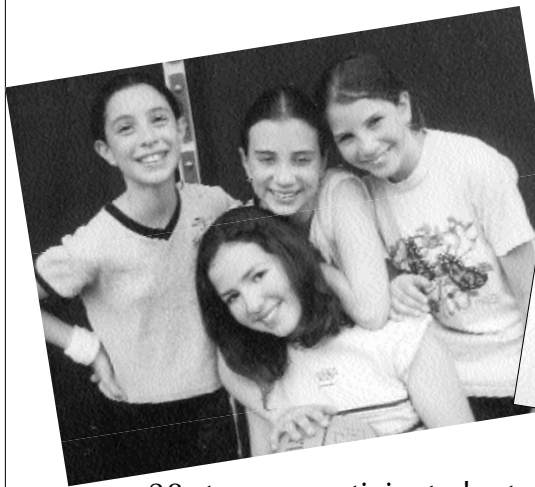
Thanks to the Yom Ha'atzmaut committee for coordinating a great event: Carl Loewith, Virginia Mendes da Costa, Allen Rams, Flora Rams, Karen Frohlich for the moving Yom Hazikaron remembrance program and especially to Moishe Chaimovitz, whose dedication year after year, to bringing this wonderful event to the Hamilton community. Your hard work is always appreciated.

Thanks to our wonderful volunteers who made the evening a huge success: Claire Bloom, Dorina Chaimovitz, Eli Chaimovitz, Leatte Chaimovitz, Rebecca Chaimovitz, Racheli Chaimovitz, Vera Chaimovitz, Carl Creatchman, Susan Gilbert, David Goldberg, Ilene Haripko, Avital Jarushakak, Les Lasky, Bev Lasky, Arlene Leibtag, David Ludwin, Jerome Marrin, Mannie Rams, Charlie Schneider, Lawrie Schneider, Evan Schneider, Steven Schneider, Ahuva Soifer, Sam Soifer, Abe Szpirglas, Fern Szpirglas, Larry Szpirglas, Morry Walfish, David Waxman, Rochelle Waxman.

Thanks to our sponsors: Bank Hapoalim, Toronto, Tegs Tools, R & R Jewellery, Parkdale International, Beverly Caulking Inc, Effie & Tiki Zussman, Joy Foster, Zoltan



3-on-3 Basketball



28 teams participated at this year's Youth 3-on-3 Basketball tournament held on April 30 at the JCC. This day was made possible with the help of dedicated volunteers, Cindy Mark, Evan Schneider, Becky Katz, Laura Katz, Monitors... and especially...Howard Katz, who calmly puts this event together with such ease. Thank you

Thanks to our 3-on-3 sponsors: Effort Trust & Strub Brothers Limited and our prize sponsors: Wild Waterworks, Laser Vortec, Gravity, Hamilton Bulldogs, LazerMania, Indoor Indy, University Lanes, Baskin & Robbins (Centre Mall), Baskin & Robbins (Main Street)

Special Menschen

Timothy Findlay lunches with



Timothy Findlay, Na'amat Hamilton's celebrity guest author at their 16th annual author luncheon, takes a moment to pose with Hamilton chapter members. Funds raised support Na'amat projects for women and children in Israel. Na'amat is open to all women in the community. For mem-

**Lives Remembered
ZELDA ROSTOKER**

Born March 26, 1911; Died February 26, 2000.

When I was in the 10th grade my teacher gave us an assignment to write the life story of one of our grandparents. I was so excited and proud because my Buba had the most fascinating life. To me, it was like a movie. The main character was a fiercely independent, stylish, liberated woman. The plot involved her fleeing from Russia, taking a transatlantic voyage and starting a new life in Canada. She went on to become a wife, a mother, a grandmother - and was dedicated to helping her community.

But to ten people, she was something even more special. She was our Buba. Buba did the conventional "grandmotherly" things; she cooked, nurtured her house plants, collected tea cups and sewed. She was incredibly skilled at sewing and making crafts. If you enter any of her grandchildren's homes you will be sure to find hangers, pot holders, place mats, Raggedy Anne dolls and afghans - all lovingly created by Buba.

But anyone who really knew Zelda Rostoker knows she was not the stereotypical grandmother. She seemed almost bigger than life. She was passionate about her beliefs and had strong opinions. And she never hesitated to share her opinions, whether or not we were looking for advice. When we heard Buba say, "I know. I know because I know life. I know people", we grandchildren knew to settle back and get comfortable because Buba had a point to make and you were going to be listening for awhile. It was so important to Buba that she share her experiences, her knowledge and her values with us. She wanted us to know what was important in life. The most important thing to our Buba was helping people.

When Buba turned 70 she wrote an article that asked people over the age of 70 what advice they would give to generations to come. She wrote, "I came to the conclusion that no matter how smart a person is, no one can make a success of life alone. We need one another. That's what makes life meaningful and worth living... Helping others doesn't mean only with money. You have to be able to give of yourself. You never start living until you start giving."



Zelda Rostoker

Buba continued to hope others throughout her life. In fact during our last visit, Buba - 88 years of age (but still so young in spirit) told me, "When I feel better, I'm going to Shalom Village. I'm going to teach the old people."

Above everything else Buba told us that family mattered most. One of the questions we had to ask for our assignment was, "What is the proudest moment of your life?" Buba did not look backwards for this moment. Her answer was,

"When I watch my grandchildren during their Bar or Bat Mitzvah I am so proud. These occasions are very happy, very important and very serious."

Each of Buba's grandchildren cherishes their own special memories such as, Buba's famous chicken fricassee, her home remedies, like tea bags on sunburn and guggle muggles, watching her dance joyfully at her grandchildren's weddings and learning at



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Feature Story

Israeli activist couple awaits court

BY
WENDY GOLDBLATT SCHNEIDER

A recent story in The Globe and Mail that reported on an Israeli Supreme Court ruling which recognized the right of a lesbian spouse to be registered as the parent of her partner's biological child, was met with particular satisfaction by Avital and Tal Jarus-Hakak. The Israeli couple, in Hamilton for a year and a half on sabbatical, where Tal Jarus-Hakak is a visiting professor in the Kinesiology department at McMaster University, has three sons. Tal is the mother of the eldest, 9 and the youngest, 3, while Avital is the biological mother of the middle child, aged 5. In 1996 they applied to an Israeli court seeking to be registered as a parent of the other's children.

The Jarus Hakaks, leaders in the battle for equal rights of gays and lesbians in Israel, have gone to court on numerous occasions, each time walking away with a ruling in their favour. After their first child was born, they made headlines as the first gay couple in the country to have a child (not including those who brought a child to the rela-

tionship from a previous marriage). Other court victories include an Israeli Supreme Court decision that declared unconstitutional a law that required women to go through an interview process before receiving permission to be inseminated. Another ruling granted them guardianship of each other's children.

Still, Avital Jarus-Hakak explained, the only legal relationship she currently has with two of her sons is that of roommate - which led them to return to the courts in 1998, when they applied for the right to legally adopt each other's children. The decision is expected to come some time this summer.

Ironically, the Jarus-Hakaks have found that the day they became a family there was a dramatic and positive change in people's attitudes towards them. Judaism is a culture that encourages people to have kids, Avital reasoned, and Israel, in particular, places a huge value on its children. As for the question of how their sons deal with their unusual familial situation, Avital maintains that there is no problem. The chil-

Spectator article angers com-

cont'd from

he said. The author of the piece is "mortified" at the response it has generated, but LaPointe maintained the term "holocaust" was a legitimate subject for debate.

The article, by Neville Newman, a teacher who serves as a member of the Spectator's community editorial board, is headed "We need to acknowledge the other holocausts." It refers to the numerous pebbles scattered at Oskar Schindler's memorial tree at Yad Vashem and expresses his "distaste" for the "false emotion born from a Spielberg-inspired hysteria."

He goes on to suggest that "memorials to 'the' Holocaust reiterate in our consciousness the systematic killing of six million Jews while simultaneously reducing, almost to the point of non-existence, the memory of those of other faiths and ethnicities who died along side them, other than, perhaps, by means of a handful of stones tossed, as an afterthought, around a tree somewhere.

Tolkin Eppel said the federation has fielded dozens of calls from readers angry about the article.

A correction published alongside a piece by LaPointe did not go far enough to undo the damage it caused, she said. It corrected one of the article's factual errors - the claim that Israel did nothing to help Rwandan genocide victims - but it omitted reference to the tone of

the article and Newman's contention that "the grotesquely politicized suffering that is the Holocaust has made stones of too many Jewish hearts."

The article's dismissive tone rankles Len Rudner, director of community relations for Canadian Jewish Congress.

"How could people not be upset by this? It was horrible," he said. "Newman suggests that Jews are not interested in

the suffering of others, that Israel was not interested in Rwanda."

Rudner and Tolkin Eppel said they want to meet with the Spectator's editorial board to discuss the piece and what Tolkin Eppel called "the overall trend that culminated in this article." The paper has run articles from other publications that showed a lack of sensitivity and even-handedness, she contended.

LaPointe rejected that



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- Why not call and find out about the Youth Leadership Camp held at Shalom Village.

A grant from the Hamilton Community Foundation has enabled us to develop a summer program consisting of a two-week training period followed by a two-week volunteering period at Shalom Village. The training sessions include guest speakers from the community and the development of leadership, communication and volunteer skills.

Following the training sessions, the teens volunteer at Shalom Village for a two-week period. This includes going on outings, for a picnic, bingo, bowling and gardening with the residents. All participants receive a certificate on completion of the program.



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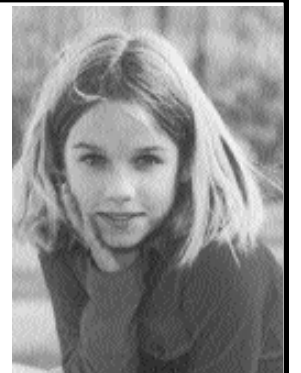
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Organizations

Hamilton Hebrew Academy Dancers bring smiles to senior



On Tuesday May 9 two groups of students from the Hamilton Hebrew Academy traveled to Shalom village to entertain the residents on Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israel's independence Day.

The Academy choir, organized and directed by Mrs. Ilana Barbut, treated the senior citizens to an amazing rendition of six Hebrew songs. Following the performance they joined the students in more singing. The expressions on their faces were a clear indication of their approval and enjoyment.

In addition the Academy's Israeli dance group entertained residents with an array of Israeli folk dances, doing an outstanding job. The Academy dance group was organized and directed by Mrs. Frances Cohen. This

Kehila wraps up its first year

BY
HAMUTAL DECKEL

As this year draws to a close here are some of the events that took place at Kehila: as a part of our Israel Independence Day celebration each one of our students prepared an Israel project consisting of a 3-D model, pictures, drawings and text. They also presented their projects for their proud parents and a distinguished panel of judges: Rabbi Baskin, Patricia Tolkin Eppel and Ellen Biller. The Kollek family established the Vaanunu fund to sponsor prizes.

A mysterious object appeared at our door step a while ago. It was a Magic Mail Box. Through corresponding with people from ancient times such as the Pharos about the pyramids, the students were able to gain more insight into other historical periods. It also did wonders for their reading and writing.

Our senior Kindergarten class has been fortunate to work with Eric Finch - a train enthusiast. They are setting up an electric train system complete with scenery, buildings and people to



Kehila students show off their Passover artwork

be made by the kids.

Our commitment to establishing a community day school was manifested throughout the year. We had an extensive community outreach program. Rabbi Biller, Rabbi Itkin and Rabbi Zeplovitz, as well as Cantor Ruth Slater and Ben Silverberg helped us celebrate different holidays.

Our students established a very nice rapport with Shalom Village residents. We know some of them by name as we visit regularly to share a Kabbalat Shabbat, Rosh Hodesh, or holiday songs, performances and crafts.

We extended our outreach program to the non-Jewish community as well. Our students introduced Hanukkah to the George R. Alan Kindergarten class and then played dreidels with them. Another time we taught them Israeli Dancing. That class was part of the audience during our Israel Independence Day celebration. Our connection with a first grade class from Dundas Central also started in Hanukkah. Then we invited them to participate in our Purim Party. Recently they invited us to watch a play "Snow White in the



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Kollel families find warm welcome in

BY

WENDY GOLDBLATT SCHNEIDER

Where would one be most likely to see the following? Two mothers chatting in a schoolyard. One, an orthodox woman, head covered, ankle-length skirt, long sleeved; the other, spandex-clad coming straight from exercise class. New York? Toronto? Israel? Not likely! But such a scene is not at all unusual in Hamilton. Ask any member of the growing number of recently-arrived orthodox Jews how they feel about living here and you will most likely hear the same response. What the community lacks in orthodox institutions, it more than makes up for in an atmosphere of mutual tolerance and accep-

tance.

Rabbi Tsvi Sendler came to Hamilton with his wife and family two years ago from Baltimore, where they were part of a large and vibrant yeshiva community nestled within an Orthodox neighbourhood out of which one rarely needed to venture. The Sendlers are one of four families brought to Hamilton by Rabbi Green to start a Kollel as an adjunct to the yeshiva high school he established on Bowman Avenue nine years ago.

Rabbi Sendler, a warm and approachable man, acknowledged that "people didn't quite know what to make of these rabbis with black hats" when they first arrived. But it's been a happy

adjustment, despite the culture shock of coming from total immersion in an Orthodox Jewish environment to a small and diverse community and there have been several, unexpected benefits.

Their children, for instance, who are thriving at the Hamilton Hebrew Academy, are gaining a deeper appreciation of their identity as observant Jews; and the Kollel wives, two of whom teach at the Academy, are very happy here, enjoying the close-knit intimacy of their own community as well as the interaction with a more secular

population.

Rabbi Sendler is pleased that people have asked him about the Kollel and its purpose. A Kollel, he's explained, is a group of young rabbis engaged in post-graduate studies in Torah and Talmud. The primary role of the Hamilton Kollel is to provide individualized learning opportunities to the yeshiva high school students. Next fall an innovative and eagerly anticipated post-high school Beis Medrash program will be added to the program which, the rabbi hopes, will make the Kollel the nucleus of a

growing body of Torah scholars in Hamilton.

But of equal importance, he emphasized, is the Kollel's mandate to be an educational resource for the Jewish community at large. Calling itself the Jewish Enrichment Centre (JEC), the Kollel offers individualized learning opportunities, special events, and a popular lecture series that has brought in speakers on topics such as Jewish Pluralism and Bio-ethics. Rabbi Sendler's course on Torah in Contemporary Society, that grapples weekly with issues ranging from Kashrut in the 21st centu-

Temple kids learn about allocating funds raised

Culminating a year of fundraising activities, the students at Temple Anshe Sholom Religious School participated in a Tzedakah Fair on May 28th. Through weekly collection and a variety of special events, the school had raised \$545. The special events, all planned and operated by the students, included a car wash, a bake sale, a fun fair, and an art sale. At the Tzedakah Fair they took on the responsibility of allocating their funds.

The Tzedakah Fair began with five brief presentations to the students, representing five potential recipients. Sandra Levy spoke to the children about scholarships for Jewish summer camps, followed by Lester Krames and Susan Roth, on behalf of UJA Federation, who spoke about the needs of the Jews of the FSU. Suzanne Goldflus made an appeal on behalf of Greater Hamilton Foodshare. Hanna Schayer then spoke about the New Israel Fund, and Laura Wolfson about

Project Teach in Haiti. The students were then divided into small groups and each was given an equal share of the money, in loonies. They were encouraged to consider the relative merits of each organization, and to also ask themselves: Is it better to help those far away, or those right here in our community? Is our obligation to support other Jews greater than or equal to our obligation to support any person in need? Is supplying food and other basic needs more important than supplying educational opportunities? The children also had the responsibility of deciding on their allocation methodology: Will we come to consensus? Will we each take an equal number of loonies and act as individuals? Will we vote and let majority rule?

By participating in the Tzedakah Fair, the children supported the overall efforts of the Temple's Mitzvah Day, a congregation-wide program, on the

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