

Hamilton Jewish News

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MARCH/APRIL 2010 VOL 24:4/ ADAR/NISAN 5770

AGREEMENT #40007180

The changing face of Holocaust Education

Small committee has big impact in schools

The energetic members of UJA Federation's Holocaust Education Committee continue to ensure that the lessons of the Holocaust are being transmitted to a new generation of Hamiltonians both within and beyond the



Nadia Rosa and Madeleine Levy co-chair UJA Federation's Holocaust Education Committee

Jewish community. However, the mandate of the Holocaust Education Committee goes far beyond the organization of educational and commemorative programs.

A lesser-known, yet vitally important role of the Holocaust Education Committee is its responsibility as an intervener, when called upon by schools that experience anti-Semitic incidents. The committee is able to do so because of the success of its long term investment in relationship building with the various school boards over many years. "We have made tremendous strides with the boards" said Madeleine Levy, "and they look to us as a resource when they are having a problem."

As a matter of UJA Federation policy, all incidents are taken seriously. The responses, developed in consultation with Hamilton Police Service's Hate Crimes Unit and the affected schools are varied, according to veteran volunteer Judy Schwartz. "Schools are increasingly moving away from a punitive model and adopting a model based on aboriginal tradition known as 'restorative justice', a practice that requires wrongdoers to recognize the harm they have caused, accept responsibility for their actions and be actively involved in improving the situation." Holocaust Education Committee Co-Chairs Madeleine Levy and Nadia Rosa have had this technique explained to them in depth by the John Howard Society, who oversees the program for the school boards, and they are comfortable with the approach.

One of the ongoing challenges in this matter is the reluctance of some students – or their parents – to report anti-Semitic incidents when they occur. Both the local police service and our national advocacy agency agree that

"under-reporting" of incidents is a serious problem. Elaine Levine of UJA Federation emphasizes the need for students to not be afraid or embarrassed to tell their parents and teachers if they are being harassed or bullied. "We can make this better for students and for everyone, but we need to know about it before we can help."

Three programs in particular have changed the face of Holocaust and Human Rights Education in Hamilton:

The first is the annual teacher's symposium, bringing together educators from various disciplines and grade levels. The purpose is to upgrade skills and knowledge about teaching material related to the Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights. The success of the Teacher's Seminar has inspired past participants to lobby the Ministry of Education for an increase in course offerings that touch on the Holocaust. The result: both the HWDSB and HWCDSB are currently developing a new optional grade 11 history course on Genocide and Contemporary Issues that will be offered in Hamilton schools September 2010.

This year's Teacher's Symposium featured principal of Milton District High School, Ian Jones, named one of Canada's 30 outstanding principals, for his leadership in implementing a curriculum that fosters tolerance and builds diversity values into his students' daily lessons using the lens of the Holocaust. A record 75 teachers from across the public, Catholic and private schools were in attendance.

The annual Student Holocaust Symposium, an event that regularly attracts a student audience of

Please see HOLOCAUST EDUCATION on page 4

Community opens its heart to Haiti

UJA Federation raises close to \$20,000 for Haiti relief



PICTURED ABOVE: Grade 7 students from the Hamilton Hebrew Academy present Federation Executive Director, Gerry Fisher with funds they collected for Haiti relief efforts.

Jewish Hamiltonians have opened their hearts to Haiti through donations to UJA Federation of Hamilton's Haiti Relief Fund. To date Federation has raised close to \$20,000 dollars for Haiti relief. These funds are eligible for matching grants from the federal government, raising the value of our efforts to close to \$40,000.

Perhaps the most valuable gift to this emergency campaign came from Grade 7 students at Hamilton Hebrew Academy who raised over \$260 in support of UJA Federation's Haiti Emergency Campaign. In thanking them for their efforts, UJA Federation President Larry Levin praised the students for demonstrating not only the mitzvah of showing compassion for the victims, but also for their immediate willingness to become personally involved in saving lives through their fundraising effort. "We couldn't ask for a better example of the power and implementation of Jewish values."

Federations across Canada have raised over \$1.3 million for these urgent needs. Federal matching grants will raise the total value of these efforts to over \$2.6 million.

UJA 2010 Shows Modest Improvement

Lisa Morris and Danna Horwood will co-chair 2011 Campaign

The UJA 2010 campaign is close to meeting its target of \$1.1 million. Reflecting an increase of 4.5% over last year's total, campaign leaders are hopeful that the worst of the effects of the economic downturn are behind us.

Similar to other communities, last year's UJA campaign reflected the effects of the poor financial climate. According to UJA Federation Executive Director Gerald Fisher, "Last year, after all was said and done, our amount available for allocation was down by \$146,000. That is a steep decline in a community of our size. We understand that the recovery will not happen all in one year. We are hopeful that this year's



Danna Horwood and Lisa Morris

modest increase is a sign that the future will look a little brighter."

One campaign element that glows brightly is the fact that UJA Campaign co-chairs Lisa Morris and Danna Horwood have agreed to serve as co-chairs for the 2011 campaign. UJA

Federation President Larry Levin could not be more delighted. "Leadership means everything to the success of the campaign. Lisa and Danna have brought a new level of creativity and commitment to our fundraising efforts. Their experience this year can only contribute to their considerable abilities to bring together a strong UJA campaign team and raise the result of their efforts.

The UJA 2010 campaign will remain active until all of Hamilton's "snowbirds" return home for Passover. If you have not yet made your UJA commitment, please pick up the phone and call 905-648-0605. Every dollar counts.

Israel's religious-secular divide

Israeli Film Festival
See page 7

Na'amat presents Lawrence Hill

See page 7

Negev Dinner honours two friends

See page 13

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DR. LARRY LEVIN, PRESIDENT,
UJA FEDERATION OF HAMILTON

Federation is committed to the strengthening of our community's volunteer and professional leadership. Over the past few months, UJA Federation has launched or extended several exciting initiatives and I want you to tell you about them.

Young Adult Division (YAD): Hands Across Hamilton

YAD serves as our community's outreach and engagement mechanism for people between 25 – 45; both couples and singles. It has proven to be very successful and I congratulate YAD Chair Mario Stolar, the YAD Executive and UJA Federation staff member Elaine Levine for the leadership they have shown in establishing a substantial presence for this vital group, now over 100 strong.

Genesis Leadership Development Program

A function of YAD, the Genesis Program provides participants with the opportunity to explore and develop their leadership abilities in a supportive environment. Participants learn about the various agencies that comprise Jewish organizational life and explore various aspects of being a Jewish leader. Hopefully, this experience will motivate some participants to seek out further leadership involvement in our community... an outcome that will benefit every local organization.

Hamilton Jewish Leadership Forum

This forum brings together the Rabbis, Presidents and Executive Directors of every Jewish organization in Hamilton. This includes organizations that are UJA beneficiaries as well as organizations that are not beneficiaries. The forum provides all community leaders with the opportunity to learn about and collectively consider some of the broad policy issues and challenges facing the community. Our latest meeting focused on the most recent Jewish demographic projections for Hamilton and Canada.

Hamilton Jewish Community Professionals Group

Established several years ago with the assistance of Larry Szpirglas, our professionals group has set a new standard of cooperation among our agencies on issues as basic as coordinating the community calendar to as complex as bringing all our organizations together for planning major community events. The trust, understanding and renewed sense of community around this table sets a high standard for lay leadership to meet.

All of these initiatives, whether directed at young leaders, veteran leaders or agency professionals, are the kinds of programs that all federations strive to provide for their communities. The centrality of UJA Federation and the resources available through Federation makes it unique in being able to provide this support right across the community. I believe these programs cultivate better leadership and bring us together in ways that only UJA Federation can. I take pride in these accomplishments and hope that you do as well.

I am always interested in hearing from community members. Please feel free to send me your thoughts and ideas at larrylevin@jewishhamilton.org.

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INSIDE HJN MARCH/APRIL 2010



HOLOCAUST EDUCATION COMMITTEE AT WORK

UJA Federation's Holocaust Education Committee recently organized a teacher's symposium at which a record 80 teachers attended (see article, front page) Pictured above, from left to right are Judy Langsner, Principal, Ancaster High, Nadia Rosa, HEC co-chair, Ian Jones, keynote speaker and Principal, Milton District High School, Madeleine Levy, HEC co-chair and Simon Goodacre, VP Ancaster High.

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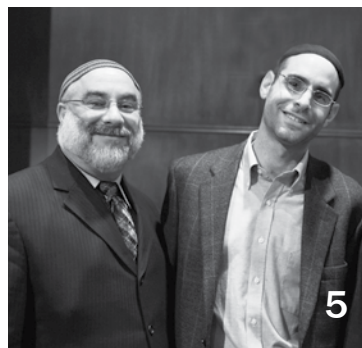
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Hamilton Rabbis remember Darfur

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Cotler will speak on contemporary anti-semitism.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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Lawrence Hill headlines 25th anniversary event

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HJN profiles Rebekah Price and Anna Shkolnik

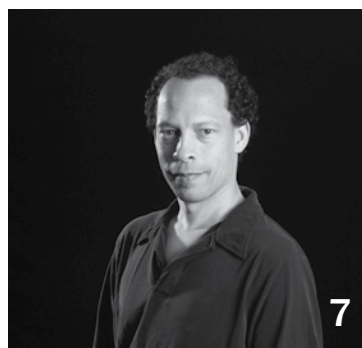


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COMING UP

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



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BENEFICIARY AGENCIES

Holocaust Education continued from p 1

over 1000, is another jewel in the committee's crown. Over the 15 years the program has run, it has succeeded like no other in putting a human face to genocide through small group meetings between students and local Holocaust survivors.

In 2001 fourteen high school students, all from the Jewish community, were the first Hamilton participants in the Asper Foundation's Human Rights and Holocaust Studies Program, an intensive 18 hour education program that culminates in a pilgrimage to the United States Museum of the Holocaust in Washington, D.C., funded by Winnipeg's Asper Family Foundation and UJA Federation. Eight years later 65 students from diverse backgrounds and school boards represented Hamilton on what has become a national initiative. It has been a remarkable evolution. In her efforts to broaden the scope of participation, Levy was also responsible for securing support and commitments from participating school boards and the corporate and public sectors. "We made a courageous and 'visionary' decision to bring a cross section of students from the Public, Catholic and private boards," said Asper Program Chair Madeleine Levy, "and the rewards have been extraordinary".

The committee's approach to In addition to the areas of responsibility outlined above, the Holocaust Education Committee also oversees Holocaust Education Week, March of the Living, the City of Hamilton's Commemoration of International Day of Holocaust Remembrance and a twinning program that enables bar and bat mitzvah students to share their special day in memory of a young Holocaust victim.

That a small Jewish community, with no local Holocaust Centre and no endowment fund, is able to offer such a far-reaching variety of programming is remarkable. Our community is fortunate to have the opportunity to build on an incredible legacy established by Committee founders Bev Lasky and Moura Wolpert. Current Co-Chairs Madeleine Levy and Nadia Rosa extend heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to the contribution of the founders, previous chairs Gilda Ennis and Michele Finkelstein and past and current members of the committee for their hard work and role in helping shape the vision and mission of the committee.

Present committee members include Anita Bernstein, Anne Barrs, Baya Vertes, Bev Lasky, Cindy Kam, Dennis Nash, Geraldine Katz-Rose, Gilda Ennis, Ilana Goldberg, Ira Rosen, Judy Schwartz, Leia Ger-Rogers, Lois Freeman, Monte Levy, Sharon Woolfson, Shelli Eisenberg and Suzanne Goldflus. Still, they hope that more volunteers will come forward.

Volunteers are especially appreciated at bigger events such as the upcoming Student Symposium at Mohawk College on Tuesday, May 4. If you'd like to become involved in Holocaust education or if you have any concerns about incidents occurring in your child's school please call Elaine Levine at 905-627-9922, ext 24 or email elevine@jewishhamilton.org.

HAMILTON JEWISH SOCIAL SERVICES



Over 70 people came out for Jewish Social Service's annual wine tasting event on February 21, purchasing wine for Passover and supporting the Hamilton Kosher Food Bank. A special thank you to all our sponsors and all the people who worked hard to make the evening a success.

Hamilton JSS has a Job Club that meets once a month at its offices at 30 King St E. in Dundas, providing a supportive environment for people looking for jobs. Facilitated by Jack Leon, these sessions provide job search and training information and exchanging of ideas. If you're looking for help with writing a resumé we highly recommend Kathryn Hayman of Effective Resumes, who can provide assistance in creating a marketable portfolio. For more information visit: www.effective-resumes.ca or email carolkramesjss@hotmail.com. Below is a list of websites that might help you find employment.

- www.doingjewishintoronto.org - for jobs available in the Jewish community
- www.parnossahworkscanada.org - operated by Toronto's Jewish Vocational Services
- www.canadajobdirector.ca
- www.eluta.ca.
- www.timeschange.org - a non-profit community agency serving the employment and educational counselling needs of women.
- www.simplyhired.ca - offers positions with not-for-profit organizations.
- www.indeed.com - a site that aggregates from all job boards.
- www.lawsonministries.org - website for S.T.R.I.V.E. (Skills, Training, Recreation, Integration, Vocation and Empowerment) run by Lawson Ministries of the Salvation Army. Contact Lisa Schumph 905-527-1377.
- www.charityvillage.com - for jobs in the non-profit sector
- www.wowjobs.ca
- www.jewishtorontoonline.net

Chicken of the Month Club

A new Club is being formed by the Hamilton Jewish Social Services Kosher Food Bank and it's called the "Chicken of the Month Club." For every \$30 donation you make, two kosher chickens will be delivered to a family that uses our Food Bank. Help give people who use our Food bank a luxury they can't afford. Call in your visa number or mail us a cheque. All donations will receive a tax receipt. To join the Chicken of the Month Club or to donate any amount call Carol Krames at 905-627-9922 ex 21 or e-mail carolkramesjss@hotmail.com.

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Ve'ahavta founder speaks at interfaith Shabbat dinner

LEANNA KATZ

On Friday February 5th more than 75 McMaster students and staff sat together under the warm, colourful lights of Celebration Banquet Hall at the university. Among these 75 staff and students, only a handful were Jewish because that Friday was an Interfaith Sabbath dinner. Guests came from diverse backgrounds, most were on the executive of a religious or cultural campus club, including the African Caribbean Association, Baha'i Faith Group, Campus for Christ, Compass, Chinese Students Association, Muslim Students Association, McMaster Muslims for Peace and Justice, Ahmadiyya Muslim Students Association, Open Circle and several other groups. Also present were professors from the Department of Religious Studies Dr. Louis Greenspan, Dr. Eileen Schuller and Dr. Anne Pearson, Carol Wood from the Chaplaincy Centre, Fr. Joe Selvanayagam, the Roman Catholic Priest, Dr. Elisabeth Gedge, a member of the McMaster Campus Ministries Council Executive, Mile Komlen, director of Human Rights and Equity Services, Madeleine and Monte Levy from Campus Services and MSU President Vishal Tiwari.

Earlier on in the evening, as the sun went down, candles were lit to welcome in the Sabbath. As the guests arrived, they were greeted with the warm, sweet smell of fresh traditional Jewish cooking. Guests mingled with one another and schmoozed before sitting down to the table. The blessings over the wine and Challah were said – Kiddish and HaMotzi, then the guests helped themselves to generous portions of chicken, vegetables, potatoes, matzo ball soup, Israeli salad, kugle,

brownies and cookies. Students were encouraged to eat more and more by Judy Schwartz, acting as a typical Jewish mother and director of the Jewish Students Association.

As the guests enjoyed the meal, Avrum Rosensweig, founder of Ve'ahavta, a Jewish humanitarian and relief organization, stood at the front of the room. Avrum shared his personal experiences as the son of an Orthodox Jewish rabbi. He also spoke of living on the streets with the homeless of Toronto. Yet he was most interested in having the guests share their backgrounds, stories and experiences. Despite the large number of guests in attendance, the conversation felt intimate. Guests reflected on the newly-discovered similarities between their faiths, the differences in their religious practices, and asked questions that they had long wondered about. The atmosphere was comfortable and open, demonstrated when one girl asked Fr. Joe, "So, how is celibacy?"

Guests stayed long after the event ended chatting, laughing and making plans to stay in touch, and even for their religious or cultural group to collaborate in the future. While many McMaster students are heavily involved in their religious or cultural group, most are keenly interested in learning about other faiths. Whatever racism, xenophobia, or hate we might see in the world, McMaster students can feel proud knowing that the leaders of their religious and cultural communities are open-minded, eager to learn and share with other faiths.

Leanna Katz is the Jewish Student Association Interfaith Chair.

Outgoing JSA chair bids fond farewell

ANNA KOS

Inclusivity. No other word can better describe the McMaster Jewish Students Association's goals for the 2009-2010 school year. The "one family" motto in which the JSA has always taken pride has been more strongly demonstrated this year. Jewish students of all backgrounds and beliefs can come to the JSA and easily call it their home away from home. Our vision was to help guide Jewish students at McMaster. Our series of "lunch and learns," provided students with perspectives of Reform, Conservative and Orthodox understanding. Rabbi Dan Selsberg was one of our noted educators, who helped to start this project. The response by students was overwhelming.

The JSA continues to work with other faith based groups through Leanna Katz our chair of interfaith. For example: The "Daughters of Abraham" dialogue group has continued successfully for the second consecutive year and the 3rd annual inter-faith Shabbat dinner. Our Social Action chair, Adira Winegust, coordinated with other clubs in an effort to raise money for the Haitian relief fund. Social chairs, Ariela Rozenek and Sarah Kitai, invented new and exciting programs that students talked about for weeks afterwards. All of these programs would not even happen without the tireless efforts of our two Vice President, Ariel Hendin and Sarah Levitt.

The JSA recently received an original sketch from Alison Fine, a former member of the JSA executive, that is now displayed with honour.

"The JSA has been a part of my life for nearly four years," she said. "I have had many amazing Jewish experiences and I hope many students will have them in years

to come."

Being involved with the JSA for the last three years has made it difficult for me to accept that this chapter in my life has come to a close. When I first came to McMaster five years ago, I would have never predicted this ending to my university career. Before McMaster, my involvement in the Jewish community was extremely minimal. It was not until I went on Birthright that I finally felt a connection to my faith and appreciation for the colours of my culture. This started my active involvement within the JSA. I was the Social Chair and made it my duty to spread my love for Israel in a more social capacity. This is when I came up with the idea of "Birthright in One Night." When Ariela asked to repeat the event, I knew one of my goals had been met. When I took on the position of President, I didn't know where to start: from interfaith events to

formals and educational workshops, I have come to see my visions turn into reality. The way the members of my executive have gone above and beyond has taught me the true meaning of teamwork. No commerce degree is worth as much.

I would like to thank the Hamilton Jewish community for its undying support towards the JSA and its members over the years. I have established friendships and learned so much from community members. As painful as it is for me to leave a place I have proudly called home for so long, I know the time has come for me to take the next step.

Though it is bittersweet for me to pass along the torch to the next JSA president, I am confident that the JSA will continue to learn, grow and thrive for years to come.

Anna Kos is the outgoing JSA president.

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Remembering Darfur

Local synagogues participate in Darfur Shabbat

WENDY SCHNEIDER

For Jews around the world, the phrase, "Never Again" is a call to action against genocide whenever or wherever it occurs. The memory of the Holocaust, so deeply etched in our collective unconscious, is for many, an imperative not to remain indifferent to other people's sufferings. Darfur Shabbat, a recent



Rabbis Jordan Cohen and Dan Selsberg follow Oakville Rabbi Stephen Wise's lead by commemorating Darfur Shabbat

Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) initiative began as a germ of an idea and culminated in a partnership with participating Canadian synagogues that dedicated the weekend of January 23 to addressing the question of what Canadian Jewry can do. Among those synagogues were Hamilton's Temple Anshe Sholom and Beth Jacob Synagogue.

A key player in the CJC initiative was Rabbi Stephen Wise of Oakville's Shaarei Beth El Congregation, who was personally responsible for preparing a resource kit containing sample

the rabbi compared the global response to natural disasters such as the earthquake that decimated Haiti to the world's relative indifference to Darfur "where, outside of aid organizations almost nothing is being done."

"People respond quite differently to natural disasters... where there's no culpability and no one's acting inhumanely," he said, whereas "most couldn't tell you who's involved [in Darfur] or understand the origins of the conflict, despite the fact that you have half a million displaced people and tens of thousands

People respond quite differently to natural disasters where there's no culpability and no one's acting inhumanely, whereas in Darfur most couldn't tell you who's involved or understand the origins of the conflict, despite the fact that you have half a million displaced people and tens of thousands murdered.

RABBI JORDAN COHEN
Temple Anshe Sholom

sermons, poems, music, and relevant Judaic texts. This kit was distributed across Canada to rabbinic and lay leaders of all denominations.

"It's a Jewish issue and a human rights issue," Rabbi Wise told the HJN. "To me it's obvious that whenever there's a genocide we should be on the front lines."

While the worst of the violence is over, he said, the humanitarian results of the war are still acute, with the millions displaced from their homes still living in refugee camps. Rabbi Wise acknowledged that it's a challenge to get people to rally around a cause in a country many might not have even heard of.

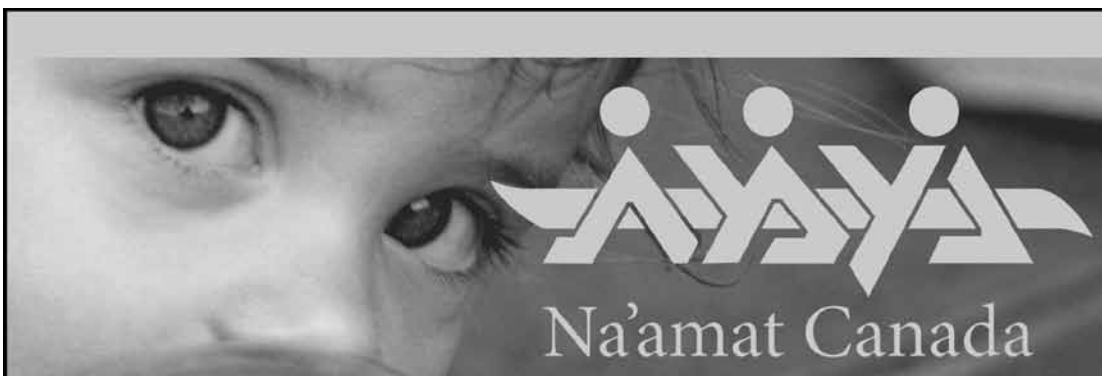
"Like many wars of this type, it's hard to figure out who's against whom and why... It's a difficult war to understand.... That's why it's even more important not to forget the issue but to keep it at the forefront of our minds."

Rabbi Jordan Cohen found the CJC resource package particularly helpful as he assembled materials for Temple Anshe Sholom's Darfur service. In, in addition to a Friday night 'drash, he chose a number of special readings that included a poem written by a Sudanese refugee. Responding to the terrible irony that the weekend's events coincided with the humanitarian crisis in Haiti,

murdered."

Beth Jacob Synagogue's Darfur Shabbat service marked the second occasion in less than one year that Rabbi Dan Selsberg spoke about the genocide in Sudan. His first took place last spring at the community Yom HaShoah commemoration, where he invoked Hillel's famous aphorism, "If I am only for myself, who am I?" as a directive to Jews that "never again" meant never again anywhere. On this occasion, he said that Jews, like Miep Gies, the woman who had hidden Ann Frank during the Holocaust and who had recently passed away at the age of 100, are obligated to stand up against injustice everywhere, be it in Africa, in Haiti or in Hamilton.

All three rabbis stressed the importance of refusing to succumb to a sense of helplessness in the face of seemingly insurmountable problems taking place on the other side of the world. Whether it be lobbying members of parliament or the Prime Minister to send a special envoy to Darfur, or raising funds through War Child Canada, the ultimate goal should be to send a message to the millions of displaced people in Darfur so that they know, in the words of Rabbi Selsberg, "that in a far-away, cold land, people care."



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

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

Lawrence Hill headlines 25th year of Na'amat author lunch

Na'amat Hamilton is excited to present its special 25th anniversary edition of the annual Celebrity Author Luncheon. This year's event will feature renowned Canadian writer, Lawrence Hill and will take place on Monday, May 3rd at 12 noon at the Adas Israel Synagogue.

Lawrence Hill was born and raised in Don Mills, Ontario, the son of a black father and a white mother who immigrated to Canada from the United States in 1953. Hill studied economics as an undergraduate at Laval University in Quebec City and obtained his M.A. in writing from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. He was greatly influenced by his parents' involvement in the human rights movement and has himself volunteered in Africa with Canadian Crossroads International. He has worked as a journalist with The Globe and Mail and as a parliamentary correspondent for The Winnipeg Free Press. Mr. Hill's writing, both fiction and nonfiction, has been informed by his unique background and his related interests in history, identity, and belonging, particularly as experienced by the black population in North America.

The Book of Negroes (2007), Hill's third novel, relates the life journey of a young African girl taken into slavery who finds her way through a series of historical, social and personal circumstances across the United States, into the midst of the American Revolutionary war, and then into Canada. It depicts some of the central historical elements and bleak experiences of the earliest black settlers in this country. The novel was widely acclaimed, receiving the 2009 Canada Reads award, the overall 2008 Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Best Book, and the 2007 Rogers Writers'



Lawrence Hill

Trust Fiction Prize. Hill is also the author of several other works including The Deserter's Tale: the Story of an Ordinary Soldier Who Walked Away from the War in Iraq (2007-08), Black Berry, Sweet Juice: On Being Black and White in Canada (2001), Any Known Blood (1999), and Some Great Thing (1992).

Lawrence Hill is presently living here in Hamilton with his family. He has been described as a story teller with "irrepressible curiosity and daunting intellect" (Donna Bailey Nurse, Globe and Mail), and Na'amat Hamilton is eagerly looking forward to welcoming him to our luncheon on May 3rd as we celebrate the quarter century mark of this signature event!

Tickets for the luncheon are \$20.00 general admission, \$18.00 for seniors/students, including a light lunch and door prizes. To purchase, please contact Bryan Prince Bookseller, 1060 King St. W., Hamilton, 905-528-4508, Kool Klay Café, 36 King St. E., Dundas, 905-628-6062, or Laura Ludwin at 905-523-1325.

Irwin Cotler to speak at Mac

UJA Federation of Hamilton is proud to announce its support for the upcoming presentation by the Hon. Irwin Cotler, P.C., O.C., M.P. The presentation is taking place under the auspices of the McMaster University Library and the Department of Religious Studies.

Cotler will address the topic of: Perspectives on Contemporary Anti-Semitism: What Have We Learned? What Must We Do?

This is the second in a series of annual lectures on modern anti-Semitism sponsored by McMaster University. Last year's

inaugural lecture featured internationally acclaimed scholar, Dr. Deborah Lipstadt of Emory University. The lecture is financially supported through a generous gift from Madeleine and Monte Levy, as part of their ongoing support for the McMaster Library collection of documents and artifacts from their extensive collection of Holocaust and Resistance materials.

Prof. Cotler will be speaking on March 17th, 2010, 7:30PM at the McMaster University's CIBC Hall. The public is invited to attend.

Israeli film offers sensitive depiction of country's religious/secular divide

WENDY SCHNEIDER

While the Israeli-Palestinian conflict dominates world headlines on an almost daily basis, to concerned observers of Israeli society, a seemingly intractable internal conflict is seen as equally troubling. Israel's religious-secular divide has become more of a chasm and nowhere is the fault line more evident than in the streets of Jerusalem.



Yeshiva students burning IDF draft cards: A scene from Brothers

In recent years, the city has been witness to an increasing number of demonstrations and riots from extremist elements of the Haredi (ultra-orthodox) community, protesting any number of perceived violations of their strict interpretation of Jewish law. The result has been an exodus of Jerusalem's secular Jewish population and a growing trend towards homogenous neighbourhoods and towns.

This is the backdrop for the film Brothers (produced by Troubadour Films, Geneva in Hebrew, with English subtitles) that will be screened at Beth Jacob's upcoming Israeli Art Show and Film Festival on March 13th and 14th. Israeli director, Igal Niddam, treats the subject with balance and sensitivity in a heart-wrenching story of two brothers, whose values and world-views, like those of the social groups they represent, are diametrically opposed.

The film focuses on the troubled relationship between two brothers who have not seen nor spoken to each other for 25 years: the distinguished lawyer and Torah scholar Aaron, who has traveled to Jerusalem from the United States in order to defend a group of Yeshiva students who have refused military service in the IDF and his brother, Dan, an idealistic kibbutznik.

A brilliant defence lawyer, Aaron finds his equal in his adversary Shelly, a driven, fiercely secular public prosecutor.

The combination of an intelligent script, outstanding performances and the director's commitment to presenting the issue in all its complexity makes for a rich and satisfying viewing experience.

The film's minor characters are similarly nuanced. The portrayal of Dan's son, an IDF soldier torn between his growing admiration for his uncle and loyalty towards his father, and the Rosh Yeshiva (head of the Yeshiva) who initially heralds the arrival of Aaron with messianic fervour, but is later horrified to realize the unintended consequences of his own political ideology, are especially well drawn.

Brothers will be screened on Sunday, March 14th at 1:00 pm in Beth Jacob Synagogue's Upper Social Hall. On Saturday, March 13th at 7:30 pm, the festival will open with a sale of original Israeli art, followed at 8:30 pm by the Israeli film, Lost Islands. The ticket price of \$25.00 includes a lottery ticket for an original Israeli art work valued at \$600.00. For more information call 905.522.1351 or email office@bethjacobsynagogue.ca.

McMASTER UNIVERSITY LIBRARY and THE DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES
invite you to a talk by:



Hon. Irwin Cotler, P.C., O.C., M.P.



Hon. Irwin Cotler, P.C., O.C., M.P. | Law Professor, Constitutional and Comparative Law Scholar, International Human Rights Lawyer, Counsel to prisoners of conscience, NGO Head, Public Intellectual, Peace Activist, Member of Parliament, and Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada - Irwin Cotler has been variously described in these roles and responsibilities as being "at the forefront of the struggle for justice, peace and human rights."

Perspectives on Contemporary Anti-Semitism: What Have We Learned? What Must We Do?

Join us for this lecture followed by a reception on

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2010

7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. | CIBC Hall, McMaster University Student Centre

Supported by: UJA Federation of Hamilton, McMaster Jewish Students Association, McMaster Jewish Faculty Association, McMaster Israel On Campus and the Hamilton Jewish Federation Holocaust Education Committee



Please RSVP by Wednesday, March 10, 2010 to kkerr@mcmaster.ca or 905.525.9140 ext. 21203.

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the YAD report

Shalom Hamilton! Shalom Baby! Welcoming Young and Old to Hamilton

UJA Federation's YAD (Hands Across Hamilton Division) is excited to announce the launch of the Shalom Hamilton/ Shalom Baby initiative.

The program is designed to ensure that all newcomers to the Hamilton Jewish Community are identified, welcomed and provided with all of the information they may require to quickly integrate themselves into the community in whatever way they wish.

"Demographics are a significant concern to our small Jewish community," said Mario Stolar, YAD chair. "Every new member matters. This initiative could be an instrumental step in attracting young families with children; the demographic we so very much want to bring to Hamilton."

Every family with a newborn will receive a "Shalom Baby" goody bag and booklet providing full information relevant to raising Jewish children in Hamilton. Project co-chairs Jill Gaffe, Danna Horwood and Rebecca Shapiro are currently working on the booklet and are very excited to be launching this initiative.

"Shalom Hamilton" will provide newcomers to the Hamilton Jewish community with detailed information about the full range of Jewish programs, services and organizations in the Hamilton / Burlington area. In addition, all newcomers to the area will be invited to a dessert reception, to welcome them and to provide an opportunity to meet other members of the community.

For the first reception, tentatively scheduled for April 25th, we want to include everyone who moved to the Hamilton-Wentworth/Halton area from January 1, 2009 on. The welcome dessert receptions will take place quarterly once the program is underway. If you are new to the community or have recently had a baby, please email your contact information to shalomhamilton@gmail.org or call Elaine at 905-627-9922 Ext.24.



Jill Gaffe, Rebecca Shapiro and Danna Horwood chair the Shalom Baby Project.

GENESIS - YAD HAMILTON'S Leadership PROGRAM

YAD Hamilton's Genesis Leadership Program is based on the belief that it is up to our community members to create the Jewish Hamilton we want in the generations to come. The program is designed to give participants the skills to enhance their volunteer roles in the community.

YAD's mission is "to strengthen the role our generation can play within our community," said chair, Mario Stolar.

YAD's current goals are to help people connect with others in the community through special events, develop a strong leadership program that will enable future leaders to fulfill leadership roles in the community and to empower people to live generously by giving some of their time, skills and resources to better serve the community's on-going needs.

The first session, dedicated to understanding the benefits of having an organizational structure in the community and identifying community needs, was met with enthusiasm.

"This program is great! I've already used things I learned on the first day in my duties chairing the Kehila Board of Trustees," said David Shore.

Participant Laura Laengerer, writing about the first session in which Michael Soberman, National Director of the Canada Israel Experience led the group in a discussion about the four pillars of Federation's mandate, wrote, "Michael explained that "Assisting the Vulnerable, Strengthening Jewish Education and Jewish Identity, Supporting Israel and the domestic advocacy agenda and Continuing Community Development" are the same priorities for every Federation across the country and provide guidelines for resources allocation. Over the next five sessions we will learn about self awareness, personal vision, structure, the need for leadership and how to prioritize. I am looking forward to building lasting relationships and am determined that upon completion our community will have a strong group of future dynamic leaders."



Back row l-r, Jonathan Fleisch, Joel Feldman, Aaron Kesselman, Julie Dembe, Vadim Gershkovitz, Sarah DeLeon, Lisa Morris, Leah Mauer, Front row l-r, David Shore, Carl DeLeon, Mike Dressler, Laura Laengerer, Dafna Bener, Yael Resnick DeMarco and Mario Stolar.

UJA FEDERATION Public Affairs

Federation President meets new Chief of Police

UJA Federation President Dr. Larry Levin and Executive Director Gerald Fisher recently met with Glen DeCaire, Hamilton's new Chief of Police. Called at the Chief's request, UJA Federation leadership took the opportunity to reinforce the mutual value of our community's close working relationship to the Police Service. Points stressed during the meeting included hate crimes, the vulnerability of Jewish institutions and the need for bridge building between communities.



Hamilton's new Chief of Police, Glen DeCaire with UJA Federation president, Dr. Larry Levin.

The discussion placed particular focus on the tense situation at McMaster University. Levin expressed our community's renewed concerns over Israel apartheid week, especially because the organizers of this year's activities are not signers to last year's "peace treaty." In reply, the Chief expressed appreciation for our community's concerns on this matter and pledged to take all possible steps, in cooperation with McMaster authorities, both before, during and after the programs, to ensure the safety of everyone on campus.

This very positive meeting concluded with commitments to sustain and grow the already very positive relationship between the Service and the community. The Chief requested an opportunity to meet with the community and arrangements to do so are now being made.

Subsequent to the meeting, Dr. Levin has been invited to address the Hamilton Police Service In Recognition of the United Nations Designated Day For The Elimination Of Racial Discrimination. He will be one of the speakers on the topic: Towards Eradicating Racism on Thursday March 18, 2010, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at The Hamilton Spectator Auditorium.

Federation Celebrates with Stewart Memorial

UJA Federation Executive Director, Gerry Fisher, was a special guest at the recent kick off event celebrating the one hundred and 75th anniversary of the Stewart Memorial Church.

"I was very honored to be seated between

Mayor Eisenberg and Lincoln Alexander. But the thrill came when I was publicly introduced as 'always a friend.' That meant quite a lot to me personally, but it says even more about the positive relationship that UJA Federation has been able to develop with the Afro Caribbean Community," said Fisher.

Stewart Memorial is the oldest "Black Congregation in the area and was one of the early stops for freedom on the "Underground Railroad." Over the past number of years, UJA Federation has reached out to partner with the church on a number of important projects including the Joshua Nelson Concert and the annual Martin Luther King Day observances. Perhaps most impactful has been the participation of Stewart Memorial youth in UJA Federation's Asper Program in Human Rights and Holocaust Education.

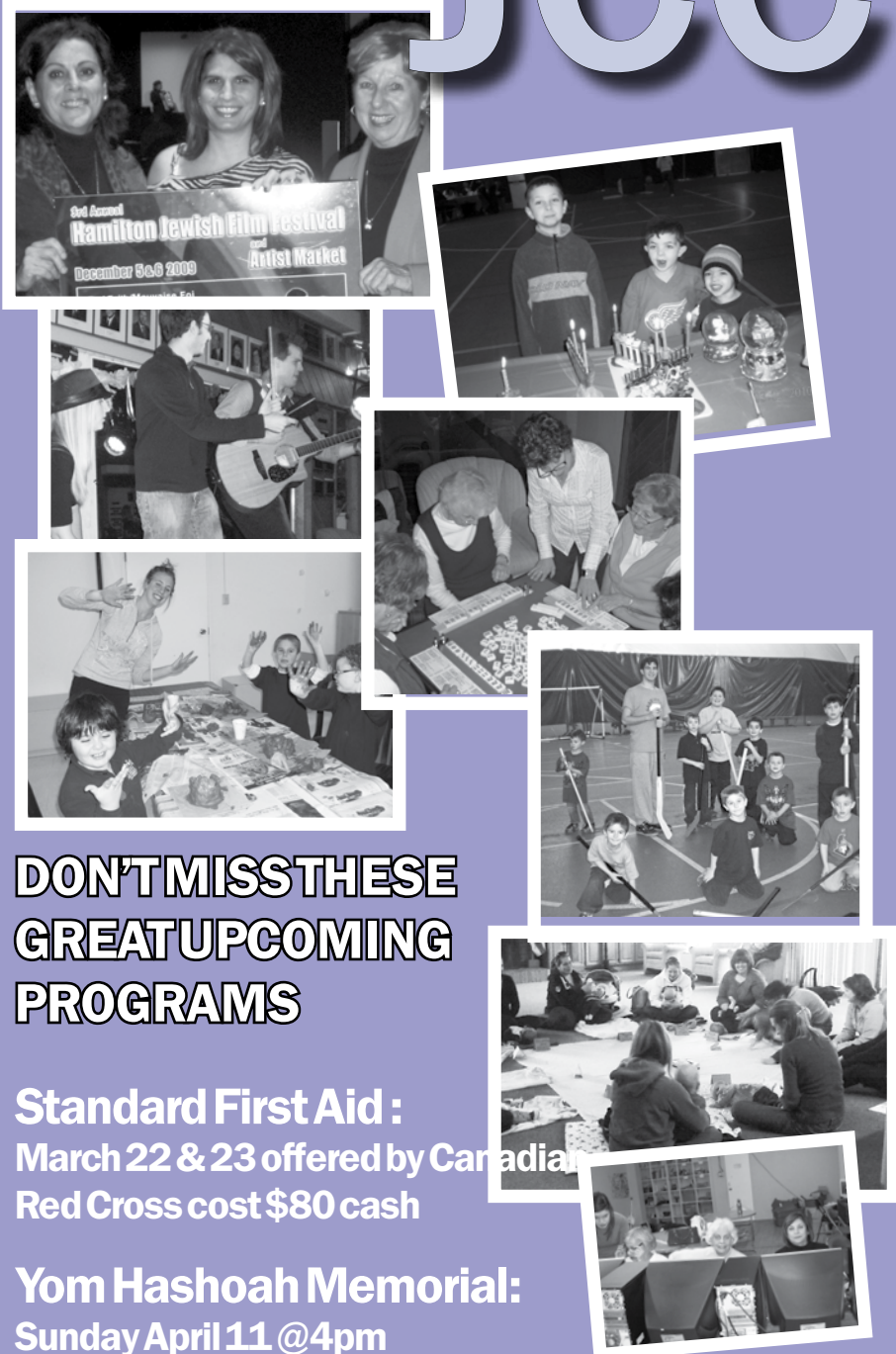


Lincoln Alexander speaking at the Stewart Memorial celebration while M.P. David Christopherson and Gerry Fisher look on.

Federation & JNF launch new speakers series

see page 13

Living it up at the **JCC**



DON'T MISS THESE GREAT UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Standard First Aid:
March 22 & 23 offered by Canadian Red Cross cost \$80 cash

Yom Hashoah Memorial:
Sunday April 11 @ 4pm
@ Temple Anshe Sholom



The JCC introduces Andrea Levy's

Chews & Schmooze

Open Sundays through Thursdays from 12 to 2:00 pm



A WORD FROM ALLAN FEIN & LAURA LAENGERER



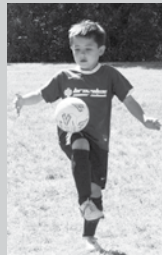
The Importance of Community Partnerships

In 1943 while speaking at a convocation ceremony for Harvard University, Winston Churchill stated "If we are together nothing is impossible. If we are divided all will fail". Here at the JCC we have come to realize the true potential in those words through building and strengthening partnerships in the Jewish and non-Jewish Hamilton communities. Our relationships with Kehila Day School, Andrea Levy (Chews & Schmooze), Brazilian Soccer School, Socatots, and the Ontario Early-Years Centre truly expand our ability to offer quality programs and services without compromising what is already in existence. Collaborations with the McMaster Jewish Students Association help us to link young adult leadership back to the Centre. Overall these partnerships allow us to reach our vision of having people wanting to come to the JCC to grab a bite to eat, exercise with the assistance of expert physical educators, and be involved in all forms of traditional and non-traditional forms of recreation and leisure.

Of course, our most important partnership is with YOU! Over the next few months we will be hosting some town hall meetings and focus groups to ensure community consultation as the Board of Directors continues to be challenged with exciting decisions on the road to realizing the redevelopment plan and vision. If you are already involved with the JCC we thank you. If you are not, please inquire about joining one of our many vibrant committees. By taking Churchill's words to heart and working as a cohesive unit we have a great opportunity to make the JCC a truly special place.

kids
programs

BRAZILIAN SOCCER



The JCC presents Brazilian Soccer for ages 5 - 16 year olds. The aim of Brazilian Soccer School (BSS) is to encourage children to spend longer working with the ball practicing and developing their skills. The program has evolved into what we now believe to be the most complete development program of any sport anywhere in the world. Brazilian soccer will be offered Wednesdays 4:30-5:30 pm on April 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12, 26, June 2 & 9; Introductory offer: \$80 for JCC members and children that attend Hamilton Hebrew Academy, Kehila Jewish Community Day School, Temple Religious school and Beth Jacob. Call the JCC to register. www.icfcs.com/burlington.

SOCATOTS



Socatots is the world's first soccer specific physical play program for pre-school aged children, from the time they begin to crawl to age 5. Socatots provides a set of structured activities based around play, physical and mental activities that teach very basic soccer skills, coordination, flexibility and confidence. Socatots will be offered on Wednesdays 4:30-5:30 pm on April 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12, 26, June 2 & 9. Introductory offer: \$80 for JCC members and children that attend HHA, Kehila, Temple Religious school and Beth Jacob. Call the JCC to register! www.socatots.com/burlingtonhamilton

MOTHERGOOSE



The Parent-Child Mother Goose Program® is a group experience for parents and their babies and young children which focuses on the pleasure and power of using rhymes, songs, and stories together. Parents gain skills and confidence which can enable them to create positive family patterns during their children's crucial early years, and give their children healthy early experiences with language and communication. There is no cost to the parents who participate. To register for the next session being offered at the JCC in April call 689-9500.

YOM HA'ATZMAUT
at the jcc

Tuesday, April 20
@ 6:00 pm

Come one come all
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At the JCC like every year
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We will keep the kids out of trouble
Call the JCC to register today
What ever you do don't delay

Artist Market 6pm-7pm • Food & cash bar
Children's activities

Cost before April 4th

Age 4 & under free; Under Bar/Bat Mitzvah \$10
Individual price \$20; Family price \$54

Cost after April 4th

Age 4 & under free; Under Bar/Bat Mitzvah \$15; Individual Price \$25;
Family Price \$65.

JCC Members:

Purchase your tickets before April 4th and you will be entered in a draw to win one of three prizes!

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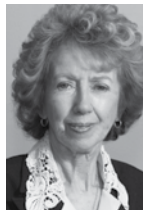
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Crystal discovery opens new horizons

L.A. born Jewelry designer finds her calling in Hamilton

WENDY SCHNEIDER

She's a paragon of chic whose jewelry collection is creating a buzz from Southern Ontario to Southern California. She's an L.A. born observant Jew living in Hamilton and juggling the demands of running a business while raising three children. She is, of course, Rebekah Price.

Price is the first to acknowledge that to many, she is a paradox.

"I've never been a typical orthodox person... My philosophy on Judaism is to combine both worlds. I live a life of Torah and Mitzvot to the best of my ability, but at the same time, I'm very much involved in today's culture and society."

Price's interest in fashion was already apparent by grade 3, when she chose a Vogue magazine cover with her face superimposed on it for a school project. As an undergraduate at Stern College and the Fashion Institute of Technology, she studied art history, fashion business and studio design. A self-described shy girl who was often found hiding behind her mother's skirt, Price found a way to communicate who she really was through her clothing.

Price moved to Hamilton in 2002 when her former husband was a medical student at McMaster. The move was not an easy one for Price, who had worked for



Rebekah Price

three years as a personal assistant to New York fashion mogul Elie Tahari and whose most recent job was as an image consultant and window dresser in Toronto. She recalled bursting into tears on her first drive into the city when she saw a truck filled with pigs travelling next to them.

"If I hadn't left New York, my life would have been completely different," she said, but life had other plans for her. During her early years, she put her career on hold and devoted herself exclusively to mothering her children. But all that changed on the day, late in the pregnancy of her third child, when she was stopped in her tracks by the sight of a woman wearing a light blue azure crystal. She discovered that the crystal was a specific kind of Swarovski crystal of the highest quality made in Austria. Within days, Price had

found a supplier and placed an order, sight unseen. It was now a race against time to make twenty samples before the birth of the baby. Then, baby in tow, she took her samples from door to door to the high-end boutiques in Hamilton, Burlington, Oakville and Toronto, until she had her first order. Designing packaging and taking orders from her friends followed quickly.

"It was really something from nothing," she said. "It was scary. It was a commitment... I absolutely believed in this product and was not about to give up."

Her work is now sold in 14 boutiques, including Holt Renfrew. And Price has used her L.A. connections to get Hollywood actresses, among them, Mariah Carey, to wear her jewelry. She even arranged for one of her pieces to be hand-delivered to the former First Lady, Laura Bush.

Rebekah Price is not the first young entrepreneur to have launched a career in Hamilton and the distance she's travelled since that first drive into the city can be measured by how much she's come to appreciate it here.

"There's a lot of beauty and potential in this town," she said, making it clear that she is not only referring to Westdale's beautiful ravines, but also the people; "You will never meet anyone like them in the whole world."

High aspirations for performing art school

Collegial partnership ensures bright future for budding performers

WENDY SCHNEIDER

Anna Shkolnik has good news for parents of budding performance artists. A highly regarded educator in the Hamilton community, Shkolnik has recently taken on the role of principal of the Hamilton Academy for the Performing Arts (HAPA). Located on 108 Park Street West in Dundas, the private school offers a full academic curriculum together with up to three hours a day of classes in the performing arts, including ballet, modern and character dance, vocal studies, music and drama.

Shkolnik's roots in education run deep. Trained as an elementary and high school teacher in the Ukraine, she and her husband, the late Leonid Shkolnik, came to Hamilton in 1978, just ahead of a large wave of Jewish immigration from the former Soviet Union. The Shkolniks' immersion in Canadian society was a huge success by any measure. Within a short time after their arrival Anna landed a job as principal of Columbia International College. The Shkolniks' involvement in community life mirrored their work ethic: All three of their children attended the Hamilton Hebrew Academy and Anna has taken on leadership roles in several community organizations, including UJA Federation, ORT and Na'amat.

The year 2009 brought major changes to Shkolnik's life. After almost 30-year career at Columbia she was looking forward to retirement when her husband's life was tragically cut short by a

heart attack on a family bar mitzvah trip. There are a myriad of ways to respond to such a devastating loss. Shkolnik chose to open a school.

She approached Rabbi Morton Green about the possibility of renting the Bowman Avenue Yeshiva building as a location for a high-level university preparatory private high school that was a dream of hers. Around the same time, the Rabbi had received a similar request by Hamilton City Ballet Director, Max Ratevosian, winner of the 2008 city of Hamilton Arts Award for Dance, who was looking for a location for a new performing arts school. In his wisdom the Rabbi saw the potential for collaboration between these two ambitious professionals, who spoke the same language – Armenian born Ratevosian enjoyed a career as a professional ballet dancer in the Former Soviet Union – both literally and figuratively. He was right on the mark.

Ratevosian, on the Rabbi's suggestion, contacted Shkolnik and the rest, as they say, is history. After an initial attempt to open their school in another location failed, an opportunity suddenly presented itself when the downtown Dundas location, most recently the site of a Montessori



Anna Shkolnik and Max Ratevosian

school, became available.

The Hamilton Academy for the Performing Arts opened in September with six students and seven teachers, but Shkolnik and Ratevosian know it's just a matter of time before their vision of establishing an internationally renowned performing arts school becomes a reality. This summer Shkolnik and Ratevosian will be seeking students from Russia, Korea, Japan, Central and South America, China and across Canada. The school also operates a residence for out of town students on MacNab Street in downtown Hamilton.

The Hamilton Academy for the Performing Arts welcomes applications to its 2010/2011 day school program for students in Grades 4 through 12, as well as its after school and summer programs in association with Hamilton City Ballet. For more information call the academy at 289 238 9855, email info@haofpa.com or visit www.haofpa.com.

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Summer Ballet Intensive participants will be exempt from auditioning for HAPA's specialized ballet stream



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Creative arts at Shalom Village

Creating creative possibilities

Shalom Village is home to poets, potters, painters, playwrights, actors, singers, dancers, woodworkers and more. From puppet shows to pottery and scripts to scroll saws, the creative juices are flowing like never before.

Thanks to your support of the Possibilities Fund, Shalom Village residents have been taking advantage of many opportunities to explore the "Deeper Experience" as we build on our commitment to help create memories through meaningful activities.

SHALOM VILLAGE PLAYERS

The Shalom Village Players, led by Emanuela Dussin, have had a banner year. They followed up their popular "Puttin' on the Skitz" review with "Shalom's Got Talent", an entertaining variety show featuring the talents of our residents, volunteers and staff.

They closed out the season with a bang, producing an innovative and engaging puppet show based on the classic Little Bo Peep nursery rhyme. The script was adapted from a short story written by Shalom Village resident Keith Button. The cast designed and created the puppets, built the set and presented a new twist

on the classic tale that took audiences by storm.

WOODSHOP

Other creative programs have flourished this year. The Harry Templeton Woodshop continues to be popular with residents at all skill levels. Instructor Gary Ulrich helps participants create projects based on their interests and abilities. Some are comfortable using power tools and saws while others prefer to focus on assembly and painting. They have one thing in common—they enjoy their time spent in the woodshop!

POTTERY

Keith Hamilton's pottery workshops are a new addition this year. Participants have created many beautiful dishes, vases, cups and bowls under Keith's guidance. The projects are formed and glazed at Shalom Village and Keith takes them back to his studio to fire them.

ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW

Watch for an Arts & Crafts show later this year which is planned to showcase our resident's creative talents.

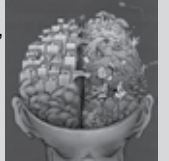
Thank you for helping us create creative possibilities at Shalom Village!



Edna Smith created this beautiful vase at Keith Hamilton's pottery class at Shalom Village

Creativity and the aging brain

In a presentation at Shalom Village on February 11, Emanuela Dussin explained that by participating in creative activities different parts of the brain are engaged. This promotes neurogenesis, or growth of new brain cells. Studies suggest that this stimulation can prevent memory loss and may even play a role in preventing some types of dementia.



"Creativity can be expressed in many ways other than what people consider to be art," explains Emanuela. "Cooking, gardening or woodworking are all ways of expressing creativity. Creative self-expression is a basic human need."

Other factors come into play. Creative activities tend to promote social interaction, which is also a beneficial stimulus. Trying something different, like varying the route you take, or doing an activity you haven't tried before, is a great way to get your brain working in new ways.

The key message is don't be afraid to be creative and try something new!



7th Annual Service Awards for Geriatric Excellence


Cathy McDowell nominated for SAGE Award

Congratulations to Cathy McDowell, Shalom Village's popular Coordinator of Volunteers, who has been nominated for a Service Award for Geriatric Excellence (SAGE).

SAGE celebrates the accomplishments of those who are passionate and committed to improving the quality of life for seniors in the regions of Brant, Halton, Hamilton,

Haldimand and Norfolk, Niagara, Waterloo and Wellington-Dufferin. The winners will be announced at an awards ceremony at the Sheraton on the Falls Hotel & Conference Centre in Niagara Falls on May 7, 2010.

Congratulations Cathy. We're all proud of you!



OOPS! - wrong number!

There is an incorrect phone number for Shalom Village in the 2009 Jewish Community Telephone Directory. To reach anyone at Shalom Village please call (905) 529-1613. To send a card or make a donation select extension 231 or extension 264.

Passover at Shalom Village



At Shalom Village staff members join residents and their families as we observe Passover with Seders in each of our dining rooms, beginning with candelighting, reading the haggadah and then enjoying a traditional dinner. Community volunteers are an important part of our Seders. If you are interested

in participating in the celebrations please give Cathy McDowell a call at (905)529-1613 ext. 236.

As we celebrate the freedom and deliverance marked by Passover, we hope for prosperity and health for you and your loved ones.

Shalom Village Tribute Cards

Shalom Village will send beautiful tribute cards on your behalf to acknowledge life's milestones and special occasions. Cards are sent directly to the recipient and include your own personal message.

To send a card call (905) 529-1613 ext. 264 or send an e-mail to kathleen@shalomvillage.on.ca.

Funds raised by card sales help us make possibilities possible at Shalom Village. Many of the wonderful things that make home at Shalom special would not be possible without your support.

The following have been honoured by family and friends with a donation to Shalom Village:

IN MEMORY: William Cramer; Guessel Karan; Mrs. Miller; Hyman Wiseman; Sorkie, Sylvia Kudlats; Barbara Leibow; Frank Selberger; Yetta Katz; Murray Walman; Lily Tishkoff; Lewis Ross; Len Gooblar; Ernie Tarr; Molly Lewis; Hazel Lenz; David Lax; Barry Feldman; Harold

Morden; Magda Muller; Bob Sachs; Salvatore Ventrescas; Gerald Gerson; Ken Bell; Abisz Alter; Emilia Shusterman.

THANK YOU: Janis Sternhill, Coordinator of Baycrest Volunteers; Bina Feldman; Mr & Mrs Joey Sadofsky; Lorraine Cohen.

ANNIVERSARY: Samieth & Max Mintz.

MAZEL TOV & CONGRATULATIONS: Milli Gould; Lorraine Stevenson; Faye Karon; Stan & Sheryl Katz.

GET WELL: Les Wolfe; Margaret Griffith; Jerome Zwicker; Ralph Orman; Shirley Silberg.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Brian Kumer; Taylor Kumer; Gloria Greenspan-Glayt; Anita Smurlick; Goldie Robbins; Thelma Booth; Joseph Isakow; Shirley Weddum; Minna Loewith.

HAPPY CHANUKAH: Lisa & Mark Levy; Ellen Hoffman & Steve; Freda Hoffman.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS: Pat Morden & Family.



JNF honours Phil Rosenshein and Ben Sauder

DIANA BROCK

How many of us can boast of sharing a life-long friendship that spans an incredible eight decades?

Phil Rosenshein and Ben Sauder are two Hamilton residents that can. They met as children at the

Ferguson Avenue synagogue and after all these years, they both speak fondly of their lasting bond. Phil and Ben are both devoted family men, successful businessmen and dedicated leaders in the Jewish community as well as

strong supporters of Israel. They are people who recognize that volunteer opportunities abound, and with great enthusiasm, devotion and skill, have never been afraid to roll up their sleeves for a worthy cause. As friends, Phil and Ben have done many things together over the years, and now, together they will be given due and deserved recognition by the Jewish National Fund at the 2010 Negev Dinner as this year's honourees.

For over sixty years the Jewish National Fund has been raising money for important infrastructure projects in Israel. As part of its activities in Canada, the JNF honours Canadians who have demonstrated community leadership. It is for that reason that Ben and Phil are being recognized. They have asked that the proceeds from the 2010 Negev Dinner be dedicated to a project in Israel - the Hillel Landsman Park in Hatsor HaGelilit, located between Safed and Rosh Pina in the Upper Galilee.

The 2010 Negev Dinner will take place on May 30th at the Hamilton Convention Centre. The honourees, Phil and Ben, are both humbled for having been chosen to be recognized at this prestigious event and are excited about creating a park in Hatsor HaGelilit. The Honorary Chair of the evening will be Dr. Arthur Weisz, the 1996 Negev Dinner Honouree and a close personal friend of both Phil and Ben. The Dinner co-Chairs are Tom and Sasha Weisz, 2007 Negev Dinner honourees. The evening's keynote speaker will be Henry Winkler best known for his Golden Globe award winning role as "the Fonz" on the hit comedy series Happy Days. The 2010 Negev Dinner promises to be an enjoyable, memorable and inspiring evening and an event not to be missed.

JNF and Federation launch new speakers series

Israel has become part of the life of virtually every Jew living in the Diaspora. So, it only makes sense for us to know as much as we can about this extraordinary country. It is based on this premise that UJA Federation of Hamilton and the JNF have launched a new speaker's series focused on aspects of Israel "beyond the conflict." The inaugural event took place on February 25th at the home of Danna and David Horwood. The initiative is being co-chaired by Danna Horwood and Jeff Shinehoft.

Keynote speaker at the series launch was Dr. Rafi Hofstein, who helps create successful global businesses from Canada's science, technology and social innovation concepts. Dr. Hofstein's discussion focused on how a country as small as Israel has been able to leap to the world forefront of science and technology based industry.

The series is the brainchild of JNF CEO Franklin Simkevitz and Federation executive director, Gerald Fisher. According to Fisher, "Frank and I fully appreciate the complementary roles of JNF and UJA in building the Jewish State. Simply put, one agency reclaims land, one agency reclaims lives. Among other goals, we wanted

to use this initiative to demonstrate that UJA and JNF are true partners in bringing our Hamilton community together in support of Israel."

Simkevitz felt very strongly that the initiative be used to educate participants about positive aspects of Israel you never encounter through the media.

"In a climate so focused on conflict, it is difficult to ever even know about Israel's remarkable achievements in social inclusiveness, education, medicine, agriculture, technology etc. This is clearly an opportunity to let people know about the real Israel and all the positive stories that rarely get told. The decision to focus on younger community members as the core group of participants makes the initiative even more valuable."

Plans are underway to bring Israel Trade Commissioner Jonathan Levy as the next speaker in the series.



Pictured above (l to r) are UJA President, Dr. Larry Levin, David Horwood, Danna Horwood, Dr. Rafi Hofstein, JNF President, David Loewith and Jeff Shinehoft.

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Ben Sauder



Phil Rosenshein



c. 1938

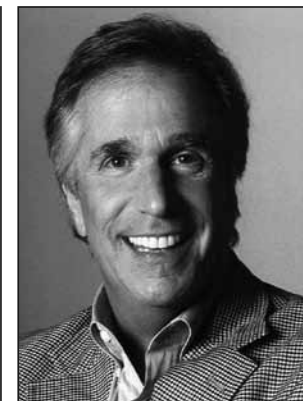


Mark your calendars A Negev Dinner you won't want to miss!

May 30, 2010 Hamilton Convention Centre

Friends for almost 80 years!

This year's Negev Dinner will pay tribute to BEN SAUDER and PHIL ROSENSHEIN for their many years of commitment to our community and to Israel.



Featuring one of television's most recognizable characters, THE FONZ - Henry Winkler.

Honourary Dinner Chair:
Dr. Arthur Weisz

Dinner co-Chairs:
Tom and Sasha Weisz

For tickets or more information: Call: 905 527-5516
email: hamilton@jnf.ca

ADAS ISRAEL CONGREGATION

The popularity of Shabbat Night Live, Adas Israel's Friday night musical service, can be seen in the filled seats and felt in the pulse and vibrancy of the room.

Led by the vocally gifted Yaakov Morel, the Carlebach style service is the continuance of a program that began seven years ago. The service was launched by Dr. Michael Kigel (under the name "Friday Night Fever") and was later enhanced and developed by Rabbi Golan Amar. Over the years the service began building momentum but has now reached its crescendo moment.

The uniqueness of the service is its ability to bring together and inspire a wide spectrum of individuals and families through the power of song and spirit. All come to pray, sing, (and sometimes) dance, in an environment that embodies joy and spirituality. Little boys and girls who generally feel uncomfortable or bored at services, join Yaakov on the bima for beat renditions of classic Jewish folk tunes and dance around the bima after each lively set. Even those with limited knowledge of Hebrew can "join in" as the repetitive nature of the



Yaakov Morel
Photography by Adalia Schweitzer

tunes makes it easy to sing along.

Due to the relatively short duration of the services (about one hour), Friday night has become the first choice for many families. Visitors from other communities have made a point of returning for another Shabbat visit just to experience the unique and special charge of Shabbat Night Live at the Adas. For service times please visit the calendar on our website www.adasisrael.ca.

HAMILTON JEWISH MIDDLE SCHOOL

The HJMS has taken significant strides in creating a new integrated technology program that enhances the educational experience of our students. Under the direction of our technology consultant, Matt Scheben, teachers are provided with the resources and support to effectively utilize the Media Centre as a vehicle to deliver curriculum in new and innovative ways. Updates to our Media Centre include new computer systems, digital multimedia equipment, and SMART BOARD technology to be phased into the classrooms in the coming months.

Ms. Brittany Werstiuik, the Grade 6 General Studies teacher, utilizes the computer lab on an almost daily basis for research, media presentations, and group assignments. In a recent book report assignment, the Grade 6 class was divided into pairs and given the option to create a television commercial, radio ad, breaking news story, or talk show. Students thrived in this independent project where most chose to utilize the use of video cameras and computers available through HJMS.

In Grade 7 General Studies, our teacher, Mrs. Tricia Grynspan, utilized our newly developed recording centres to create Radio Plays through a program called "Audacity". The Radio Plays focused on the environment with the goal of developing students' creative writing and language skills through the proper writing of scripts. Students recorded their own Radio Plays and prepared them for pod-cast as mp3's. In

addition, Grade 7 students recently learned how to "data-mine" primary and secondary sources on the Internet in a project that involved researching Canadian cities and creating multi-media presentations.

The Judaic Studies program has also fully integrated technology into the curriculum. Both the Source Based Track and the Cultural Based Track utilize the Media Centre on a regular basis. Recent projects have included research on the origin of Jewish names (culminating in a multi-media presentation) as well as Jewish history research.

In both Grade 6 and 7, Mathletics, a web based math platform, was recently introduced to the curriculum. In a short time, Mathletics has revolutionized the way our students do their math work. The web platform is vastly engaging for students allowing them to compete against students from around the world. Students access model problems and proceed at their own pace from anywhere there is an Internet connection. Mathletics also allows teachers to obtain quick metrics on student progress and identify the strengths and weaknesses in their understanding. Students who otherwise would avoid homework are enthusiastic, and even anxious, to work on math, spending hours to complete levels and achieve awards. Soon after the program was instituted, the HJMS Grade 7 class was the number one ranked class in Canada and frequently held that spot.

MIDRASHA HAMILTON HEBREW HIGH

JAKE MARTIN

Midrasha has been a great experience for me. High school is so busy and it's great to have the opportunity to spend time with my Jewish friends that I wouldn't get to see if not for Midrasha. The best part of the program is all the extras like the Sushi program and the educational movie nights.

Recently, Yaakov Morel started this cool program called "Latte & Learn" at Second Cup. It was amazing to hang out and discuss Jewish topics in a more relaxed setting. Yaakov leads interesting conversations that make it easy for us to learn without even realizing we are learning new things. The best part is that we actually get credits for it! I love that it is so inclusive of all backgrounds and how Temple, BJ & Adas kids can all get together as one to learn and chill. We are all involved in other youth organizations and it's great to have a "Just Jewish" program



Jake Martin and Jacob Cohen

that we can focus on the things we have in common as Jews.

The Friday night dinners are also AMAZING and it is a great experience for a lot of my friends who wouldn't normally experience a traditional Friday night dinner. Even my friends who are not enrolled in Midrasha love to come out for the extra programs (and Shira's great cooking)

If you want to know more about Midrasha you can contact Yaakov Morel at 905-512-1960 or e-mail yaakov@hhmhidrasha.ca

HAMILTON HEBREW ACADEMY

The concept of the Goodness Footprint is based upon the idea that small actions have a large and cumulative impact upon our social environment. The formal design of the "goodness Footprint" was inspired by an article on the topic of global warming and how governments worldwide were working together to tackle climate change and reduce carbon emissions. To really make a difference in the environment, they identified the need for every individual to reduce their own personal carbon footprint. If our small individual footprint can impact the climate of an entire planet, imagine the effect that a footprint of goodness can have on our immediate surroundings. By "Expanding Our Goodness Footprint" and intensifying the consciousness of the entire school body the cultural ripple effects could be colossal. "Expanding our Goodness Footprint" involves a template of actual footprints displayed upon the walls of the school. Our sphere of impact is defined by three concentric circles: the classroom, the school, and the world.

The project began in the classroom. Under the direction of each teacher, each class has developed a system whereby students earn "Footprints" to be displayed upon their classroom wall for conduct that positively impacts the class culture. Phase two has emphasized school culture as the "Footprints" began to exit the classroom



HHA students inspiring others to "Expand their Goodness Footprint"

and enter the school hallways. Phase three has emphasized the need to help society as a whole as our "Footprints" lead us out the doors of our school.

Although these universal concepts were already an integral part of our school environment, the formality of the "footprints" has made a tangible impact on our school, our community & the world at large. Students themselves have taken initiatives such as raising money for Haiti through the UJA and have gotten progressively more involved in raising awareness & funds for the Hamilton Kosher food bank. We have three very exciting projects underway that will expand our concept to include "Family Footprints" throughout the Jewish Community and the world at large. Thank you to all our teachers, students & parents who have been working to continuously take our goodness footprints to the next level.

MAGEN DAVID ADOM

HILDA ROSEN

On February 10, with much excitement, I placed an order to purchase our second scooter/ambulance. I was able to do this because of the outstanding response I received when I made my annual phone call for your help as ambassador for Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel - Hamilton Area.

I sincerely thank everyone who made it possible. With the present economy I felt that a goal of \$25,000 would be indeed a difficult challenge. With your encouragement, the dream became a reality.

Approximate delivery date to Israel will be May 2010. An email photo will be sent to the entire Hamilton community courtesy of UJA Federation's email broadcast.

Once again - todah rabah- May we all be blessed with good health and peace amongst our people.

HADASSAH-WIZO

Have fun and reminisce at the 50th anniversary of the Anna Herschcowitz Chapter of Hamilton Hadassah-WIZO. We hope to celebrate this occasion with a reunion in the Spring of 2010. We are starting by inviting ALL members - from our founding in January, 1960 to present day to add your name to our list by calling or emailing your complete address and email to:

- Marcia Halpren - marbill24@hotmail.com
- Sandi Morris - s.morpen@cogeco.ca
- Gloria Wunder - gwunder@rogers.com
- Sharon Pupko - s.pupko@rogers.com
- Eliane Junger - falconj@sympatico.ca

Do you have any pictures, programs or memorabilia from those years? We have a very proud history of success and we hope you will join us to celebrate!

TEMPLE ANSHE SHOLOM

Spring is beginning to show its head here at the Temple Anshe Sholom Religious School. The winter holidays are over and thoughts of Chanukah and the gifts we received are turning to thoughts of Pesach, summer camp, and what new things await us when the cold days are finally over. We here at the school are thinking over some new ideas as well. Our students here are really incredible. They are interested in world events and really concerned about those people in need both around the world and around the corner. For Chanukah, they made gift bags of toiletries that were then distributed to guests at a local Christmas dinner. The students studying for B'nai Mitzvah this year have conducted a highly successful food drive and all of them are involved in their own Mitzvah Projects. Their creativity and passion is inspiring to see. Our Grade 8 class, our Mitzvah Corps, is concocting all sorts of great plans! Our students are

also involved in the JNF campaign to plant a green ring of trees around Be'er Sheva in Israel.

This interest in tikkun olam has not gone unnoticed. Inspired by our students and the words we read from the Haggadah each year, "let all who are hungry come and eat," we are beginning a new tzedakah initiative here at the Religious School. Instead of bringing in money and deciding at the end of year how to divide it up, we will begin collecting non-perishable food items instead of money. According to 2003 statistics from Mazon Canada, the Canadian arm of Mazon (the Jewish response to hunger), 777,869 people use a food bank in Canada in one month. That means in one month 2.29 million meals are served through the use of a food bank. If our students bring in a can or bag of food each time they come for religious school, just think of all the people we can help feed!

KEHILA JEWISH COMMUNITY DAY SCHOOL

DAVID I. SHORE

Ensuring continued improvement of Judaic curriculum at Kehila

The Rabbinic Advisory Council of Kehila Jewish Community Day School was established to ensure that our school always remains 100% true to its' vision of serving as a community school. The Council is called upon to review curriculum, develop policies, and help the administration reconcile differing denominational approaches to the variety of issues or challenges that commonly face Community Day Schools.

This year, the Council set forth to review and assess Kehila's grade by grade, course by course Judaic and Hebrew Language curriculum. Together with the teachers, a document is now being drafted by the Council which allows parents and educators to see the spiral-nature of our Judaic and Hebrew Language curriculum.

Professional development in the area of Judaic curriculum is also ongoing with the help of the community's Judaic leaders.

At the end of February, Beth Jacob's Rabbi Dan Selsberg worked with our teachers on keeping the Torah alive and relevant. Cheryl Wise, the Educational Director at Oakville's Shaarei-Beth El Congregation will be running a seminar on incorporating the teaching of Jewish values into the everyday curriculum of the school.

In coming months, Kehila will also welcome all of our community's congregational leaders as they run programs for each arising holiday. Our students experienced Purim with Rabbi Dan Selsberg (BJ), and will experience Passover with Cantor Rebecca Moses (T AS), Shavuot with Rabbi Jordan Cohen (also TAS), and Yom Ha'atzmaut with Rabbi Dani Green (The Adas). Cantor Eyal Bitton (BJ) and Rabbi Stephen Wise (Shaarei-Beth El) are programming for Yom Yirushalayim and Lag B'Omer. Chabad's Rabbi Rosenfeld has also frequented Kehila, most recently with Chabad's internationally renowned 'Rabbi Pickle' program.

CHABAD HAMILTON

As Pesach rolls around and we get ready for our Model Matza Bakery and Seders, there are lots of very full months to recap.

This year at Chabad Lubavitch of Hamilton/Beit Menachem Jewish Student Centre has been full of holiday and educational programs, as well as increasingly successful weekly Shabbat dinners for University students.

Chabad has offered students an array of classes, from a discussion on Judaism and Intimacy to the Jewish view on Addiction, as well as the weekly Parsha and individual, personalized learning. Each weekday evening Café Chabad is open offering home-baked goodies and hot, filling soups for students to pop in and grab on their way to or from school. As usual, our weekly Shabbat dinners continue to attract many students, both new and regular attendees, as do our occasional student get-together BBQs and our trademark Midnight Breakfast during exam week.

The mandate of Chabad of Hamilton is to provide and enrich Jewish learning and Mitzva opportunities to the greater Hamilton community. It is in that spirit that every year Chabad hosts a public menorah lighting and despite the construction at City Hall, we've been able to continue that tradition in a non-traditional manner. This year was the third annual Lego Menorah building at lighting in Fortino's. The children had fun with art and building the menorah out of thousands of pieces of Lego while the Shamash was lit by the gracious manager of the store, Rob. G-d willing, as City Hall construction comes to a completion we

will resume our City Hall Lighting with the Mayor.

As this article is being written we are gearing up for our annual SHABBAT 100 on March 5th, done in partnership with the McMaster JSA. This unique Shabbat dinner, originally conceived by Rabbi Zalman Itkin, obm, and a group of students in 2004, takes place on campus and aims to draw over 100 Jewish students. This year we will be joined by special guest Alan "Shlomo" Veingrad- An Offensive Tackle Named Shlomo- who will talk about his life as an NFL player and his journey of self discovery post-Superbowl win.

It is our pleasure to announce a unique Kosher Subsidy for university students. In our efforts to make kosher foods accessible on a student budget, Chabad has found wonderful partners in the kosher establishments here in Hamilton. Hamilton Kosher Meats, Sweet Noshings/Chews and Shmooze Café, and Westdale Delicatessen have agreed to offer a 10% discount (subsidized by Chabad) when presented with student ID. We extend a big yashar koach to them for helping make this a reality.

Moving into the home stretch of the the University semester, Chabad will be holding free seders for the students. Should you know of any student (or anyone else) that is in need of a seder, contact Chabad at 905-529-7458 or email rabbi@chabad-hamilton.com. Shemura Matza is available for purchase at \$20/lb (approx 6-7 matzas). Place your order with Chabad or at the Adas Israel office on a first come, first serve basis.

Wishing you all a kosher and happy Pesach!



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2 SATURDAY
MARCH 13 AT 7:30 PM

ISRAEL'S BOX OFFICE HIT OF 2008

LOST ISLANDS

Lost Islands is a deft depiction of an intimate family crisis set against the backdrop of a national drama.



3 SUNDAY
MARCH 14 AT 1:00 PM



BROTHERS

FOLLOWED BY A DISCUSSION ON THE RELIGIOUS/SECULAR DIVIDE IN ISRAEL

The conflict between two Jewish brothers reflects a society torn between its religious and political principles.



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UJA Federation is pleased to announce the availability of 2010/11 scholarships for study in Israel



To apply for a scholarship:

The Ralph Travis Israel Experience Scholarship Fund

The scholarship will be up to \$500 per student. Participating families are expected to be in good standing with United Jewish Appeal. Application deadline for summer 2010 programs is April 30th. Applications available at 905-648-0605, ext 306. The Ralph Travis Scholarship fund is an important part of the Federation's Legacy Endowment Fund. Additional contributions are welcomed. Please contact the federation office to learn how you can help support this wonderful initiative.

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CHAG SAMEACH


Hamilton on the GO!

As Ambassador of Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel in Hamilton, it gives me great pleasure to announce the realization of our common goal - the purchase of a second Emergency Scooter Ambulance for MDA in Israel.

The cost of each Life-Saving fully equipped Ambulance-on-wheels Scooter is \$25,000 and we should all be justly proud for achieving this remarkable target within 3 months. Kol Hakavod!

My sincerest and heartfelt appreciation to all our Friends and Donors, may you and your loved ones be blessed with a Joyous and Healthy Passover – and may the Peoples be blessed with Shalom.

HILDA ROSEN – CMDA AMBASSADOR



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

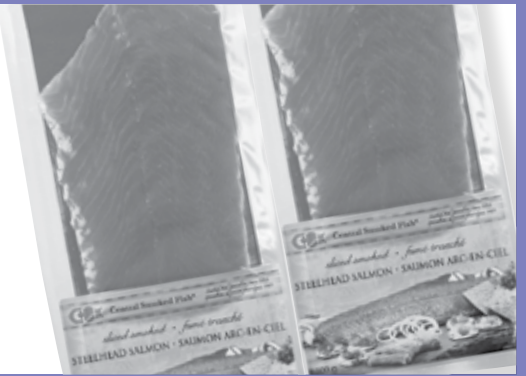
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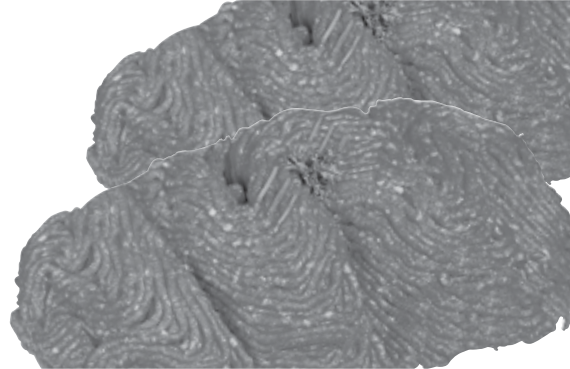
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