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Gala tribute dinner

Rabbi Reuven P. Bulka will be honoured June 11 at a gala dinner benefiting Congregation Machzikei Hadas and the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation > p. 3

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‘Everybody can be a killer ... Everybody can be a victim’

Yom HaShoah marked in Ottawa with a solemn commemoration at the SJCC and a panel discussion on genocide at Saint Paul University.

BY LOUISE RACHLIS

In a keynote address at Ottawa’s Community Yom HaShoah Commemoration, April 27 at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre, and the following day during a Yom HaShoah panel discussion on genocide at St. Paul University, Father Patrick Desbois, a Catholic priest from France, discussed his work in locating and identifying the mass graves of Jews and Roma murdered during the Holocaust in Eastern Europe.

In moving and heartbreaking detail, Father Desbois described his studies of “What was the crime? Not before, not after,” and the thousands of interviews he’s conducted with those who were present at the crime scenes where whole villages came to watch.

“Never were the Nazis missing workers,” he said. “Before, I was imagining the helpers were happy and welcoming and the killers were bad. But I know now they are the same face. Everybody can be a killer. Everybody can be a victim ... It was legal to kill a Jew, a Gypsy. It was an order and an authorization.”

The Yom HaShoah Commemoration also included solemn music, the lighting

of six memorial candles by Holocaust survivors, a floral procession by students, marches on and off of the Colours by members of the Jewish War Veterans of Canada – Ottawa Post, and brief remarks by Israeli Ambassador Rafael Barak and Mina Cohn, chair of the Shoah (Holocaust) Committee of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa.

The panel discussion on genocide, titled “Duty to Remember and the Rebuilding of Nations,” was a powerful mix of skepticism, but also of hope.

Father Desbois explained that, in 2004, he joined with other leaders in the French Catholic and Jewish communities to found Yahad-In Unum, which means “together” in Latin and in Hebrew, an organization he now leads.

The purpose of Yahad-In Unum is to further relations between Catholics and Jews. Its largest and most ambitious initiative is to locate the sites of mass graves of Jewish victims of the Nazi mobile killing units, the Einsatzgruppen, in Ukraine and Belarus.

The panel also included Jan Grabowski, professor of history at the University of
See Yom HaShoah on page 2



(From left) Holocaust survivors Inna Margulis, Yelena Heifets and Yuri Heifets light the sixth memorial candle during the Yom HaShoah Commemoration, April 27.



Keynote speaker Father Patrick Desbois (centre) with Ambassadors Rafael Barak of Israel (right) and Philippe Zeller of France at the Yom HaShoah Commemoration.

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Yom HaShoah: 'There was no dying with dignity'

Continued from page 1

Ottawa; Rabbi Reuven P. Bulka of Congregation Machzikei Hadas; Vern Redekop, professor of conflict studies at Saint Paul University; and Emery Rutagonya, a Rwandan Genocide survivor and co-founder of the Rwanda Survivors Foundation. The moderator was Andrea Knight of the Azrieli Foundation.

In her words of welcome, Chantal Beauvais, rector of Saint Paul University, said Saint Paul aims to "walk the talk."

"We want to transform our culture so this kind of thing doesn't happen again. Knowledge is freedom."

"To say 'never again' is not enough," said Shoah Committee Chair Cohn in her welcoming remarks. "In the room, we have students who will take the messages of the panel discussion back to their schools."

"The theme of this evening is 'Duty to Remember,'" said moderator Andrea Knight. She quoted film director Atom Egoyan on the Armenian genocide: "These are the ghosts of my people and this is my history ... Nothing could be simpler. Nothing could be more complex."

"With each passing year, I become more and more skeptical that history can teach us anything at all," said Grabowski. "In terms of the Holocaust, we are in a dire situation because these are the last of the last. They are a disappearing memory. We have the utmost urgency and it's my duty and that of other historians."

Offering up terms such as "Holocaust deflection" and "misappropriation of the Holocaust," Grabowski lamented that "everything will open up again when the survivors are no longer with us."

Rutagonya described the horror of experiencing the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi people in Rwanda at the age of 18.

"I couldn't make sense of what was happening ... They were our neighbours, good Christians who went to mass every

Sunday ... I looked into the eyes of a killer and he remembered me. People became completely evil."

Rutagonya said he struggled to make sense of his experience and it was almost impossible because there wasn't much written about it.

"So I read about the Holocaust, like *Night* by Elie Wiesel, to understand what had happened to me," he said.

Rutagonya created a program to teach about genocide in a way that "doesn't shock people," describing "a place to come and sit down and listen to stories."

Redekop stressed it's not just the facts that need to be remembered, it's the emotions.

"The victims were surrounded by fear. They felt a profound humiliation. There was no dying with dignity," he said. "They felt a profound sense of loss; the whole community was wiped out. Gone in 24 hours ... There was powerlessness, a sense of terror."

Rabbi Bulka said a Catholic newspaper called him to ask about Father Desbois' presentation and whether it would help.

"Silence certainly doesn't help," Rabbi Bulka said he told the reporter.

"The best bet we have for the next generation," continued Rabbi Bulka, "is to teach kindness to our children. Those who risked their lives to help others came from those kinds of families."

Nicole Jozsa, a Grade 10 religion teacher at École secondaire Béatrice-Deslogues in Orleans, the largest French Catholic high school in Ontario, was seated next to me taking notes during the panel discussion.

"It enriched my life," she said. "I'll be exhausted tomorrow morning telling my students everything."

The panel discussion was sponsored by the Shoah (Holocaust) Committee of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, the government of Canada, the Embassy of France, the Embassy of Israel, Saint Paul University and the Catholic Archdiocese of Ottawa.



PHOTO: HOWARD SANDLER

Students who had participated in the March of the Living and students from the Ottawa Jewish Community School take part in a memorial floral procession at the Yom HaShoah Commemoration.



PHOTO: FRANCIE GREENSPOON

At the panel discussion on genocide, April 28, at Saint Paul University: (Back row, from left) panelists Vern Redekop, Saint Paul University; Rabbi Reuven P. Bulka, Congregation Machzikei Hadas; Jan Grabowski, University of Ottawa; Emery Rutagonya, Rwanda Survivors Foundation; and Father Patrick Desbois, Yahad-In Unum with (front row) Andrea Freedman, Jewish Federation of Ottawa; Mina Cohn, Shoah (Holocaust) Committee; and panel moderator Andrea Knight, Azrieli Foundation.

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SHAVUOT - 1st Day		JUNE 6	8:27 PM

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Dinner ‘an opportunity to honour an amazing individual’

Gala for Rabbi Reuven P. Bulka, to be held Wednesday, June 11 at the Fairmont Château Laurier, will benefit Congregation Machzikei Hadas and the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation.

BY JONAH RABINOVITCH
MACHZIKEI HADAS

Rabbi Reuven P. Bulka, will be honoured at a gala tribute dinner on Wednesday, June 11 at the Fairmont Château Laurier.

Rabbi Bulka, spiritual leader of Congregation Machzikei Hadas since 1967, will become the modern Orthodox congregation’s rabbi emeritus next year.

The gala tribute dinner will feature a keynote address from Employment and Social Development and Multiculturalism Minister Jason Kenney and will be MCed by radio personality Steve Madely.

Although Rabbi Bulka has been so visible in our community and across the country for decades, this will be the first

time he has been honoured at a major gala dinner.

“This will be our community’s proper opportunity to honour an amazing individual who has done so much for our local community and our broader Canadian nation. It will be a memorable evening,” said Arnie Vered, the event co-chair.

The dinner is a major fundraiser for both Congregation Machzikei Hadas and the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation. Proceeds from the evening will eliminate the synagogue’s debt and provide the necessary financial flexibility to engage in dynamic programming and membership recruitment. This is especially prescient as the synagogue welcomes Rabbi Idan Scher this summer. Initially, he will work with Rabi Bulka as associate

rabbi and be installed as our new spiritual next year.

For the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation, proceeds from the event will assist in the fantastic work they do with cancer patients, survivors and their families.

Table sales and donations are coming in at a brisk pace. Those wishing to attend can put together a table of 10 or purchase individual tickets. A table for 10 is \$6,000 with a tax receipt of approximately \$4,500. The individual ticket price is \$600, of which approximately \$450 will be tax receipted.

There will also be a Gala Tribute Book in which community members can acknowledge their gratitude to Rabbi Bulka through placing ads or greetings.

“Rabbi Bulka has touched the lives of so many people in our community, and it is only appropriate we pay tribute to him. We want to see as many people as possible participate through placing ads or greetings or making a general donation,” said Vered.

To participate, contact Jordana Vered at gala@machzikeihadas.com or 613-899-9623.



PHOTO:ASHLEY FRASER

Rabbi Reuven P. Bulka “has touched the lives of so many people in our community and it is only appropriate we pay tribute to him,” said Gala co-chair Arnie Vered.

GOVERNOR GENERAL’S CARING CANADIAN AWARDS

Devora Caytak and **Rochelle Greenberg** were among the 47 people from across Canada honoured at a ceremony, April 7 at Rideau Hall, when Governor General David Johnston presented the Governor General’s Caring Canadian Awards.



The award citation for **Devora Caytak** noted, “For more than 30 years, Devora Caytak has tirelessly supported Ottawa’s Jewish population, as well as the broader community. She runs two successful charities: the Friendship Circle of Ottawa assists families of children with special needs, while the Jewish Youth Library of Ottawa offers books, classes, educational entertainment and lectures to both Jewish and non-Jewish residents. Her commitment to bridge-building between communities has been a key factor in her volunteerism.”



The award citation for **Rochelle Greenberg** noted, “Rochelle Greenberg is the founder of An Evening With Abigail, a series of inspirational and creative fundraising events in support of the Ottawa Regional Cancer Centre. A cancer survivor herself, she continues to counsel women who need support and guidance as they undergo treatment. She has also raised funds for Ottawa Therapy Dogs and participates in their therapy program with her own dog. The pair are regular visitors to the palliative care department at Élisabeth Bruyère Hospital, where they provide comfort to terminally ill patients and their families.”

Or Haneshamah enters new phase with installation of first permanent rabbi

BY ERIC VERNON
OR HANESHAMAH

Ottawa's Jewish community is warmly invited to welcome the city's newest congregational rabbi during a weekend of art, song, food and simcha. Or Haneshamah (OrH), Ottawa's Reconstructionist congregation, officially welcomes Rabbi Elizabeth Bolton at an installation ceremony on May 25, making her the first permanent rabbi in OrH history.

"The installation of Rabbi Bolton marks a significant step for Or Haneshamah, as it evolves from 25 years of lay-led growth into a new phase as a congregation with a permanent rabbi to meet our increasingly complex needs," said event co-chair Deborah Margo.

Rabbi Bolton became Ottawa's first-ever female rabbinical leader when she began work last year.

"We will all be the beneficiaries of this extraordinarily accomplished woman and spiritual leader," said Monica Rosenthal, the event's other co-chair.

The celebratory weekend provides an exciting opportunity to formalize the *brit kehillah* (covenant) between Or Haneshamah and Rabbi Bolton, and the public is welcome at all events.

The weekend begins with a spirited and spiritual Friday night *ruach* service on May 23, a musical Kabbalat Shabbat led by Rabbi Bolton, with instrumental and vocal guest artists. Given Rabbi Bolton's formal voice training in opera and *chazanut* (Jewish liturgy) and her exceptional musical talents, this is a particularly apt beginning, not to be missed.

At the formal installation on Sunday evening, to be followed by an elegant reception with light refreshments, we will officially welcome Rabbi Bolton into our midst.

Rabbi Bolton's background and accomplishments hint at the many and varied contributions she will make to the congregation and the city of Ottawa in the months and years ahead.

Elizabeth Bolton was born in Montreal and, over her career, has become a dynamic teacher, rabbi, singer, chaplain and spiritual leader. She earned a BFA in music and women's studies from Concordia University and studied voice and opera in Canada and Austria. While studying in Toronto, she served as cantor at Temple Emanuel and created Kol Nashim, an ensemble of women cantors.

In 1996, she received a master of arts in Hebrew letters and rabbinic ordination from the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College (RRC). During her years at RRC, she served many congregations as visiting cantor and student rabbi, participated in the Seminarians Interacting program of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, led programs in music and liturgy, and served clinical internships in geriatric and hospice chaplaincy.

She was a founder of the Jewish Women's Studies Project, now called KOLOT, the Center for Gender and Women's Studies, and founder/director of the RRC student choir, the *ApiChorus*. Following ordination, Rabbi Bolton served as chaplain at the Philadelphia Geriatric Center, taught classical *chazanut* (Jewish liturgy) at RRC, and created and directed the Music and Liturgy Project



Or Haneshamah, Ottawa's Reconstructionist congregation, will install Rabbi Elizabeth Bolton as its first permanent spiritual leader in a ceremony on May 25.

for the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation.

Rabbi Bolton is a featured speaker, performer and master teacher at local, national and international Jewish programs on topics such as interfaith dialogue and transforming synagogue liturgy and, as a gay woman, on GLBT/faith issues.

After more than a dozen years as the first full-time rabbi of Congregation Beit Tikvah, in Baltimore, Rabbi Bolton returned to Canada last August to become the first rabbi to serve Or Haneshamah on a permanent basis.

The musical Kabbalat Shabbat and Oneg Shabbat reception will begin at 7:30 pm on Friday, May 23. The formal installation of Rabbi Bolton will commence at 7:30 pm on Sunday, May 25. Both events are free and will be held at the First Unitarian Congregation of Ottawa, 30 Cleary Avenue, which graciously shares its space with OrH.

We are thrilled to officially welcome Rabbi Bolton and cordially invite all members of the Jewish community of Ottawa to meet her and join in this joyous communal celebration.

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FEDERATION
REPORT



LYNNE ORECK-WENER
FOUNDATION

Join the growing number of thoughtful philanthropists who have accepted the legacy challenge

difference and ensure that we leave a personal legacy. Individuals of all means can make a tremendous impact;

- By making a legacy gift, the causes we support in our lifetime can continue to reap the benefits of our philanthropy in perpetuity.

Making a legacy gift has never been easier. It begins by reflecting on the causes you are most passionate about it. The summer camp you attended? Helping the vulnerable? Education? Support for the people and State of Israel?

Then, engage in a conversation with your financial adviser and/or contact Jared Isaacson at the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation – jisaacson@jewishottawa.com or 613-798-4696, ext. 248 – to discuss the legacy giving vehicle most appropriate for you. Gifts appearing on a final tax return are 100 per cent tax deductible. As such,

donating life insurance, marketable securities or RRSPs can add up to significant tax savings. In other words, you can ensure your philanthropic legacy while also ensuring the financial security of your loved ones. Through the legacy challenge, the Foundation will even assume the legal fees required to establish a legacy gift.

The Foundation recently received notification of an incredible future legacy from Dr. Truda Rosenberg. Dr. Rosenberg was 19 years old when Nazis invaded her hometown of Lwów in Poland. She survived the Holocaust and eventually earned a PhD. She has worked tirelessly and continuously toward educating and informing the public about the horrors of the Holocaust.

When Dr. Rosenberg was asked to what she attributes her survival, she answered without hesitation.

“I knew who I was. This kept me

fighting for life and survival as a human being with the celebration of life that I was taught, with a love of people and a love of life. This, to me, is survival.”

This indelible spirit and desire to educate others is what shines through in her legacy gift.

“People need to give of themselves – their goodness, their thoughts, their understanding of one another. Sometimes we deviate from it a bit – but to think of the values of other people in our world is very important,” said Dr. Rosenberg when speaking about our role in the world.

By choosing to make a legacy gift, she is ensuring that the values and principles of acceptance, respect and the need to be connected to others – values she has spent a lifetime teaching – will continue to be transmitted to future generations. According to Dr. Rosenberg, positive results follow when individuals are guided by both their head and heart.

As Dr. Rosenberg is a life-long educator, it seemed fitting to use her inspiring story to teach us all a lesson about the value of giving, and the knowledge that we can and should leave a legacy that helps to make the world a better place. Please consider using legacy month this May to contemplate your legacy. Will you join the growing number of thoughtful philanthropists who have accepted the legacy challenge?

The word *legacy* has different connotations in different contexts. Will you be remembered, and if so, how? Will you be remembered for your professional contributions? The lessons you taught your children? The lasting impact you had on your friends and family? Or perhaps the enduring influence you had on our community?

May is *Leave a Legacy* month and therefore an opportunity to reflect on what each of our personal legacies can be. Last year, the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation adopted the tagline “there is a way to live forever.” The meaning behind this is simple:

- Each of us has the power to make a

Counting days with lots of questions

each other anew? When we meet again in a new place, is it different from getting together in our old stomping grounds? How do we value and sustain long-standing connections?

How do we mark time?

Do we always “count our blessings?”

Why does it sometimes take a bleak situation to make us aware of the goodness that surrounds us?

We actually already *do* play that game, we Jews, with the counting of the Omer. Having to remember, to call to mind, a date, a number – perhaps along with a *middah*, a behavioural quality, or a *sefira*, an aspect of God’s divine manifestation – brings to one’s awareness issues of past, present and future.

How do we mark time? Do we always “count our blessings?” Why does it sometimes take a bleak situation to make us aware of the goodness that surrounds us? How would it be, if we lived “as if” all of our yearnings could be manifested?

When the rabbis, drawing from Torah,

instructed us “You shall count ... seven full weeks ...” (*Leviticus 23*), they were not just linking Pesach and Shavuot to the fruits of the field and the natural rhythms of the seasons. They were drawing together notions of freedom and attachment, in a sense re-weaving a people together in a conscious and sustainable way.

What do we do with this freedom/obligation paradigm? Are we totally free to re-create in every generation? Are we permanently obligated to observe as our ancestors did? And, when we are challenged by notions of *mitzvot*, or sacred obligations, where do we find sympathetic teachers?

Our ancestors, discussing how to live a conscious/spiritual/religious life, would say: Get yourself a teacher and find yourself a friend; say little and do much; let your house be wide open and the poor be members of your household. And these few pithy maxims are just in the first chapter of *Pirkei Avot*!

Just do it. Learn, seek, question, enjoy. May all our days be ones of questions, discussions, responses and good times with kindred spirits.

Happy Season of the Omer.

FROM THE
PULPIT



RABBI ELIZABETH BOLTON
OR HANESHAMAH

It was a wonderful post-seder weekend. Dear friends came to visit from Montreal; we enjoyed Shabbat dinner with mutual friends, as well as shul in the morning, where we studied *Pirkei Avot* after kiddush, and then returned home for another traditional Shabbos activity – the afternoon nap.

One of our Sunday afternoon activities was decidedly new to them – a rowdy game of Jewish Apples To Apples. It’s a hilarious way to learn stuff (about culture and about your companions) in a whole new way!

That we were playing during Passover definitely made me think of questions: What happens when old friends do new things together? What can we learn of

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FROM THE EDITOR



MICHAEL REGENSTREIF

“Is it really possible for a faith system to endorse democracy?” was the question posed in the April 12 edition of the *Ottawa Citizen* to the panel of interfaith religious leaders who respond to the questions raised in the paper’s weekly *Ask the Religion Experts* column.

I was particularly interested in the response from Rabbi Reuven Bulka of Congregation Machzikei Hadas, who provides the Jewish perspective to the panel.

“We have learned throughout history that the marriage of religion and politics is quite toxic. A country run on strict religious principles does not compromise on those principles, does not allow free choice of alternate religions and will not entertain any voting system that would

It seems like Abbas wanted to force the peace process to fail

jeopardize its hold on the population. ... Try to think of any theocratic state that has welcomed the free expression of ideas rather than its suppression,” he wrote.

Not many days after that particular column appeared in the *Citizen*, the latest U.S.-brokered efforts in the Middle East peace process appeared to collapse because Palestinian Authority (PA) President Mahmoud Abbas – who is now in the 10th year of his four-year term – threw the talks into jeopardy by announcing a reconciliation agreement with Hamas, the theocratic Islamist group that has governed Gaza since violently taking control there away from the PA in 2007.

Hamas – a terrorist organization and recognized as such by Israel, Canada, the United States and the European Union, among others – has governed Gaza with exactly the kind of fundamentalist toxicity that Rabbi Bulka described.

Abbas knew that reconciliation with Hamas – which has since reiterated it would never recognize Israel and which regards all of Israel as occupied Palestinian territory – would make it all but impossible for the talks to continue.

And that would seem to be his strategy with the move: to force the talks into failure.

Of course, there have been three other reconciliation agreements between the PA and Hamas since 2007, and none of them have succeeded. It’s not a stretch to imagine this one meeting the same fate.

HERB GRAY

We were deeply saddened when the Right Honourable Herb Gray passed away on April 21, a few days after our last issue went to press. Although he represented a riding in his hometown of Windsor, Ontario, for almost 40 years, he chose to live in Ottawa after his retirement from politics and was a most valued member of Ottawa’s Jewish community.

Herb Gray’s legacy in government service remains one of the most significant of modern times. He was first elected to Parliament in the 1962 election and was re-elected another 12 times. When prime minister Pierre Elliot Trudeau appointed him to cabinet in 1969 – two years after Canada’s centennial – he became just the first Jewish cabinet minister in our country’s history.

He would go on to a distinguished career in cabinet, holding numerous portfolios in the governments of prime ministers Trudeau, John Turner and Jean

Chrétien – finally serving as Chrétien’s deputy prime minister and deputy leader of the Liberal Party from 1997 to 2002. He also served as Opposition leader for most of 1990, following the resignation of Turner and until the selection of Chrétien as Liberal leader.

Quite remarkably, Herb Gray was one of the rare – and increasingly rare, it seems – politicians who, despite fierce partisanship, commanded universal respect from all political quarters. When he retired from Parliament in 2002, then-governor general Adrienne Clarkson granted him the title of Right Honourable – a designation usually reserved for Canadian prime ministers, governors general and chief justices of the Supreme Court.

On behalf of the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin*, I extend our condolences to his wife, Sharon Sholzberg-Gray, and to their children and grandchildren.

YOM HAZIKARON AND YOM HA’ATZMAUT

Both Yom Hazikaron, Israel’s solemn Memorial Day for fallen soldiers and victims of terrorism, and Yom Ha’Atzmaut, the joyous celebration of the founding of the modern State of Israel, will have taken place in between the time this issue of the *Bulletin* went to press on May 2 and the publication date of May 12. Our coverage of Ottawa events marking those occasions will appear in our next issue.

IDEAS AND IMPRESSIONS



JASON MOSCOVITZ

Quebec 2012 election revealed truth of separatism’s failure

the corruption inquiry, seemed to be its principal target.

If there was ever a time all the stars were aligned to soundly defeat a government, 2012 was the time. The early polls had the Liberals crushed with a possible third place finish. The Parti Québécois (PQ) was the favourite to win a huge majority government.

Unlike last month’s debacle, in 2012, the PQ ran a good campaign. There was no raving or bragging about borders and future use of the Canadian dollar in an independent Quebec. There was hardly a sound about a referendum. There was no Pierre Karl Péladeau pumping his fist for an independent Quebec, and there was certainly no mention of a *Charter of Quebec Values*.

In 2012, the PQ ran as an alternative to a “corrupt” Liberal government that had been in power too long. They talked about change of government, not independence.

I remember going to a friend’s house

to watch the election on that warm early September evening. As the results started to come in, it became apparent the Liberals were not going to fall off the map. Within 20 minutes, it was clear that they were still in the picture, not just on the Island of Montreal, but throughout French Quebec. The predicted PQ majority was off the table. What was developing was a change in how Quebecers saw Quebec’s future.

Charest led his Liberals to an unbelievable 50 seats. The predicted humiliating Liberal defeat never happened. The huge moral victory for the federalist side kept the PQ from forming a majority government. History actually changed more a year and a half ago than it did in last month’s election.

Had the PQ won the majority that was expected in 2012, a referendum, a *Charter of Quebec Values*, a reinforced *Charter of the French Language*, all of that would have happened because there would have been no way to stop a

majority government from pursuing its agenda. All the fear and loathing that the country, and particularly Quebec’s minorities, lived with in April, would have come to pass. In fact, there could have been a referendum this spring before the next federal election. The timing would have been ideal for the PQ with Prime Minister Stephen Harper’s government so weakly represented in Quebec.

What is most amazing is how the election result of 18 months ago may answer the question everyone’s been asking since the Liberal majority win last month. Is separatism dead?

What happened 18 months ago may tell a more telling tale. Something went terribly wrong for the PQ and, if it wasn’t a horribly flawed campaign, what was it?

There may have been a hundred good reasons to humiliate the Charest government in 2012 and everyone knew it, but many more Quebecers than expected held their noses and voted Liberal anyway.

Even with independence on the back burner, there was something about the PQ that Quebecers feared 18 months ago. That fear was deeply felt and it manifested itself by changing Canada in a most dramatic way.

The April 7 election was the historic sequel not the main event.

Sometimes, the obvious is overlooked. Of all the analysis of the recent Quebec election there seems to be a piece missing. It goes back not to this Quebec election, but rather the one before in September 2012.

The federalist Liberals were out of gas. They had been in power for three consecutive terms – a modern-day record.

The Liberals were emotionally tired and politically burned out. Jean Charest was well past his best before date.

The Charbonneau Commission into corruption was just beginning. The Liberal Party, which so resisted calling



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HERB GRAY

People remember Herb Gray as a brilliant parliamentarian, a dedicated member of Parliament and Canada's first Jewish cabinet minister; one who was fiercely proud of his faith and his heritage.

During his eulogy, former prime minister Paul Martin spoke of his professionalism, honesty and humility, and of his respect for colleagues.

My memory of Herb Gray is more personal.

I watched him deal with esophageal cancer. He battled valiantly while steadfastly fulfilling his duties as an MP. He refused to bow to his devastating disease. It withered his body, but not his spirit.

I, too, was diagnosed with esophageal cancer four years later. I was inspired and developed great strength from his courage.

I thought of calling him while in hospital, as he was the only person I knew of who had my type of cancer. I dismissed the idea when I realized I was asking the sitting deputy prime minister of Canada to visit me.

I met Herb two years later, and shared how grateful I was to have a role model for my cancer fight. When I mentioned how I toyed with asking him to visit, he replied, "You should have called. I would have come."

I invited him to a celebration of my being cancer-free for five years. I included the people who had helped me over the years. I was touched when he and Sharon attended.

An *Ottawa Citizen* reporter covering the event zeroed in on him, asking about our connection. He admitted he didn't know me, but knew what I had gone through. We

shared a bond. He was happy for me and wanted to help me celebrate.

Herb Gray, with power and influence, international accomplishments, dedicated to this country and its people, was first and foremost a true mensch. His memory is a blessing.

Barry Bokhaut

THE STATE OF KASHRUT

I read "It depends who you ask: The state of kashrut in Ottawa (April 7)" with great interest. It seems to me that one key stakeholder was missing: the consumer!

As a consumer of kosher food, if I were to supply my subjective, anecdotal input to the discourse on the state of kashrut in Ottawa, I would say that the purveyors and promoters of kosher food aren't doing enough to market their food to the wider community.

Furthermore, there has been absolutely no attempt to innovate or to bring any sort of excitement to kosher food in Ottawa.

Since the kosher-eating segment of the Jewish community is clearly not big enough to support a restaurant, or more bakeries or caterers, on its own, why not try to market to members of the Jewish community who do not necessarily observe kashrut, or even to the non-Jewish community? Having made the switch to keeping strictly kosher in my mid-20s, and having sampled kosher cuisine all over North America, Europe and Israel, I say with confidence that kosher food holds its own with non-kosher food any day.

In today's era of the Food Network and celebrity chefs, consumers expect more from food outlets. Families have been paying significantly more for groceries in recent years, so we have little money left for eating out. If the cuisine doesn't wow or excite us, then we'll save our money and try to experiment with something we saw Gordon Ramsay make the night before (making all the necessary kosher substitutions, of course).

Adam Peters

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LETTERS WELCOME

Letters to the Editor are welcome, if they are brief, signed, timely, and of interest to our readership. The *Bulletin* reserves the right to refuse, edit or condense letters. The *Mailbag* column will be published as space permits.

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Partnering for mutual love of Israel

Collaborating with organizations for one or more reasons makes good fundraising sense – especially when both organizations have mutual respect for each other and for Israel. This year, JNF Ottawa is partnering with a few selective organizations that espouse similar values and attitudes towards a vibrant Israel, including Agudath Israel Congregation, Telfer Executive MBA and Canadian Friends of Hebrew University.

May 29: JNF Ottawa presents award-winning author Judie Oron with Agudath Israel Congregation

Judie Oron rescued and adopted a girl from child slavery in Sudan 20 years ago, a story she describes in her award-winning novel *Cry of the Giraffe*. A proud mother and grandmother, Judie will take us on her journey as a journalist with the *Jerusalem Post* to a decision that transformed her daughter's life. She'll describe their path from being complete strangers to a thriving family, from the ravages of a war-torn Sudan to a life of freedom in Israel and Canada, and to her daughter now being a new mother herself. We are so thrilled to partner with Agudath Israel Congregation for the evening. Proceeds from book sales at the event will be directed to JNF's animal therapy centre at Retorno, a treatment centre using animal therapy for at-risk youth including at-risk IDF Soldiers.

August 20: JNF Ottawa welcomes Eilat Mayor Udi Gat with Telfer Executive MBA

Sophia Leong, Director of the Telfer Executive MBA Program, is also a big fan of Israel's technology start-ups. This summer, JNF Ottawa and Telfer will welcome Mayor Udi Gat from Eilat/Eilot, a region rich with agri-tech, renewable energy pilots and solar power fields. Mayor Gat is also a Director with Capital Nature, a leading investment firm focused on funding and accelerating early stage ventures, as well as academic research in the emerging renewable energy sector in Israel.

October 21: JNF Ottawa Negev Dinner with Canadian Friends of Hebrew University

The theme for the 2014 JNF Ottawa Negev Dinner is *A Gift To Israel: Passion and Tribute*. Reflecting the values of Honouree Dorothy Nadolny, this year's Negev Dinner will raise funds for a cardiology research hub at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and JNF's magnificent entry gates at Teddy Kollek Park in the heart of Jerusalem. Both gifts underscore a commitment to a vibrant Israel and a strong Jewish presence in Jerusalem. We will be communicating more about the Dinner over the summer months. In the meantime, please save the date for a very memorable evening chaired by Stephen Victor, QC, our 2006 JNF Ottawa Negev Dinner Honouree.

Missions

This summer, JNF is hosting our first **JNF Futures Mission** to Israel for young professionals from 25 to 44. In late October, JNF's **Mission 2014** departs for an incredible five-star opportunity to visit Jewish Italy and Israel. Space is limited.

To attend an event, travel or partner with us, send us a note at ottawa@jnf.ca. Find more details at www.ottawa.jnf.ca. Certificates, tree banks and cards are available for all occasions. Order online or call Ilana Albert-Novick at 613-798-2411.

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Tamir launches anti-bullying workshops

BY TEENA HENDELMAN FOR TAMIR

Last year, Tamir re-launched the Participant Advocacy Committee (PACT) under the supervision of Natasha Rose, Tamir's quality enhancement co-ordinator. PACT empowers Tamir participants to speak about issues affecting them and to take an active role in finding solutions.

Eight core members of the group meet regularly, while several PACT correspondence members circulate news and events to others within Tamir. The group promotes self-advocacy, learning about responsibilities, and making change happen. PACT also promotes communication with staff leading to the realization of personal goals.

An important recent outcome of PACT is the group's decision to seek education and information about anti-bullying. To achieve this goal, professional facilitators were engaged to tailor workshops to the learning needs of individuals with disabilities. The workshops are being arranged with the help of staff and the financial support of Aurora Lodge #53 of the Knights of Pythias.

"We have supported Tamir for 17 years. It's an organization we have confidence in and [it] has an excellent history of careful use of the resources we provide," said Stephen Asherman, treasurer of the lodge. This project, he added, "resonated with our group not just because so many can benefit, but because of the impact it could have in the long term."

Alex Polowin, a member of Knights of Pythias for more than 60 years, has been a champion for Tamir projects, which benefit participants and their homes.

"I have a deep respect for the confidence some participants have," says Polowin, "but, when that confidence is challenged because of bullying, it shakes you because no one has the right to deprive someone of their dignity, whether it's because they have a disability, are elderly or otherwise. But it's a reality, and knowing this, the PACT committee decided to do something about it."

Additional help has come from MASC (Multicultural Arts for Schools and Communities), an Ottawa agency that aims to "bring the arts and culture alive for children, youth, teachers and seniors." MASC partners with local and national artists to deliver workshops on a variety of topics that can also be customized for individuals with disabilities. The workshops are aimed at increasing participants' confidence in themselves to manage their personal well-being and maintain good health.

Three workshops are being organized:
Stop Bullying with Blues is an interactive blues

concert that encourages more acceptable behaviours and winning attitudes in the learner, using great music, humour, skits, direct talk and role play to empower bystanders and victims to take a stand against bullying;

Get into your Groove is a music driven, motivational performance designed for character building, leadership development and seeking personal success in life. It addresses topics of bullying, vigilance and resilience and encourages participants to become active partners in building a life of personal power;

Still waiting for that Special Bus is a performance that explores dating, romance and disability, all while waiting for the Para Transpo bus. Participants are invited to identify with a young disabled man facing issues of self-esteem, personal integrity and risk-taking. The focus is on developing empathy towards others, identifying ways to include others based on ability and understanding risk through role playing.

Tamir anticipates both short- and long-term benefits from this initiative. In the short-term, participants will learn about healthy choices, self-advocacy and problem-solving. Long-term goals are the empowerment of participants with knowledge to make healthy, well-informed choices about their well-being and how their behaviour can impact others; prevention and earlier intervention in cases of bullying; and increased understanding about healthy relationships.

"It's very encouraging to see the participants advocating for their own quality of life and seeing Tamir respond," said Asherman, adding that participants "live with challenges most of us don't think about. So, whatever we can do to help them feel confident with how they live means a lot to us."



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Emunah Ottawa event to focus on 'charity as investment'

Now a successful businessman in the U.S., Shlomoh Ben-David will discuss his youth at Neve Michael Children's Village in Israel.

BY LEAH COHEN
EMUNAH OTTAWA

For many years, Emunah Ottawa has submitted articles to the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin* promoting events benefiting Neve Michael Children's Village, in Pardes Hanna, Israel.

This multi-disciplinary centre serves 250 children and teens from all over the

country whose biological parents have either died or been afflicted with addiction or mental illness.

The Emergency Crisis Center, the Teenage Girls' Crisis Center, The External Crisis Center and Therapy Counseling Unit are a just a few examples of the programs offered there. While the approach is religious Zionist, all Israelis have access to their services.

Yet this brief description does not get to the soul of the organization or meditate on its effectiveness. What is it like to live there? Can the traumatized child lead a productive, loving and meaningful life as an adult?

Shlomoh Ben-David, owner of AER Services Inc, a holding company based in Skokie, Illinois, involved with kosher food and real estate, is a graduate of Neve Michael Children's Village.

He is one of six children whose parents were airlifted to Israel from Yemen during Operation Magic Carpet in 1949. They settled in Rosh Ha'ayin in the centre of the country.

Unfortunately, in 1970, when Ben-David was 10, he was sent to Neve Michael after his mother passed away and his father required indefinite

hospitalization.

He will be in Ottawa, June 1, to discuss how Neve Michael Children's Village affected his life and to address a larger question, the title of his talk, "Is Charity an Investment?"

Israel remains close to Ben-David's heart. A father of three, he cultivated a love of Israel in his American-born children who have studied or volunteered there after high school.

You are warmly invited to join us on Sunday, June 1, 7:30 pm, at 2255 Carling Ave., 3rd floor. The cost is \$25 or \$20 for Emunah life members. Refreshments will be served and both men and women are welcome to attend.

To reserve, contact Leah Cohen at leahle2012@gmail.com or Rivka Kraus at 613-241-5613.

Notice of Annual General Meeting



The Jewish Federation of Ottawa will hold its 80th Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, June 18, 2014 at 7:00 pm in the Social Hall

of the Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building.

The entire Jewish community of Ottawa is invited to attend.

The Nominating Committee proposed that the following individuals be elected to serve a term of two (2) years as members of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, serving to June 2016:

Jennifer Kardash
Michael Shahin
Hartley Stern
Lenora Zelikovitz

The Chair will appoint the following individual to serve as a member at large of the Board of Directors for a one (1) year term, serving to June 2015:

Arlene Wortsman

Continuing to June 2015 in completion of an existing two (2) year term:

Steven Kimmel – Chair
Linda Kerzner – Vice Chair
Stuart Ages
Jason Shinder
Lauren Bronstein
David Appotive, member at large

Ex-officio members of the Board of Directors include:

Debbie Halton-Weiss – Immediate Past Chair
Neil Zaret – Chair, Jewish Community Campus
Andrea Freedman – President and CEO

The Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa thanks the following directors who will be completing their terms in June 2014:

Lisa Rosenkrantz
Phillip Stein
Mark Thaw

Section 17.1B of the by-laws state that "At least thirty (30) days before the annual general meeting, the board of directors shall send the Nominating Committee report to each Full Member and invite each Full Member to provide the President and Chief Executive Officer, at least fourteen (14) days before the annual meeting, the name of any additional candidates which he/she wishes to nominate, together with a letter of support from five (5) other Full Members of the Corporation and a statement by the candidate of interest and qualifications."

Submissions should be sent to:
Rachel Abenhaim,
rabenhaim@jewishottawa.com,
with the following subject line,
RE: Nominating Committee Report,
additional candidate.

Nominating Committee:
Debbie Halton-Weiss, Chair
Stuart Ages
Rabbi Menahem Blum
Bernard Dolansky
Andrea Freedman, Staff
Linda Kerzner
Steven Kimmel
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Saturday Shabbat Services, 10:15 am.

Thursday, May 8: Mid Atlantic, a European and Canadian Voyage in Art Song, Dina Namer, piano, and Matthew Zadow, baritone, in concert, 7:30 pm. Tickets available at the door.

Sunday, May 11: Books and Bagels
My Promised Land: The Triumph and Tragedy of Israel, by Ari Shavit, will be reviewed by Rabbi Steven Garten, 9:30 am.

Sunday, June 15: "Garten Party," community is invited to give good wishes to Rabbi Garten on his retirement, 2:00 pm. More to follow.

Rabbi Steven H. Garten, Spiritual Leader

For information, please contact Heather Cohen,
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Head of the Hamas government Ismail Haniyeh (right) and senior Fatah official Azzam Al-Ahmed announce a reconciliation agreement in Gaza City, April 23. PHOTO: ABED RAHIM KHATIB/FLASH90

After peace talks collapse, many experts counsel a wait-and-see approach

BY RON KAMPEAS

Washington (JTA) – The best move for the Obama administration on the Middle East peace front may be to take a few steps back.

That's what some observers are advising in the wake of the collapse of Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

The Palestinian unity talks mean that U.S. President Barack Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry have little choice but to take a wait-and-see approach, according to Israeli and American experts.

"The time has to be taken to see if the Fatah and Hamas reunification takes place," said Michael Oren, who served as Israel's ambassador to the United States until last year. "If it does succeed, we will be in one place. If it does not, we will be in a different place."

The agreement signed April 23 between the Fatah-led Palestine Liberation Organization and Hamas sets a five-week deadline to come up with an interim government that in turn would set the stage for new elections.

"If they are seriously interested to see what of value could emerge to reconstitute the process, then all they can do is monitor," Aaron David Miller, a veteran U.S. peace negotiator and now a vice-president at the Wilson Center think tank, said of the Obama administration.

Obama himself suggested that a break from the process may be necessary.

"There may come a point at which there just needs to be a pause and both sides need to look at the alternatives," he said, April 25, in Seoul, South Korea.

Israel suspended talks with the Palestinians in the wake of the agree-

ment. The Israeli government insisted that Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas could not negotiate with Israel while uniting with Hamas, which is committed to Israel's destruction.

Hamas is considered a terrorist organization by Israel, the U.S., Canada and the European Union.

The integration of Hamas into Palestinian governance would be problematic, the experts agreed, although there were differences as to what would be acceptable outcomes and what outcomes would further undercut the prospects for returning to the peace process.

"Right now, all they can do is sit back and watch and see if there emerges a Palestinian technocrat government," said Yossi Alpher, an Israeli strategic affairs analyst and adviser on peace talks to past Israeli governments.

Alpher said that a government of technocrats without direct Hamas involvement but with its backing would allow the Obama administration to pressure Israel to get back into talks. He noted that Israel technically is negotiating not with the Palestinian Authority but with the PLO, which, under this formula, would not have a Hamas component.

Miller said such arrangements would amount to a "winks and nods" arrangement that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu would likely be loath to accept.

The Palestinians say they are still committed to negotiations with Israel, which were supposed to have ended April

See Collapse on page 12



SAVE THE DATE TAMIR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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Collapse: Hamas-Fatah accord puts peace talks at risk

Continued from page 11

29 with an agreement of some sort. But Israeli officials say that a Hamas role in the Palestinian government in any capacity is unacceptable.

"It does not matter to Israel if the Palestinians establish a technocratic government to serve as a front that will say all the right things," Ron Dermer, Israel's ambassador to the United States, said April 28 in a Washington address to the Anti-Defamation League's annual Leadership Summit. "If Hamas is in the back office, Israel will not be at the negotiating table."

Jonathan Schanzer, a vice-president at the Foundation for Defense of Democracies who has written extensively on the Palestinian Authority, said it would be critical for the U.S. to encourage and maintain lower-level Israeli-Palestinian contacts, particularly in terms of security co-operation.

"There's been good security co-operation," Schanzer said. "There's an understanding on both sides about how each society functions, there's a modus vivendi. I would expect things to drop back down to that level."

Ziad Asali, the president of the American Task Force on Palestine, also said that maintaining low-level contacts

was critical, if only to better prepare the ground for the resumption of talks.

"One of the problems they never paid much attention to is Plan B: what to do if people fail," he said. "What should be Plan B is improving conditions for Palestinians on the ground."

Asali said it includes plans already underway to increase outside investment in the Palestinian economy and facilitating new elections, which have not taken place since 2006.

Oren said, if anything, the Obama administration should avoid delving into far-reaching recommendations, arguing that its tough line on Israeli settlement building had undercut the process.

"One thing that can be done is stop making statements that increasingly narrow the latitude of negotiators on both sides," the former Israeli envoy said.

"By equating longstanding Jewish neighbourhoods in Jerusalem like Gilo with outlying settlements like Yizhar, Washington is putting immense pressure [and] limiting the latitude of Prime Minister Netanyahu to show greater flexibility. It strengthens the extreme right wing in Israel. It also limits Mahmoud Abbas' latitude because he can't be less Palestinian than the White House."

59th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2014 - 7:00 pm

Members of the Lodge and Community, Residents, Families, Staff and Volunteers are welcome to attend

BUSINESS AGENDA

Annual General Meeting

- Adoption of Annual General Meeting minutes – May 28, 2013
- Business Arising – from previous AGM, May 28, 2013
- Greetings from the Jewish Federation of Ottawa – A. Freedman
- Approval of actions taken by the 2013/2014 Board
- Treasurer's Report – S. Saslove
- Appointment of the Auditors 2014

- Appointment of the Signatories 2014/2015
- Approval of the Revised By-Laws
- Thank you to Outgoing Board Members – R. Kronick
- Report of the Nominating Committee – S. Mender
- Election of incoming Board 2014/2015
- Election of Officers 2014/2015
- Award winners 2013/2014 – S. Mender

- Sarah Lithwick Green Service Award
- Thank you to Long Service Staff – S. Schneiderman
- Medical Director's Report – Dr. D. Levine
- Report of the President – R. Kronick
- Executive Director's Report – S. Schneiderman
- Thank you to Outgoing President – S. Saslove

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 2014/2015

NOMINATIONS		COMMENCING NEW TERM		COMPLETING TERM		OUTGOING MEMBERS	
Elayne Adler (2)	Jack Cramer (2)	Maureen Molot (2)	Heather Evenchick (1)	Seymour Mender			
Irwin Kreisman (2)	Golda Feig Steinman (2)	Stephen Saslove (2)	Alan Freed (1)	Melanie Fremeth			
	Esther Kwavnick (2)	Issie Scarowsky (2)	Adina Libin (1)	Eric Weiner			
	Russell Kronick (2)	Rosalie Schwartz (2)	Carl Raskin (1)				
	Michel Lipski (2)	Mark Shainblum (2)					

- BOARD APPOINTEES:**
- Auxiliary Representative - Dee Gaffen
 - Family Council Representative - Linda Signer
 - Long-Term Care Foundation Representative - Maureen Molot

EXECUTIVE

Past President – Russell Kronick	2nd Vice-President – to be determined	Secretary – Issie Scarowsky
President – Stephen Saslove	Treasurer – Elayne Adler	Member-at-Large – to be determined
1st Vice-President – Michel Lipski		

PAST PRESIDENTS

Russell Kronick	Lillian Kimmel z"l
Seymour Mender	Dennis Newton z"l
Jeff Miller	Sylvia Goldblatt z"l
Ingrid Levitz	M. Sidney Green z"l
Anna Telner Wex	Theodore Metrick z"l
Morris Kimmel	Dan Doctor z"l
Eric Weiner	Dr. M. Ralph Berke z"l
Melane Hotz	Ben Levin z"l
Shlomo Mayman	Dr. Joseph Greenblatt z"l
Irving Greenberg z"l	Samuel Berger z"l
Noreen Bosloy	Judge J.C. Horwitz z"l
Dr. Irwin Pencer	Dora Lithwick z"l

FURTHER NOMINATIONS: Additional nominations may be made by any member in good standing of the Corporation. Such nominations may be made at any time up to fifteen (15) days prior to the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting, by mailing the same to the above address, attention: S. Mender. All such nominations must be in writing and signed by the nominee and by at least twenty (20) members in good standing of the Corporation. There will be proposed changes to the existing By-laws of the Ottawa Jewish Home for the Aged, otherwise known as the Bess and Moe Greenberg Family Hillel Lodge at the 59th Annual Meeting, Wednesday, May 28, 2014. To request a copy of the summarized amendments and/or the revised By-law document, please call the Lodge at 613-728-3900.

2013/2014 AWARD WINNERS:

Outstanding Service Award – A Touch of Klez • Shalom Perel President's Award of Merit – Seymour Mender • Thelma Steinman Direct Service Award – Leslie Bricker

Refreshments to Follow



Chocolate seder at Agudath Israel: (from left) Josh Keses, Sasha Moore, Kyle Taylor and Aaron Kaplan celebrate Passover at Agudath Israel's chocolate seder, April 6.



Tamir's third seder: (from left) Claire Zloten and Edith Garmen with Cantor Daniel Benlolo at Tamir's third seder, April 17, at Congregation Beth Shalom.



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Barbara Crook to be honoured by CHW Ottawa

BY RUTH KAHANE GOLDBERG
FOR CHW OTTAWA

Barbara Crook will be honoured by CHW Ottawa for her philanthropy, leadership and journalism in Ottawa and Israel.

She will be the 2014 honouree at the Spring Tea of the Amit, Mollie Betcherman and Ina McCarthy Chapters of CHW Ottawa on Sunday, June 8, 2 pm, at the home of Marcia Cantor, 6 Dodder Key Court. Donations will benefit the Terry Schwarzfeld Daycare Centre and the WIZ Kids program in Israel.

“I am incredibly proud to be part of the Ottawa Jewish community, and deeply touched to be honoured by CHW,” she said.

Barbara – who writes the *My Israel* column in the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin* – began her involvement in the Jewish community in 1998 participating in the Young Women’s Leadership Council, an important experience while becoming a Jew by choice.

In April 2003, she went to Israel for the

first time. On the Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha’Atzmaut community mission, a few days after the suicide bombing of Mike’s Place restaurant in Tel Aviv, she felt “an intense wave of connection to the land of Israel.”

Barbara has since returned to Israel more than 50 times and has become fluent in Hebrew and familiar with Israeli culture by studying at Ulpan-Or in Jerusalem. Being part of Prime Minister Stephen Harper’s delegation to Israel in January, she said, made her “so proud to be from a country that is such a staunch friend of Israel.”

As major benefactors through their Danbe Foundation, Barbara and her husband, Dan Greenberg, have supported such causes as the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation, the Irving Greenberg Family Cancer Centre, the Irving Greenberg Theatre Centre and the Royal Ottawa Hospital. She is currently completing her term as the 2013-2014 co-chair of the United Way of Ottawa.



Barbara Crook plays with children at the Mevasseret Zion Absorption Center near Jerusalem. PHOTO: PETER WAISER

Barbara has put a personal face on these causes, particularly the Royal Ottawa. Not only by donating \$1 million towards the purchase of state-of-the-art brain imaging equipment, but by discussing how she and her family have lived with mental illnesses and aiming to “inspire a lot of people to start telling their stories.”

“I’d like to think that it has helped reduce the stigma and inspired others to give to this vital cause.”

Barbara is about to become chair of the Partnership 2Gether Committee of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa. In 2008, the year of the 60th anniversary of the State of Israel, she and Dan were the honourees of the JNF Ottawa Negev Dinner.

With her professional background as a reporter and editor, she served as associate director and North American representative of Palestinian Media Watch. She has also chaired the Jewish Federation of Ottawa Women’s Campaign and Young Women’s Leadership Council.

Barbara is impressed with CHW’s work in Israel for children, healthcare and women, and particularly endorses WIZ Kids, an innovative, computer-based learning program in CHW’s six daycare centres in Israel.

“Through my work with United Way here, and with the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee in Israel, I have learned how much children from disadvantaged families can be hopelessly behind their more affluent peers even before they hit junior kindergarten! This includes motor skills, reading, writing and language skills,” she said.

“But there is also a huge technological gap – kids with access to computers and iPads from a young age are way ahead of their peers before they even set foot in a classroom.”

“That’s why I am especially excited about the WIZ Kids program. What a fantastic way to bridge that gap and give these kids a better start in life.”

For information about the CHW Tea in Barbara’s honour, contact Patsy Royer at proyer@rogers.com or 613-233-3099.



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Jews, Muslims and Christians come together for interfaith Passover seder

BY PAUL MCKEAGUE
FOR TEMPLE ISRAEL

Muslims and Christians joined Temple Israel congregants to experience the rituals of a Passover seder, April 3.

Nearly two weeks before Passover, Rabbi Steven Garten led the interfaith gathering of about 60 people at Temple Israel through a celebration of the Jewish people's delivery from slavery in ancient Egypt, using an abbreviated 30-minute seder.

It was the fourth year the Reform congregation has offered the seder.

"We are fortunate that there are others in Ottawa who share our understanding that communities of faith have more in common than what separates them," said Rabbi Garten. "This was the third time this year that members of the Muslim community and members of the Christian community joined with members of our sacred community to celebrate our shared origins. I have every hope that this wonderful experience will be repeated often in the future."

The exodus from Egypt holds an important place in the traditions of both Christianity and Islam, and Moses



(From left) Morrie Paul, Peter Thompson, Andy Thompson, Nariman Nasef, Temple Israel Acting President Shaina Lipsey and Marwa Fouad enjoy the interfaith Passover seder, April 3, at Temple Israel.

is revered in both religions. However, the seder allowed members of Ottawa's Cordova Academy and the Glebe St. James United Church to literally get a taste of how Jews commemorate and retell the story of this central event in their faith.

They got to experience matzo, the bread of affliction, and maror, the bitter herbs of slavery, and to become familiar with the other items on the seder plate while getting a sense of the joy and fellowship of a Passover seder.

It was the first seder for Milena Gibson, who has been studying at Temple Israel and considering conversion to Judaism. In helping to organize the event, she learned

culinary lessons on everything from nut-free charoset to fail-proof sponge cake. She was moved by seder rituals such as "the custom of dipping one's small finger in the wine and placing 10 drops on our plates to remember the suffering the plagues caused the Egyptians."

"I found it a wonderful chance to see members from the three faith communities reaching out to share the Passover experience together, as well as just mingle over dessert afterwards and get to know each other better," she said.

Temple Israel also held a first night family seder, led by Rabbi Garten, on April 14 at which congregants young and old celebrated Passover together.

Canadian Rabbinic Caucus meets with political and religious leaders

Rabbis from across Canada arrived in Ottawa, April 7, for an intensive series of meetings, briefings and workshops on and off Parliament Hill. It was the first major event of the renewed Canadian Rabbinic Caucus, an organization of rabbis affiliated with the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA) – which serves as the advocacy arm of the Jewish Federations of Canada.

"The Canadian Rabbinic Caucus is the only body that unites rabbis from all streams of Judaism and from across the country to advocate for the causes that matter to our community," said Howard English, senior vice-president of CIJA.

The Rabbinic Caucus serves as an advisory body to CIJA, providing advice on policy matters and serving as spokespersons on issues affecting the Jewish community. The Caucus is co-chaired by Rabbis Jonathan Infeld

(Vancouver), Baruch Frydman-Kohl (Toronto) and Reuben Poupko (Montreal). Representing Ottawa congregations during the week's events were Rabbis Menachem Mendel Blum (Ottawa Torah Centre Chabad), Ari Galandauer (Young Israel of Ottawa), Barry Schlesinger (Agudath Israel Congregation) and Reuven Bulka (Congregation Machzikei Hadas).

"For many Jewish Canadians, the local synagogue is their primary means of connecting with the broader community," said English.

"Rabbis are not only spiritual leaders, they play an essential role as community leaders. From CIJA's perspective, rabbis offer invaluable insight into the challenges and concerns facing our shared constituents."

Twenty-three rabbis met with cabinet ministers, members of Parliament from all parties, political

advisers and religious leaders.

Among the guest speakers were Minister of State (Multiculturalism) Tim Uppal; Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau; MPs Paul Dewar, Marc Garneau, Lysanne Blanchette-Malothé and David Sweet; Ambassadors Rafael Barak of Israel and Philippe Zeller of France; senior representatives of the Anglican Church of Canada and the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops; and Rabbi Mordechai Torczyner, who conducted a workshop on the religious dimensions of assisted suicide.

Subjects discussed included religious accommodation; unfolding events in the Middle East; Iran; anti-Semitism in France and elsewhere in Europe; pressure to endorse BDS within church circles; Catholic-Jewish relations; physician-assisted suicide; affiliation of young Jewish Canadians with Israel; and Canada-Israel relations.



Israeli Ambassador Rafael Barak (centre) is shown with some of the members of the Canadian Rabbinic Caucus taking part in intensive workshops last month in Ottawa.

Organizations work together to ensure successful Passover celebrations for Ottawa university students

BY MONIQUE ELLIOT

Passover celebrations for students at Ottawa's universities were a success, with local organizations distributing more meals than ever before, despite a fire in early April that damaged the home of Rabbi Chaim and Yocheved Boyarsky, co-directors of the Rohr Chabad Student Network of Ottawa (CSN).

Rabbi Boyarsky said he, his wife and their five daughters are doing well in their temporary home in a hotel. The fire started in the kitchen floorboards of their house on Sweetland Avenue, near the University of Ottawa campus, which also serves as CSN headquarters.

CSN organizes Passover seders for students, but lost the use of its kitchen – and 50 pounds of matzo from fire and water damage.

Among their main challenges were to cook, bless and distribute kosher meals effectively to students during the holiday – which they accomplished in collaboration with the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, Hillel Ottawa and Congregation Beth Shalom, which provided its kitchen and space to hold the seders.

"It was really, really amazing," said Rabbi Boyarsky. "We had 125 people the first night, and it was really nice. The second night, we had about 50 students."

With Hillel Ottawa, CSN also distributed about 1,000 Passover meals to students on campus during the eight-day holiday.

"We're just very grateful for the help of the community and the Federation; they helped us pull through. We had [fewer] days to plan and no space to work out of," he added.

The group effort between Hillel Ottawa and CSN was

the result of "unique, open-minded communication," said Scott Goldstein, Hillel Ottawa executive director.

Goldstein explained that Hillel Ottawa and CSN had collaborated on several events this year, an anomaly between organizations that do not clash but typically do not create joint programming. He said the groups were able to build on their existing relationship to provide for students during Passover.

"That's something that's new to Ottawa's history. As far as we were able to tell, Chabad and Hillel never really collaborated, and this is something that we thought was important for the students: to see Jewish organizations working together to provide quality programming for them," Goldstein said.

"Everyone joined forces and felt they were all on the same team," said Rabbi Boyarsky. "It was very special."

"In terms of supporting the Chabad Student Network, Rabbi Chaim [and his family], during a time when they were in need, essentially, we're very happy and honoured to join with the Ottawa Jewish community, to rise to the occasion and provide the support that they needed to ensure that students on campus were able to have a meaningful Passover," Goldstein said.

A special team of volunteers cooked for days in Congregation Beth Shalom's kitchen, Rabbi Boyarsky said. He also said the assistance of Bram Bregman, vice-president of community building at the Jewish Federation of Ottawa; Rabbi Levy Teitelbaum, director of the Ottawa Vaad HaKashrut, who koshered the kitchen for Passover; and Jenny Roberge and Anita Almstedt of Beth Shalom was vital to the success of the Passover effort.

"I think our success says volumes about how much we care about each other," Goldstein said. "When we need something, we know we can rely on each other to make it happen. It's not just the big things that define us; it's also the little things we're able to do that make us so special."



Carleton University student Lewis Novak, who supported the Rohr Chabad Student Network after the fire, enjoys a serving of matzo-pizza during Passover.



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Emerging Generation donors thanked at Gratitude event

BY ARIELLE KREISMAN
GRATITUDE CO-CHAIR

Seventy students and young professionals gathered, March 29, at 131 Bank Street, a hip upper level loft, to receive thanks for their time, dedication and donation to the Jewish Federation of Ottawa Annual Campaign. The name of the event, "Gratitude," says it all.

The idea for the party came to mind to me, some friends and my two co-chairs, Hailey Desormeaux and Mira Levine, late last year at a Shabbat dinner. As Campaign donors and event volunteers, we felt it was important for those who believe in giving back to the community to be thanked formally. We wanted to bring Jewish young professionals together to show appreciation for all of their time, dedication and commitment to the Jewish Federation of Ottawa and the Emerging Generation Division.

However, we didn't want it to be like any other party – we wanted it to be different.

"Mailing out printed invitations to each young professional set the vibe for Gratitude right from the start," said Desormeaux. "It takes thinking outside of the box and providing something unique to attract the young professionals of Ottawa out to an event."

With a David's Tea bar, a live DJ, a Polaroid camera and a photo booth with props, it surely set the tone for what was to be a great night. It made for an impressive turnout with lots of positive feedback.

"Gratitude was a great experience," said Jason Friedman. "I was able to spend time with the friends I knew and meet some new people in the community. The location gave way for a great atmosphere, and the music and food were the literal icing on the cake; an all-around fantastic evening."



(From left) Gratitude organizers Mira Levine, Samantha Banks, Hailey Desormeaux and Arielle Kreisman.

Co-chair Mira Levine also credits the event's success to its bringing together many different groups of young Jewish people who wouldn't normally meet each other.

"We had a great mix of undergraduate students, medical students, law students and professionals from various firms across Ottawa, as well as new people who have just moved to the city. It is rare to find an event that houses all these types of young people," she said.

Since the inception of the Emerging Generation Division in 2012, we have raised \$25,220 from 187 donors. This could not have been done without the canvassing team of 20 very dedicated and passionate young professionals led by Maya Avshlomov and Dan Shugar. As we are often referred to as "the next generation of leaders," we love to show the community that we are very involved today and excited to do our part.

It's important for us to give back to the community and to the programs that have provided so much benefit to us as we were growing up. We are so happy to have had this opportunity to help spread

this message to our peers with the hope of attracting and connecting more members of Ottawa's emerging generation.

For more information, or to get involved with the Emerging Generation Division, contact Samantha Banks at sbanks@jewishottawa.com.

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Jewish identity in the Amazon rainforest

BY ISAAC NAHON-SERFATY
FOR SEPHARDI ASSOCIATION OF OTTAWA

Jewish identity flourishes in remote locations. A community deep in the Amazon rainforest has struggled to maintain both its Jewish identity and the traditions of Sephardi Jews.

On May 25, the Sephardi Association of Ottawa in partnership with the Soloway Jewish Community Centre (SJCC) and the Vered Jewish Canadian Studies Program at the University of Ottawa will present *Sephardi Jews of the Amazon*. The evening will include a screening of the 2008 documentary, *The Fire Within: Jews in the Amazonian Rainforest*, followed by a discussion with Professor Ariel Segal of Lima, Peru, author of *Jews of the Amazon: Self-Exile in Paradise*.

In the late 19th century, Jewish men from Morocco came to the Amazon rainforest during the rubber boom, married indigenous women and established a unique Jewish community in Iquitos, Peru. Today, that community is reasserting its Jewish identity, taking on Jewish traditions, with many moving to Israel. In 2013, Israel's Interior Ministry

facilitated the aliyah of almost 300 Peruvians who had formally converted to Judaism, most of them descendants of Spanish-speaking Moroccan Jews. They joined many others from the Peruvian Amazon who had previously moved to Israel.

As shown in the documentary, and as discussed in Segal's book, the original Sephardi traditions of these Jews became mixed with indigenous Amazonian life, creating an authentic and practically unknown Jewish *Mestizos*. Following the discovery of the Iquitos Jewish community, rabbis and scholars have aided their return to a more normative Jewish tradition. However, the Amazonian Jews are unique in many ways, living a way of life and belief that is almost a hybrid of Judaism and local cultures. According to Segal, they strongly identify with their faith despite the ambiguous legitimacy of that identity.

In researching his book, Segal lived with the community in Iquitos, Peru, for several months. His book describes the complexities of maintaining Jewish identity in the middle of the Amazon jungle and tensions in relations with the mainstream Jewish community in Lima, Peru's capital.

Segal also documents the difficulties the community encounters living in Iquitos, then moving to Israel only to discover the challenges of living among secular Israelis.

"The efforts of the Jewish *Mestizos* to distinguish themselves from other ethnic groups in the culturally homogeneous milieu of Iquitos' society were doomed to failure because of the centrifugal forces of the cultural blending, sameness and syncretism in the Peruvian Amazon. For many of them, only Israel offered hope for the survival of the group's Jewish identity.



Amazonian Jews pray during a scene from *The Fire Within: Jews in the Amazonian Rainforest*.



Many Amazonian Jews, like this girl in the film, have a strong connection to Israel.

But, once in Israel, these Jewish *Mestizos* confront the reality that the predominantly modern, secular inhabitants of the Jewish state do not live the traditional way of life that they have dreamed of recapturing from their ancestors," Segal notes.

"We are very pleased to bring this unique film and an international expert on this community to Ottawa," said Clemy Srour, president of the Sephardi

Association of Ottawa.

"This activity is part of our efforts to share with all of Ottawa's Jewish community the history and diversity of the Sephardi world."

Sephardi Jews of the Amazon will take place at the SJCC on Sunday, May 25, 7 pm. Tickets are \$10 and are available at the SJCC or at the door.

For information, contact ottawasephardiassociation@yahoo.com.

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Thank You!

Less than two weeks before Passover, a fire destroyed the basement and kitchen of the Chabad House. Thank G-d, nobody was injured. However, we were faced with the dilemma of how to move forward with Passover preparations.

We are extremely thankful to the many individuals who stepped forward, enabling us to host the Seders as well as run our Kosher for Passover meal plan, serving hundreds of meals over the course of the eight-day holiday .

THANK YOU

Bram Bregman and Rabbi Levy Teitlebaum of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, for assisting with raising funds for Passover, for facilitating a venue to cook and host the Seders, for koshering the kitchen and for being there with your heart and soul every step of the way.

THANK YOU

Anita Almstedt, Jenny Roberge, and the entire executive committee of Beth Shalom, for offering your facility to cook and host the Seders. Your hospitality is very much appreciated.

THANK YOU

to the many supporters in the community who pitched in and contributed to ensure students would have a place to go for the Seders and food to eat. Your generosity and kindness enabled many students and young professionals to celebrate Passover this year.



*Rabbi Chaim & Yocheved Boyarsky,
Sammy Hudes, City Wide President
Melissa Cape, Carleton President
Chloe Swanek, Ottawa U President
Adir Glikson, Carleton VP
Cody Miller, Ottawa U VP
Shale Farber, Medical School Rep.
Brandon Silver, Law School Rep.*

*And the entire team of students at
The Rohr Chabad Student Network*

SHARON LETOVSKY
GUEST COLUMN

Using Jewish Values to achieve success

When I was at teacher's college, our principal was Father Hilton, a Catholic priest. One day, he approached me in the hall, "You're Jewish, right?" he asked.

"Yes," I answered, hesitatingly.

"What's your philosophy of life?" he asked."

My *what?* I was 21 years old. What did I know from philosophy of life? But I knew that he was really asking me about the Jewish philosophy of life.

Father Hilton's impromptu question has guided my entire career. What is the Jewish philosophy of life? If we are the "chosen people," chosen to be "a light unto the world," how do we rise to such a lofty challenge?

Jewish learning over the course of my adult life has led me to the belief that being a light unto the world involves two things. The first is to be the best we can be. That means to discover our unique talents and skills and develop them to the absolute best of our ability. As Rabbi Zusya (1718-1800) said on his deathbed, "When I stand before the throne of judgment, I will not be asked, 'Reb Zusya, why were you not like Moses?' I will be asked, 'Reb Zusya, why were you not like Zusya?'"

The second aspect to being a light onto the world is to then take those highly developed, unique, God-given talents and skills, and use them for tikkun olam, to heal the world, to make a difference.



Sharon Letovsky

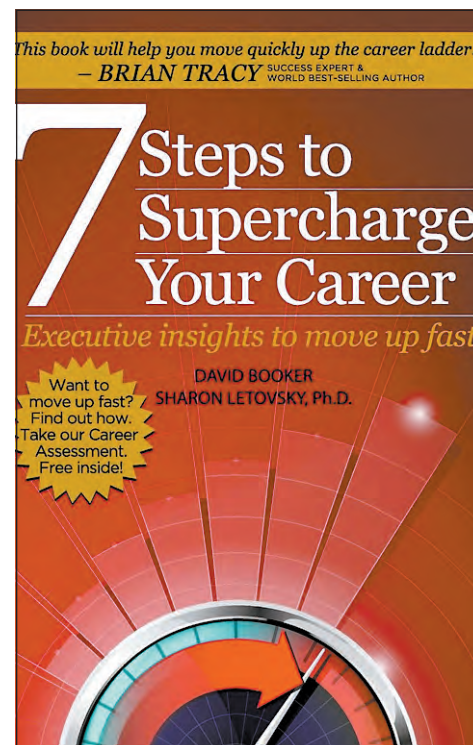
Much more recently, another clergyman, Rabbi Barry Schlesinger of my own congregation, Agudath Israel, also had a powerful effect on my life, which changed the course of my career. We were discussing the changing face of Jewish congregations internationally, and the need for leadership guidance, when he suggested I focus my talents and experience more in that direction. I contacted a colleague, an experienced global corporate executive, and suggested that we build a global leadership development company, using strategies based on our book.

"Our book?" he asked in shock, as we had not yet written one. That was just over one year ago. The rest, as they say, is history.

Our book, *7 Steps to Supercharge Your Career*, was published in March. I wrote the first sections of the book, guiding readers to discover their unique talents and skills, set their direction, and step forward to make a difference. David Booker, my co-author, wrote the rest. Using his experience rising from salesman to global corporate executive, he guides people to become effective, responsible leaders, while consistently increasing their income, influence and productivity.

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Sharon Letovsky, PhD, is president and co-founder of Capricorn Coaching International, Inc., Ottawa co-president of Weizmann Canada and a vice-president of Agudath Israel Congregation.





Lorne Mallin (right) leads a Hebrew chanting session in Vancouver.

PHOTO: SANDRA COHEN

Experience the joy of ecstatic chanting in Hebrew

BY JOEL YAN AND LORNE MALLIN
FOR ADATH SHALOM

Vancouver-based chant leader Lorne Mallin is bringing the joy of sacred Hebrew chanting to Ottawa.

Mallin will present an ecstatic chant evening of participatory, heart-centred spirituality on Tuesday, May 20, 7:30 to 9 pm, in the chapel of the Ottawa Jewish Community School on the Jewish Community Campus.

“Chanting, the repetition of a sacred phrase with a beautiful melody is an ecstatic form of meditation that can open the doors of the heart, clear the mind of clutter, focus and refine intentions, and connect us to each other,” Mallin said.

He said the most powerful moment of the chant happens in the silence when it is over, which offers the opportunity to experience healing and transformation.

Mallin is a graduate of the two-year chant leadership training program taught by Rabbi Shefa Gold of New Mexico, who says the recent popularity of Jewish chanting is a revival of an older spiritual practice.

“I was practising chant with a group and a very old man was there. Tears

were running down his cheeks. He told me that he remembered the rebbe doing this in Europe before the Second World War. That’s when I realized that Hebrew chant is not a new practice; I’m simply revitalizing it,” said Rabbi Gold in an interview last year (“Shefa Gold: The Joy of Hebrew Chant,” *Publishers Weekly*, May 7, 2013).

Visit www.rabbishefagold.com for dozens of her Hebrew chants.

Mallin said the chants are drawn from Jewish liturgical sources such as prayer, psalms and Torah. One example is “*Pitchu li shaarei tzedek avo vam odeh Yah* (Open for me the Gates of Righteousness; I will enter and give thanks to God).”

“The spiritual intention is the Gates will always open for an open heart full of

See Chanting on page 24



(councillor)
Jan Harder
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80th Annual General Meeting

The Chair and President
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of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa

Wednesday, June 18, 2014

7:00 pm

Social Hall

The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building
21 Nadolny Sachs Private

Refreshments to follow

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Community Awards Presentation
Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award • Mitchell Bellman
Freiman Family Young Leadership Award • Tamara Fathi
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LaRonde Trip for Teens



Sunday, May 25

Do you like the thrills of riding the rollercoasters? Then you will want to join us and spend the day at LaRonde. Cost covers entrance fees into the park plus the bus ride to and from Montreal. Bus will depart the JCC at 8:30 am and will return to the JCC at 9:00 pm. This trip is open to students who are currently in high school only. Please note that smoking, drugs and alcohol **are not** permitted. Lunch and dinner are not provided.

\$60 per person • \$50 for BBYO members

To register contact Gail Lief (613) 798-9818 ext. 303, glieff@jccottawa.com.

Register by Wednesday, May 23





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Dr. Bill Goldstein Happy special birthday with love by Malcolm and Vera Glube

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In Honour of:
Judi and Eddie Kerzner Mazal tov on the birth of your great-granddaughter by Margo David, Aaron and Gail Kardish

Debbie and Norman Ferkin Mazal tov in your new home by Margo, David, Aaron and Gail Kardish

Morris and Lillian Kimmel Family Fund

In Honour of:
George and Cara Itzkovitz and family Happy Passover by Brenda, Nathan, Jesse and Daniel Levine

Norman and Sally Raicek and family Happy Passover by the Kimmel, Kaiman and Levine families

Valerie and Joe Lieberman and family Happy Passover with love by Brenda, Nathan, Jesse and Daniel Levine

Lily Feig Happy birthday by the Kimmel, Kaiman and Levine families

R'fuah Shlema:
Morris Kimmel by Barbara Sherman; and by Marty and Rickie Saslove

Judith Slipacoff by the Kimmel, Kaiman and Levine families

Joan and Russell Kronick Family Fund

R'fuah Shlema:
Malcolm Glube by Joan and Russell Kronick

In Memory of:
Ettie Lubin by Joan and Russell Kronick

Shirley and Maurice Rose Memorial Fund

In Honour of:
Sam and Myra Krane Mazal tov on the birth of your granddaughter by Mavis and Simon Wasserberger

Evelyn Krane Mazal tov on the birth of your great-granddaughter by Mavis and Simon Wasserberger

Jaclyn and Josh Krane Mazal tov on the birth of your daughter by Mavis and Simon Wasserberger

Sonia and Sheldon Shaffer Mazal tov on the birth of your great-granddaughter by Mavis and Simon Wasserberger

In Memory of:
Anette Rosenbluth by Mavis and Simon Wasserberger

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In Memory of:
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Ingrid Levitz and family Happy and healthy Passover by Laurie and Carol Pascoe

Dr. Nordau and Roz Kanigsberg Mazal tov on the birth of your grandson, Abraham by Laurie and Carol Pascoe

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In Memory of:
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Dee and Yale Gaffen Happy Passover and thank you for your hospitality by Evelyn Rivers

IN HONOUR OF:

Lily Feig Happy holiday by Malka Feig
Golda and Ned Steinman and family Happy holiday by Malka Feig
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Rabbi Bulka In appreciation by Morton, Sylvia, Jeff and Felice Pleet
Elaine Friedberg and Bob Dale In appreciation by Kathi and Irwin Schweitzer
Rhona Noble Happy special birthday with love by Arlene and Norm Glube

IN MEMORY OF:

Gizela Klein by the Residents, Board and Staff of Hillel Lodge; by Ingrid Levitz; and by Malka Feig
Milton Morris by Alvin and Monica Stein
Sarah Greenberg by Anna Bilsky; and by Marion Vexler
Regina Ben-Kalifa by Ruth and Lawrence Mendell
Ettie Lubin by Arlene and Norman Glube
Anne Koffman by Malka Feig
Rabbi Scheiner by Yvonne and Yehuda Azuelos
Steven Brown by Alvin and Monica Stein and family
Karl Leimovici by The Residents, Board and Staff of Hillel Lodge

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From the wail of sirens to an anthem of hope

Yom Hazikaron reveals Israel's unique emotional rollercoaster

The first time I experienced Yom Ha'Atzmaut, Israel's Day of Independence, was in Vancouver in the spring of 1998.

I was finishing the formal studies for my conversion to Judaism, and our class from Temple Sholom joined hundreds of Vancouver Jews to celebrate Israel's 50th birthday.

It was incredibly exciting to be part of such a landmark occasion and to share the communal joy. It was also the first time I had listened consciously to the singing of "Hatikvah." And, while I didn't understand a word, I was moved to tears by its haunting melody – it's one of the few national anthems written in a minor key – and by the power of a group of mostly Canadian Jews honouring the miracle of Israel.

But I didn't really understand the true significance of Yom Ha'Atzmaut until my first trip to Israel exactly five years later, when I experienced it in its true context.

Part of that context is being in Israel. I have spent many evenings of the national holiday with Israeli friends in Jerusalem, barbecuing, singing Israeli and Zionist songs and watching the fireworks on Mount Herzl from their balcony.

But the true context of celebrating Israel's independence is experiencing it in conjunction with the 24 hours that precede it – Yom Hazikaron, the Day of Remembrance.

Nothing really can prepare an outsider for the 48-hour experience of the two holidays together. In the late



BARBARA CROOK
MY ISRAEL

afternoon before Yom Hazikaron, restaurants and places of entertainment close early. At 8 pm, air raid sirens shriek across the country.

Unlike in Canada, where far too many people fail to observe the two minutes of silence at 11 am on November 11, most of Israel comes to a standstill.

I still remember standing on my hotel balcony that night in 2003, only a couple of hours after we'd arrived in Israel. I was astounded to see traffic stop on one of the busiest streets of Tel Aviv. Most drivers exited their cars, stood at attention and bowed their head in silent reflection.

This process is repeated at 11 the next morning. Every school has a special ceremony, and many people slip out during the day to honour dead friends and relatives at cemeteries. Radio programs feature sombre music about war and loss.

The full name of the day is *Yom Hazikaron l'Chalalei Ma'arachot Yisrael v'l'Nifgaei Peulot Ha'eivah*, the Day of Remembrance for the Fallen Soldiers of Israel and Victims of Terrorism.

Mourning is never theoretical or at arm's length in Israel. Compulsory military service means that virtually every Israeli knows or is related to a fallen soldier. Most Israelis, even kids, have known victims of terror attacks, and there are always fresh losses to mourn.

The most recent victim at the time of writing was Baruch Mizrahi, a 40-year-old police officer shot by a Palestinian terrorist on his way to a Pesach seder in Hebron. His pregnant wife was wounded, but is in "moderate" condition, and one of their three kids has shrapnel wounds.

It is indeed intense mourning. Yet, when 8 pm comes around, we switch gears into genuine, exuberant and passionate celebrations of the creation of Israel.

There are often transitional ceremonies – especially moving are those conducted by March of the Living participants who have just arrived in Israel from Auschwitz – but it is still an emotional rollercoaster that is unique to Israel.

I have written before about Israelis' ability to mourn deeply one minute and intensely celebrate life the next. It is not unique to Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha'Atzmaut. We see it throughout the year as families and communities defy terrorists and enemies by choosing to embrace life in the face of loss. But it is exquisitely intense at this time of year.

The juxtaposition of Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha'Atzmaut reminds Israelis and Diaspora Jews that the Jewish homeland exists, and continues to exist, because of tremendous sacrifices and unspeakable loss. It can never be taken for granted.

We can celebrate – another Israeli specialty – but we cannot forget the losses.

In the *Book of Kohelet*, it is written, "Everything has its season." It specifies that there is a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance.

In Israel every spring, those seasons change with the sound of a siren, a flash of fireworks and an anthem of hope.

In a Ukrainian state of mind: remembering my ancestral roots

Many of us are following the events in Ukraine with great interest. As I watched the news coverage during Passover, and read about the problems faced by Jews in Eastern Ukraine, I realized it was exactly one year earlier I had visited there.

While the military campaign led by Russian President Vladimir Putin so far has been confined to Crimea and Eastern Ukraine, my trips were to the western portion of the country.

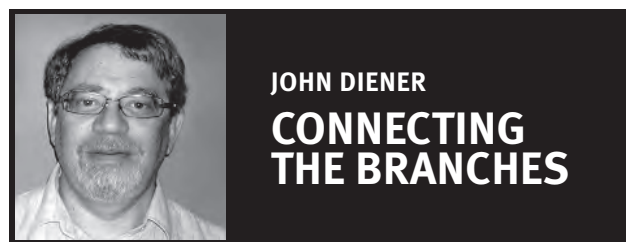
On last year's trip, I had the interesting experience of walking into Ukraine from Poland. I was travelling with fellow Galician researcher Pamela Weisberger and had spent 10 days in Austria and Poland visiting archives and Jewish institutions.

We were now in Przemyśl, a city on the border of Poland and Ukraine and had been advised by renowned Galician Jewish genealogical researcher and guide, Alexander Dunai, that the easiest way to cross into Ukraine would be on foot, saving us the hours of wait encountered by those crossing by car.

Dunai lives in Lviv, about an hour from the border, and told us he would walk us across and then drive us to Lviv.

All went as planned. It was a little exhilarating taking the five-minute stroll through the barbed wire protected path of "no man's land," watched carefully by armed soldiers from both countries. We took pictures of our strange surroundings, and, as if we had captured high-level secrets, were yelled at by the guards and told to erase them.

The 2005 entry was an experience as well. On that



JOHN DIENER
CONNECTING
THE BRANCHES

occasion, I was travelling with my brother Joel and my son Brian.

We had met Dunai, the day before in Krakow, and began the day by touring the city. In the afternoon, we drove to Lviv, knowing we would have to cross the Polish Ukrainian border. On the way, we stopped at Belzec, the infamous death camp where my father's two sisters and many other family members died.

Belzec is very close to the Ukrainian border and soon we encountered a long line of cars, mostly loaded with bags of onions, waiting to cross the border. The cars were old Russian Volgas and Ladas, in very poor condition. As things ground to a halt, Dunai was not content to get into line. He manoeuvred his car around the stopped vehicles, often driving into the lane of approaching vehicles, and even driving to the left of these vehicles. The road was crawling with Polish border guards, all heavily armed, reminiscent of many movie scenes.

Every few metres, an officer would ask Dunai to roll down his window and ask him why he was pushing ahead. In Polish, he told them he had three Canadian visitors and it was disgraceful that we had to sit and wait

like the poor people and their onions. Each time, the guard would motion for us to continue.

We inched forward and finally came to an officer who told Dunai he wouldn't let him move ahead unless he spoke to a superior officer. This officer was stationed in a small hut at the actual border, so Dunai got out of the car, with our passports, and walked down the road to meet the officer.

The building wasn't visible from the car and, after a few minutes, we were wondering if we would ever see our guide again. After a few minutes, a beaming Dunai returned.

With all of the congestion, it still took a few minutes to reach the border, but we soon crossed and entered Ukraine. On the Ukrainian side, we were interviewed by that country's officials, made to fill out some forms, and were soon on our way.

The whole procedure took about an hour. I had been warned that the normal crossing time was four to 12 hours.

Those two trips were very meaningful for me as they led me to my ancestral roots. Hopefully, for the residents of the region, and for visitors, the crisis will be resolved in a positive way before very long.

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'I am concerned that a chill factor is setting into our communities'

While the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians plays out via what appears – at the time of this writing – to be an ailing peace process, outside the Middle East, the relationship is conducted by increasing attempts at silencing opponents. As far as I can tell, this silencing stems from great communal fear that Israel's political and philosophical opponents pose a dire threat. But, given Israel's secure military position and America's unwavering support, something doesn't quite add up. Let's take a look at the political landscape.

The longer Israel and the Palestinians coexist in deadlock, the more critics of Israel are deepening their opposition to Israel's core political identity. These Israel critics believe that saying Israel is a Jewish and democratic state, as Zionists proclaim, is an oxymoron. They believe, instead, that calling Israel a Jewish state denies the reality of the Arab minority, which comprises 20 per cent of Israel's citizens. They also believe Israel cannot deign to call itself a democracy while continuing the decades-long occupation. Neither do they believe that a democracy can allow unfettered Jewish immigration while denying the same rights to Palestinian refugees.

These critics of Israel believe Israel is an apartheid state. Unlike U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, who said privately (before publicly apologizing) that, without a two-state solution, "a unitary state winds up either being an apartheid state with second-class citizens or it ends up being a state that destroys the capacity of Israel to be a Jewish state," these critics believe Israel is already there.

Because of my vocal liberal Zionist position, I have been among the targets of these critics. I summed up this dynamic in my final piece for the *Daily Beast's Open Zion* blog ("No One Loves a Liberal Zionist," December



MIRA SUCHAROV
**VALUES, ETHICS,
COMMUNITY**

17, 2013). In response, a commentator on the anti-Zionist blog *Mondoweiss* compared my call for a two-state solution to the Jim-Crow-era-segregationist-manifestos.

Those familiar with my writing know that, while I am frequently critical of Israeli policies, I still believe Israel can be saved from itself. Ending the occupation and enacting legal reform to address disparities between Jewish and non-Jewish citizens will enable Israel to retain its core identity of being both Jewish and democratic.

Readers of the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin* may associate my column more with criticism than with defence of Israel, and it is true I have used this forum to encourage our community to consider how we can help Israel emerge from the tragic conundrum it has found itself in. I work on the assumption that true friendship involves holding up a mirror to the face of one's friend. I believe helping Israel end the occupation is therefore a moral imperative for the Diaspora Jewish community.

Unlike those on the far left, though, I believe that, without prejudicing the lives of citizens within a given state, every country has the right to define its identity as it sees fit. And, as a Jew who was raised with Zionist narratives and feels a deep emotional connection to Israel, I admit a certain subjective attachment to the idea of maintaining a Jewish and democratic state.

Given all this complexity, and the need to dialogue and engage more than ever, I am concerned that a chill factor is setting into our communities. This silencing is painted with a broad brush. For example, the invitation to David Harris-Gershon, author of the excellent *What Do You Buy the Children of the Terrorist Who Tried to Kill Your Wife?* – a book I reviewed in the January 20 issue of the *Bulletin* – to give a book talk at the JCC in Washington, D.C. was rescinded in February.

And, as campus Hillels have made headlines for imposing strict bans on speakers who, according to their guidelines, seek to "delegitimize, demonize or apply a double standard to Israel," some Hillel chapters, including those at Swarthmore and Vassar Colleges, have signalled their opposition to this silencing by declaring theirs an "Open Hillel."

Every time I hear about another instance of the community seeking to police discourse that falls within the bounds of civil, if impassioned or provocative debate, I think this:

If we cannot engage in dialogue with those we disagree with politically – assuming basic standards of decency are being respected (meaning no hate, no racism, no Islamophobia and no anti-Semitism) – then what do we, as human beings, have left?

Mira Sucharov, an associate professor of political science at Carleton University, blogs at Haaretz.com.

Chanting: Funds raised at event to help Abayudaya Jews in Uganda

Continued from page 21

gratitude," Mallin said.

He said the simplicity of the words and the energy of the music make Hebrew chanting an expression that is easy to do regardless of one's level of Hebrew fluency or religious background. Lyric sheets with Hebrew and transliteration will be provided at the chanting event.

"Participants who have never chanted before can easily pick up the phrasing and are quickly transported by the repetition of the music into a meditative state of joyful harmony and peace," he said.

A lay leader at Vancouver's Or Shalom Synagogue, Mallin began hosting monthly evenings of Jewish chant in 2004. He has presented at Limmud Vancouver, and has led chanting in Japan, Ukraine, the Caribbean, the U.S. and Uganda.

In 2009-2010 he lived in Uganda, focusing on the Abayudaya community of African Jews, and he continues to support women and children there with several projects. The chant evening's admission of a \$10

donation will go to help Abayudaya orphans attend school. Abayudaya kippot and paper-bead jewelry will be available for sale.

The Abayudaya community, which embraced Judaism in 1919, currently numbers more than 1,000 members in several villages in eastern Uganda. Almost all are subsistence farmers who struggle to feed their families and send their children to school. With help from Mallin's projects and some NGOs, increasing numbers of Abayudaya students are finishing high school and going on to university to help raise their families and community out of poverty.

Joel Yan, chair of ritual services at Adath Shalom Congregation and a frequent prayer participant at Agudath Israel, said he was a bit skeptical of Hebrew chant before attending the Aleph (Jewish Renewal) Kallah in New Hampshire last July.

"I attended several workshops and prayer sessions based on Hebrew chant with background drumming and kirtan music led by Rabbi Shefa Gold, and other rabbis. I found myself singing, praying and dancing as we all chanted to Hashem," Yan said.

"For me, and many others, it was an ecstatic spiritual experience. Our goal for the May 20 evening led by Lorne Mallin is to share this type of spiritual experience with interested persons in the Ottawa Jewish community, while helping Jews in Africa."

The chanting event is organized by Adath Shalom Congregation with help from the Glebe Minyan and Or Haneshamah. The entire Ottawa Jewish community is invited to attend.

For further information, contact Yan at 613-224-4560 or joelyan@rogers.com.

Growing Forward

It is with great pleasure that Or Haneshamah invites you to the installation festivities for

Rabbi Elizabeth Bolton

Friday Night, May 23

Ruach at 7:30 pm:

Rabbi Bolton will lead a musical Shabbat service with song, instrumental accompaniment and interspersed reflections.

Sunday Night, May 25

Installation Ceremony at 7:30 pm

with invited speakers and a reception following.

We are located at the **First Unitarian Congregation of Ottawa** at 30 Cleary Avenue, Ottawa.

Please join us as we formalize the *Brit Kehillah/Covenant* between Rabbi Bolton and Or Haneshamah – Ottawa's Reconstructionist Community.

Both events are free and open to the public. Please visit <http://orh.ca> for further details or contact info@orhaneshamah.ca.

FOR SALE

Two cemetery plots

Located at Bank Street Cemetery Beit Tikvah section.

Purchaser must be a member of Beit Tikvah synagogue or an affiliate member.

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The Soloway JCC Shiru Lach Choir hosts

Musical Mosaic

Fundraising concert with proceeds going to the **Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa**

Tuesday, May 27 • 7:30 pm



Canterbury Male Chorus

**Directed by Laurie Hamilton – Head of
Canterbury High School Music Department**

**First place winners and recipient of the City of
Lincoln Trophy - 2013 National Music Festival Choral
Competition Winners.**

Jazz Vocalist

Karen Oxorn

*Celebrating Jewish writers
of the Great American
Songbook – George and Ira
Gershwin; Oscar Levant &
Edward Heyman; Sholom
Secunda & Sammy Cahn;
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Rogers & Lorenz Hart.*



The Soloway JCC Shiru Lach Choir

**Performing a repertoire of Hebrew, Yiddish, Ladino and
Broadway tunes.**

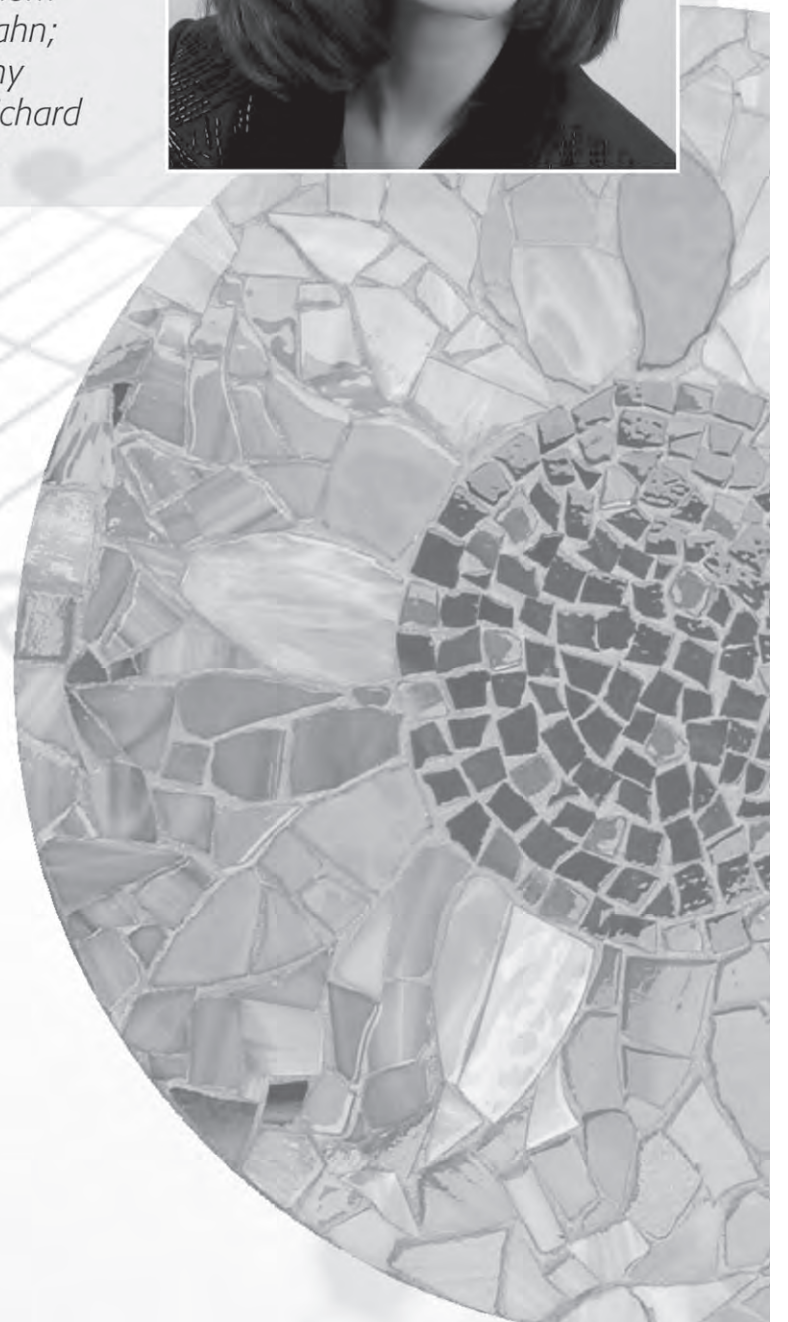
Location: Soloway JCC

**General Admission: \$15 • Children 12 and under Free
Tickets available at the SJCC Front Desk**

**Contact: Roslyn Brozovsky Wollock
Adult Cultural and Educational Program Manager**

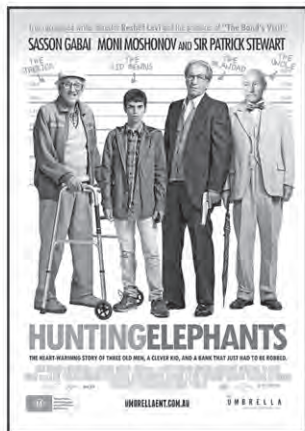
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SolowayJCC



11TH Annual ISRAELI FILM FESTIVAL

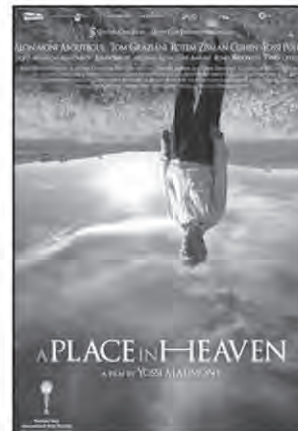
June 8, 12, 19, 22
7:00 pm | Auditorium
395 Wellington Street
www.israelifilmfestival.ca



June 8
Hunting Elephants



June 12
Farewell Herr Schwarz



June 19
A Place in Heaven



June 22
The Wonders

The Israeli Film Festival is presented by the Canadian Film Institute and the Israeli Cultural Forum
(Soloway JCC, Vered Israel Cultural and Educational Program, Embassy of Israel in Canada, Canada-Israel Cultural Foundation, and the Jewish Federation of Ottawa)

13TH ANNUAL SPORTS BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS

SUNDAY JUNE 1, 2014

11:00 am – 12:30 pm
Soloway JCC
Kosher Buffet Breakfast
Children 13 and under: \$10
Adults: \$15

Celebrate our community's athletic heroes of the past 12 months. Middle school, high school and university athletes will be honored along with our community volunteers and team champions.

Submit your nominations to
the Selection Committee:
jbraun@jccottawa.com
by May 16, 2014

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

SHARON KOFFMAN MEMORIAL ATHLETIC AWARD: Recognizes outstanding sportsmanship, participation and dedication to personal goals of excellence by a university-level varsity athlete.

JACK GOLDFIELD MEMORIAL AWARD FOR YOUTH ATHLETICS: Given to two high school students in recognition of their achievement, participation and organizational involvement in athletics during the past year.

THE IRVING "SHAPS" SHAPERO ATHLETIC AWARD: In recognition of long-term contributions to sport and recreation as a participant and an organizer.

THE B'NAI BRITH CANADA PARLIAMENT LODGE NO. 2159 GRADUATING STUDENT ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD: Given to two graduating high school students for outstanding athletic achievements throughout his/her high school years.

LOU HONIGMAN AWARD: Presented to a local Jewish athlete who, on account of his/her perseverance, courage, ability and strength of character, distinguishes him or herself in a local sporting activity over a significant period of time.

NOAH CANTOR MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETIC AWARD: Presented to a male and a female student for outstanding athletic achievement during the past school year (grade 7 & 8).

OTTAWA JEWISH SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

ATHLETES CATEGORY: Nominees must be retired from his/her given sport for two years and must have participated at an elite level within his/her discipline of athletics.
(Examples – provincial, national level championship. Major Junior, CIS, NCAA, Professional level)

BUILDERS CATEGORY: Individuals that have demonstrated sustained effort in coaching or administration of sports or athletics within the Ottawa Jewish Community.

Plug in, and work out: Enhance your exercise with music

I like to listen to my iPod when I work out or run. I prefer to tune out my environment, including other people's conversations, and focus on what I'm doing. I find I'm more motivated and work out with greater intensity when I listen to my favourite songs. On days when I forget my iPod or the battery is drained, I find myself taking more frequent and lengthier breaks between sets and engaging in conversations.

There have been many scientific studies to support the benefits of music. First, music provides a distraction or dissociation during exercise, reducing perception of pain, effort and fatigue. We recognize when we are exerting ourselves by signs such as a faster heartbeat, faster respiration, sweating and muscle fatigue. When we notice those signs, we tend to want to stop and rest. "Music competes with this physiological feedback for the brain's conscious attention" (www.tinyurl.com/sa-workout-music). The dissociation effect of music provides a 10-per-cent reduction in perceived exertion.

Music increases mental arousal, workload and time to exhaustion. Music, especially if it's music you enjoy, makes the time seem to go by faster. Synchronous music with more beats per minute encourages us to increase the intensity of our exercise. Music can increase endurance by up to 15 per cent (www.tinyurl.com/ace-effects). That's why many fitness classes, such as spinning and aerobics, play fast music.

Music can be used prior to competition or during training to foster arousal regulation so athletes get into an optimal mindset for peak performance. Most studies conclude that training performance is enhanced by music for the reasons already listed, but that, during a competition, runners perform better if they don't listen to music. The reason may be that the excitement of a race increases runners' stress, which is a good thing. But a stress level that's too high – which can be the case when music is thrown into the mix – can have a detrimental effect on performance.

Music is often piped into fitness centres, and it's not typically cool jazz or classical music. It's usually rock or pop music aimed at creating a specific psychological



GLORIA SCHWARTZ
FOCUS ON FITNESS

reaction. Of course, music preference is very personal. Music can create emotions that motivate us. Whether I'm working out with weights or doing plyometric exercises, fast-paced pop songs with lyrics I find inspiring help me get into the zone. When I'm running long distances, such music helps me push through the mental wall so I can keep going.

Music can act as a metronome. We tend to move to the beat of the music. Music doesn't have quite the power of distraction with high- or maximal-intensity exercise as with low- and moderate-intensity exercise; still, it does aid us in pushing through the physical demands of the activity. At higher intensities, the body's internal cues of fatigue have a greater influence over the musical interference.

Music also has an effect on gross motor skills. In addition to its usefulness in aerobic classes that require co-ordinated movements, music adds value to therapeutic situations for patients with neuromuscular

disorders, such as stroke patients and people with Parkinson's disease.

Music can also reduce anxiety and create a sense of calm. Slow instrumental music is sometimes played in yoga classes and often during massage therapy. I switch my playlist to slow ballads when I'm stretching and cooling down at the end of my workouts.

Some studies on the effects of music are contradictory. In the study *Music in Crossfit – Influence on Performance, Physiological and Psychological Parameters* (www.tinyurl.com/music-in-crossfit) training with music resulted in a lower work output. There was no difference between music and non-music Crossfit workouts with regards to heart rate, blood lactate, perceived exertion or perceived pain. In some situations, instead of providing ergogenic effects, music may provide a negative distraction and result in higher rates of perceived exertion and fatigue. The effects of music may depend on the task. When it comes to strength training, more studies are needed on high load, short duration sets versus longer duration, lower load training.

Regardless of some variability amongst findings, there's little doubt that music can improve a person's enjoyment of, and adherence to, an exercise program. Therefore, I recommend you plug in to your favourite tunes and see for yourself how music impacts your performance with different types of exercise.

Gloria Schwartz is a personal trainer at the Soloway JCC.

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Tamir acknowledges with sincere thanks the following donations, which were received as of April 18, 2014.

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Author grapples with history of Zionism

My Promised Land: The Triumph and Tragedy of Israel

By Ari Shavit
Spiegel & Grau
445 pages

With Israel being both the target of great adulation and deep criticism, most book-length accounts these days tend to sway one way or the other. In *My Promised Land: The Triumph and Tragedy of Israel*, Haaretz journalist Ari Shavit indeed presents a loving account of his country. But he also reveals all of Zionism's warts in often painful detail. The subtitle of the book refers to Israel's triumphs and tragedies. However, after reading



Shavit's book, one might consider replacing the word tragedy with the words moral and ethical culpability.

Based largely on interviews, Shavit recounts Zionist history in broad strokes: the early Jewish immigration, the building of the first Hebrew town and the first Hebrew city, the vineyards, the stables, the roads, the fields, the kibbutzim. Importantly, Shavit describes the intense need by the early Zionist settlers to see the Arabs as invisible. But, as Shavit reveals, they don't remain invisible. They are soon the target of violence and expulsion.

The capstone event, which Shavit recounts during the months of Israel's founding, is that of the siege of the Arab town of Lydda. There, Israeli soldiers shot dead more than 100 civilians, and expelled tens of thousands of residents.

Lydda, Shavit writes, "is our black box. In it lies the dark secret of Zionism. The truth is that Zionism could not bear Lydda... If Zionism was to be, Lydda could not be. If Lydda was to be, Zionism could not be."

It's a serious indictment of Zionism. But that is not the personal conclusion Shavit, in what is often an overly repetitive prose rhythm, chooses to draw. Readers will draw their own conclusions. Some may be angered by his inclusion of these acts of violence and expulsion. Others will be angered by his unwillingness to abandon the Zionist dream in the face of these uncomfortable truths. This moral equivocation, though, is ultimately a strength of the book.

Shavit tells the tale of the creation of Israel's still

unacknowledged nuclear deterrent in Dimona, a chapter, he tells us, he submitted to the military censor. He writes of the rise of the settlement project – "I feel for Ofra [a West Bank settlement]," Shavit says. "I feel strongly for the Ofra that I am furious with."

Shavit investigates the rise of the Mizrahi Shas party, in the form of a short biography of the party's early star, Aryeh Deri, and an intriguing – if startlingly – descriptive chapter on Tel Aviv's club scene.

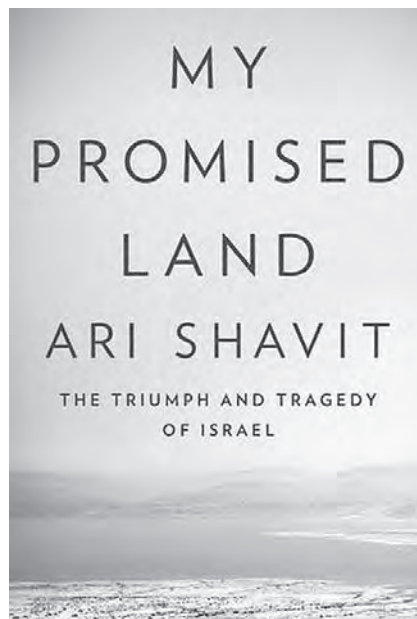
As his historical account concludes, Shavit looks to the future by outlining the "threats" he sees Israel facing: Iran's weaponry, the currents of Islamism, the Arab awakening, the moral corruption of the occupation, the non-Zionist Arab minority and the non-Zionist ultra-Orthodox segment.

As he recounts population challenges – because the Jewish population in the city is only 63 per cent,

Jerusalem's demography "is not promising," he asserts – one could be forgiven for absorbing traces of xenophobia in his own writing, just as he critiques the xenophobia he sees as having taken hold of Israeli society.

It is clear that Shavit sees Zionism as the key solution to the Jewish problem – both in terms of the anti-Semitism culminating in the Holocaust, and in terms of the assimilation Jews have chosen for themselves. Musing on what might have been his fate, if his British great-grandfather had not set sail for Palestine over a century ago, he concludes he likely would have been half-Jewish at best, his children probably not Jewish at all.

Pairing the persecutory forces befalling the Jews with their own assimilationist impulses may be an accurate way to tell the story. But, morally, it falls short. Dispossessing another people is one thing when the Jews were jumping from the flames of anti-Semitism. But it's another thing entirely, if the Jews were running as much from their own inevitable cultural integration desires – in other words, fleeing from themselves. Shavit never quite addresses this ethical predicament. No doubt he is aware of it, as he is of the many tensions he chooses to highlight as he grapples with his complex homeland.



OBITUARY

Lily Levitin (née Fireman)
February 3, 1927 - April 13, 2014

Lily died surrounded by family on April 13 following a tragic fall. Loving wife of Norman, mother to Howard, Jordan (Francisco Juarez) and Cheryl (Gerry deLeeuw) and grandmother to Nata and Yukon deLeeuw. Lil will be remembered as a warm, loving, empathetic and wise woman devoted to her family – a family defined in the broadest terms, encompassing friends and the friends of her children. We all loved the quick smile and the bright crinkle of her blue eyes. We counted on her boundless kindness, open-minded and supportive listening skills and her ability to bring people together. Lil was an example of an active woman - outdoorsy, cottager, downhill skier, kayaker, world traveller and theatre goer. She was also intellectually curious, an avid reader and enjoyed learning about new things with her dear friends in the Discovery Group. For those wishing, donations may be made in her memory to Jewish Family Services or the charity of your choice.



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STELLA AND LOUIS SLACK MEMORIAL FUND

In Memory of:

Gizela Klein by Myra and Lester Aronson and family.

JACK AND LINDA SMITH ENDOWMENT FUND

In Observance of the Yahrzeit of:

Jack Smith, a beloved father, by Leslie and Maureen Smith.

FREDA AND PHIL SWEDKO MEMORIAL FUND

In Memory of:

Sarah Greenberg by Beverly and Irving Swedko.

CASEY AND BESS SWEDLOVE ENDOWMENT FUND

Birthday Wishes to:

Bess Swedlove by Libby Katz; and by Barbara, Len, Steven and Michael Farber.

BRENT AND RISA TAYLOR ENDOWMENT FUND

In Memory of:

Gizela Klein by Brent, Risa and Shira Taylor.

BARBARA AND GERALD THAW ENDOWMENT FUND

Happy Passover to:

Dorothy Nadolny by Barbara and Gerald Thaw.

LISE AND MARK THAW FAMILY FUND

Happy Passover to:

Donna and Josh Cohen and family by Lise,

Mark, Alayna and Bryan Thaw.

Gail and Stan Hitzig by Lise, Mark, Alayna and Bryan Thaw.

Joany and Andy Katz and family by Lise, Mark, Alayna and Bryan Thaw.

Dorothy Nadolny by Lise, Mark, Alayna and Bryan Thaw.

Elsa and Norman Swedko by Lise, Mark, Alayna and Bryan Thaw.

Barbara and Gerald Thaw by Lise, Mark, Alayna and Bryan Thaw.

ELIZABETH AND ARNON VERED FAMILY COMMUNITY FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Arnie Vered on receiving the Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship by Barbara and Len Farber; by Joany and Andy Katz and family; and by Rhoda and Jeff Miller and family.

STEPHEN AND GAIL VICTOR ENDOWMENT FUND

In Memory of:

Gizela Klein by Stephen and Gail Victor.

THE SAUL AND EDNA GOLDFARB B'NAI MITZVAH PROGRAM

NOAH REICHSTEIN B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

R'fuah Sh'leimah to:

Malcolm Glube by Sandra and Norman Slover.

JONATHAN, MATTHEW AND ADAM SHERMAN B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

Happy Passover to:

Bea and Murray Garceau by Norma and Stanley Goldstein.

David and Ethel Malek by Norma and Stanley Goldstein.

Contributions may be made online at www.OJCF.ca or by contacting the office at 613-798-4696 extension 274, Monday to Friday or by email at tributecards@ojcf.ca.

Attractive cards are sent to convey the appropriate sentiments.

All donations are acknowledged with a charitable receipt.

*The Chair and Board of Directors of the
Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation cordially invite
all fund holders and members of the Community to attend the*

Annual General Meeting of the Foundation Tuesday, June 10th, 2014

Doors Open: 7:00 pm Call to Order: 7:30 pm
Dessert Reception to follow proceedings

Zelikovitz Family Social Hall of The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building
21 Nadolny Sachs Private

**At this time, the community is invited to nominate candidates
for the Board of Directors.**

**All nominations from members must be submitted in writing
to info@ojcf.ca up to seven days**

**(no later than June 03, 2014) prior to the election of the Directors
at the Annual General Meeting. Successful candidates will serve
a three-year term from June 2014 to June 2017. Nominations will not be
accepted from the floor at the Annual General Meeting.**

Please send your RSVP prior to June 03, 2014
to info@ojcf.ca
or 613-798-4696 ext. 252

*A copy of the meeting materials will be available
on our website prior to the AGM.*

www.OJCF.ca

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Donations can be made
for all occasions and life-cycle events.

Use our online donation form
to send one or multiple tribute cards
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Charitable receipts are issued and sent directly
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Try it TODAY!

WHAT'S GOING ON | May 12 to 25, 2014
FOR MORE COMMUNITY LISTINGS, VISIT WWW.JEWISHOTTAWA.COM AND SELECT 'CLICK TO SEE MORE MONTHS'

MONDAY, MAY 12

Food and a View: Federation L'Chaim to thank all donors to the Jewish Federation of Ottawa's 2014 Annual Campaign:
Fully sponsored by Creative Kosher Catering and the Ottawa Convention Centre.
Ottawa Conference Centre, Trillium Ball Room, 55 Colonel By Drive, 7 to 9 pm.
Info: Rachel Abenhaim, 613-798-4696, ext. 236, rabenhaim@jewishottawa.com

TUESDAY, MAY 13

OJCS Community Open House:
Stop by and visit your community school.
Ottawa Jewish Community School, 31 Nadolny Sachs Private, 9 to 11 am.
Info: Sara-Lynne Levine, 613-722-0020, sl.levine@theojcs.cs

THURSDAY, MAY 15

Professional Development Workshop for local Jewish agencies and organizations on the subject of Governance, presented by Debi Zaret of Capacity Building Consulting. All organizations and agency professionals and volunteers welcome, 6:45 to 9 pm.
Info: Sarah Beutel, 613-798-4696, ext. 253, sbeutel@jewishottawa.com

FRIDAY, MAY 16

Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner:
with speaker Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl, "Slowly Suddenly Jewish: Different ways that people discover their Jewish identity." Agudath Israel Congregation, 1400 Coldrey Avenue, 6 to 9 pm.
Info: Susan Grossner, 613-728-3501, susan@agudathisrael.net

SATURDAY, MAY 17

Seudah Shlishit Study and Dinner:
Join Reb Anna Maranta and other Glebe Minyan members to study the parashah with commentaries. The Glebe Minyan, 19 - 612 Bank Street, 5 to 8:30 pm.
Info: Anna Maranta, 613-867-5505, maranta.anna@gmail.com

TUESDAY, MAY 20

Ecstatic Chanting in Hebrew with Vancouver chant leader Lorne Mallin, in support of Abayudaya (Uganda) orphans to attend school. Abayudaya kippot and paperbead jewelry will be available for sale. Organized by Adath Shalom Congregation, with the Glebe Minyan and Or Haneshamah. Ottawa Jewish Community School Chapel, 31 Nadolny Sachs Private, 7:30 to 9 pm.
Info: Joel Yan, 613-224-4560, joelyan@rogers.com; or Toby Brooks, 613-234-1649, toby.brooks@sympatico.ca

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

Jewish Federation of Ottawa Members Meeting:
Everyone welcome to attend, 7 to 9 pm.
Info: Rachel Abenhaim, 613-798-4696, ext. 236, rabenhaim@jewishottawa.com

FRIDAY, MAY 23

Kabbalat Shabbat and Dinner: Join us for a meditative Kabbalat Shabbat service followed by a potluck dairy meal and inspiring conversation. The Glebe Minyan, 91A Fourth Avenue, 6 to 9 pm.
Info: Anna Maranta, 613-867-5505, maranta.anna@gmail.com

SUNDAY, MAY 25

AJA 50+ Trivia Night: the community is invited to bring together teams of 10 to pit their wits and wisdom against each other. Register as a team or sign up and be placed on a team. Temple Israel, 1301 Prince of Wales, 7 to 9:30 pm.
Info: Annette Paquin, 613-526-2968, aja50plus@sympatico.ca

Sephardi Jews of the Amazon: Presentation of the documentary "The Fire Within: Jews in the Amazonian Rainforest" and discussion with Professor Ariel Segal, 7 to 9 pm.
Info: ottawasephardiassociation@yahoo.com

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ACTIVITIES TAKE PLACE AT THE JOSEPH AND ROSE AGES FAMILY BUILDING, 21 NADOLNY SACHS PRIVATE

CONDOLENCES

Condolences are extended to the families of:

Eli Barzilay, Montreal
(brother of Sylvie Barzilay)

The Rt. Hon. Herb Gray

Mark Kerzner, Phoenix, Arizona
(son of Eddie and Judi Kerzner)

Karl Leimovici

Lily Levitin

Edward Sieb

Maurice Young

*May their memory
be a blessing always.*

*The Condolence Column
is offered as a public service to the
community. There is no charge.
For listing in this column,
please call 613 798-4696, ext. 274.
Voice mail is available.*

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JR. DAY AT B'NAI

SUNDAY JULY 27TH

Sign Up
Now Open

- Enjoy a typical day at CBB of Ottawa
- Participate in camp programs including tennis, soccer, football, a&c and dance.
- Bus Leaves OJCS (Hillel Academy) Parking Lot at 9 am and returns at 7 pm

Summer 2014 is almost here!

Are you getting excited?

Open House Sunday June 1st
from 11-2 pm BBQ lunch, Tours & Inflatables

For more information please contact:

Jonathan Pivnick - Camp Director
director@cbbottawa.com

613.244.9210

Visit us online at: cbbottawa.com

facebook. [facebook.com/CBB Ottawa](https://www.facebook.com/CBB Ottawa)



CAMP B'NAI BRITH of Ottawa