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## Chanukah in Ottawa

Photos from many of our city's Chanukah celebrations  
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# OTTAWA JEWISH BULLETIN

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## Ottawa teen to play baseball on Israel's national team

Fourteen-year-old **Ben Dodek** of Ottawa will be the only non-Israeli to play on the Israel National Baseball Team in the European Championships in Prague in April. **Louise Rachlis** reports.

**W**hile Ben Dodek has played for the Ottawa West Twins in a Canadian national championship tournament, it will be a whole other ball game when he competes in the "Cadet" category for ages 12 to 15 on behalf of the Israel National Baseball Team in the European Championships this April in Prague. He'll be a unique member of the team as the only player not from Israel.

"I've played baseball most of my life, from age six or seven," said Ben, a left-handed "southpaw" who plays first base and also pitches.

"When I was younger, my father always played catch with me at the park. I wasn't that interested early on, but developed a love for baseball and other sports," he said.

A family friend in Ottawa, Eitan Maoz (who was profiled in the September 21, 2014 issue of the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin), played on the Israel's senior national team for age 21 and over and put Ben in touch with the national director of the Israel Association of Baseball.

When he lived in Israel for six months in 2014-2015, Ben played city baseball with the Jerusalem Lions. However, for the Israel National Baseball Team tryout, he

sent videos of himself playing for the Ottawa West Twins in an intermediate tournament for the Canadian Championship in New Brunswick.

Ben's childhood was spent in Toronto until his family moved to Ottawa in 2010. He now attends Nepean High School.

"If being a [professional] baseball player doesn't work out for me," he said, "I'd like to be a lawyer."

Should he become a lawyer, he'd be following in the footsteps of his father, University of Ottawa law professor Adam Dodek.

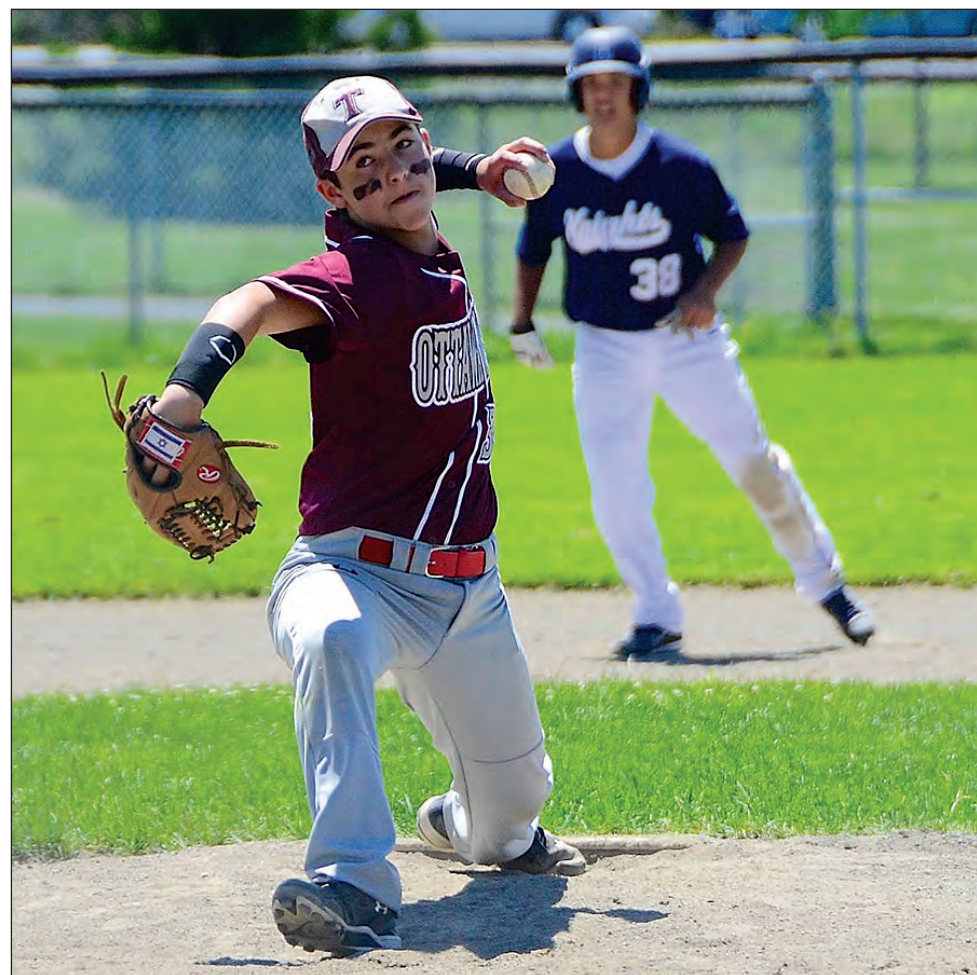
Ben is looking forward to going to the tournament in Prague.

"I've heard lots of great things about Prague," he said. "My grandparents have been there."

Ben's father and grandfather will be going to the tournament with him.

Ben will head to Petah Tikva in central Israel the week before the tournament to practise with the team. With practices scheduled for the evenings, he plans to spend his days travelling around Israel and visiting with friends.

The costs associated with playing baseball in Israel and travelling to tournaments like the one in Prague are borne by the players and their families, and Nicole



Ottawa's Ben Dodek, seen here pitching for the Ottawa West Twins, will play for Israel in the European baseball championships in Prague in April.

Goldstone, Ben's mother, is helping raise money for scholarships to help players whose families cannot afford the cost of playing baseball in Israel.

The fundraising effort supports the Howie Osterer Scholarship Fund established by the Israel Association of Baseball in memory of Howie Osterer, formerly of Ottawa, a baseball umpire, coach and self-proclaimed "king of baseball in Israel" who passed away suddenly in 2014.

"We are fortunate enough to be able to

afford the cost of Ben's trip to the Prague, but many of the Israelis cannot afford the cost, which is left for each family to cover, and so money to the fund will give other Israeli kids who are less fortunate, the chance to participate," said Goldstone.

"Howie got so many kids to play baseball and worked so hard to make sure that even those kids who could not afford the fees would be able to play," she said.

Donations to the fund may be made at <http://site.jnf.ca/index.php/howie-baseball/>.

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Tamara Scarowsky on Mitzvah Day > p. 6

Barbara Crook on wave of terror in Israel > p. 23

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Local, National & International

# OJCS announces new tuition model to make Jewish education more affordable

BY ELLEN O'CONNOR  
OTTAWA JEWISH COMMUNITY SCHOOL

The Ottawa Jewish Community School (OJCS) Board has approved a new tuition model in an effort to make private Jewish education more accessible and affordable for middle-income families.

"The new model was crafted in such a way as to provide maximum value to families with various income levels and numbers of children," said OJCS finance committee member Yaron Spanglet. "The ultimate goal is to ensure the long term financial sustainability of OJCS and to incentivize a healthy growth in enrolment year over year."

The eight-member finance committee

developed the new model over the past several months and it came into effect in January in preparation for the 2016-2017 school year.

"We've substantially reduced the first and second band tuition prices and we've also created deeper discounts for multiple children," said Jared Greenberg, chair of the finance committee.

Families that fall under the first band (under \$100,000 in gross family income) and second band (\$100,000 to \$125,000 in gross family income) will see the most substantial price reductions.

The cost of tuition for those who fall under the first band is fixed at \$7,495 across the board for each child.

Comparatively, the cost of tuition for a first child under band one in the current

school was \$11,460. Parents who fall under this band will save nearly \$4,000 on their children's tuition for next year.

The cost of tuition for those who fall under the second band is \$10,697 for the first child, compared to \$11,885 in the current school year, with the cost decreasing for the second, third and fourth child.

Those who fall under the upper bands – or who make \$150,000 or above in gross family income – will see an increase of up to four per cent in the tuition cost for their first child. However, the increase is capped at four per cent and is offset by greater discounted rates for siblings.

"The current unassessed tuition rate still remains partially subsidized through various fundraising initiatives, Jewish

Federation of Ottawa support and donor campaigns," said Greenberg. "To continue towards full financial sustainability, we have created the "Governor's Club" tuition band, which represents the true cost of tuition."

The Governor's Club tuition band is an optional band for families who wish to pay the full unsubsidized amount and is fixed at \$17,144 per child.

The implementation of the new OJCS tuition model comes at a time when many Jewish families are struggling with the full cost of living a Jewish life, which includes sending their children to Jewish day schools.

"After purchasing kosher food, paying for Jewish school, Jewish day camp, synagogue membership and giving tzedakah to many worthy causes, much of a Jewish family's disposable income is accounted for," said Aaron Smith, president of the OJCS Board of Directors and member of the finance committee. "We needed to find a way to make the biggest ticket item – Jewish day school – more affordable for middle-income families."

Smith added that, ultimately, the goal of the new model is to increase the number of children enrolled in the school, which will have a further impact of decreasing the cost per child to deliver education at OJCS.

"After two years of enrolment growth and retention rates of 95 per cent for existing families, we are hoping to continue to build on this positive momentum," he said.

Along with receiving discounted tuition rates, the second, third and fourth child in a family are eligible to apply for the Principal's Scholarship worth \$1,000. The Hebrew Free Loan and Tuition Assistance programs are also available to help provide further subsidies to anyone who requires it. Applications for these financial assistance programs are handled in strict confidence, and further inquiries can be directed to Marlene Wolinsky, head of school.

"Private Jewish education should be accessible to all and we see this new model as a major accomplishment towards that goal," said Greenberg.

## Mystery boy identified



The front page of the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin Chanukah edition, published December 7, featured a photo from the Ottawa Jewish Archives of an unidentified young boy lighting Chanukah candles. Thanks to all the Bulletin readers who identified the boy as Joe Levitan. Special thanks to Joe's wife, Rhoda Levitan, who told us the photo was taken at Hillel Academy/Beth Shalom on Chapel Street in 1961 or '62 when Joe was nine or 10. A copy of the photo hangs in the Levitan home. Rhoda supplied this photo of Joe lighting the candles this Chanukah.

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See page 31  
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and Deadline  
dates  
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# CHANUKAH 5776 | More photos on pages 16 and 18



**Israeli ambassador's residence:** (From left) Governor General David Johnston, Rabbi Reuven P. Bulka and Israeli Ambassador Rafael Barak light the candles, December 8, at a Chanukah gathering at the ambassador's residence. They were joined by friends and Jewish community leaders.



**Parliament Hill:** Prime Minister Justin Trudeau participates in the lighting of the menorah on Parliament Hill, December 9. (From left) York Centre MP Michael Levitt, Cantor Daniel Benlolo, Trudeau, and Mount Royal MP Anthony Housefather.



**Chabad Hebrew School:** Guitarist Rivkah Blum accompanies Grade 3 students performing Chanukah songs at the Chabad Hebrew School Chanukah party, December 13, at the Ottawa Torah Centre Chabad.



**Glebe Shul:** Young adults gather, December 6, at Avalon Studios, for the Glebe Shul Chanukah party.



**Hillel Lodge:** The SJCC Kol Zahav Choir celebrates the Chanukah, December 8, with the residents of the Bess and Moe Greenberg Family Hillel Lodge.



**Agudath Israel:** Families made menorahs, decorated jelly doughnuts and lit the first candle together at the Agudath Israel Congregation's Chanukah party for young families, December 6.



**Hillel Ottawa:** (From left) Geoffrey Zalter, Rosalie Springer and Sarah Newman enjoy the Hillel Ottawa Chanukah Ball, held before Chanukah on November 28, at Eggspectation.



**Machzikei Hadas:** Rabbi Idan Scher and a group of children prepare to light the candles, December 13, at Congregation Machzikei Hadas' Chanukah party.

# Wedding postponed by tragic terrorist attack becomes joyous occasion with guests from around the world

BY ABIGAIL FREEMAN  
FOR CHABAD STUDENT NETWORK

In November, Rabbi Chaim Boyarsky of the Chabad Student Network was raising money to send an Ottawa representative to Israel for the wedding of Sarah Techiya Litman – whose father and brother were murdered in a terrorist attack just days before her wedding to Ariel Beigel was originally scheduled to take place.

Following such a tragedy, it would have been reasonable for Sarah and Ariel to have a low-key, private wedding. However, they invited the entire Jewish nation “to rise from the dust and celebrate” with them. So, how could I not donate to help send someone to this wedding?

By making the donation, I was entered into a raffle to be that very representative. Not once did it occur to me that I would actually be the one representing Ottawa at the wedding. But, 24 hours later, I was on a plane to Israel to attend the November 26 wedding in Jerusalem.

I have been to Israel several times before. I’ve toured, studied and spent time with family there. However, nothing compares to the three short days



Abigail Freeman of Ottawa (second from left) with bride Sarah Techiya Litman (centre) and three students from the U.S. at Litman’s wedding to Ariel Beigel, November 26, in Jerusalem.

I spent in Israel for this wedding. They were three of the most meaningful and uplifting days of my life. Two months later, it still feels like a dream.

The wedding was unbelievable. There

are no words to describe the pain, yet tremendous happiness, felt by each and every guest.

I was with a group of students from North America, each of us representing our city and university. We attended the bedeken, the chuppah and the dancing. Among the tears shed, smiles were shared. Among the extreme pain, there was happiness.

It was incredibly emotional and uplifting to see such strong people turn an immense tragedy into such a joyous occasion – for all of Am Yisrael. There are no words to describe the feeling of singing “Am Yisrael Chai” with thousands of people during such a tragic time for the Jewish people.

Sarah’s father and brother were not there to celebrate with her, but her extended family from around the world was. Everyone in that room was there for one reason: to let the Litman family know they were not alone, that the Jewish nation was right there with them, that the loss of a Jewish life

means not only a loss for the immediate family, but for the *entire* family. That night truly exemplified who the Jewish people are as a nation. Am Yisrael Chai.

The next day, we visited the families of Ziv Mizrachi and Hadar Buchris, who were murdered earlier that week. Tears and hugs were shared and stories were told during the moving and uplifting visits. We then spent a beautiful Shabbat in Jerusalem. And, after Shabbat, we visited wounded soldiers and packed food for Israel’s poorest families and senior citizens. And then it was off to the airport to begin my journey back to Ottawa.

What an incredible three days!



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Children at a Syrian refugee camp in Jordan smile for the camera despite their dire situation.

## Three congregations join together to sponsor Syrian refugee family

BY BARBARA LEVINE  
AND LARRY LITHWICK  
SHALOM GROUP

Following a community-wide information meeting held at Agudath Israel on December 8, 2015, Ottawa's three Conservative congregations – Adath Shalom, Agudath Israel and Beth Shalom (Agudath Israel and Beth Shalom will be amalgamated later this year) – have joined efforts to sponsor a Syrian refugee family and help it start a new life in Ottawa.

Like the volunteers and donors who supported an earlier sponsorship effort by Temple Israel, congregants in all three shuls were asking what they could do to help in the face of the terrible Syrian refugee crisis. The Shalom Group emerged in response to this desire to help and to show the world how it should have acted when Jewish refugees were fleeing Nazism in Europe. The name of our group stands not only for "peace," but it also expresses the goal of the initiative to offer a warm, supportive and hospitable welcome to people who are strangers to us, because "we once were strangers in the land."

The objective of the Shalom Group is to raise \$30,000 over the next three months, which would allow us to sponsor a family of four. Operating under the umbrella of Jewish Immigrant Aid Services of Toronto and Jewish Family Services of Ottawa (JFS), we have opened an account and have begun to receive donations. JFS will issue a charitable receipt for all donations over \$18.

We are also recruiting volunteers whose support is needed for everything

from helping the sponsored family with budgeting and opening a Canadian bank account to finding affordable rental accommodation and collecting donated furniture.

Look for the Shalom Group table at the Jewish Federation of Ottawa's Mitzvah Day, Sunday, February 7 at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre. There will be opportunities to sign up for different volunteer activities and to write welcome notes to the arriving family.

While the tragic circumstances of the refugees have touched millions of Canadians, they resonate especially strongly with many Jewish Canadians. Many of us see elements of our own history as stateless and persecuted people reflected again in the tide of mostly Muslim refugees fleeing war and deprivation in the Middle East. The opportunity to sponsor a refugee family helps us build bridges to other communities, and with each other as members of different congregations working together for a common purpose.

To make a contribution, send a cheque (earmarked for the Shalom Group) to Jewish Family Services, 300-2255 Carling Avenue, Ottawa, ON, K2B 7Z5. You can also donate online at [www.jfsottawa.com](http://www.jfsottawa.com) or fill out a pledge form available from all three shul offices.

To become a volunteer, or to discuss how you can become involved, contact any of the following: Ira Greenblatt ([greenblatt.dugas@gmail.com](mailto:greenblatt.dugas@gmail.com)), Susan Landau-Chark ([prof.sjlc@zoho.com](mailto:prof.sjlc@zoho.com)), Barbara Levine ([levine.barbara@gmail.com](mailto:levine.barbara@gmail.com)) or Larry Lithwick ([llithwick@rogers.com](mailto:llithwick@rogers.com)).

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FEDERATION  
REPORT



TAMARA SCAROWSKY  
MITZVAH DAY

## Mitzvah Day 2016 celebrates 10 years of performing good deeds

within the Jewish and broader Ottawa community. It is a day entirely focused on making the world a better place one good deed at a time. It is about enriching lives with hands-on Judaism.

In an effort to put the mitzvah back in Mitzvah Day, the Mitzvah Day Committee is hard at work planning and organizing a wide variety of activities that include collections of food for the Kosher Food Bank, new or gently used work-appropriate jewelry and purses for Ottawa's Dress for Success, and gently used board games and craft supplies for the Crossroads Children's Centre, a mental health centre that provides services for children under 12 with complex mental health needs and their families.

Returning favourite activities include making sandwiches for the Ottawa Mission, braiding challahs for donation to the Kosher Food Bank, creating birthday celebration kits for children living in shelters and serving meals at

*From feeding the hungry  
to providing comfort for  
the destitute to embracing  
and engaging seniors  
and those with disabilities,  
Mitzvah Day goes beyond  
the boundaries of our  
community to help those  
less fortunate, putting  
Jewish values in action.*

Shepherds of Good Hope.

New mitzvot include a workshop on honouring our parents and creating therapy kits for children at Crossroads who are dealing with stress and anxiety. Also this year, children can cheer up Hillel Lodge residents by participating in a sing-along with well-known children's entertainer Monkey Rock.

This year, we have also partnered with

Hair Donation Ottawa, a local not-for-profit that co-ordinates hair donation in order to create wigs for children who are suffering from medical hair loss. Anyone interested in donating hair for this worthwhile cause should keep growing it – the minimum length of hair to donate is six inches.

Mitzvah Day offers a great opportunity for parents to teach their children about the Jewish principle of kindness and putting others before themselves. From feeding the hungry to providing comfort for the destitute to embracing and engaging seniors and those with disabilities, Mitzvah Day goes beyond the boundaries of our community to help those less fortunate, putting Jewish values in action.

Mitzvah Day would not be possible without the generosity of our lead sponsor Ginsberg Gluzman Fage & Levitz (GGFL) Chartered Accountants. Their continued support of this community-wide event makes this event possible. GGFL also lends a hand by coming out and actively engaging in many of the mitzvot and, this year, they will be running one of the activities!

February 7 is just around the corner, so get ready to roll up your sleeves and make a difference. I look forward to seeing you there! For more details about Mitzvah Day or to register, visit [www.mitzvahdayottawa.com](http://www.mitzvahdayottawa.com).

FROM THE  
PULPIT



RABBI BARRY SCHLESINGER  
AGUDATH ISRAEL

## The Conservative movement doesn't have to rebrand itself

explains why the Israelites never lost their identity during their 200 years of slavery in Egypt. The Rabbis explained that the key to their success was that they maintained their Hebrew names, they kept on speaking Hebrew and they remained a moral and ethical people, loyal to each other.

Throughout the past 100-plus years, the Coca-Cola name has remained the same. Its logo hasn't changed and its loyal staff hasn't shared the recipe with anyone. And I would like to believe that their business dealings have been, and remain, moral and ethical.

So, what can we learn from Coca Cola?

For years, Coke was advertised as "the real thing," or in Hebrew, "Ta'am Hachaim (the taste of life)." The Conservative Movement should present itself as the "real thing" and that davening in Conservative shuls offers the worshipper a wonderful and engaging "taste of authentic Jewish life."

The Coca-Cola logo is unchanging and recognized the world over. Consumers see it and immediately know that it stands for a popular and tasty soft drink – a great thirst quencher.

When one sees a sign for "Congregation X, a Conservative Synagogue," that person should immediately identify the

shul as a welcoming, engaging, participatory Conservative shul that embraces and upholds tradition and, if necessary, is willing to find halachic ways to deal with the challenges of modernity.

In order to succeed like Coke, the Conservative congregation doesn't have to change the recipe that offers a "taste of authentic Jewish life." However, it does need loyal and committed members to create, as Professor Arnie Eisen wrote, "strong face-to-face communities" which have "the power to persuade Jews to remain Jews and to sustain the conviction that our beliefs and values really matter to the world." It needs members who will actively participate in all aspects of synagogue life and serve as agents and recruiters to help grow the congregations and inspire the unaffiliated to come through the doors and get involved.

The Conservative movement doesn't have to rebrand itself. It must remember that it has a great recipe with ingredients that have stood the test of time and that adherence to tradition is the key element in the mix.

The Conservative movement must have faith in itself and truly believe it is marketing a wonderful, exciting product that is traditional, spiritually inspiring, attractive, friendly and welcoming.

The media has reported that, due to dwindling numbers, the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism has decided to rebrand itself. According to the New York Post, the Good Omen PR agency of New York has been hired to interview hundreds of Conservative Jews "to get their views on the movement in order to develop a new 'position statement' for the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism."

It distresses me that the leaders of the Conservative movement have reduced it to something like a failing soft drink manufacturing company searching for a new way to increase sales.

So, if that's the case, let's learn from Coca-Cola. The success of Coca-Cola reminds me of the Midrash, which

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FROM THE EDITOR



MICHAEL REGENSTREIF

## Are we seeing an evolution in Orthodox Judaism?

Orthodoxy (not to be confused with Agudath Israel, a Conservative congregation here in Ottawa).

The non-Orthodox Jewish movements in North America began ordaining women in the 1970s and '80s, and now the concept of women rabbis is taken for granted in the Reform, Conservative, Reconstructionist and Jewish Renewal movements.

But, until very recently, the idea that a woman could be an Orthodox rabbi was still unheard of – and remains a taboo in most of the Orthodox world.

However, the concept of Orthodox women clergy in North America has taken hold through a still-developing, and still very small, movement known as “Open Orthodoxy” centred around several institutions associated with Rabbi Avi Weiss, the New York Orthodox rabbi who founded Yeshivat Chovevei Torah, a rabbinical seminary for men, in 1999, and Yeshivat Maharat, an equivalent seminary for women, a decade later.

According to Rabbi Weiss, Open Orthodoxy is about inclusivity: “encouraging women to become more involved in

Jewish ritual and Jewish spiritual leadership”; welcoming those in LGBT relationships “as full members in our synagogues”; embracing and giving a forum “to those who struggle with deep religious, theological, and ethical questions”; reaching out “to converts with love and understanding”; decentralizing rabbinic authority to include local rabbis who may be more aware of how Halacha “should apply to their particular communal situations and conditions”; and, being “prepared to engage in dialogue and learn from Jews of other denominations, and, for that matter, people of all faiths.”

The women ordained by Yeshivat Maharat have been free to choose the title they will go by. Most have chosen “Maharat,” an acronym for the Hebrew words *manhiga hilkhatit rukhanit Toranit* indicating a female leader trained in Halacha, spirituality and Torah. Others have used “Rabba,” a feminized version of Rabbi, or “Morateinu,” Hebrew for our teacher. No matter which title chosen, these women have received the same rigorous level of training and education as

their male counterparts in Orthodox rabbinical seminaries.

Lila Kagedan, who grew up in Ottawa and still retains ties to our community, was ordained by Yeshivat Maharat in 2015, and made headlines as the first Yeshivat Maharat graduate to take the title “Rabbi.”

When Rabbi Kagedan was in Ottawa in November, she told me she took the title of “Rabbi” to dispel any confusion about her training and qualifications. But she is well aware of how controversial her role as a rabbi is in the Orthodox world.

Rabbi Kagedan was back in the news this month because an Orthodox synagogue in New Jersey hired her to be part of its spiritual leadership team (see the JTA story on page 13).

And that brings us back to the question posed by JTA. “Will 2016 be the year of the female Orthodox rabbi?”

According to Rabbi Weiss, Jewish movements are not “announced” or “proclaimed.” They “evolve” over a period of time. The correct question, I think, is whether we are seeing the beginning of an evolution in Orthodox Judaism? It will be fascinating to see whether Open Orthodoxy becomes a major force in the Orthodox world and whether we’ll ever come to take Orthodox women rabbis for granted as we do in the non-Orthodox denominations.

It’s definitely a story to watch.

‘Will 2016 be the year of the female Orthodox rabbi?’ was the headline of a JTA feature about six stories in the Jewish and wider world to watch in 2016 that was posted to our website – [www.ottawajewishbulletin.com](http://www.ottawajewishbulletin.com) – on January 5.

The question arose because two Orthodox institutions – Yeshivat Maharat in New York and Yeshivat Har’el in Jerusalem – have been ordaining women as Orthodox clergy, despite the opposition of such groups as the Rabbinical Council of America, the organization representing most modern Orthodox rabbis in North America, and Agudath Israel of America, an umbrella group representing haredi

IDEAS AND IMPRESSIONS



JASON MOSCOVITZ

## Election promises broken and kept: A tale of two Trudeaus

Stanfield and the Tories meant wage and price controls, while a vote for Trudeau’s Liberals meant there wouldn’t be.

There were not many other issues in 1974 other than what to do about the ailing economy. When Pierre Trudeau won a significant majority government, the difference in the huge Liberal victory was, arguably, his promise not to freeze wages and prices.

It was a real shocker when Pierre Trudeau, shortly after winning the '74 election, announced inflation was worsening and that wage and price controls were the answer. The baby boom generation was in university and it was a generational wake-up call to the politics of telling untruths to win power.

The next time Pierre Trudeau was seriously challenged by the Progressive Conservatives was in 1979 when Joe Clark’s Tories won a minority government. In its first budget, the Clark government proposed an 18-cent-a-gallon tax on gasoline to pay down Canada’s mounting debt from the Trudeau regime.

Again Pierre Trudeau laughed at the proposal, the Clark government fell, and the Liberals promised Canadians the Conservative’s gasoline tax hike would

never happen if the Liberals were elected.

Voters handed the Liberals a return to majority rule in the 1980 election, and strange things happened on the way to the gas pump.

Pierre Trudeau’s Liberals did two things. They introduced the National Energy Program and the metric system. The elimination of the gallon clouded comparisons, but the Liberal tax increase per litre of gasoline was much more than the Conservative’s 18-cents-a-gallon. Once again, the Liberals did the opposite of what they promised.

After the Mulroney era, Jean Chrétien was the next Liberal leader to win power. Chrétien vehemently opposed the goods and services tax introduced by Mulroney’s Tory government. He was going to “kill it.” He was going to “abolish it.” He breezed through the 1993 election getting huge cheers for his stand against the GST.

But they didn’t abolish the tax. Instead, the Chrétien Liberals basked in surpluses because of the very-hated GST they promised to get rid of. Say something in an election campaign and do the exact opposite in power became the Liberal ethos. They kept doing it because it kept working, and winning is every-

thing until it isn’t any more.

The Liberals lost favour, and a long famine ensued. The cynical Liberal ways – not sunny ways – cut deeply. Winning election campaigns by consistently not telling the truth eventually catches up to you and your reputation. No one appears to know that better than the new prime minister.

Justin Trudeau is a keen observer. He grew up in a period when public disdain for politicians intensified and festered. He instinctively knows he can’t break promises the way his father and Chrétien did. He wants to speak of a new Liberal Party. He wants to show Canadians his Liberal Party will do what it said it will do, not the opposite.

He should be applauded for his efforts because his intentions are good, needed and appreciated. An election promise has to be real, has to show a standard of truthfulness. Promises can’t always be delivered to the letter, but the intent, the resolve, and the will, have to be there.

Agree or disagree, Justin Trudeau is showing his mettle on major policy planks from refugees to middle class tax deductions to electoral reform. Neither logistics nor the bad economy will stop him from moving forward. He is also delivering on his promise to be more open and accountable.

Justin Trudeau has passed all the early tests in trying to improve the abysmal Liberal record on election promises, particularly his own father’s.

There is something remarkably significant about Prime Minister Justin Trudeau trying to fulfil his election promises. He is trying to prove that a promise actually means something and that a Liberal promise means even more.

The Liberal brand was badly tarnished after decades of broken campaign promises. An argument can be put forward that modern day political cynicism in Canada began with the Liberal Party of Canada. History tells us that over the years, the Liberals told Canadians some real whoppers.

Pierre Trudeau openly mocked his Progressive Conservative opponents’ call for wage and price controls in the hyper inflationary period of the 1974 election. The choice was clear. A vote for Robert



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### BEING JEWISH IN IQALUIT

Regarding Sarah Waisvisz's column on *Jew-Day* ("Dispatches from the Diaspora," September 21, 2015).

Sorry it's taken me awhile to respond to this article, but the mail takes a really long time to reach me here in Iqaluit, Nunavut. I don't know if I've read an article in the Bulletin that I could so relate to! Adding up my own Jewish arithmetic, I read Hebrew, I had a bat mitzvah, 50 per cent of my grandparents are Jewish, I have never read Anne Frank, but I love klezmer, falafel and gefilte fish, etc.

I was very fortunate to grow up in a loving and open Jewish community in Ottawa where everyone was welcomed and actually encouraged to participate, celebrate and enjoy being Jewish (or not Jewish).

Since moving to Iqaluit in 2007, I've often had *Jew-Days* as Waisvisz describes. I've made matzo ball soup in July. I've given out my bubbe's poppy seed cookie recipe to loads of people who won't bake them for Shabbat. I will host a post-Chanukah party here because I was out of town for all eight days. The only thing I won't do is make my labour-intensive apricot hamantaschen anytime but Purim. My co-workers know to wait for spring for my triangle cookies.

I don't feel bad for doing these things at the wrong time of the year. In fact, I feel privileged to share my traditions with my friends here. To them, I'm the only Jew in town (well, one of five). To me, I'm 100 per cent Jewish, and to anyone else, who cares?

My dad has been bugging me for ages to write a 'diaspora' story about what it's like to be Jewish in Iqaluit. Consider this my first instalment!

**Sara Holzman**

### GIL HOFFMAN ON HARPER

I attended Gil Hoffman's presentation at Young Israel of Ottawa on November 21 ("Canada mattered under Harper but no more, says Jerusalem Post correspondent," December 7, 2015) and heard yet another example of the support Stephen Harper has demonstrated on the world stage in support of Israel. Hoffman was not attacking Justin Trudeau. He was simply expressing his appreciation of Harper's very exceptional behaviour. He was giving credit where credit was due.

He mentioned that [Canada under] Harper voted against a G8 resolution that would have isolated and damaged Israel. It was the only vote against and, since unanimity was required for it pass, the resolution failed. As Canadian John Kenneth Galbraith said, "In any great organization, it is far, far safer to be wrong with the majority than to be right alone."

Yes, it is very early in Trudeau's mandate. His official position on Israel is no worse (but no better) than the stance his Liberal predecessors have taken. We have only impressions thus far, and can hope, of course, but it already seems much more likely that he will take the safe route.

**Barbara Okun**

## Federal Court of Canada hears \$3 million case over disputed Holocaust memoir

(JTA) – The Federal Court of Canada is considering a lawsuit filed by three filmmakers alleging that a Canadian author and her publisher plagiarized a family history presented in their documentary.

Judy Maltz, an Israeli-American journalist, along with Barbara Bird and Richie Sherman, both associate professors of film at Penn State, are suing J.L. Witterick and Penguin Canada Books for allegedly stealing characters and the plot from their 2009 documentary, "No. 4 Street of Our Lady," which investigated the Second World War rescue of Maltz's family by a Polish-Catholic woman in the Galician town of Sokal.

Hearings were held earlier this month in Ottawa.

The filmmakers are seeking a total of \$3 million in restitution from Witterick and Penguin Canada Books, the destruction of "all printed copies, including translations, and all plates and electronic files" of Witterick's best-selling 2013 novel, "My Mother's Secret," and an injunction on future sales of the book.

Their suit alleges that "My Mother's Secret" is "almost identical" to the documentary, which Witterick viewed in November 2011 at a Holocaust Education Week event in Toronto. Witterick self-published her novel in March 2013, and it went on to appear on the Globe and Mail's non-fiction best-seller list for several weeks before Penguin Canada Books, now part of Penguin Random House Canada, acquired its rights.

The complaint also alleges that Witterick employed the same "creative devices" used by the filmmakers "to design the narrative of ['No. 4 Street of Our Lady'] and to illustrate the personality traits of the main characters."

In April 2013, according to the complaint, Witterick apologized to Maltz for failing to credit the documentary and assured her that she would "definitely make sure to reference it in all my discussions."

"I took facts that were true and developed the characters," Witterick told the Globe and Mail in 2014. "My understanding is you can't copyright facts. I don't think there is a law against being inspired by something."



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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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AICAT brings students from seven Southeast Asian countries to study Israel's innovative farming practices in exchange for a chance to change their lives and livelihood. Hanni Arnon speaks about the power of education to change one's life and also to serve as a bridge between different communities.



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# CIJA: Fighting poverty is a Jewish value and urgent cause

Jewish tradition is unambiguous about our obligation to help those less fortunate. From laws in the Torah requiring farmers to leave a portion of their crop for the poor, to Maimonides' eight levels of charity, to the extraordinary work of Jewish Federations in caring for the most vulnerable among us, the pursuit of social justice has always been a fixture of Jewish life.

As Israel Salanter, a 19th century rabbi largely credited with heralding the Jewish *mussar* (ethical self-improvement) movement, once incisively declared: "A pious Jew is not one who worries about his fellow man's soul and his own stomach; a pious Jew worries about his own soul and his fellow man's stomach."

Rabbi Salanter's words are as prescient today as ever. In March 2015 alone, more than 850,000 Canadians received food from a food bank – a figure 26 per cent higher than the same month in 2008. In our own community, 14.6 per cent of Jewish Canadians lived below the poverty line as of 2011 (up from 13.6 per cent in 2001). In the case of Montreal, this figure is an astonishing 20 per cent.

While the effort to combat poverty is complex and multifaceted, access to affordable housing is a common denominator for all. The 2010 National Household Survey revealed that one in four households in Canada – more than 3.3 million – is paying more than 30 per cent of its monthly income for housing (a threshold of affordability determined by government). The Canadian Homelessness Research Network estimates that 30,000 people are homeless on any given night, with at least 150,000 using a homeless shelter at some point in the year.

When it comes to public policy, this is an issue that spans the federal-provincial divide. For example, in 2013, the federal government allocated \$1.25 billion over five years for affordable housing programs administered by the provinces (which in turn matched these funds).

For the past five decades, the federal government has provided extensive subsidies to cover maintenance costs and rent subsidies for affordable housing units. Because this support was tied to mortgage terms of between 35 and 50 years, in many cases, federal rent subsidies are expiring in the near future as terms come to an end.

As part of a public policy agenda encompassing a wide range of issues, from human rights to community security to Canada-Israel relations, the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA) has designated affordable housing an advocacy priority. In the recent federal election, CIJA called on all parties to ensure the next government renews federal long-term funding for existing affordable housing. For low-income households that struggle to make ends meet – particularly seniors

STEVE MCDONALD  
GUEST COLUMN

and single-parent families – rent subsidies are essential in preserving dignity and quality of life.

CIJA also called on all parties to explore ways to expand federal funding for new affordable housing units across Canada, with a particular emphasis on sustainable, long-term access for low-income Canadians.

It is worth noting that, in the Speech from the Throne, the government announced its infrastructure investment program will include a focus on building new affordable housing and renovating existing units. Indeed, while many issues are contentious on Parliament Hill, as a former Hill staffer, I can say the desire to combat poverty and homelessness transcends party lines – just as it does political and denominational lines within the Jewish community.

Supporting the most vulnerable among us requires a comprehensive approach throughout the entire community. Grassroots community members and shuls have a role to play in discussing this issue in our homes and on the *bimah*, raising funds, and volunteering. Jewish social service agencies are at the forefront of caring for those at the margins of our economy and society.

Moreover, Jewish community agencies provide a model for government on how best to deliver services with care and religious-cultural sensitivity. This is why CIJA continues to advocate for Jewish agencies to continue to receive government funding to deliver programs and to be at the table when governments develop public policies to combat poverty.

At a national level, CIJA and politically engaged community members have a responsibility to urge our elected officials to make social justice a priority, while providing practical recommendations on how government can empower low-income Canadians to break the cycle of poverty. To paraphrase Rabbi Salanter: The stomach of our vulnerable neighbour should always be a source of worry for a nation that prides itself on its sense of compassion.

Steve McDonald is deputy director, Communications and Public Affairs, of the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs, the advocacy agent of Canada's Jewish Federations.



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# Israel is a leader in the fight against climate change

**H**undreds of studies by scientists have warned us about the encroaching threat of climate change and the need to combat it. Last month, world leaders met in Paris at the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference to pledge their country's commitment to reducing carbon emissions in the hopes of undoing the damage that has been done for so long.

While many countries have just started changing their environmental policies to align with this new reality, the State of Israel has been investing in new clean technologies and advocating for more sustainable global development for years.

Despite having a relatively small emissions output in comparison to the country's size and population,

**MICHAEL AARENAU  
GUEST COLUMN**

Israel came to the conference in full force, bringing 70 delegates led by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. This delegation included the Minister of Environmental Protection Avi Gabai, Knesset members, government officials and members of Israeli environmental NGOs.

The delegation made it clear that Israel understands the impact of climate change and has a concrete plan to help save the planet. This came in the form of pledging to reduce per capita greenhouse gas emissions to 7.7 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent by 2030. This would be 26 per cent below Israel's 2005 greenhouse gas emissions.

While Israel's pledge to lower carbon emissions is certainly noteworthy, what's most impressive is what the country is doing to aid the environment through its many technological innovations.

"Technology gives us the ability to do the unimaginable," said Netanyahu at the conference. And he is absolutely right.

In 2014, Israel was number one on the biennial Global

Cleantech Innovation Index. Israel is also the number one recycler of water in the world, with its drip irrigation system being a large contributor to this efficiency. Additionally, Israel has been a global pioneer in solar energy innovations for several years, with Israeli companies like SolarEdge and Sologic leading the way in the solar energy market. Israel is also developing state-of-the-art techniques to increase crop yields and innovative ways to make desert agriculture possible.

Israel has developed these technologies at a time when the planet is in great need of them. Scientists have been warning for years that global warming will affect water, public health, agriculture, energy, biodiversity, coastal infrastructure, natural disasters, national security, and more.

Being situated in such a dry, arid and politically unstable region, climate change is almost certain to cause serious damage to a country like Israel.

Hopefully, the rest of the world will follow suit and begin addressing climate change more seriously by committing to reduce their carbon emissions and investing more in alternative fuel sources and cleaner energy.

And, if they're unsure of where to start, I'm sure the Israeli energy sector would be more than happy to lend them a helping hand.



*Michael Aarenau is vice-president (communications) of the Israel Awareness Committee of Hillel Ottawa.*

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Géza Röhrig as Saul in "Son of Saul."

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## 'Son of Saul' nominated for best foreign language Oscar

(JTA) – The Hungarian Holocaust film "Son of Saul" was nominated for the best foreign film Academy Award.

The announcement was made early January 14 at a ceremony in Los Angeles.

"Son of Saul," which tells the story of a Jewish concentration camp inmate forced to help cremate his fellow prisoners, won the Golden Globe for best foreign language film earlier this month.

Other Jewish Oscar nominees include Steven

Spielberg, producer and director of "Bridge of Spies," which made the shortlist for best picture. The film, which tells the story of a Cold War prisoner exchange, is based on a screenplay by filmmaker brothers Joel and Ethan Coen.

Also in the running is Israel-born producer Arnon Milchan, whose Leonardo di Caprio thriller "The Revenant" is also in contention for best picture.

Jennifer Jason Leigh was nominated as best supporting actress for her role in the "The Hateful Eight," about eight strangers seeking refuge from a blizzard during the American Civil War.

The documentary "Amy," about the British Jewish singer Amy Winehouse," was nominated for best documentary.

"Claude Lanzmann: Spectres of the Shoah," about the director of the epic Holocaust documentary "Shoah," was nominated for best documentary short.

The 88th Academy Awards ceremony will be held in Los Angeles on February 28.

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# Ottawa native Sarah Wilner to speak on Jewish activism

BY ALEX GRILLER, LISA GARMAN  
AND RABBI MICHAEL GOLDSTEIN  
FOR AGUDATH ISRAEL  
AND MACHZIKEI HADAS

The second presentation in the joint lecture series sponsored by Congregation Machzikei Hadas and Agudath Israel Congregation focusing on Jewish activism and its vital role around the world will feature Ottawa native Sarah Wilner, deputy director of the Golda Meir Mount Carmel International Training Center (MCTC), a training branch of Israel's Agency for International Co-operation, Ministry of

Foreign Affairs.

Golda Meir created the MCTC in 1961 to assist in the training of women engaged in community work in newly emerging states in Africa and Asia. Each participant receives a full scholarship from the Israeli government for training and accommodation during participation in the program.

Wilner, who began working at MCTC in 2010, is responsible for organizing and directing programs in areas such as early childhood education and development, community development, and entrepreneurship in English and French. She has



Sarah Wilner, who grew up in Ottawa, is deputy director of the Golda Meir Mount Carmel International Training Center.

that country.

Wilner – who made Aliyah to Israel in 2001 – holds a BA in psychology from McGill University, an MA in political science and sociology from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and a continuing education certificate in group facilitation and dynamics from Haifa University. Prior to joining MCTC, she worked for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Tel Aviv with asylum seekers who had entered Israel, and was a special education teacher for children with learning disabilities.

Enjoy breakfast and hear this vivacious and dynamic speaker describe her work on Sunday, January 31 at Congregation Machzikei Hadas. Shacharit is at 8:30 am, followed by breakfast. Wilner will speak at 9:45 am. The charge is \$5 per person.

given training sessions in Nepal and Ghana and is currently managing a long-term project in partnership with the Ghana Educational Services to improve early childhood education in



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# Rabbi Lila Kagedan makes history with job at Orthodox shul

BY URIEL HEILMAN

(JTA) – Rabbi Lila Kagedan – who grew up in Ottawa and graduated from Hillel Academy (now the Ottawa Jewish Community School) and Yitzhak Rabin High School – was hired this month by the Mount Freedom Jewish Center, an Orthodox congregation in Randolph, New Jersey.

A 2015 graduate of Yeshivat Maharat, Rabbi Kagedan, 35, is the first person ordained at the Orthodox women’s clergy training institute in New York to adopt the title of “rabbi.” In her new position, Rabbi Kagedan will be part of the synagogue’s spiritual leadership team, teaching and doing youth outreach.

“There are so many other women who have come before me who are doing this work already, including graduates of Yeshivat Maharat already working in pulpit positions,” Rabbi Kagedan told JTA. “I feel that I’m standing on the shoulders of giants. I learn from them and they inspire me. It’s because of the variety of Jewish learning opportunities that already have been made for women that I have this opportunity.”

Rather than confer a particular title upon graduates, Yeshivat Maharat leaves it up to the ordainees. Some of the yeshiva’s dozen or so graduates go by “maharat,” an acronym for the Hebrew words meaning a leader in Jewish law, spirituality and Torah. Others, including dean Sara Hurwitz, go by “rabba,” a feminized version of rabbi. Alissa Thomas-Newborn, a clergywoman at the Los Angeles synagogue B’nai David-Judea, goes by “morateinu,” Hebrew for our teacher.

“I’m by nature a very traditional person,” Rabbi Kagedan told JTA. “I really didn’t want to look outside our tradition for new titles. I have rabbis and mentors in my life who I really look up to and have learned so much from, and I always appreciated that their title told me exactly who they were and what their

training was.”

Many Orthodox Jews are vehemently opposed to the idea of women rabbis, and several mainstream Orthodox rabbis and institutions have ruled that ordaining female rabbis violates Jewish law.

In October, the main association of modern Orthodox rabbis, the Rabbinical Council of America, passed a resolution reaffirming its opposition and barring member rabbis from hiring women with clergy-like titles, and the haredi Orthodox Agudath Israel of America said that institutions like Yeshivat Maharat that support female rabbis “reject the basic tenets of our faith, particularly the authority of the Torah and its Sages.”

Mount Freedom’s spiritual leader, Rabbi Menashe East, told JTA that hiring Rabbi Kagedan was an easy decision.

“We needed support in the areas of Torah teaching, women’s engagement, youth programming, b’nei mitzvah training – to name a few,” Rabbi East wrote in an email. “Those are areas that Lila comes highly credentialed and well qualified to lead. The major considerations for this position were for the candidate to be inspired and inspiring, to be learned and approachable. Lila brings with her a great learning background and a love and faith in the Jewish people.”

Rabbi Kagedan said the synagogue still hasn’t worked out her specific job title.

Rabbi East is himself a graduate of Yeshivat Maharat’s sister institution, Yeshivat Chovevei Torah, a rabbinical seminary for men founded in 1999 by Rabbi Avi Weiss, a New York Orthodox rabbi who has staked out maverick positions on women’s issues.

Rabbi Weiss also founded Yeshivat Maharat, in 2009, and ordained Rabba Hurwitz, who serves in a clergy position at his synagogue. Though Rabbi Kagedan is the first woman ordained by an Orthodox institution in North America to call herself “rabbi,” Rabba Hurwitz was

See Kagedan on page 14



Rabbi Lila Kagedan, the first woman ordained by Yeshiva Maharat in New York City to take the title “rabbi.”

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**Thursday, February 25:**

Hungarian Ambassador His Excellency Balint Odor to speak to the Ottawa Jewish Community, 7 pm.

Reception to follow.

All are invited. (see ad elsewhere in this issue)

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## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

### Recognize Soloway JCC Volunteers and Leaders

**The Ben Karp Soloway JCC Volunteer Service Award:** Presented by the Ben Karp Family and the Soloway JCC to a volunteer who best exemplifies communal ideals and sets an ongoing example for others.

**Grossman-Klein Teen Leadership Award:** Presented by the Grossman-Klein Family and the Soloway JCC to one male and one female youth who have shown outstanding dedication and service to the Jewish community throughout their teenage years.

Nominations must be submitted to the selection committee by Friday, February 5, 2016 and should include a resume of the nominee's involvement in the Soloway JCC and the Jewish community. Please send nominations to Maxine Miska, [mmiska@jccottawa.com](mailto:mmiska@jccottawa.com).

**The Soloway JCC Board of Directors** is seeking candidates to serve up to a three-year term as a member of the SJCC Board of Directors. All candidates must be members of the SJCC and in good standing in the Jewish community of Ottawa.

To nominate someone please contact Maxine Miska, [mmiska@jccottawa.com](mailto:mmiska@jccottawa.com)

**Awards will be presented at the Soloway JCC Annual Meeting and Awards Night Thursday, February 25, 7:00 pm at the Soloway JCC.**



Rabbi Lila Kagedan leads a session entitled, "Orthodox Jewish Women Breaking New Ground in Jewish Religious Leadership," at Limmud Ottawa, November 1, 2015 at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre.

ROBIN CHERNICK

## Kagedan: Many Orthodox Jews oppose idea of women clergy

Continued from page 13

the first to obtain Orthodox ordination.

Rabbi Kagedan's position is funded in part by Zelda R. Stern, a Jewish philanthropist who supports Orthodox women's advancement. Stern also is a backer of Yeshivat Maharat.

Rabbi Kagedan graduated Yeshivat Maharat last summer and currently lives in Brookline, Massachusetts. For the time being, she will commute to her new, part-time gig in New Jersey.

She also does consulting work in biomedical ethics and some teaching, including at Touro College and New York Medical College.

Before Yeshivat Maharat, she obtained a master's degree in theology and ethics at Harvard and founded a Jewish after-school program in the Boston area called Sulam.

Rabbi Kagedan says that, since the news broke of her decision to call herself rabbi, she has received mostly positive feedback – though she notes that she doesn't have any profiles on social media, where feedback can tend toward the vitriolic.

"The response has been overwhelmingly positive," Rabbi Kagedan said. "There's a lot of excitement and a lot of support."

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<http://ottawacitizen.com/life/fashion-beauty/ottawa-stylist-turns-to-mother-nature-to-help-cut-hair>



**Trio Loyko returns to Ottawa:** Trio Loyko from St. Petersburg, Russia returns to Ottawa for the first time since 2007 to perform its acclaimed arrangements of Gypsy and klezmer music. The Ottawa concert follows Trio Loyko's participation in the Toronto production of "Yiddish Glory: The Lost Songs of Life and Fate." The concert takes place Saturday, January 30, 7:30 pm, at Woodroffe United Church, 207 Woodroffe Avenue. For information or ticket reservations contact Adele Grosman at [miradevent@rogers.com](mailto:miradevent@rogers.com) or 613-731-0476.

# Rabbi Hoffman engages learners in adult Jewish education

BY BETH ROODMAN  
FOR JET

Sitting in Rabbi Tuvia Hoffman's Jewish Education through Torah (JET) Hebrew class, it is easy to see why he is engaging so many people in Jewish learning.

Along with Rabbi Zischa and Lauren Shaps, who co-founded JET more than 20 years ago, Rabbi Hoffman teaches courses covering a broad range of Jewish topics.

"My position is to be a Torah explainer," said Rabbi Hoffman, "A lot of the classes are like potpourri. I teach a *chavurah* (Jewish fellowship), so I can teach a different topic each time we meet."

Rabbi Hoffman determines the content of his courses according to such factors as the interests of the participants and upcoming Jewish holidays.

"I find the topics and the approach Rabbi Hoffman takes in his classes relevant to my life," said Janet Kaiman. "I always come away with a fresh perspective on ancient material."

In addition to formal classes, Rabbi Hoffman also conducts one-on-one and small group sessions for people with particular interests.

"Rabbi Hoffman is keenly received by our long-running couples' *chavurah*," said Stanley Levine, who attends with his wife, Cathy.

"The rabbi's success has much to do with suggesting topics that have a moral or psychological basis. Many are controversial – such as separating conjoined twins or what our sages and psychology tell us about anger. The rabbi's classes are focused, promote thought and discussion, and encourage participants to linger afterwards."

Eric Peters began studying privately with Rabbi Hoffman two years ago. "There is no set agenda. It's been life changing for me," he said. "Rabbi Hoffman is very inspirational, very, very passionate, profound, insightful."

JET classes are designed to appeal to the entire Jewish community, regardless of level of Jewish knowledge or degree of observance. JET aims "to teach what students are interested in," said Rabbi



ISSIE SCAROWSKY  
"My position is to be a Torah explainer," says Rabbi Tuvia Hoffman of his approach to teaching his popular JET courses.

Hoffman.

"I deliver a message that has a consistent approach, which is based on the Torah," he added.

His aim is to develop the Judaism of his students in ways that suit them best and his classes serve as a jumping off point to a greater understanding of Judaism.

Rabbi Hoffman came to Ottawa three years ago, after seven years in Montreal, where he founded Jewish Experience, an organization similar to JET. His involvement with teaching began in the 1990s, when he answered "Ask the rabbi" questions at [www.aish.com](http://www.aish.com).

Rabbi Hoffman also teaches at NCSY's Torah High and is a PhD candidate in clinical psychology training at the Queensway-Carleton Hospital, where he works with people of all religious and cultural backgrounds.

For more information on JET courses, visit [www.jetottawa.com](http://www.jetottawa.com) or contact JET at [info@jetottawa.com](mailto:info@jetottawa.com). Classes take place at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre and other locations around Ottawa.

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# CHANUKAH 5776 | More photos on pages 3 and 18



**Torah Academy of Ottawa:** Grade 7 student Shamir Shousterman lights the Chanukah candles, December 14 at Torah Academy of Ottawa.



**Tamir:** Participants light the Chanukah candles, December 10, at the Tamir Chanukah party, held at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre.



**Ottawa Jewish Community School:** Rabbi Howard Finkelstein leads a candle lighting ceremony for Ottawa Jewish Community School students, families and staff to begin the OJCS Chanukah concert, December 7.



**Acheinu/Chabad of Kanata and Ottawa Kosher Food Bank:** Menorah and candle kits supplied by Acheinu/Chabad of Kanata were distributed to clients of the Ottawa Kosher Food Bank with their holiday food packages. Rabbi Michael Gershzon, director of Acheinu/Chabad of Kanata, with two of his children, presents the kits to Donna Strauss of the Ottawa Kosher Food Bank.



**Chabad of Centrepoinette:** (From left) Ottawa Senators defenceman Chris Phillips, Ottawa West Nepean MP Anita Vandenberg, Mayor Jim Watson, Nepean Carleton MPP Lisa MacLeod and Rabbi Chaim Mendelsohn gather, December 13, for Chabad of Centrepoinette's annual Chanukah Menorah Lighting at Ben Franklin Place.



**Or Haneshamah:** Phil Kretzmar leads Israeli dancing at the Or Haneshamah Chanukah party, December 12. The event also featured candle lighting, singing and a best latke contest.



**Sens game:** Cyril Leeder, president of the Ottawa Senators looks on as Rabbi Menachem M. Blum of the Ottawa Torah Centre Chabad greets the crowd of at a closing-of-Chanukah ceremony at the Sens game, December 14. A giant menorah was lit at gate 1 of the Canadian Tire Centre.



**Chabad Student Network:** Chabad Student Network (CSN) held a giant menorah lighting, December 6, outside Ottawa City Hall. (From left) CSN Carleton President Michael Gertechstein, Rabbi Reuven P. Bulka, CSN uOttawa President Cassy Powell, CSN city-wide President Jeremy Halpern and Rabbi Chaim Boyarsky.



**Ottawa Modern Jewish School:** Oren Gorber-Wakabayashi lights the candles and Sadie Rivier-Gatt looks on as Ottawa Modern Jewish School students celebrate Chanukah, December 13.

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Advertorial

## Everybody is creative

Inside every one of us is a deep-rooted need for culture. As kids, we wanted to sing as loud as we could, touch and manipulate anything malleable, draw anything we were told to, and dance or move to our favourite music – as adults, that need tends to take a back seat to a career, a

family, extracurricular activities and other responsibilities.

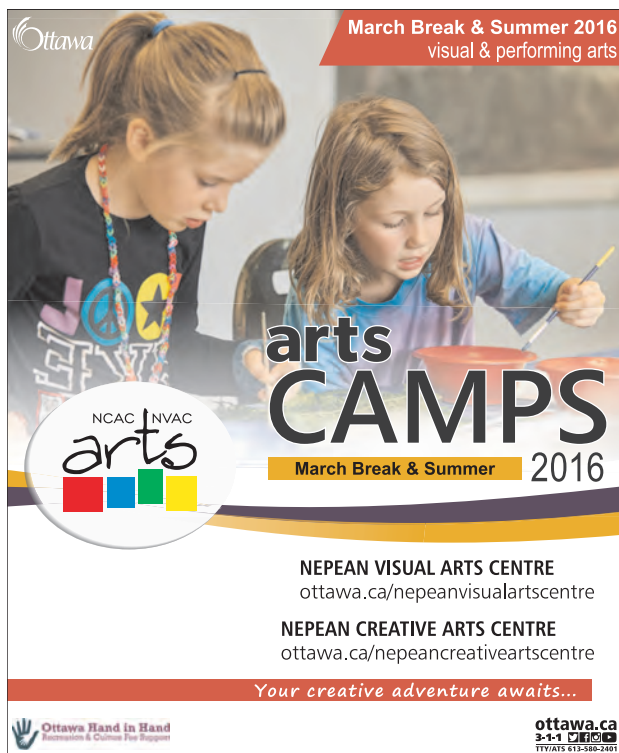
The Nepean Creative Arts Centre (NCAC) in Bells Corners and the Nepean Visual Arts Centre in the Nepean Sportsplex (NVAC) offer diverse creative experiences that help feed our inner artist. Through a broad

range of state-of-the-art studios, classes, camps and workshops, the centres provide excellent specialty arts curriculum taught by accomplished and professional painters, actors, potters, filmmakers, directors, dancers, musicians, writers, photographers, designers and educators – each eager to guide, teach and inspire.

The skilled and social atmosphere left a participant saying “Fabulous experience! Terrific instructor who taught a great deal of vocabulary and techniques, as well as, instilling confidence in the students! Thanks, we’ll be back!”

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## CHANUKAH 5776 |

More photos on pages 3 and 16



**Westboro Jewish Montessori Preschool:** Students celebrate Chanukah, December 9, with songs, candle lighting and playing dreidel at the Westboro Jewish Montessori Preschool Chanukah party.

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### Employment Opportunity

#### The Director of Fundraising - Hillel Lodge Long-Term Care Foundation

The Hillel Lodge Long-Term Care (LTC) Foundation’s mandate is to provide funding to Hillel Lodge, an accredited 121-bed charitable long-term care facility, providing a full range of long-term care programs and services as approved by the Ontario Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care.

#### POSITION OVERVIEW:

Under the direct supervision of the Executive Director of the Hillel Lodge and with reporting responsibilities to the Board of Directors of the Hillel Lodge Long term Care Foundation, the Director of Fundraising is responsible for developing and managing all fundraising operations of the LTC Foundation. He/she will oversee the day-to-day management of the LTC Foundation and will be responsible for the hiring, supervision, termination and discipline of LTC Foundation staff. The Hillel Lodge LTC Foundation exists solely for the benefit of the Lodge and its residents.

#### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Working collaboratively with the Executive Director of the Lodge and the LTC Foundation Board of Directors, the Director of Fundraising will determine key development and communications strategies such that he/she:

- Directs all fundraising operations and activities for the Lodge and the LTC Foundation through the LTC Foundation.
- Oversees and manages established fundraising programs and events of the Lodge and the LTC Foundation, both operating and capital.
- Develops creative approaches and messages to encourage additional donations and other contributions, initiates new fundraising programs and builds the LTC Foundation brand.
- Develops ongoing relationships with existing and potential contributors.
- Develops and maintains close relationships with Lodge residents and their families.
- Participates substantively in setting annual budget including objectives and performance measurement indicators.
- Implements and maintains an effective donor stewardship program.
- Oversees critical and statistical analysis of the donor database to ensure optimal and appropriate extractions.
- Builds a prominent profile of the LTC Foundation in the Jewish, general and health care communities.
- Ensures that the LTC Foundation and the Lodge reflect Jewish cultural practices and traditions in all programs and activities.
- Assists in recruiting Board members for the LTC Foundation Board of Directors.

#### QUALIFICATIONS:

- Post-secondary diploma from a community college and/or university.
- Familiarity with the Ottawa Jewish Community and experience in Long Term Care is preferred
- Knowledge of accounting software packages (Sage 50/Simply Accounting), spreadsheet programs (Excel, etc.), and word processing programs (Word, etc.). Knowledge of Income Manager would be considered a strong asset

Please apply in confidence by Feb. 5/16 to the Executive Director c/o:  
Stephen Schneiderman at [sss@hillel-ltc.com](mailto:sss@hillel-ltc.com)

Only those candidates selected for interview will be contacted.



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# JCC Summer Camps adds three new specialty camps

JCC of Ottawa Summer Camps is adding three more exciting new camps to its already stellar line up of summer fun.

The Director's Cut: The Breaking News (age 10-14), where young reporters create their own news stories for the camera; Magic Mysteries, with local magician Michael Bourada (age 8-12); and Robotics Square (age 10-14), an opportunity to construct machines and bring them to life, are now part of the Specialty Camps offerings adding even more variety to the roster.

"We wanted to offer more for creative kids," says Gail Lieff, Specialty Camps coordinator. "LEGO and Director's Cut camps have always been very well received, so we decided to add some other camps that incorporate similar elements in an exciting new way. Magic Mysteries gives kids a chance to learn some fun tricks, and magic is good for building confidence and self-esteem."

Returning favourite Specialty Camps include: If we Could Talk



Campers at Travelling Sports Camp spend afternoons participating in a variety of fun summer activities all over the city.

to the Animals, Boot Camp, Silent Motion Pictures, Girls on the Go, The Great Adventure, Band Camp, Spy Kids, LEGO, Horseback Riding, Summertime Splash, Claymation Animation, Coach Brown's All Star Basketball Camp, Girl Power, Last

Blast, Radical Ray's Junior Science and The Director's Cut: Music Video.

Back again for another summer is the directorial dream team headed up by Executive Summer Camp and Travelling Sports Camp Director Jon Braun. Joining him as JCC Day Camp

Director is JCC Ganon Preschool Director Lauren Lee, along with Debbie Shapiro.

Each week, Day Camp centres on a different weekly theme such as Under the Big Top, Tropical Days and Jurassic Days, and includes meaningful Jewish programming. Older day campers can look forward to exciting field trips and everyone has daily instructional and free swim.

In addition to the Travelling Sports Camp morning sports, swim instruction and exciting afternoon outings, this summer, campers will once again have a chance to cheer on the city's professional baseball team, the Ottawa Champions, and welcome special guests from the world of sports.

Registration is now open and is available online at [www.jccottawa.com/camps/summer-camps/](http://www.jccottawa.com/camps/summer-camps/) or visit the web site to print out a registration form and drop it off at the Soloway JCC, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private.

For more information, please contact us at 613-798-9818, ext. 258.

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Advertorial

## Excitement is building for Camp George's 18th summer

With registration for summer 2016 in full swing, excitement is building as we prepare for our 18th summer!

Since our inaugural season in 1999, Camp George has been proud to offer the best in Reform Jewish camping, blended with the rich history and tradition of Ontario camping. Located just over four hours from Ottawa, Camp George provides a home away from home – where campers make lifelong friendships and develop skills that foster confidence and independence.

Our fantastic facilities offer a wide range of activities including everything from a state-of-the-art ropes course, to pottery, archery, water skiing and more! Each day, campers travel with their cabin groups to activity areas, where they participate in a unique blend of skill building based programming. In addition to daily programming, our campers enjoy camp-wide programming such as Maccabiah (colour war) and Yom

Israel (Israel Day). In the evenings, campers participate in dynamic unit-wide programming planned by their unit staff.

As the camp has grown, it has been very exciting to also grow our facilities. Throughout the years, we have built new camper villages, cabins and basketball courts, installed new docks on our waterfront and added new elements to our ropes challenge course.

We currently offer a variety of programs for children having completed Grades 2-10. Our sessions range from one week to seven weeks. Our three-day Mini Mensch program offers a taste of camp life to children who have completed Grades 1-3.

Camp is an amazing place for campers of all ages to be nurtured and grow, all while building their Jewish identity and friendships that will last a lifetime.

For more information, please contact us at 416-638-2635 or visit [www.campgeorge.org](http://www.campgeorge.org).

## Camp Northland-B'nai Brith provides memorable Jewish camp experiences

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our campers are given opportunity to explore creatively, have age appropriate opportunities for independence and growth, and thrive in our caring environment.

Our daily programs range from waterski to high ropes, to theatre to music, to canoe trips to land-sports, to arts & crafts and radio broadcasting, and further to an ongoing mix of additional daily camp adventures.

Campers can select personalized aspects of their program that layer on top of the programmed daily schedule while living on our 700+ acre majestic site in the Haliburton Highlands.

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SCAN ME

# A visit to my JNF project

BY VERA KLEIN  
FOR JNF

I had not been to Israel since 2003 and had not yet visited the project I had selected that year when I was the honouree of the Jewish National Fund (JNF) Negev Dinner in Ottawa: The Vera and Leslie Klein Family Parents and Soldiers Meeting Place at the Bat Galim Navy Base in Haifa.

So, I knew that my husband, Les, and I had to go when I saw the advertisement for the National JNF Mission to Poland and Israel taking place from October 19 to November 2, 2015.

We would be going to Poland first. All four of our parents were Holocaust survivors. My late father and my in-laws had been in Auschwitz, and it was time to go and honour their memory.

The trip to Poland, mainly the Warsaw and Krakow areas, was brief but comprehensive. It included a very moving Jewish heritage visit to synagogues, cemeteries,

museums. The most traumatic part was our trip to Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi death camp.

During the Second World War, Nazi Germany occupied Krakow. It was a strange juxtaposition to observe the vibrant life we saw in Krakow and then, just outside the city, the horrific Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp. I had been warned that people we might meet at Auschwitz might be nasty to us, but I was pleasantly surprised that no one was mean or cruel. In fact, all of the people in both Krakow and Warsaw seemed to be helpful. I believe the Poles are really trying to restore these two cities as best as they can, and this was evident that in the synagogues and cemeteries that were so well kept up.

On October 29, we left the Carmel Forest Hotel and Spa in the Western Galilee and drove to the Vera and Leslie Klein Family Parents and Soldiers Meeting Place in Bat Galim Naval Base in Haifa. I had



Leslie and Vera Klein at the Vera and Leslie Klein Family Parents and Soldiers Meeting Place at the Bat Galim Navy Base, October 29, 2015.



The Vera and Leslie Klein Family Parents and Soldiers Meeting Place at the Bat Galim Navy Base prior to its dedication ceremony, October 29, 2015.

goose bumps just thinking that I would finally see my project.

I chose this project almost 13 years ago, when I was on a UJA mission with my youngest son Michael. As the Negev dinner honouree, I was to select a project that would be meaningful and dear to my heart. Lisa Cogan, then JNF Ottawa president, and my son and I were taken to see several existing projects – children's parks, water reservoirs, etc. – and though they were all wonderful, nothing clicked with me until Lisa mentioned a project where soldiers could meet with their families and friends for a lunch and conversation, where soldiers could sit down comfortably, talk and share a meal without having to stand outside their barracks. Now that clicked with me! I thought of my own three sons, comfortable and safe in Canada, and exclaimed, "That's it! That's my project!"

When we arrived at Bat Galim, I could not get over just how large the naval base was. We had a dedication ceremony and then toured the rest of the base.

I was moved by many of the other sites and projects we visited during the

mission, but the one that moved me most was seeing the revival of the Great Hall beneath the Western Wall.

The Western Wall tunnels were discovered in 1967, and many visitors have since seen thousands of years of Jerusalem's history through these tunnels. The Great Hall contains authentic archaeological treasures that explain the Second Temple era while recapturing the glory and splendour of those long ago years. After walking through many tunnels, our group of approximately 30 people had dinner in the most extraordinary, special setting of the 700-year-old restored hall in this amazing Western Wall tunnel complex. It was such an elegant setting and dinner that I imagined having a grandson's bar mitzvah there!

The resilience and passion of the Israeli people, and the indomitable spirit of our Jewish people worldwide, through every human tragedy and possible adversity, are forever inspirational to me. Not only do we have to remember, we must all do our part to keep the candle bright and glowing!

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# What will happen after the current wave of terror abates?

**J**ERUSALEM – The elevator doors were just about to close when the young man squeezed in. He was wearing a motorcycle helmet, but the open visor revealed a pleasant face and a nice smile. “Excuse me,” he said in Hebrew. “No problem,” I replied, assuming that he was apologizing for delaying my ascent. “It’s just that people are very afraid these days,” he continued.

And I realized that he was apologizing for being a young stranger, invading my personal space at a time when random stabbings and other violent attacks on Israeli civilians were the latest face of terror.

I have no idea if he was a Jew or an Arab. But, as the elevator ascended, I had a few seconds of panic. Should I be afraid to ride in an elevator with a stranger? Would someone about to stab me be this polite?

We got off at the same floor, and went in different directions. But I couldn’t stop thinking about the experience.

This was *my* Jerusalem, the city where I have had so many glorious, life-changing moments since my first visit in 2003 – which was the only other time I had ever been nervous about being alone on the streets or fearful of strangers.

The friend whose office I was visiting had his gun tucked in the waistband of his trousers, even when walking around the office. As I walked outside with him and another friend, I got a crash course in how to look out for my safety in the *new* Jerusalem.

Don’t listen to music or talk on the phone. Stay away from really crowded areas – and really deserted areas. Look closely at the other pedestrians. If you see someone who won’t make eye contact, or whose hands are shoved into his pockets, cross the street or change direction.

At time of writing, 27 Israelis have been murdered and 279 wounded – 25 of them seriously – since these “lone wolf” attacks started in September. Dozens of



*The rate of lone wolf attacks is slowing down. And, like every wave of terror experienced by Israel, it will eventually pass – partly because of crackdowns by Israeli security forces, but mainly because the terrorists, and the leaders who inspire them, will soon realize that Israelis will not stop living their lives to the fullest, even if they have to take more precautions.*

Palestinians, including most of the terrorists, have died during this time.

According to a report commissioned by the Meir Amit Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center (<http://tinyurl.com/hkh8uds>), most of the terrorists have been male, between 17 and 19, unmarried, unknown to police and not affiliated with any terrorist organization.

Most of the attackers have been Palestinians living in East Jerusalem or the Hebron area. Although many of these terrorists have lived secular lives, they have been deeply influenced by the Palestinian media’s glorification of terrorists who died while murdering Israelis, and they are willing to be martyrs for the cause of Palestinian statehood.

The only major difference in this pattern was the

January 1 attack in Tel Aviv, when a smiling terrorist opened fire at a crowded bar.

The suspect, 29-year-old Nashat Milhem, was an Israeli Arab from the Wadi Ara. Unlike most of the previous attackers in what some are calling the “Knife Intifada,” Milhem was not interested in martyrdom and escaped into the busy streets. [He was killed by an Israeli police SWAT team on January 8 following a week-long manhunt.]

The rate of lone wolf attacks is slowing down. And, like every wave of terror experienced by Israel, it will eventually pass – partly because of crackdowns by Israeli security forces, but mainly because the terrorists, and the leaders who inspire them, will soon realize that Israelis will not stop living their lives to the fullest, even if they have to take more precautions.

But the intriguing question is what will happen after the current wave of terror abates. It certainly hasn’t helped what’s left of the peace process – especially since the self-styled moderate Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas has been first in line to fan the flames of hatred.

It would be a shame to think that these attacks might fuel mistrust between Israeli Jews and Israeli Arabs, the majority of whom define themselves as Israelis and accept Israel as a Jewish state.

“This wave of terror will pass – it always does,” says Giora Saltz, chair of the Upper Galilee Regional Council, part of a region in which Jews make up only a quarter of the population but live in relative harmony with their Christian, Muslim and Druze neighbours.

“What I am worried about is what will happen afterwards. I want to be sure that all of the people who really want to be here and make their lives here – whatever their ethnicity – will still be able to do so.”

And I look forward to getting into an elevator and walking the streets of Jerusalem without fearing the stranger beside me.

## Oh, little town of Ottawa

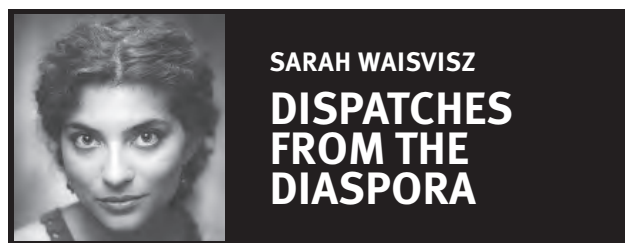
**I**f “Happy Holidays!” was the greeting for last month, then “Happy New Year” is January’s. Is it odd that amidst so many greetings and good cheer I should feel as disconnected from my spirituality as I do right now?

It would be easy to blame the combination of the secular new year and Christmas. As much as I adore the beauty of Chanukah and enjoy the opportunity to tell stories, gamble and eat fried food with children and friends, it cannot quite challenge the seasonal omnipresence of Christmas.

But why should the enthusiasm of our Christian neighbours dampen my sense of Jewishness? Doesn’t someone else’s spirituality also have the potential to inspire me? Could Christmas instead help me to feel more connected Jewishly?

When I was younger, I could not see this potential and pushed back aggressively against Christmas. I spoiled the myth of Santa Claus for several friends. I scoffed at “Chanukah trees.” I rejected wishes of “Merry Christmas” with snotty variations of “I’m Jewish” or “Not everyone celebrates Christmas, you know” and, like a bad habit, I can’t seem to remember if Christmas Eve is the 24th or 25th.

Which is why I was surprised to find myself attending Midnight Mass at Christ Church Anglican Cathedral. It was such a balmy evening this year. At 10 pm, I was outside, walking downtown under a glowing, full moon.



By 11, I was on Wellington Street and noticed all the cars parked around the cathedral. So I went in. And, from my hiding place in a pew far in the back, I was soon transported by the music of the cathedral’s two choirs and by the majesty of the architecture. I sat still and listened as the soaring vastness of the cathedral was filled to brimming with voices of prayer and praise. I listened to benedictions and parables from the New Testament. I chimed in, quietly, with snatches of the carols I knew. The sermon included a rabbinical story about generosity, and when the congregants turned to shake hands with each other, I found myself joining them.

“Peace be upon you,” said the congregants to each other, and to me. “Peace be upon you,” I wished them in return.

If I feel disconnected Jewishly, I know where to reach in our traditions. As I write these words, this week’s *parsha* is “Va’era,” in which Moses and Aaron ask Pharaoh to “let our people go” before God sends the

plagues. Next up is “Bo,” in which the children of Israel protect themselves from the last plagues and then prepare to leave Egypt and their enslavement. How can these *parshot* not inspire me?

I also know that our Jewish calendar can be deeply comforting with its patterns, mitzvot, celebrations and obligations. This is the power of ritual. We want to say Kaddish or light a candle on a Yahrzeit even when it hurts to dwell on the memory of a loved one’s passing. We want to take the time to honour them because we are comforted by the ritual of remembrance. We feel bereft when we don’t. Ritual and practice can help give us the scaffolding we need when we can’t quite support ourselves with our own bones and muscles.

But, because so many of us live secular lives, and since sometimes we feel disconnected from our Judaism, I wonder if we can find Jewish meaning elsewhere too? I am not advocating for us all to go to church, but I felt comforted in that cathedral, surrounded by those people reaching out to their God. Can we likewise invoke a *kavanah* of gratitude around a secular New Year’s Eve dinner table? Can we also find grace in the communion of music and friendship on a dance floor or in a moment of intense beauty in a theatre?

I am interested in transcendence and meaning and because sometimes it appears in the most unexpected ways, I want to be able to notice and appreciate it – even if it comes in the glow of a moon and leads me to church on Christmas Eve.

Peace be upon you. *Shalom Aleichem.*



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**Mark and Judy Caplan** Mazel Tov on David's engagement to Esther by Henry and Maureen Molot

**Miriam Ziv and Arik Kenet** Mazel Tov on Michael's marriage to Grace by Henry and Maureen Molot

**Connie and Gerald Steinberg** Mazel Tov on the birth of your grandson by Henry and Maureen Molot

**In Memory of:**

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**Rhonda and Danny Levine** Mazel Tov on Zac's engagement by Joy, Seymour, Jess, David and Jared Mender

**Barbara Levinson** Mazel Tov on the birth of your granddaughter by Joy, Seymour, Jess, David and Jared Mender

\*\*\*\*\*

**Recreation Program**

**In Honour of:**

**Barbara and Steve Levinson** Mazel Tov on the birth of your granddaughter Lucy by Benita and Steven Baker

**Agnes Schatteltes** Happy Birthday by Ilana and Eric Rabin

**In Memory of:**

**Toba Shuster** by Ruth and Philip Shuster

\*\*\*\*\*

**IN MEMORY OF:**

**Nadine Mordfield** by Ruth and Dale Fyman and Michael and Muriel Wexler

**Jared Weiner** by the Boards and staff of the Lodge and LTC Foundation

**Bella Levitan** by the residents, Boards and staff of the Lodge and LTC Foundation

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**Leo Powell** by the residents, Boards and staff of the Lodge and LTC Foundation

**Toba Shuster** by the residents, Boards and staff of the Lodge and LTC Foundation and Suzanne and Gary Ulrich

**Rita Glencross** by the residents, Boards and staff of the Lodge and LTC Foundation

**Molly (Landen) Switzer** by Edith Landen

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**Dorothy Blieberg** by Elaine Hauptman

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**Dr. Peter Teitelbaum** wishing you a Happy Birthday by Irwin and Fenja Brodo

**Barbara Bearmon** wishing you a Happy Birthday by Elaine Hauptman

**Linda Signer** Mazel Tov on Tamara's engagement by Judi and Rubin Bodnoff

**Jeffrey Pleet** Happy Birthday by Mindy and Joe Benmer, Zahava and Barry Farber and Howard, Barbara, Erica and Lorne Geller

**Elaine Wolfish** Happy Birthday by Yvonne and Yehuda Azuelos, Bill and Jane James and Janet and Norman Ironstone

**Norman Wolfish** Happy belated Birthday by Yvonne and Yehuda Azuelos

**R'FUAH SHLEMA:**

**Ian Sadinsky** by Ruth and Dale Fyman

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# Romance, satire, tragedy and shul politics in Montreal

**The Book of Faith: A Novel**  
By Elaine Kalman Naves  
Linda Leith Publishing  
396 pages

It's certainly not required, but familiarity with contemporary Jewish Montreal, with the heavily Jewish suburbs of Hampstead and Côte Saint-Luc and the nearby neighbourhoods of Notre-Dame-de-Grâce (a.k.a. NDG), and with Congregation Dorshei Emet – Montreal's Reconstructionist synagogue – will definitely add to a reader's enjoyment of "The Book of Faith," the debut novel by Elaine Kalman Naves.

While this is Kalman Naves' first foray into fiction, she is a veteran literary journalist and the author of several works of non-fiction, including her family memoir, "Shoshanna's Story: A Mother, A Daughter and the Shadows of History," winner of the 2005 Canadian Jewish Book Awards Yad Vashem Prize for Holocaust Literature.

"The Book of Faith" – whose story takes place in the late-1990s and early-2000s – is a story of friendship, loss, love lost and found, and synagogue politics set in and around Congregation Emunath (*emunath* is Hebrew for Faith), a fictionalized version of Congregation Dorshei Emet.

From its Hampstead location, to its capital campaign to fund a new building, there is no doubt that the Reconstructionist congregation in the book is based on Dorshei Emet. As well, the book's Rabbi Nate Kaufman seems to be modelled – at least in part – on Rabbi Ron Aigen, Dorshei Emet's longtime spiritual leader, while the elderly character Moish Stipleman is even more obviously based on the late Lavy Becker, Dorshei Emet's

## MICHAEL REGENSTREIF BOOK REVIEW

founding volunteer rabbi who introduced Reconstructionist Judaism to Canada in the early-1960s. For the uninitiated, Kalman Naves uses the character of Moish to creatively provide background on Reconstructionist Judaism.

The three main protagonists of "The Book of Faith" are three close friends: Faith Rabinovitch, Rhoda Kaplansky and Erica Molnar.

Faith, a child therapist, is the president of Congregation Emunath. (The book's title could be an allusion to the congregation, to the character, or likely both.)

Rhoda is a teacher, and Erica is a literary columnist and author who would seem to be, at least partly, based on Kalman Naves herself. The interactions of the three friends – with each other and in their individual relationships – are particularly well drawn. The women have interesting, complicated lives and lean on each other for support.

Among the other significant characters are Melly Darwin, an obnoxious businessman and Holocaust survivor who wants Erica to write his life story; Marty Reiss, a synagogue board member with secrets in his personal life who is romantically interested in Erica; and

Paul Ladouceur, her editor at the Montreal Gazette.

In a short prologue, the book opens at a funeral at Paperman's, Montreal's Jewish funeral chapel. We don't know yet whose funeral is taking place, but it is a sudden death that will be central to the plot when it takes us by surprise later in the novel.

Kalman Naves brings these characters (and others) to

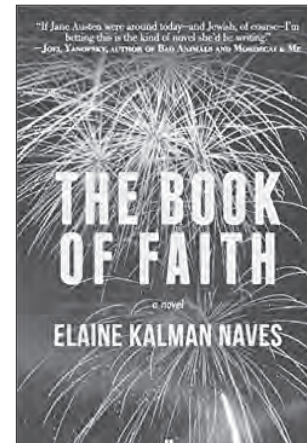
life as the various sub-plots weave in and around each other. The synagogue politics surrounding the fundraising efforts to pay for a new Congregation Emunath building are fun to observe – including the rabbi's dismay when a Chasidic group builds a grand synagogue on an adjacent property just as he's trying to secure the funding for the new shul building (which parallels the real life building of the Chabad-affiliated Montreal Torah Centre nearby just as Congregation Dorshei Emet was preparing for its new building).

The sub-plot involving Melly Darwin's desire for an over-flattering biography is

also fun to observe. As a journalist, it was particularly interesting for me to see Erica grapple with the ethical considerations of some of Melly's demands.

The death that is alluded to in the prologue becomes the central tragedy of "The Book of Faith," and Kalman Naves portrays its impact on the surviving characters with great sensitivity.

Ultimately, "The Book of Faith" is a satisfying read with its blend of comedy and tragedy, romance and satire, and characters you might think you know, and those you don't.



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Thursday, February 25, 2016  
at 7 p.m.

Refreshments provided  
by the Hungarian Embassy

**Temple Israel**  
1301 Prince of Wales Drive  
Ottawa, Ontario K2C 1N2




On March 9, 2015, Hungary took over the Chairmanship of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA)

In this capacity, Hungary's Ambassador to Canada, Balint Ódor organized many Holocaust events in Canada.

He will be discussing Hungary's initiatives in combating anti-Semitism in Hungary and worldwide, in revitalizing the Hungarian Jewish community, in restoring Hungary's synagogues and cemeteries and Hungary's commitment to Holocaust education.

## More and more students participating in Jewish life on campus

**D**espite the sub-zero temperatures Ottawa is accustomed to at this time of year, January marks a really exciting, beautiful, transformative occasion for students.

It is the beginning of a new (secular) calendar year, ripe with possibilities for new opportunities and beginnings. As we come back from our winter vacations, we are given the chance to reflect on the past year and search for ways to better ourselves.

The improvements we strive for – commonly referred to as “new year’s resolutions – allow us to decide on some small (or large) changes aimed at improving our health, happiness and overall wellbeing.

I would like to imagine that, should I ask a large group of Jewish university students about their new year’s resolutions and how well those resolutions are being maintained, I would be confident that their most important resolutions would be for greater Jewish campus life involvement. Luckily for all of us students, Ottawa’s Jewish student life is into another bustling semester!

Both the Chabad Student Network (CSN) and Hillel Ottawa have a great deal planned for the duration of the school year. CSN will be hosting many Shabbat dinners, inviting Jewish students of all religious backgrounds to enjoy a beautiful home-cooked meal in the warmest and most inviting atmosphere (and, of course, free of charge).

On Saturday, February 6, CSN will host its annual bar and bat mitzvah gala for students who have not yet had a bar or bat mitzvah. And, on Friday, February 26, CSN



ARIELLE ELLIS  
CAMPUS LIFE

*It is so important that Ottawa’s Jewish student community continues to strengthen and grow: to maintain peaceful campuses, and to offer our strength and support to our friends and peers at our other Canadian schools.*

will host its annual “Shabbat 200” Shabbat dinner with Supreme Court of Canada Justice Michael Moldaver as the keynote speaker.

CSN will also host a large Shabbaton in March for students from university campuses across Canada. This Shabbaton promises to be a beautiful and unifying experience and will hopefully offer strength to students from university campuses currently facing heightened levels of anti-Semitism.

Hillel Ottawa also plans for an exciting semester offering many events for students. Hillel will also

continue to host free Shabbat dinners for students, including one featuring David Segal of DAVIDsTEA as keynote speaker.

Hillel Ottawa will be taking part in Carleton University’s cultural fair, featuring Israeli food and culture, so be sure to stop by and show your love! There will be a “Painting for Peace” night in collaboration with other religious clubs on campus where an artist will lead a painting event with a peace theme. As well, the Israel Awareness Committee will host its annual Canadian wine and Israeli cheese event.

Recent months have proven to be an especially trying time for Jewish people with Israel being in the news almost daily with reports of terrorist attacks on innocent civilians.

In such difficult times, Jews of all religious backgrounds look to one another for support and unity. Here on Ottawa’s university campuses, we are fortunate there has been minimal anti-Semitic rhetoric or behaviour. However, some of the other Canadian campuses have not been as lucky. But increasing numbers of Jewish students on all campuses are becoming involved in Jewish student life as the unity they find with other students offers a lasting, necessary pillar of strength.

It is so important that Ottawa’s Jewish student community continues to strengthen and grow: to maintain peaceful campuses, and to offer our strength and support to our friends and peers at our other Canadian schools.

I wish everyone a wonderful, peaceful new year filled with health, happiness, and good decisions!

## Snow shovelling: Exercise or health hazard?

**‘H**ola. I’ll have a mojito, hold the sugar and add a shot of Schadenfreude, por favor.’ That’s how I began my family get-away in sunny Cancun. It was 29 C. as I leisurely sipped my cocktail, channelling the spirit of the quintessential pampered Jewish princess that I aspire to be, and occasionally am.

It had been an unusually balmy autumn in Ottawa – so warm that on December 11, and again on December 24, I went for a 10-km run in a tank top and short pants. I’d been wanting to write an article about winter sports, but winter weather hadn’t arrived. The lawns were still green when I departed for Mexico on December 26. I was feeling like a trip to a hot climate wasn’t mentally necessary since there was no cold to escape.

Winter finally blew in to Ottawa with a vengeance a couple of days later and with it came the first snowstorm of the season. With the beach as my backdrop, I excitedly posted gratuitous selfies to Facebook. After all, isn’t social media for sharing corny inspirational posters, photos of adorable animals, and bragging about what a wonderful time you’re having?

I was able to keep abreast of the Ottawa weather and news via my cell phone. I wanted to write on my trip, but it didn’t seem authentic to be writing about snowshoeing or skiing as I was gazing at the Caribbean Sea contemplating whether to do yoga on the beach or aqua fitness in the infinity pool.

One day, I read the sad news that two Ottawa-area men had suffered heart attacks while removing snow. One had been shovelling; the other had been using a snow blower. Removing snow is very physically



GLORIA SCHWARTZ  
FOCUS ON FITNESS

demanding and can be an excellent form of exercise. However, it can also be life-threatening. I decided to do some research and share what I found out. My aim was to possibly prevent someone from having a heart attack.

Hundreds of adults die each year in Canada and the United States after suffering a heart attack during or soon after shovelling snow. Weekend warriors – typically sedentary, middle-aged men – put themselves at increased risk for heart attacks when they occasionally engage in strenuous physical activity to which they are unaccustomed. Women are not immune to the strain on the heart that snow shovelling places. Suddenly moving and lifting hundreds of pounds of snow when you’re normally inactive is unwise.

If you’re planning on shovelling snow this winter or using a snow blower, you should ask your doctor if it’s a safe activity for you. The American Heart Association states shovelling snow is safe for most people, but warns this activity may increase the risk for some people.

Patrick J. Skerrett, former executive editor of Harvard Health, confirms that “cold weather can boost blood pressure, interrupt blood flow to part of the heart, and

make blood more likely to form clots.” This can block blood flow, leading to a heart attack.

<http://tinyurl.com/zdfyb74>

Did you know that it’s not only inactive people, older people or those with health issues who are at risk for a cardiac event while shovelling? American cardiologist Dr. Barry Franklin studied healthy young men and found that their heart rate and blood pressure increased more when shovelling snow than when sprinting on a treadmill. He points out that the arm work required by snow shovelling can cause an additional surge in the heart rate and blood pressure.

<http://tinyurl.com/mkq6vrm>

If you do shovel, follow these safety tips: Warm up first for at least five minutes with something such as dynamic stretching or marching on the spot. Take your time. Rest every few minutes. Don’t overfill the shovel. Push rather than lift the snow. Don’t smoke or eat a heavy meal right before shovelling as it can put an extra load on your heart. Stay hydrated with water. Dress in layers and wear a hat since hypothermia can contribute to heart failure. As with any exercise, don’t hold your breath as it can spike blood pressure.

If you feel dizzy, light-headed, nauseous, anxious, short of breath, break out into a cold sweat, or you have unusual pain in your chest, arm or jaw, stop immediately and call 911.

Symptoms of heart attacks vary from person to person and may be different in men and women. For more information, visit [www.heartandstroke.com](http://www.heartandstroke.com).

Consider paying for a snow removal service. It might save your life.

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OTTAWA JEWISH  
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The Board of Directors of the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation acknowledges with thanks contributions to the following funds as of January 4, 2016.

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### Birthday Wishes to:

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Clarise Archibold by Reba Diener; and by Joel and Barbara Diener.

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### R'fuah Sh'leimah to:

Muriel Kardish by Cheryl Kardish-Levitan and Brian Levitan and family.

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### Birthday Wishes to:

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### In Observance of the Yahrzeit of:

Elka Kimmel, a dear grandmother by Isabel Lesh.

Sarah Kimmel, a dear mother by Isabel Lesh.

### In Memory of:

Jack Futterman by Roslyn and Arnie Kimmel.

### Mazel Tov to:

Lisa Kimmel on being recognized as one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women by Marilyn and Daniel Kimmel; and by Isabel Lesh.

## MORRIS AND LILLIAN KIMMEL MEMORIAL FUND

### In Appreciation to:

Steven Kimmel for his participation in the GGFL Business Succession Plan event held on November 19, 2015 by GGFL.

### Mazel Tov to:

Arieh Rosenblum on his engagement to Michelle Zigelman by Steven and Shelli Kimmel.

### R'fuah Sh'leimah to:

Ian Sadinsky by Steven and Shelli Kimmel.

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OTTAWA JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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**Condolences to:**  
Seymour Mender and family on the loss of his dear Aunt Sally by David, Sharon, Ryan, Yoni, Jaye and Brody Appotive.

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**In Memory of:**  
Don Rafelman by Rhoda and Jeffrey Miller and family.

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Barbara Levinson on the birth of her granddaughter by Rhoda and Jeffrey Miller and family.  
Ron and Avaluee Prehogan on the birth of their grandson by Rhoda and Jeffrey Miller and family.

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**R'fuah Sh'leimah to:**  
Lawrence Mendell by Marilyn and William Newman.

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**In Observance of the Yahrzeit of:**  
Bertha Pleet, a beloved mother by Barbara and Pinchas Pleet.

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Yaacov Pleet, a beloved brother by Barbara and Pinchas Pleet.

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**Mazel Tov to:**  
Mark and Chava Glouberman on the birth of their granddaughter, Esme by Alti and Berel Rodal.

Rabbi Shmuel and Dvora Rodal on the birth and bris of Avrohom Yisroel by Alti and Berel Rodal.

Yisroel and Mushki Rodal Silverstein on the birth and bris of Avrohom Yisroel by Alti and Berel Rodal.

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**In Appreciation to:**  
Aviva Diener by the Mordfield family.  
Barbara and Joel Diener by the Mordfield family.  
Felice Pleet by the Mordfield family.

## In Memory of:

Nadine Mordfield by Mildred Kronick and family; by Lois and Stephen Kathnelson; by Toby Kadish; by Dawn Logan; by Elaine and Marten Brodsky; by Stan Kimmel; by Karen and Neal Kadish and Family; by Deborah Applebaum; by The Peel Regional Paramedics; by Mera, Bill, Leslie and Jason Goldstein; by Sid and Sandy Cratzburg; by Edward and Betty Rose; by David and Joy Kardish; by Lorna and Carl Raskin; by Susan Heisel and Sue Mincoff; by Debbie and Steve Caron; and by Milton and Joyce Kimmel and family.

## LORNE AND LAURIE SHUSTERMAN FAMILY FUND

**Mazel Tov to:**  
Lorne and Laurie Shusterman on their son, Zak becoming a Firefighter by Benita, Steven, Alexander and Ryan Baker.

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**Anniversary Wishes to:**  
Marvin and Phyllis Silverman by Ruth Calof and Dave Moskovic; and by Clair Krantzberg.

**Birthday Wishes to:**  
Marvin Silverman by Ruth Calof and Dave Moskovic; and by Clair Krantzberg.

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Roz and Arnie Kimmel on their daughter, Lisa being recognized as one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women by Sunny and John Tavel.

Sol and Zelaine Shinder on Neil and Lorry's engagement by Sunny and John Tavel.

John and Sunny Tavel on the birth of their grandson by Marilyn and Daniel Kimmel; and by Zelaine and Sol Shinder.

Continued on page 30



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#### Mazel Tov to:

Anna Silverman and Ralph Pepper on their engagement by Risa, Brent and Shira Taylor.

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Neil Zaret for his participation in the GGFL Business Succession Plan event held on November 19, 2015 by GGFL.

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#### In Memory of:

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Nadine Mordfield by Rick and Helen Zipes.

#### Mazel Tov to:

Rabbi and Sarah Gordon on the birth of their daughter, Chaya Mushka by Rick and Helen Zipes.

Pat and Morris Neuman on the birth of their grandson, Jacob Adam Shapero by Rick and Helen Zipes.

Rabbi and Shaindel Simes on the marriage of their son, Shmuly to Margalit Mattuk by Rick and Helen Zipes.

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#### Mazel Tov to:

Sam and Myra Krane and family on the birth of their twin grandsons, Ethan Joel and Jonah Lee by Sandra and Sam Zunder and families.

Charles and Sue Schwartzman on the birth of their twin grandsons, Ethan Joel and Jonah Lee by Sandra and Sam Zunder and families.

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Ethel Greenbaum by Yaffa Greenbaum and Jack Shinder.

Mayer Kleinplatz by Yaffa Greenbaum and Jack Shinder.

Jennie Shinder by Yaffa Greenbaum and Jack Shinder.

#### Mazel Tov to:

David Moher on receiving the Dr. J. David Grimes Career Achievement Award by Diane Koven.

#### R'fuah Sh'leimah to:

Leslie Kaufman by Lynne Oreck-Wener.

### THE SAUL AND EDNA GOLDFARB B'NAI MITZVAH PROGRAM

### STEFANIE AND TAYLOR AGES B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

#### In Memory of:

Blema Woolf by Sandra and Ruben Arbitman.

### STACEY SAMANTHA KATZ B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

#### In Memory of:

Joan Reider by Joany and Andy Katz.

### LIEFF FAMILY B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

#### R'fuah Sh'leimah to:

Ian Sadinsky by Francie Greenspoon and Norman Lieff.

### KAYLA REICHSTEIN B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

#### In Appreciation to:

The OJCS Grade 8 Teachers by the Reichstein family.

#### In Memory of:

Nadine Mordfield by Sharon, Sol, Noah and Kayla Reichstein.

### DAHLIA AND ZACHARY SHABSOVE B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

#### In Memory of:

Herb Gosewich by Adrienne and Chuck Shabsove.

### ZACHARY SILBER B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

#### In Memory of:

Bernard Silber by Randi, Ian, Jonathan, Inna, Matthew and Adam Sherman; and by Barbara Levine and David Spring.

**Contributions may be made online at [www.OJCF.ca](http://www.OJCF.ca) or by contacting the office at 613-798-4696 extension 274, Monday to Friday or by email at [tributecards@ojcf.ca](mailto:tributecards@ojcf.ca).**

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## New Endowment Funds at the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation

### Gunther and Inge Abrahamson Endowment Fund –

Established in memory of Inge Abrahamson beloved by her husband, friends and family.

### Ilana and Steven Rubin Educational Endowment Fund –

Established in memory of Ilana Rubin, a long-time educator in Ottawa, to provide a post-secondary scholarship to a student in need.

If you would like your newly opened endowment fund recognized in the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin, please let our Foundation staff know and we will be happy to include your information.  
Contact Michael Bazuk at [Mbazuk@jewishottawa.com](mailto:Mbazuk@jewishottawa.com).

## WHAT'S GOING ON | January 25 to February 7, 2016

FOR MORE CALENDAR LISTINGS, VISIT [WWW.OTTAWAJEWISHBULLETIN.COM/EVENTS](http://WWW.OTTAWAJEWISHBULLETIN.COM/EVENTS) AND [WWW.JEWISHOTTAWA.COM/COMMUNITY-CALENDAR](http://WWW.JEWISHOTTAWA.COM/COMMUNITY-CALENDAR)

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

**JWRP Israel Trip for Women, Info-Session for Local Organizations:** The Federation partners with the Jewish Women's Renaissance Project (JWRP) to inspire women to transform themselves, their families and their communities via a journey through Israel. Learn how your local Jewish organization can get involved, 7 pm.  
Info: Sarah Beutel, 613-798-4696, ext. 253, [sbeutel@jewishottawa.com](mailto:sbeutel@jewishottawa.com)

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

**Machzikei Hadas/Agudath Israel Joint Judaism and Activism Lecture Series:** Israel in the Global Village – Development and Aid on the International Stage, with Sarah Wilner, deputy director of Mashav, the Israeli Government Centre for International Co-Operation. Machzikei Hadas, 2310 Virginia Dr., 8:30 am.  
Info: Michael Goldstein, 613-521-9700, [mgoldstein@cmhottawa.com](mailto:mgoldstein@cmhottawa.com)

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

**JNF presents "From Farmers to Entrepreneurs:"** Transforming desert into fertile ground with Hanni Arnon, founder, Arava International Centre for Agriculture Training. Hillel Ottawa, 284 Laurier Ave. E., 11:30 am.  
and, with Agudath Israel, "Teaching The World to Feed Itself:" Changing the future with know-how, water and technology.

Congregation Agudath Israel, 1400 Coldrey Ave., 7:30 pm.  
Info: Ilana Albert-Novick, 613-798-2411, [ottawa@jnf.ca](mailto:ottawa@jnf.ca)

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

**JET Mini Shabbaton** with Rabbi Zale Newman: Shabbat Services followed by a lunch and talk. Beit Tikvah, 15 Chartwell Ave., 9 am to 2 pm.

**Songs, Stories and Inspiration with Rabbi Zale Newman:** Jewish Education through Torah invites all. Congregation Machzikei Hadas, 2310 Virginia Dr., 8 pm.  
Info: Erica Geller, 613-695-4800, [erica.gellerr@gmail.com](mailto:erica.gellerr@gmail.com)

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

**Mitzvah Day:** 10th anniversary, 9 am to 12 pm.  
Info: Rena Garshowitz, 613-798-4696, ext. 241, [rgarshowitz@jewishottawa.com](mailto:rgarshowitz@jewishottawa.com)  
or visit [www.mitzvahdayottawa.com](http://www.mitzvahdayottawa.com)

## COMING SOON

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

**Art and Soul...Live Creatively:** Explore Judaism's insights into the arts and how they beautify and transform our lives, 7:30 to 9:30 pm.  
Info: Devora Caytak, 613-729-7712, [dev18@sympatico.ca](mailto:dev18@sympatico.ca)

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

**Art and Soul...Live Creatively Mornings:** Explore Judaism's insights into the arts and how they

beautify and transform our lives, 9 to 11 am.  
Info: Devora Caytak, 613-729-7712, [dev18@sympatico.ca](mailto:dev18@sympatico.ca)

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

**Shabbat Potluck Dinner:** Join the Glebe Minyan to celebrate Shabbat. Second Friday until August 12. The Glebe Minyan, 64 Powell Ave., 6 pm.  
Info: Anna Maranta, 613-867-5505, [glebeminyan@gmail.com](mailto:glebeminyan@gmail.com)

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

**JET Meaningful Night:** An evening of nosh, drinks, desserts, coffee and a meaningful talk with guest lecturer Adrienne Gold, 7:30 pm.  
Info: Erica Geller, 613-695-4800, [erica.gellerr@gmail.com](mailto:erica.gellerr@gmail.com)

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

**Soloway JCC Annual General Meeting & Awards Night:** The Soloway Jewish Community Centre Annual General Meeting and Awards night recognizes volunteer leaders in our community, 7 pm.  
Info: Maxine Miska, 613-798-9818, ext. 263, [mmiska@jccottawa.com](mailto:mmiska@jccottawa.com)

### CANDLE LIGHTING BEFORE

JANUARY 29	4:44 PM	FEBRUARY 12	5:05 PM
FEBRUARY 5	4:54 PM	FEBRUARY 19	5:15 PM

### BULLETIN DEADLINES

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20	FOR FEBRUARY 8
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3	FOR FEBRUARY 22

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:

**Ida Kershman**

**Mayer Kleinplatz**, Montreal  
(father of Peggy Kleinplatz)

**Joseph Shabinsky**

**Jay Sokoloff**, Montreal  
(brother of Dina Sokoloff)

**Albert L. Stal**, Toronto (father of Darryl Stal)

**Molly Switzer (née Landen)**, Toronto  
(sister-in-law of Edith Landen)

**Bessie Waxman (née Greenspoon)**, Montreal  
(mother of Debra Schneiderman)

*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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### What we are collecting this year:

- non-perishable food for the Kasher Food Bank
- gently-used board games and craft supplies for Crossroads Children's Centre
- new or gently-used work-appropriate handbags and jewelry for Dress for Success Ottawa



Special Guests include local VIPs and "Monkey Rock"

Mitzvah projects for all ages!

Mitzvah Day at the SJCC 9-11:45 am  
Plus off-site activities!

## Sunday, February 7, 2016

For the full list of activities and to register to participate or help run an activity, visit [mitzvahdayottawa.com](http://mitzvahdayottawa.com)

Info: Rena at 613-798-4696 x 241 or [rgarshowitz@jewishottawa.com](mailto:rgarshowitz@jewishottawa.com)

Chair:  
Tamara Scarowsky

### "Tell Me A Mitzvah"

Thank you to everyone who submitted entries. All submissions will be on display on Mitzvah Day.

By Esther  
Torah Academy

DAVENING



ESTHER



By Charlotte  
Star of David Hebrew School

One of my best mitzvahs is when my brother and I made a lemonade stand and raised over \$50! We gave the money to a food bank which provided for people who could not buy it for themselves. I did this mitzvah because I knew if I was in the same situation someone would do the same thing for me.

By Oren Gorber Wakabayashi  
Gr. 7 student, Ottawa Modern Jewish School

About four times a year, we will go to Hillel Lodge and bowl with the residents. We create teams and make team names of their choice. I've been going there for three years now and it's nice to have fun with the residents. Another thing that we do is interview a resident to learn and understand about their past and how they came here. We have to write a report about him/her because at the end of the year we will present our report in front of parents and hopefully the resident that we interviewed will be there. It's good to go there and put a smile on their face. When we're done, we will help bring the residents to their rooms to keep them company.



ENRICHING LIVES

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