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Sar-El program
 Angus Smith
 on volunteer stint
 at IDF base > page 2

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Ottawa to have one Orthodox elementary school

BY MICHAEL REGENSTREIF, EDITOR

The families of Ottawa's two Orthodox elementary day schools – Torah Academy of Ottawa and the Chabad-affiliated Rambam Day School – have reached an agreement to unify in time for the 2016-2017 school year.

The school – which will be renamed after consultations with parents – will retain the Torah Academy structure. The agreement will see Rambam's approximately 45 students integrated with the Torah Academy student body, which currently numbers about 80 students.

The school will also retain the Torah Academy faculty for both Judaic and general studies, which will be augmented by most of the Rambam faculty. The school will remain in the current Torah Academy

building at 1119 Lazard Street for the next school year. However, a task force of parents will be struck to investigate options for future years – including the possibility of moving to the Jewish Community Campus school building, where Rambam has been located since 2008.

The Torah Academy Board and the Rambam parents' group agreed last June to pursue negotiations aimed at unifying their student bodies and the details were arrived at following nine months of meetings. The school communities were represented by committees headed by Debbie Scharf, a Torah Academy parent, and Evan Green, a Rambam parent. The meetings were facilitated by Steven Kimmel, immediate past-chair of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, and Bram Bregman, Federation vice-president of

community building.

The memorandum of understanding was ratified overwhelmingly on February 18 by the parent bodies of both schools.

Representatives of both schools told the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin that combining resources and student bodies will mean greater efficiencies and opportunities for Orthodox students in Ottawa.

"We want excellence in education for our children and we recognize that one school gives us the best opportunity for this excellence. We want the best possible school that brings together a solid Judaic education but does not compromise on secular [education]," said Evan Green, who chaired the Rambam parents' group and is now vice-chair of the Transition Committee.

"Having a strong Orthodox, Torah-based

school will allow us to achieve greater goals than what would ever be possible alone," said Ilan Metz, the Torah Academy Board chair, and Debbie Scharf, chair of the Transition Committee. "A larger base of children means a wider social circle, and less combined grades. More financial resources will enable the school to offer more educational options, resource teachers and expand extra-curricular offerings. The school will ... attract a broader base of Jewish families in Ottawa who care deeply about the Torah and Judaism."

"The parents voted to unify the student bodies, which will only strengthen Jewish education in Ottawa in the long-term, and we look forward to continuing to work with the unified school's capable leadership to advance and promote day school education," said Bregman.

Mystery afoot as local author tells a tale of missing laundry

Howard Miller works at GGFL Chartered Professional Accountants as their communications specialist. He is also a writer whose first children's book is about to be published. **Louise Rachlis** reports.

Howard Miller and his wife Sarah are newlyweds living in Stittsville who "still can't agree on how to fold socks."

But the couple, who got married in August, will have a storybook about socks to read to their future children.

Miller is the author of *Escape to Sock*

Mountain, a children's book he wrote after being inspired by a writing exercise in which he had to construct a paragraph from the perspective of an inanimate object.

The book answers the dilemma of where socks go when they're lost in the

See *Sock Mountain* on page 2



Howard Miller, author of *Escape to Sock Mountain*, and his dog, Barney.

inside: Rabbi Rob Morais
 on changes at the Kotel > p. 6

Michael Regenstreif
 on BDS vote in Parliament > p. 7

Jason Moscovitz and Barbara
 Crook on U.S. politics > p. 7, 13

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The kids are all right: Reflections on the Sar-El program

BY ANGUS SMITH

They are all so young. That's the inevitable reaction of any Diaspora Jew confronted by a group of Israel Defense Forces (IDF) soldiers.

For Rabbi Steven Garten and me, our recent hitch with the Sar-El program – which sends volunteers to serve on IDF supply and logistics bases – was a little bit like spending a couple of weeks with our own kids.

Along with a few other Americans and Canadians, Rabbi Garten and I were assigned to a communications and electronics base in the Lower Galilee. We slept in barracks, wore IDF uniforms and ate army food. And, while we may not have cut a particularly soldierly appearance, the work we did – reconditioning tank helmets and communications headsets; cleaning and repairing antenna mounts for tanks and fighting vehicles – directly supported troops in the field.

If anybody can actually look good in olive drab, it's a kid in the IDF. And the IDF is truly an army of kids. Kids who, in their sheer variety, represent the tremendous diversity of contemporary Israel: an impossibly tall Ethiopian exchanges good-natured insults with a couple of blonde, blue-eyed Russians; an olah from Winnipeg works beside a Yemenite boy; a bunch of Orthodox guys with payot head over to the base shul for Mincha.

At every break, the soldiers lean into

their iPhones, lost to Snapchat and Instagram. They chatter constantly and flirt with each other like crazy. They collapse into giggling heaps. The boys wrestle and chase each other around the electronics lab. The girls apply and reapply their makeup throughout the day, currently favouring a look somewhere between Amy Winehouse and Nefertiti.

Yet, somehow, it all seems to work. Whatever we hear about the divisions in Israeli society, all of these young people get along with each other.

Rabbi Garten and I end up in a workshop with Chasidic kids doing their IDF service. They are welcoming and genuinely curious about who we are, where we come from and what we do in Canada. One of them teases Rabbi Garten about his prophetic turn of phrase and renames him “Moshe.” The rabbi responds in kind and, for the rest of the week, we have to put up with the comedy duo of Moshe and Yehoshua, and their inexhaustible supply of lame jokes.

Meanwhile, Chaim, the guy I share a workbench with, chats happily with me about his family, about his rabbi, and about how much he would like to have a dog. One afternoon, he puts his arms around me and asks someone to take a picture of the two of us – just a couple of Jews, hanging out.

Watching these young people and the way they take care of each other, it is easy



Sar-El volunteers Angus Smith (left) and Rabbi Steven Garten of Ottawa check communications gear at an IDF base in the Lower Galilee.

to see the absolutely critical role the IDF plays in building Israeli society. By putting young people together and ensuring they bond through shared experiences and shared challenges the IDF reinforces a uniquely Israeli identity. Counter to what much of the world seems to believe, IDF service creates not a

nation of warriors, but a nation of citizens – Israeli citizens.

But, with all the high spirits and horseplay, it's easy to forget that every one of these young Israelis is, in fact, a warrior – and that all of them live in a very bad neighbourhood. At any

See Sar-El on page 4

Sock Mountain: ‘I wanted to have something for my sister’s kids and my future kids’

Continued from page 1
laundry.

“When young Carter hears strange sounds coming from the hamper one night, he discovers the answer. Four unhappy socks are tired of getting mixed in with all those dirty clothes, and they’re not going to take it anymore!”

Escape to Sock Mountain is described on the publisher’s website as “a story about friendship and big dreams.” And Miller describes himself as “a 10-year-old boy trapped in the body of a 30-something-year-old man; a man who is a coffee-addicted, baseball geek and

Ottawa Senators fan.”

The book is illustrated by Lidia E. Lewczuk.

“I went on a freelancing website to bid on some writing jobs, and I found I could post my story and look for an illustrator,” said Miller. “Although Lidia is in the Netherlands, we hit it off, and her illustrations were just as I envisaged them.”

Promoting his own book is a “weird” new experience, he said. “It’s awkward to ‘pump my own tires.’ I’m used to pushing other people, not myself.”

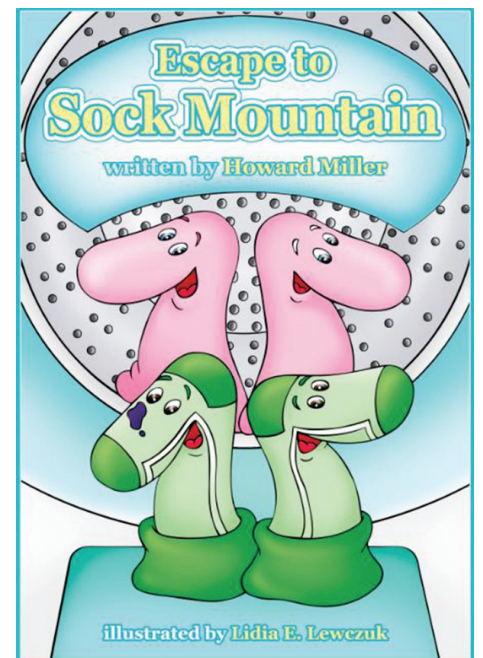
While *Escape to Sock Mountain* is

Miller’s first book, he has other ideas “percolating” in his mind for the future.

Miller’s sister Sara is expecting her first child, and he is looking forward to reading the book to the baby.

“For me, I wanted to have something for my sister’s kids and my future kids.”

Escape to Sock Mountain will be available by the end of the month through online retailers including www.FriesenPress.com, www.Amazon.ca, and Chapters.indigo.ca. The e-book will sell for \$3.99, and the hard copy around \$15 (depending on U.S. dollar fluctuation).



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The Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award recognizes an outstanding volunteer for a lifetime of service dedicated to the betterment and enrichment of Jewish life in Ottawa.

All nominees must have volunteered a minimum of 25 years in Ottawa's Jewish community and continue to be active within the last three years. Only volunteer work within Ottawa's Jewish community will be considered. Volunteer work can be with any one organization or across multiple organizations.

"There are three crowns: the crown of Torah, the crown of priesthood, and the crown of kingship; but the crown of a good name excels them all." - Rabbi Shimon

Freiman Family Young Leadership Award

The Freiman Family Young Leadership Award recognizes a member of the Ottawa Jewish community 40 and under, who has demonstrated proven leadership to the benefit of Ottawa's Jewish community.

All nominees must have volunteered in Ottawa's Jewish community a minimum of 3 years and be currently involved.

- Proven leadership, with further potential for growth and involvement.
- Demonstrates ability to motivate and inspire others.
- Positively impacts Ottawa's Jewish community.

Additional
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includes:

Student Leadership Award **"NEW"**

The Student Leadership Award recognizes a student currently pursuing a post-secondary degree who demonstrates leadership and outstanding commitment to the Ottawa Jewish community.

All nominees must have volunteered for a minimum of 3 years and be currently involved.

- Proven leadership, with further potential for growth and involvement.
- Demonstrates ability to motivate and inspire others.
- Current involvement positively impacts Ottawa's Jewish community.

Additional
criteria for
consideration
includes:

All Community Service Award nominees must be members in good standing of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa (minimum gift to the Annual Campaign) and cannot previously have received the award for which they are nominated.

To be considered, nominations must include 2 letters of support, including one from an organization. The nomination must specifically address all the outlined criteria.

Nominations for all awards will be considered for the year in which they are received and will be carried over once. Awards are presented at Federation's Annual General Meeting held in June.

This year's deadline for nominations is April 8, 2016.

Please visit www.jewishottawa.com for a complete listing of Community Service Awards.

For information, please contact Alecia at 613-798-4696 x 236 or alaliberte@jewishottawa.com

Note: Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Leadership Award is now awarded every 2 years. Accordingly, nominations will next be accepted in 2017.



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Brad Sabin Hill to speak on Hebrew printing in Islamic lands

BY LEAH COHEN, CURATOR
JACOB M. LOWY COLLECTION
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA

While many are aware of the Yiddish, Ladino, Hebrew and Aramaic languages, few are familiar with Judeo-Marathi, the language of the Bene Israel of India, written in Devanagari script, or with Judeo-Arabic, written in Hebrew script.

Brad Sabin Hill, an expert on bibliography and booklore who was the first curator of the Jacob M. Lowy Collection at Library and Archives Canada, will

share a panoramic view of printing in the Orient in his talk and slide show, "Hebrew Printing in the Arab and Islamic World," on Sunday, April 3, 2 pm, at Library and Archives Canada, 395 Wellington Street, second floor.

The lecture will span a geographic area from the Maghreb in North Africa to the Middle East and from India to Central Asia. Ranging from the earliest days of printing in the late-1400s to the 20th century, the discussion will touch on ornament and the art of the book as well as typography.

Hill's talk will offer a nuanced view of



Brad Sabin Hill, the first curator of the Jacob M. Lowy Collection, will speak on "Hebrew Printing in the Arab and Islamic World," April 3, at Library and Archives Canada.

Jewish communities, via the vehicle of the printing press, and cause us to question our assumptions.

Exiles from Spain and Portugal brought the art of printing to Constantinople (now Istanbul), the capital of the Muslim Ottoman Empire, in 1493. Jews were then the only religious group engaged in printing. Later, they shared this skill with their neighbours.

Hill, who taught Hebrew bibliography at Oxford University and is now curator of the I. Edward Kiev Judaica Collection at George Washington University in Washington, D.C., has long been fascinated by the printing of Hebrew and other Jewish languages.

The Jacob M. Lowy Collection, Canada's national treasure of old and rare Hebraica and Judaica, comprises approximately

3,000 rare and special editions printed from the 15th to 20th centuries, as well as a rich reference section.

An exhibit of books printed in the East from the Lowy Collection will accompany Hill's lecture and a reception with light refreshments will follow.

The event is free of charge and is hosted by Library and Archives Canada and the Council of the Jacob M. Lowy Collection, a volunteer group under the auspices of Friends of Library and Archives Canada.

For more information about volunteering for the Council of the Jacob M. Lowy Collection, contact the chair, Norman Barwin at nbarwin@hotmail.com.

To schedule a visit to the Jacob M. Lowy Collection, contact curators Leah Cohen at leah.cohen@canada.ca or Michael Kent at Michael.kent2@canada.ca.

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Sunday, March 13: Rabbi Robert Morais will review "Shanghai Legacy" by Marion Cuba. Bagels, 9:30 am; review 10 am.

Books are available through the Ottawa Public Library and the Greenberg Families Library at the SJCC. The Malca Pass Library and the Temple Israel Library also carry some of these titles. For information, contact Shayla at shaylamindell@rogers.com

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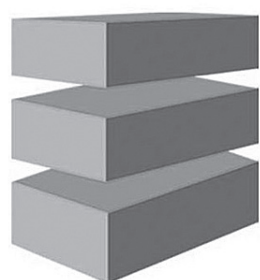
Sar-El: 'It all seems to work'

Continued from page 2

moment, they can be called upon to put their lives on the line in defence of the State of Israel. This is not an empty platitude. On the last night of our hitch, Hadar Cohen, a 19-year-old border guard on duty at the Damascus Gate in Jerusalem, was shot and killed by three Palestinians armed with automatic weapons and pipe bombs.

Israel is a country that places tremendous trust in its children. And it is a country that understands all too well that some of its children will pay the ultimate price for that trust. One of our fellow Sar-El volunteers said it best: "I know that every one of these helmets will be worn by some mother's son. So each helmet that I fix is a prayer for the son who will wear it."

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SHIMON KOFFLER FOGEL
CIJA

Managing change: Advocacy update from CIJA

include keeping our community institutions safe by advocating for the expansion of the Security Infrastructure Program; genetic discrimination; the rising cost of Jewish education; affordable housing; hate crimes legislation; and fighting boycotts of Israel on campus.

While it is not possible in a single column to address all the issues and initiatives in which we are engaged, I highlight two key areas that will occupy us over the coming months.

First, the election of nearly 200 new MPs requires a proactive and sustained campaign of engagement and education on Parliament Hill. While in-person briefings, parliamentary committee hearings and events are effective, fact-finding missions to Israel have proven to be the best way to build relationships with Canadian leaders. This year, we will host many MPs on missions, complementing a record-setting year for our campus missions program, in which we will bring more than 60 non-Jewish students (including many campus political leaders) to Israel.

In addition to building the Canada-Israel relationship and increasing bilateral trade, we are focused on educating elected officials about the ongoing threat posed by Iran – particularly in the wake of the removal of sanctions following the P5+1 nuclear agreement.

While Canada has removed some sanctions, we are pleased that the government has maintained a number of targeted efforts to block Iran's access to nuclear-related materials and counter Iranian entities involved in the ballistic missile program, terrorism, and human rights abuses. Our message to MPs is the need for continued Canadian vigilance, caution and economic pressure on the Iranian regime.

Second, in a political and media environment increasingly crowded with a multitude of voices and issues, our approach to advocacy must be innovative to ensure our message is heard. Advocating in partnership with other faith, ethnic and civil society groups has proved effective, which is why CIJA has recently increased efforts to build coalitions with other communities. In

the past few months, we have worked with partners in Canada's Sikh, Ahmadiyya Muslim, Catholic, Middle Eastern Christian and LGBT communities to speak out on issues such as religious freedom, hate crimes and the human catastrophe unfolding in Syria and Iraq.

Moreover, strong partnerships are a cornerstone of effective social justice advocacy.

While Federation-supported Jewish social service agencies across Canada are at the forefront of aiding the most vulnerable among us, much of their invaluable work requires sustained investment from government. Although the federal government has committed to increasing funding for the provinces to deliver affordable housing and other essential programs, all governments face the challenge of fiscal constraints. CIJA has assembled a diverse coalition of ethnic communities with similar social service agencies to urge governments to ensure our institutions continue to benefit from their fair share of public funding and to contribute their expertise as the government formulates social policy.

2016 will continue to present us with opportunities and challenges. If you would like to learn more about CIJA and our work, or how to get involved, please visit www.cija.ca.

From the perspective of Canadian Jewish advocacy, 2016 will be a year of opportunity, change, and challenge. In the past six months, we have witnessed the outbreak of a sustained wave of Palestinian terrorism in Israel, the election of a new federal government in Ottawa, devastating Islamist terror attacks in Paris and San Bernardino and a recalibration of Canada's policy toward Iran – to name just a few major developments.

As the advocacy agent of Canada's Jewish Federations, the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA) works to advance the public policy interests of Canadian Jewry. Our agenda is as diverse as our community: our current priorities

FROM THE
PULPIT



RABBI ROBERT S. MORAIS
TEMPLE ISRAEL

This Wall was built for you and me!

We sat on the benches at the back of the plaza for 10 minutes just observing the people. At the time, the prayer space of the Kotel was divided into two equal parts, separating men and women. I sat there, watching people pray. I saw all sorts of people that day – some were wearing Chassidic clothing, others were wearing IDF uniforms. Our guide then gathered us together and said, "This is your wall ... Each of you must make it your own. Find a single stone that you will remember, spend some time there. Then when you come back to Israel, you will come back to YOUR Wall, to YOUR stone. I have been back to Israel 15 times. Each time, I reclaim my ownership of the Wall.

Sadly, not all my experiences at the Wall have been positive. As a rabbinic student, my classmates and I wanted to pray together at the Kotel. We were shouted at, pushed and finally forced to leave the Kotel area. Two years ago, I brought my eldest daughter to Israel for her first visit. I could not pray with her at the Wall. We had to separate. I longed to stand with her, as she experienced this incredible moment for the first time.

My friend and colleague, Anat Hoffman, leader of Women of the Wall, an

equal rights advocacy group, has spent decades fighting for the rights of women to be able to pray at the Kotel. To pray out loud, with voices raised in praise, reading from our sacred Torah scroll. She has been arrested, spat on and pushed. Profanities have been screamed at her. She has been accused of destroying Judaism – all because she would like to pray.

The Kotel has become a battle ground for religious pluralism and tolerance. After years and years of ignoring the issues, the Israeli government has finally addressed the issue and has recently voted to officially recognize non-Orthodox prayer. Construction will soon begin on a renovation of the Kotel Plaza that will provide for a prayer space not under the auspices of the Orthodox Rabbinate. It will be open to anyone who wishes to pray together with men and women, or in a manner. It has been a long time coming! But then, THIS Wall has seen so many things.

I am looking forward to being at the Wall and praying together with my children. I may need to adopt a new stone in this part of the Kotel. This Wall was built for you and me!

As a teenager, on my first trip to Israel, our guide kept talking about the Kotel. After a week in Israel, our trip finally made its way up to Jerusalem. We walked through the Old City and made our way to the Kotel. Our guide read us the poem, "The Paratroopers are Crying" by Haim Hefer, which beautifully describes Judaism's 2,000-year relationship with the Wall. The poem begins:

*This wall has heard many prayers
This wall has seen the fall
of many other walls
This wall has felt the touch
of mourning women
This wall has felt petitions
lodged between its stones.*

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FROM THE EDITOR



MICHAEL REGENSTREIF

Parliament votes to condemn anti-Israel BDS movement

Clement led off the House debate on February 18, calling BDS a form of discrimination, “just like boycotts that have targeted Jews throughout history.”

It quickly emerged in the debate that the Liberal government would support the motion.

“The world will win nothing for boycotting Israel but depriving itself of the talents of its inventiveness,” Minister of Foreign Affairs Stéphane Dion said, adding, “We must fight anti-Semitism in all its forms,” signalling the government’s recognition that there is – as former justice minister Irwin Cotler points out – a “new anti-Semitism,” in which Israel is targeted as “the collective Jew” among the nations.

In the lengthy debate, Liberal and Conservative MPs rose to support the motion, while NDP MPs and Green Party leader Elizabeth May spoke against the motion because they said it was an attack on freedom of speech and dissent. At the same time, though, the NDP and May stressed their opposition to BDS and their support for a two-state solution.

Among the most eloquent voices in the debate were new Jewish MPs Michael Levitt (York Centre) and Anthony Housefather (Mount Royal).

“BDS is about intolerance. It is a broader movement to demonize and delegitimize Israel and collectively punish all Israelis by holding Israel alone responsible for the Arab-Israeli conflict,” said Levitt.

Housefather gave a speech on the history of anti-Semitism in Canada and explained how the BDS movement has taken its place in that history. Housefather also showed how the elimination of the State of Israel as a Jewish state was one of the BDS movement’s actual goals.

The motion passed easily by a vote of 229-51. The Bloc Québécois joined the NDP in opposing the motion.

Of Ottawa’s MPs, the motion was supported by Andrew Leslie (Orléans) and Pierre Poilievre (Carleton). Anita Vandenberg (Ottawa West-Nepean), my own MP, abstained.

For some reason or another, the rest of Ottawa’s MPs were not in the House to vote on the motion. These included Catherine McKenna (Ottawa Centre), who, as a Cabinet member would have voted in favour, had she been present; Mauril Bélanger, who is facing serious health issues; Karen McCrimmon (Kanata-Carleton); Chandra Arya (Nepean); and David McGuinty (Ottawa South).

A few hours later, an assembly of the

Student Society of McGill University voted 512-357 to support BDS. The assembly attracted less than three per cent of McGill’s 30,000 undergraduate students. The assembly result then needed to be ratified by an online vote open to all McGill undergrads. The results of that vote were not yet known when we went to press, but will be available at www.ottawajewishbulletin.com by the time you read this.

And, true to the motion passed that day in Parliament, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau tweeted a statement in reaction to the McGill vote: “The BDS movement, like Israeli Apartheid Week, has no place on Canadian campuses. As a @McGillU alum, I’m disappointed. #EnoughIsEnough”

As a side note, there was a recent Jerusalem Post report – quickly withdrawn because it was incorrect – that Israeli pop singer Achinoam Nini, a.k.a. Noa, who is headlining the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver’s Yom Ha’Atzmaut celebration, supports BDS.

But, following the report, the Jewish National Fund of Canada withdrew its sponsorship of the event saying, “The entertainer that has been hired does not reflect, nor correspond to the mandate and values of the Jewish National Fund of Canada.”

However, the Embassy of Israel in Ottawa and the Consulate General of Israel in Toronto have stepped in and will sponsor the event.

Two votes were held on February 22 – one in Ottawa in the House of Commons and the other at McGill University in Montreal – on the issue of the anti-Israel boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) movement.

The Commons voted on a motion, put forward the week before by Conservative MPs Tony Clement and Michelle Rempel, which read, “That, given Canada and Israel share a long history of friendship as well as economic and diplomatic relations, the House reject the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement, which promotes the demonization and delegitimization of the State of Israel, and call upon the government to condemn any and all attempts by Canadian organizations, groups or individuals to promote the BDS movement, both here at home and abroad.”

IDEAS AND IMPRESSIONS



JASON MOSCOVITZ

Politics turned upside down

president being followed by that nation’s first Jewish president? Logic tells us there’s no chance. And, yet, no one can deny that Sanders has gone very far in presidential politics for a Jewish boy from Brooklyn. He may not wear his Jewishness on his sleeve, but he doesn’t run from it, and that makes his rise that much more compelling in today’s world of rapid change.

There is a difference between rapid and radical change. Rapid change sets the parameters for someone like Sanders to gain the prominence he has. Radical change would see him elected president – but it is difficult, if not impossible, to think that will happen.

While the U.S. may not be ready to elect a Jewish socialist, you have to wonder if Americans are ready for the right wing bombastic offerings of Donald Trump. In recent American political history, a candidate married three times would not have made it to the starting line. Yet Trump continues to be knocking on the door, hanging in with all the pundits still waiting for his balloon to burst.

All logic and clear thinking point to Trump ultimately not succeeding because the whole thing is just too bizarre. In any other time, while Sanders would have

been chased away as a Jewish communist, Trump would have been quickly shown the door as a big-mouthed, egocentric bully with lots of money but no class.

Trump and Sanders came out of nowhere for a reason. Trump has the passion for hitting the right chord with so many unhappy and angry Americans who feel they’re losing their place in America. On the left, Sanders connects with those yearning for an overhaul of political targets in a utopian zone of looking at what could be.

You can feel it. You can sense it. You can see it on the faces of their supporters. They don’t share the same political leanings, but they share the need to cry out for something different. They reject traditional politicians and their traditional political solutions. They especially want to shake things up by sticking it to the establishment.

So far, the U.S. presidential election has featured the establishment in a show-down with dissenting voices and options. Unthinkable policies on the right, as well as the left, have the establishment clinging onto what it thought was its sacred vault of political thought, discourse and American values.

The establishment has been shaken.

There has been a hurricane that sees the American political elite hoping the tide of change stops short of an incredible upset on either the Democratic or Republican side. Their futures, and everything they believe in, are largely dependent on nothing radically changing.

While no radical change remains a safe bet, it is, perhaps, equally true that the status quo won’t cut it either. Something dramatic is happening. There are no politically correct assumptions to make anymore. Not when a Donald Trump can call Mexicans “rapists” and “drug dealers,” and not when a Bernie Sanders can say politicians, even in his own party, are bought and paid for by Wall Street.

The candidates’ debates draw record TV audiences because, with political correctness gone, no one knows for sure what new level of outrage can be reached. There may be no ceiling on how shockingly ugly and relatively radical political discourse can get.

This is not, in of itself, a bad thing. U.S. American politics are victim to a super charged time of exploding sources of information. There is no stopping the avalanche.

With everything so real and raw, and in voters’ faces all the time, why shouldn’t American politics lose its pretentious protective cover of political correctness and traditional thinking?

Trump and Sanders are trailblazers.

The U.S. presidential election campaign has turned everything we ever understood about western post-Second World War politics upside down. Everything that we might have thought we don’t have to think anymore. It’s that crazy.

On the Democratic side, Senator Bernie Sanders is promising free universal health care and free university education. He has gotten this far in the race being a Jewish socialist. Six months ago, no one would have believed it possible. What a sea change. Not that long ago in the U.S., Sanders would have been put under surveillance for being a communist.

Leaving socialism aside, what are the prospects of the African-American U.S.



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HOWIE OSTERER

It was terrific to read the profile on 14-year-old Adam Dodek and his upcoming participation on Israel's National Baseball Team ("Ottawa teen to play baseball on Israel's national team," January 25). Southpaw Adam is a terrific kid, and will do Israel baseball and the Ottawa Jewish community proud.

It was also great to read that the fund established in the name of Howie Osterer, my late brother, enthusiastically supported by wonderful people like Nicole Goldstone, is being put to good use.

The article referred to my brother as "the self-proclaimed 'king of baseball in Israel,'" a reference taken from the JNF fundraising page to support the Howie Osterer Scholarship Fund.

<http://site.jnf.ca/index.php/howie-baseball/>

However, my brother never referred to himself by that title. Those who knew him would agree that it just would not have been in his nature to do so. A quick Internet search will reveal the title belongs to Nate Fish, the national director of Israel Baseball, who uses it as a tongue-in-cheek device for his blog. Fish works tirelessly on behalf of Israel Baseball and was one of my brother's closest friends in Israel.

Howie z"l was the regional co-ordinator for Israel Baseball in Jerusalem and represented Israel as a

baseball umpire internationally, as well as at the Maccabi Games. His official's number was retired by Israel Baseball, a memorial game is held in his honour, and the dedicated batting cage in Jerusalem bears his name.

Irv Osterer

LETTERS WELCOME

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

*Send your letters to Michael Regenstreif,
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**Na'amat holds annual
Kosher-for-Passover Wine Sale**

**BY DEANA SCHILDKRAUT
AVIVA CHAPTER – NA'AMAT CANADA**

Aviva Chapter of Na'amat Canada Ottawa is holding our annual Kosher-for-Passover Wine Sale. We have a large selection of wines available from a variety of countries including Israel, France, Italy and the United States.

This year, we are excited to announce that we are also offering an Ontario wine produced from locally grown grapes: Huff Estates 2014 Kosher Riesling Off Dry.

Na'amat Canada is a registered Canadian charity and a part of a worldwide progressive women's organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for women, children and families in Israel and around the world. Generations of Na'amat women have been making a difference since 1925.

Na'amat Canada sends money to Israel to help support its vast network of social and educational services. Especially now, as a result of the many terrorist acts and the deteriorating economic situation, the number of Israelis experiencing hardships is increasing greatly. Many people turn to Na'amat for help. Some of the services Na'amat funds are daycare centres, vocational and agricultural high schools, single-parent support services, legal aid centres, and a facility for abused women.

Locally, Na'amat Canada Ottawa is involved in the School Supply for Kids project. Every fall, we supply hundreds of backpacks filled with supplies to children living with their mothers in shelters for abused women. The generous support of the Ottawa community over the years has allowed us to continue funding this project.

Once again, we are collaborating with Canadian Hadassah-WIZO Ottawa Centre and Congregation Beit Tikvah to hold a Passover Fair, where you will be able to pick up your wine order and also buy handcrafted Passover items such as wine bags, seder matzo covers, matzo-themed aprons, as well as many other items suitable for Passover gifts. The fair will be held Sunday, April 10, 10:30 am to 4 pm, at Congregation Beit Tikvah, 15 Chartwell Avenue.

To receive the list of available wines, or to place an order, contact Deana Schildkraut at 613-726-9595 or deana.schildkraut@gmail.com.

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For the first time, JNF Canada has created a Mission exclusively for University students. Anna Kos, the JNFU co-ordinator, has worked closely with students to reflect a Mission that will be both adventure and inspiration. From jeep riding in the Golan to celebrating Israel's Independence Day, the JNFU Mission has something for everyone. Priced remarkably at \$1500 Cdn, based on double occupancy, the price covers air, hotel, meals, transfers and touring. If you missed this Mission, contact Anna Kos to ensure you are signed up for next year! Anna.kos@jnf.ca

Young Professional Mission departs July 3!

Don't miss out on another amazing journey. Two spots available for Ottawa at a remarkable price. Call us for details.

New Tu Bishevat kid programs rooted in one mother's childhood memories

During this year's Tu Bishevat campaign, we were inundated to our delight with support and interest from the youngest segment of our Jewish community. Schools and shuls ran programs, hosted Tu Bishevat Seders, decorated cookies and planted numerous trees to help the arid vistas in Eilat, Israel's key tourist destination. Using JNF materials, preschool students were introduced to many areas of our work and the miracle of tree planting in Israel.

Eliana Mandel, who initiated the Ganon preschool program and the PJ Library program this year, was inspired by her own childhood memories of Tu Bishevat.

"My favourite memories of Tu Bishevat as a child mostly involve planting trees with JNF. I am very much so a Zionist and I love gardening and nature. Therefore JNF combines all of those things for me. I still remember being very excited every year when I would receive my certificate from planting my tree in Israel. I wanted to share that same joy with my children.

"My boys are already discussing wanting to go to Israel to visit the trees they bought and their hopes of actually planting a tree in Israel next time we go. One year, my parents told me that the trees that we bought were being planted along the road from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. I still remember on my first trip to Israel when I was 12 years old staring at all the trees as we drove from the airport to Jerusalem and wondering if some of those trees were the ones that we had purchased. To this day, I have no idea whether or not my trees were actually planted there, but it certainly was a nice feeling to think that my donation had helped make that road just a little bit greener."

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On a daily basis you can plant trees for all occasions. An attractive card is sent to the recipient. To order, call the JNF office (613.798.2411).



www.JNFottawa.ca

Israeli radio personality to speak on Jewish activism

BY HAL GROSSNER FOR AGUDATH ISRAEL
AND LISA GARMAN FOR MACHZIKEI HADAS

As part of this year's jointly sponsored lecture series on Jewish activism, Agudath Israel Congregation, Congregation Beth Shalom and Congregation Machzikei Hadas have announced an upcoming talk by Israeli activist Eve Harow.

Harow will speak on "From Beverly Hills to the Judean Hills: How a shy girl from Los Angeles became an accidental activist and an outspoken voice for Israel" on Thursday, March 10, 7:30 pm, at Agudath Israel, 1400 Coldrey Avenue.

Harow has been involved in Israel advocacy since making aliyah from California in 1988. Fighting for her home, for her reality and for truth was not a career ambition as much as a necessity. As a new *olah* and a young mother, she was astonished at the enormous difference between the popular perception of life in Israel and the actual reality she was living. She found herself contending with many things that were far from perfect and realized that she had to become part of the solution.

As she went from a mother securing her children's future to being a public speaker and radio broadcaster, Harow found that her voice needed to be heard for more reasons than she had originally imagined. She transformed her singular passion for Israel into a vocation, through guiding visitors across the country as a licensed Israeli tour guide, through her weekly radio broadcast, "Rejuvenation with Eve Harow," on the Voice of Israel, and as a popular guest speaker.

She writes and speaks extensively in local and international media. Her lectures and seminars are powerful and passionate, and her extensive political activism on a wide range of issues provides her audiences with a unique insight into Israeli political life.

Harow is director of tourism for the One Israel Fund and a former councillor in Efrat. She is a member of the board of governors of Ariel University as well as the Prime Minister's Council for the Commemoration of Rechavam (Ghandi) Ze'evi. She is also a member of the Jewish National Fund Speakers' Bureau and a board



Eve Harow speaks about her activism in Israel, March 10 at Agudath Israel.

member of Presspectiva – the Israeli affiliate of the Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting (CAMERA).

The community is cordially invited to hear Harow's very personal account of her Israel experience and to discover perspectives on Israel's future that you might not otherwise hear. Refreshments will be served.

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Emerging Gen: Telephone tag

In her Emerging Gen column, “Sorry it took so long to call back: Is it you, me, or both of us? (February 8),” Stephanie Shefrin identified a challenge on how we get young adults and young parents involved with our community organizations and its many projects to maintain and improve our Ottawa Jewish community.

I welcome the dialogue. Stephanie raised many valid issues about the multitude of demands on young families and the impact these have on their ability to stretch to include a commitment to community. The underlying foundation of the article is that the commitment itself is important. That is a great place to begin the dialogue, since we agree on that.

Our community is our responsibility. It is a shared responsibility to maintain what we have to today, and to build for the future. It is a responsibility that can be shared in many ways, from participation (why build it, if no one comes), to the giving of time as a volunteer, to the giving of money as a donor.

As I have told my children repeatedly, we stand on the shoulders of giants: the immigrants who came here with nothing but the clothes on their backs, and built lives for themselves, their children and grandchildren. They built the shuls, the schools and the community institutions we have today. I remind my children that these people were farmers, labourers and small merchants, and they created all that we have today. It is our community, and it is our responsibility to make it thrive.

Today, more members of our community are white collar workers than blue. Most of our families, as Stephanie pointed out, are two-income families. Time is short, and we all involve ourselves in our children’s lives to a greater extent than may have been true (especially for fathers) in times gone by. So time is even shorter. But, truly, by the standards of what our forebears dealt with, are these not (as my kids would say) “first world problems”?

I have been involved in our community since I was a teenager. I have seen it evolve. The community of my teenage years was far more patriarchal and homogenous in background and outlook. Its leadership was not as inclusive as today.

Today’s Jewish Federation of Ottawa is enormously inclusive by age, gender, religious affiliation, socio-economic status, employment, interests and abilities, and strives to be even more so.

And Stephanie is right when she points out that we have to find ways to include people in the building of community when daytime meetings at the SJCC just won’t work for all of them. The funny thing is that, as I have become more involved in the Annual Campaign since

MICHAEL POLOWIN GUEST COLUMN



Michael Polowin is the 2017-2018 Jewish Federation of Ottawa Annual Campaign chair.

last summer, I have seen just that.

It is the rare meeting that doesn’t have people joining by phone, when they can’t physically get to the meeting. I see discussion and debate by email. I see times for meetings being determined by the software program “Doodle,” which allows people to indicate availability before meeting times are decided. Meetings are held in the evenings and the daytime, dependent on people’s availability. Committees are streamlined to be more task-focused and then to dissolve.

Further changes are needed, so Stephanie’s column was particularly timely. As a small example, I have recommended the use of the computer program “Go to Meeting,” which allows people to be seen, and documents to be shared online.

Stephanie was right when she wrote, “When you look at the history of community leadership, it is striking how many past Federation leaders were self-employed.” But that is the past, not the future.

The point is that it is our community, and our responsibility. Evolution is good, and the right kind of change is good. But it doesn’t happen on its own. As Ghandi said, “You must be the change you want to see in the world.”

Our community is our responsibility. I invite all – young, old and in-between – to get involved, to build community and to be the change you want to see in the world. We can make it work for all of you, and because Stephanie opened the conversation, more people can be involved in this important dialogue and effort.



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Film finds the Jewish past of a Moroccan Berber town

BY CLEMY SROUR
SEPHARDI ASSOCIATION OF OTTAWA

A thriving Jewish community once lived in Tinghir, a Berber town on the edge of the Sahara in Morocco. But, after the birth of the modern State of Israel in 1948, most of the community packed their bags and left; in some cases, literally overnight. Today, there are no Jews left in Tinghir.

Filmmaker and historian Kamal Hachkar, a Berber Muslim born in Tinghir, grew up in France but returned to Tinghir every summer with his family. As an adult, he learned the town once had a rich Jewish history and set off on a mission to trace it. The resulting documentary, *Tinghir-Jerusalem: Echoes from the Mellah*, will be screened on Sunday, March 13, 3 pm, in the Desmarais Building, 55 Laurier East, room 1150 at the University of Ottawa.

The film took five years to complete, and Hachkar travelled to Israel to find members of the Tinghir Jewish community and their descendants. The dialogue flows between French, Arabic, Berber and Hebrew, and there are many poignant moments as former Jewish residents remember people in the community. In Tinghir, an aging resident, one of the few that remembers the town's Jewish heritage, recalls the closeness of the Muslim and Jewish communities. He



A scene from *Tinghir-Jerusalem: Echoes from the Mellah*.

cannot understand their wanting to leave the only home he can imagine.

The film's central feature is its challenge to notions of identity. Hachkar once believed that all Moroccans were Muslim. And Tinghir's former Jewish residents, now with an Israel identity, still hold on to, and identify with, their Berber and

Moroccan heritage. Like the experience of all Jewish communities in Arab lands, current residents know little about their countries' Jewish heritage, while former Jewish residents continue to hold onto an identity intertwined between their country of birth, Israel, and their Jewishness.

The screening of *Tinghir-Jerusalem* is a presentation of the Sephardi Association of Ottawa and the Vered Jewish Canadian Studies Program at the University of Ottawa. Following the screening, Professor Boussad Berrichi of the uOttawa French Department will provide comments on the film.



2015 G.J. Cooper Scholarship recipient Tal-Or Ben-Choreen was awarded a scholarship of \$15,505 at the Foundation's Annual General Meeting (presented by Paul Finn, 2015 Scholarship Committee Chair).

For complete details and list of eligible programs, please visit www.ojcf.ca or contact Mike at 613-798-4696 ext 252 or by email at mbazuk@jewishottawa.com

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The award, valued at approximately \$15,000, is granted each year to support a member of the Ottawa Jewish Community, or Ottawa student, between the ages of 18 and 30, who has displayed leadership qualities, academic excellence and has an interest in the Jewish Community. As per Mr. Cooper's wishes, the award must be used to advance one's formal education or apprenticeship in the fields of artistic, literary or social sciences.

Applications Open!
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OTTAWA JEWISH
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In a war of images, how do we stand for Israel?

BY CAROLYN BICKERTON
FOR JET

Michelle Rojas-Tal, acclaimed by the Jerusalem Post in 2013 as one of the six “Jewish Women to Watch,” will be in Ottawa on March 16 to speak in the Soloway Jewish Community Centre social hall at 7:30 pm.

As a director of StandWithUs Israel, Rojas-Tal brings a unique and lively perspective to the challenge of media bias in covering Israel.

StandWithUs is an international, non-profit organization. Education is the road to peace and StandWithUs is dedicated to informing the public about Israel and to combating the extremism and anti-Semitism that often distorts the issues. The organization believes knowledge of the facts will correct common prejudices about the Arab-Israeli conflict and promote discussions and policies that will help foster peace in the region. Through printed materials, speakers, programs, conferences, missions to

Israel, campaigns, social media and Internet resources, StandWithUs tells the story of Israel’s achievements and ongoing challenges on campuses and in communities around the world.

Based in Los Angeles, StandWithUs has 18 offices and chapters in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and Israel.

A resident of Jerusalem, Rojas-Tal’s presentations are both fascinating and chilling, fully engaging her audiences and bringing them insight into media bias that surrounds coverage of the conflict in the Diaspora. She has literally circled the world as a keynote speaker at numerous conferences and forums.

Rojas-Tal’s presentation is jointly sponsored by JET Ottawa and Sarah’s Tent. Admission is free, but seats should be reserved by contacting JET at 613-695-4800 or info@jetottawa.com.



Michelle Rojas-Tal, director of StandWithUs Israel, will speak March 16, 7:30 pm, at the SJCC.

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‘Does strong support for Israel have to mean reactionary views on everything else?’

The U.S. presidential candidate who seems to have an opinion about everything has decided to remain “neutral” when it comes to the Israel-Palestinian conflict.

“Let me be sort of a neutral guy,” Republican front-runner Donald Trump told an MSNBC town hall in Charleston, S.C., on February 17.

“You understand a lot of people have gone down in flames trying to make that (peace) deal. So I don’t want to say whose fault it is – I don’t think that helps.”

These latest pronouncements seem out of character for Trump, who has a record of defending Israel’s interests.

But, even if Trump starts championing Israel, how many voters can accept his misogyny and his rabid anti-Muslim and anti-immigration stances?

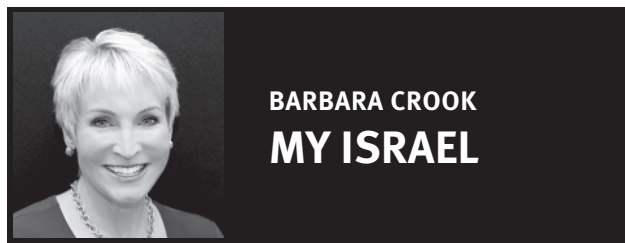
That’s the key question for pro-Israel American voters. How do they weigh a candidate’s stance on Israel with his or her views on other important issues, including civil liberties?

Republican contenders Senator Ted Cruz and Senator Marco Rubio are particularly vocal supporters of Israel, and Ohio Governor John Kasich is trying to establish his pro-Israel credentials.

But all three would defund Planned Parenthood and severely limit access to abortion.

And even members of his own party consider Cruz to be too right-wing on most issues. But he says all the right things about Israel.

“There is a qualitative difference between antics of Palestinian terrorists murdering innocent women and children in response to the relentless incitement from Hamas, from the PA (Palestinian Authority) ... and the IDF defending the safety and security of the nation of



Israel,” he told the Jerusalem Post.

But Cruz is a Neanderthal when it comes to anything remotely progressive.

He has even praised anti-choice leader Troy Newman, who advocates the killing of those who perform abortions. And he denies that climate change is a reality.

Rubio is supported by U.S. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, a fellow Cuban-American and a strong champion of Israel.

He has been a vocal critic of the Obama administration’s stance on Israel, particularly its attempts to blame both sides for the violence, “as if the Israeli victims were themselves somehow culpable.”

He’s considered somewhat more moderate than Cruz, but it’s hard to find many substantive differences. Like Cruz, he would defund Planned Parenthood, and would allow abortion only in cases of rape or incest. He supports same-sex unions, but not same-sex marriages.

Although he has virtually no foreign policy experience, Kasich was front and centre at Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s controversial address to Congress on March 3, 2015.

On the Democratic side, one would think that Senator Bernie Sanders would be a natural ally for Israel. He’s Jewish, and spent several months volunteering at Kibbutz Sha’ar HaAmakim in the 1960s.

But he is no fan of Netanyahu’s, and appears determined to downplay any connection to Israel.

When asked last summer by Vox’s Ezra Klein if he identifies as a Zionist, Sanders was ambivalent, responding, “A Zionist? What does that mean? Do I think Israel has the right to exist? Yeah, I do. Do I believe that the United States should be playing an evenhanded role in terms of its dealings with the Palestinian community in Israel? Absolutely I do.”

But Sanders – a self-described “democratic socialist” – has such progressive views on such issues as reproductive rights, gay marriage and fighting global climate change that many consider him unelectable if he gets the Democratic nomination.

This brings us to former U.S. secretary of state Hillary Clinton, the candidate with the most foreign policy experience. A masterful politician, she seems determined to flaunt her pro-Israel credentials while trying not to alienate Democrats who support the Obama administration’s tough stance on Israel.

I met Clinton twice during my years with Palestinian Media Watch (PMW), and can attest that she really “got it” when it came to the issues of incitement and hate education by the Palestinian Authority and Hamas.

Indeed, she held a news conference in the Senate to release PMW’s 2007 report on hate indoctrination in Palestinian Authority textbooks.

“We cannot build a peaceful, stable, safe future on such a hate-filled violent and radical foundation,” she said.

But, like President Barack Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry, she accepts the PA and President Mahmoud Abbas as legitimate partners for peace. There would definitely be a thaw in relations with the Netanyahu regime under her leadership, but probably no radical change in U.S. policy towards Israel.

Does strong support for Israel have to mean reactionary views on everything else? Or is there an acceptable balance?

I don’t envy U.S. voters.

The Itsy Bitsy Spider versus the Adon Olam: What to do on Saturdays?

A few weeks ago, a fight broke out between two well-known columnists here in Ottawa. The subject wasn’t politics or policy. It was about the city of Ottawa itself.

In one corner: the Ottawa Citizen’s Andrew Cohen. He slammed the architecture, the traffic and the city’s conservative approach to its own development; its lack of a presence that other G7 capitals have.

In the other corner, Macleans’ Paul Wells, who tore apart Cohen’s argument for its repetitious nature, but also for overlooking all the positive changes afoot in a town that started out nearly 150 years ago as nothing but a lumber mill.

When I left Ottawa to go to university, I left with a view of the city that was much like Cohen’s. It was one of the reasons I left – I wanted experiences and education this political mining town could not provide.

But, now, raising a family here, I’m working to see Ottawa not as I did as a teenager, but what it can be for me as an adult and a parent.

Ottawa, Wells rightly notes, is nothing like G7 capitals because Canada is nothing like other G7 countries.

It’s similar, in its way, to a common refrain about Ottawa’s Jewish community: that it is not like any other community.

An often cited example is the decision to keep the Soloway Jewish Community Centre (JCC) closed on Saturdays – the only JCC in Canada not open on Shabbat.



About a year ago, when we were looking for weekend programs for our then 18-month-old daughter, a number of our Jewish friends told us they were signing their kids up for a Saturday morning music class.

I hesitated. I grew up going to shul most Saturday mornings and it seemed strange to enrol my child in a completely secular activity, even if it was with other Jewish kids.

But it wasn’t like we were going to shul instead.

There are many efforts underway now by area congregations to attract young families like my own.

They are up against a point of view about synagogues that’s akin to Cohen’s perspective on Ottawa’s culture as being a relic of another time.

I hear it often – twice in recent weeks I’ve invited young families to be part of the outreach process for Agudath Israel/Beth Shalom and was told they weren’t interested because they aren’t religious and, to them, that’s what shul is for.

Ask those same families, though, if they’d do a Saturday morning program at the JCC – a music or art class, maybe dance or swimming – and they’d say yes. Not just because of the classes, but also because of the idea of spending Shabbat with other Jewish families is attractive.

I’m among them.

While some part of me wants to have my faith play a bigger role in my life, I struggle to find meaning in services, a task now made more daunting by having a squirming toddler by my side.

Sure, there’s babysitting, but she’s in care five days a week. And that still doesn’t solve my own issue with how I relate to the service.

While I’m comfortable with her taking classes on a Saturday morning that I’m not a part of, if we are going to synagogue, I want it to be something we experience and learn from together.

I’m not asking, nor expecting, the shul to trade the Adon Olam for the Itsy Bitsy Spider.

But I believe there is room for the shul to be a place for Jewish families to gather on Saturday mornings for a mix of the two.

To do so will require a shift in thinking and finding a way to see the shul as more than just a space to practise our religion; much like how Wells sees Ottawa as much more than a sleepy government town.

If we can find a way to do that, I think we can make the shuls, and our community, stronger.

Dark deeds and crimes, Jewish style

Jewish Noir: Contemporary Tales of Crime and Other Dark Deeds

Edited by Kenneth Wishnia
PM Press
418 pages

While many short story collections are a mixed bag of the good, bad and mediocre, that's not true of *Jewish Noir: Contemporary Tales of Crime and Other Dark Deeds*, edited by Kenneth Wishnia. The stories are consistently good and some are so good they transcend the noir genre.

In his introduction, Wishnia notes "the recent surge in 'noir' anthologies has nothing to do with nostalgia. We live in an age that parallels many of the conditions that gave rise to the first generation of noir writers: economic insecurity, incompetence and corruption at all levels of government, disillusionment with the American dream, while those responsible for it all make their millions and get away with murder." He notes the elements that form the basis of noir – including rootlessness, fatalism, betrayal, mortality, secrets and undefeated evil – affect society today. Yet, the stories in *Jewish Noir* are never glum: while they all have a dark feel, many contain humorous and moving moments, and the range of plots is impressive.

All the stories have Jewish themes, although Wishnia notes that it's difficult to define exactly why some are Jewish. One feature he sees as connecting them is rootlessness – being "a person who is at home nowhere," a theme he sees as defining Judaism since God told Abraham to leave his home in Ur. Wishnia believes essential Jewish stories – even biblical ones

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN THE REPORTER, VESTAL, N.Y. BOOK REVIEW

– qualify as noir since "in Judaism, you can follow the right path and still get screwed." He uses Moses as an example, noting that although Moses led the Israelites to the Promised Land, he was forbidden to enter Canaan – even this hero couldn't fulfil his greatest desire.

The 33 stories in *Jewish Noir* are all so well done that it's difficult to single out particular ones, but some affected me more than others. These included:

"Quack and Dwight" by Travis Richardson – The narrator, a psychologist, agrees to help an old friend who works as a prosecutor, even though it might place him in danger. However, preparing the eight-year-old witness to testify turns into a life-changing event for the narrator and his wife;

"Blood Diamonds" by Melissa Yi – Focusing on three different characters, this tale offers an unsettling view of medicine and medical research;

"The Flowers of Shanghai" by S. J. Rozan – This

powerful and brutal story features a heart-rending view of Shanghai during the Second World War;

"One of Them" by Alan Orloff – When the narrator tries to right a wrong, his attempt not only creates additional problems, but finally makes him able to understand his parents' stance that the Jewish community should never rely on outsiders for solutions;

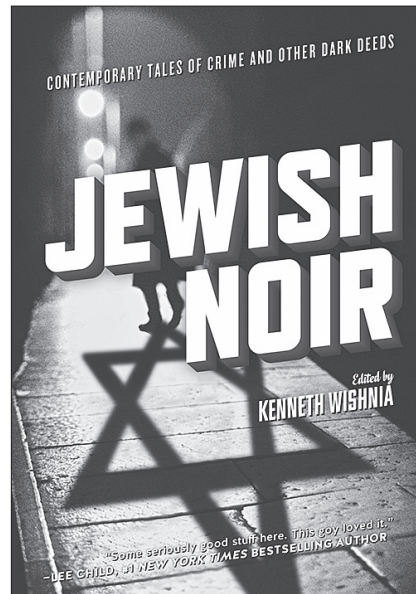
"Who Shall Live and Who Shall Die" by Charles Ardai – Even though the opening contains a mistake (the book of Jonah is read on Yom Kippur afternoon, but not from a Torah scroll), this satisfying work shows just how far people will go to save a life;

"The Drop" by Alan Gordon – This tale takes several unusual turns when Avi visits a club in search of a new drug supplier. Its ending was unexpectedly moving;

"Twisted Shikse" by Jedidiah Ayers – The narrator finds himself involved with a dangerous young woman, the result of which changes the course of his life. The conclusion of this tale was immensely satisfying;

"Sucker's Game" by Michelle Lang and "Jewish Easter" by David Liss – These are two stories of Jewish students being bullied in which the main characters use very different means to solve their problems. Both offer surprises and gratifying endings.

The authors of these tales include a rabbi, literary novelists and several award-winning mystery writers. Lovers of the noir genre will definitely want to read this collection. In fact, these stories may also serve as a satisfying surprise for those who rarely delve into the dark – and sometimes eerie – world of noir.



Florence Melton School of Adult Education: Graduate Course

Jewish Mysticism & Kabbalah:

Secret Knowledge in Judaism

with Rabbi Steven Garten

Despite the public chatter about Kabbalah, for many, this important aspect of the Jewish tradition remains a "closed book." This course represents the rich history of Jewish mysticism, along with understandings of many of the texts that have been so central to that tradition, speaking to the deepest mysteries of human existence and to many of life's eternal universal questions.

To register for the above Graduate course students should either consult Rabbi Garten, or, be a graduate of the two-year Florence Melton Core program or have taken Adult Jewish Education classes at the SJCC.

Registration and text purchase take place online through Florence Melton (not the Soloway JCC) at www.events.org/MeltonOttawa - use code *First15* when registering.

Monday, April 4 – June 20
10:00 am - 11:30 am



Contact: Roslyn Wollock
613-798-9818 x254
rwollock@jccottawa.com

Community Wide
PURIM CARNIVAL
SJCC & Ottawa Synagogues
Sunday, March 20 • 10:00 am to noon
Cost: \$5 per family
Soloway JCC, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private

Contact Gail Lieff (613) 798-9818 ext. 303, glieff@jccottawa.com

Jewishness in Caribbean literary imagination

I first met Professor Sarah Phillips Casteel in 2009 when the chair of the Carleton University English Department suggested she supervise my doctorate. After growing up in Ottawa and at Temple Israel, Casteel earned her PhD from Columbia University in New York. At Carleton, she teaches Caribbean literature, Diaspora literature and post-colonial literature.

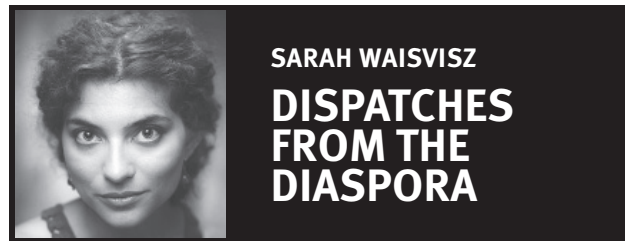
“One of my ideas for the dissertation is to write about the trauma of slavery and the trauma of the Holocaust, and about how memory of trauma is inscribed in the body,” I said, eagerly. “How do I do this within Caribbean literature?”

Casteel nodded and cautioned me about the tensions between Jewish studies scholarship and black and African studies scholarship. I became her student as well as her research assistant for a manuscript that, I am proud to say, has just been published by Columbia University Press.

The research for *Calypso Jews: Jewishness in the Caribbean Literary Imagination* led the two of us on wild journeys to archives, museums, cemeteries, synagogues, mikvahs, and libraries in Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, Curaçao, the Netherlands, France, and Jamaica. And, when we couldn't get there ourselves, my intrepid friend Ken Victor ventured into the Surinamese rainforest to collect interviews and photographs on our behalf.

I caught up with Casteel in advance of the book launch for *Calypso Jews* – Tuesday, March 8, 10 am, in Patterson Hall at Carleton University – and asked her to describe the book.

“*Calypso Jews* explores a pattern of imagery in which Caribbean writers persistently invoke two Jewish historical experiences: the 1492 expulsion from Spain and Portugal, and the Holocaust. The question is why? Why this pattern of referencing Jewish historical narra-



tives? What does it mean for Jewish history but also for Caribbean literature and history?” she said.

In the book, Casteel discusses the two major arrivals of Jews to the Caribbean, those who arrived after 1492 in the aftermath of the expulsions from the Iberian Peninsula, and those who fled Eastern Europe in the 1930s and 1940s. The phrase “Calypso Jews” refers to the Ashkenazi Jews who found refuge in Trinidad during the Holocaust.

Her research uncovered a deep and rich Jewish historical presence in the Caribbean. Casteel knew that Sephardic Jews had settled in the colonial Caribbean and that they had worked in the sugar industry, but the histories were more entangled than she had thought.

In what is now Suriname, for example, Sephardic Jews arriving via the Netherlands founded a “new Jerusalem” called the Jodensavanne, and they were a thriving presence in that colony’s plantation economy. Some Jewish families, including in Suriname, were slave owners and planters. But, elsewhere in the Caribbean, the number of Jewish planters was very small owing to the differing legal rights of Jews depending on whether they lived in a British, Dutch, French, Spanish, or Portuguese colony. But, whether as merchants, traders or planters, Jews were a real presence throughout the Caribbean.

The tricky question of Jewish involvement in slavery

– which was relatively minor – is just as complicated as the lived experience of Jewish identity in the Caribbean. Although the current Jewish population is small due to migration to Israel and North America, there are also many Afro-Caribbean families with roots as old as the Sephardic arrival that still light candles on Friday evenings without fully knowing why, and Jewish surnames such as Levy, Cohen and Maduro are not uncommon. In a region where colonial interference, demographic shifts resulting from slavery and indentured labour, and the co-mingling of racial groups was inevitable, people are more used to cultural and racial complexity than in North America or Europe.

Casteel notes that a number of the Caribbean writers in her study have been themselves accused of not being Afro-Caribbean enough. Mixed-race writers like Derek Walcott and Michelle Cliff share a sense of in-betweenness. Connecting to Jewish historical or ancestral moments, and to a Jewish-outsider identification, is a portal for Caribbean writers to explore their own mixed identities, their own cross-cultural backgrounds, the lived experience of connected communities, and to call into question social and racial categories.

“*Calypso Jews* reveals how entangled, overlapping and intersecting the histories are,” she said.

Casteel’s book celebrates the cultural diversity already present in the Jewish World.

“I hope that by revealing overlapping experiences of diaspora and persecution, the book highlights cross-cultural experiences shared between diaspora groups. I hope it can be an antidote to the political rhetoric in society and in academic circles that can sometimes be so divisive.”

Visit www.tinyurl.com/Calypso-Jews for more information about *Calypso Jews*.

Do what you can for as long as you can

When the going gets tough, the tough get going. Those who want to achieve their health and fitness goals don't let anything stand in their way.

With several weeks of pleasant training runs under my belt and continued mild temperatures in the forecast, I was looking forward to the annual Winterman race day taking place this year on Valentine's Day. After missing out on last year's race because I was stuck in bed with the flu, I swore I'd run the 2016 Winterman no matter what. Three days before the event, the temperature took a nosedive and the forecast was now calling for the low -20s. The evening before the race, I had second thoughts. It would be so much nicer to sleep in than to put myself at risk of frostbite.

Later that evening, I received an email from the race organizer. Due to the extreme cold warnings, the marathon and half marathon were cancelled. The 10-km, 5-km and 3-km races would go on, but the start time was changed from 8:30 am to 11 am. I was thrilled with the later start time. I'd get to sleep in after all. And it would be a few degrees warmer by late morning. I made up my mind. I was going to run.

On race day, I bundled myself up from head to toe. Not one bit of skin was exposed to the elements. There were far fewer runners than usual and barely any spectators. Only die-hard runners and fools decided to show up. It was -27 degrees Celsius, but according to my weather app, the wind chill made it feel like -41. That day, Ottawa was the coldest national capital on the planet. Was I crazy?

I reminded myself why I was there. Running empow-



ers me and lifts me up physically and mentally. Whenever I run, I feel strong, happy, liberated from fear and in control of my destiny. Everyone should have an activity that makes them feel this way.

After completing the first 5-km loop of the Winterman course, I made the decision to stop because I was finding it difficult to breathe through my face mask, which had frozen solid. I didn't feel disappointed at all. I was thrilled. I felt that I came and I conquered.

Two days later, it was much milder, but the forecast was calling for a major snowstorm the next day. I cancelled my clients the night before. I was also scheduled to teach my weekly chair fitness class in the morning, so I contacted the group rep and suggested we cancel. After all, most of the participants are in their 80s and 90s. I didn't think they'd venture out in such bad weather. Her email reply was resolute; “Don't cancel. We'll be there!”

Sure enough, the snow came and was relentless from morning until night. The road conditions were awful and visibility poor as I drove cautiously to the Soloway JCC. Upon arrival, I popped my head through the lounge doorway and was greeted by the smiling faces of the

many seniors who made it in despite the storm. Nothing was going to stop them. I remembered that one of them once told me, when I asked why she used the stairs instead of the elevator, “I'll take the stairs as long as I can!” That morning, we could see from the windows the snow falling as we exercised to cha-cha, mambo and samba music. We shook maracas, laughed, danced and experienced the warmth of meaningful friendships.

The snow storm was epic indeed. With over 50 cm, it easily broke the official record for most snow accumulation in a single day in Ottawa since 1947. After the class, I drove straight home and managed to manoeuvre my car over a snowbank and safely into my garage. I had no intention of going outside anymore that day, but, every time I looked out my living room window, I saw another car stuck in the snow. Each time, I put on my jacket, hat, boots and mitts and went out with my shovel. I helped six people get their cars out of the snow that afternoon. I could have drawn the curtains shut and ignored what was going on. That would have been easy. Instead, I took inspiration from the folks who came to class that morning: Life is about showing up and doing what you can for as long as you can.

**Breaking news
updated daily at
www.ottawajewishbulletin.com**



For full course descriptions please visit jccottawa.com under Adult Cultural and Educational Programs
Contact: Roslyn Wollock, Adult Education & Cultural Programs Manager | 613-798-9818 x254 | rwollock@jccottawa.com

Spring 2016 **Your Centre for Engaged Adult Learning** Aviv 5776

Sundays at the SJCC

Jewish Involvement with the Diamond Trade & Diamond Bionic Eyes

with Professor Steven Prawer

This talk traces Jewish interest with diamond from Biblical times to the modern day, and across continents from Europe to Africa, Asia, and now to Tel Aviv. Today, diamond technology is much more than precious gemstones. *Steven Prawer is Professor of Physics at the University of Melbourne working on the development of a bionic eye to help the blind to recognize faces and read large print.*

Sunday, March 27
10:30 am – 12:00 pm
Admission: \$5 at the door.

Sholem Aleichem – 100 Years

Sholem Aleichem's last will and testament implored that on his Yortzeyt we remember him with laughter. In honour of his 100th Yortzeyt, join Montreal's Janie Respitz as she explores the dramatic life of Sholem Aleichem through story and song. *Janie performs in concerts throughout the world and teaches courses relating to Yiddish language, folklore, literature and Eastern European Jewish history.*

Sunday, April 10
10:30 am - 12:00 pm
Admission: \$10 at the door

Literature and the Experience of War

with Nick Milne

Course participants will encounter a wide variety of literary engagements with war and its experience(s), from the epic accounts of the Ancient Greeks and Israelites to the struggles of those who still live with war and its memories today in Europe, Africa, Asia and beyond. For Week 1, participants should read the two pieces at the following link: <http://bit.ly/1SyKAyv> and are invited to consider the following: "How does one tell a true war story?"

April 19 – May 31
Tuesday 9:45 am – 11:45 am
\$115 M • \$130 NM

Shakespeare - Up Close & Personal

with actor, playwright, comedian Pierre Brault

Join Pierre Brault for a fun, interactive class where participants will explore the bard through five of his most famous plays; Hamlet, Romeo & Juliet, The Merchant of Venice, Richard III (and one other play to be determined by the class). Through text analysis and in class scene study, students will come to a fuller understanding and appreciation of the rich work of Shakespeare in this relaxing and entertaining course.

April 18 – June 6
Monday 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
\$145 M • \$160 NM
No class: May 23

History of Popular Theatre - From the Greeks to Grease

Join actor/playwright and comedian Pierre Brault for a fun and interactive journey through the history of theatre. Discover the enduring legacy of Greek comedy and tragedy; the challenges of restoration theatre, the rich world of Elizabethan theatre including Shakespeare and his contemporaries; theatre around the world and finally the modern theatre.

April 18 – June 6
Monday 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
\$145 M • \$160 NM
No class: May 23

Tracing Our Eco-Cultural Footprint on Earth

with Dr. Erin Kinsey

This series examines the historical interaction between humans and the Earth as a biosphere, including some of the long-term consequences of those interactions, such as deforestation, flooding, species extinctions, agricultural dilemmas, nuclear accidents, fisheries collapses, resource wars, as well as local and global climate change.

April 12 – May 24
Tuesday 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
\$115 M • \$130 NM
No class: April 19

Getting to Know Your Brain: Current Topics in Neuroscience

with Dr. Elaine Waddington Lamont

This series looks at some of the most fascinating areas of research in modern neuroscience. Discussion topics include anatomy, consciousness, circadian rhythms, sex, emotions, and new techniques used to understand the brain.

April 13 - May 25
Wednesday 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
\$115 M • \$130 NM
No Class: April 20

From Longhouse to Lumber to Legislation: An Anecdotal History of Ottawa

with author, columnist Phil Jenkins

This series of six lively lectures combines the anecdotal, biographical, administrative and infrastructural components to provide a chronological social history of Ottawa, from the arrival of the First Nations to the region, through the arrival of the Europeans to the present multi-cultural city.

April 14– May 26
Thursday 10:00 am – 11:30 am
\$115 M • \$130 NM
No Class: April 21st

An Introduction to the Musicals of Stephen Sondheim

with Susan Blyth-Schofield

This series begins with Sondheim's early works from the 1950's and 1960's (West Side Story, Gypsy, and A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum)- and moves through the form-changing musicals of the early 1970's (Company, Follies, and A Little Night Music), his quasi-opera Sweeney Todd, his masterpieces of the 1980's (Sunday in the Park with George and Into the Woods) and will finish with his later pieces.

April 14 – May 26
Thursday 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
\$115 M • \$130 NM
No class: April 21

Bach and Brahms – A Piano/ Cello Concert

with pianist Katherine Addleman and cellist Daniel Parker

Johann Sebastian Bach - Sonata in G major BWV 1027 for viola da gamba and harpsichord (cello and piano)

Johannes Brahms - Sonata for piano and violincello in E minor, Op. 58.

These two great masterpieces, the first by the incomparable genius Bach, and the second by one of our most revered Romantic composers, are linked by Brahms' reverence for Bach. Ms. Addleman and Mr. Parker will play both pieces and talk about the connection between the two.

Tuesday, May 3rd – Soloway JCC Social Hall A Admission: \$10 at the door

Haftarah Step-by-Step

with Barbara Okun

Learn to fully appreciate the joy of participating in this beautiful tradition by acquiring the skill to chant any Haftarah. The only prerequisites are an ability to accurately read Hebrew and a willingness to practice between classes. Once you have registered please purchase the text *The Art of Cantillation, Volume 2* (CD included) from Amazon. (approximate cost \$30)

April 4 – May 16
Monday 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
\$115 M • \$130 NM

S'iz Besser in Yiddish – It's Better in Yiddish -More for the Lovers of Mamaloshen

Join writer, director Shirley Steinberg and Rubin Friedman for a Yiddish Smorgasbord where you'll enjoy a mélange of stories, humorous Yiddishisms, song and improvisation. spring dates TBA

Judaic Papercutting for Beginners

with Hy Cooper

Learn the history of the beautiful time honored art of papercutting. Create your own expressive work, and be amazed at what creations are possible by simply employing knife, scissors and paper.(Supply kit of \$15 payable to instructor during the first class)

May 19 – June 2
Thursday 6:45 pm – 8:45 pm
\$55 M • \$65 NM

Paint with Katerina Mertikas

Learn to paint under the helpful guidance and watchful eye of Ottawa artist Katerina Mertikas. Her paintings can be seen flanking the walls of the Jewish Ottawa Info Centre at the Soloway JCC. Class size limited to 15 students.

Please bring the following supplies:

- One 12 x 16" canvas
- 1 each tube of Golden Acrylic or Liquitex –: white, black, cadmium yellow, cadmium red (med. & dark), hooker's green, emerald green, ultramarine blue. Found at De Serres or Michael's
- 1" flat brush, 1 round brush, 1 fan brush or an old toothbrush.

Monday, May 16
6:30 pm – 9:30 pm
\$55 M • \$70 NM

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To make a donation
and/or send a tribute card,
call the Foundation office
(613-798-4696 ext. 274)

e-mail: tributecards@ojcf.ca
website: www.OJCF.ca

OTTAWA JEWISH
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



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Mazel Tov to:

Steven and Shelli Kimmel on the birth of their granddaughter, Avie Danya Greene by Beverly and Irving Swedko.

APPOTIVE FAMILY
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Mazel Tov to:

Steven and Shelli Kimmel on the birth of their granddaughter, Avie Danya Greene by Sharon and David Appotive and family.

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In Memory of:

Norman Swedko by Fred and Lisa Cogan.

Mazel Tov to:

Linda Kerzner on all of her wonderful contributions to the community by Fred and Lisa Cogan.

Mark and Lynn Shabinsky on the birth of their grandson, Isaac by Fred and Lisa Cogan.

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Tina Ages by Sandi and Eddy Cook and family.

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Sol and Laya Shabinsky on the birth of their great-grandson, Isaac by Pauline Hochberg.

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Sharon Weinstein by Sharon and David Appotive.

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Norman Swedko by Fran and Mort Ross.

Belle Taft by Fran and Mort Ross.

Mazel Tov to:

Pat and Morris Neuman on the birth of their grandson, Jacob by Fran and Mort Ross.

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Birthday Wishes to:

Lovella Abrams by Tammy Torontow.

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ENDOWMENT FUND

In Memory of:

Merv Stone by Flora Silverman.

Mazel Tov to:

Anna Silverman on her engagement by Fenja and Irwin Brodo.

OTTAWA JEWISH COMMUNITY
SCHOOL ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Steven and Shelli Kimmel on the birth of their granddaughter, Avie Danya Greene by Michelle and Richard Sachs and family.

AJA 50+ ENDOWMENT FUND

AJA 50+ DAVID SMITH

OTTAWA JEWISH

COMMUNITY SCHOOL

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

AKIVA EVENING HIGH SCHOOL
ENDOWMENT FUND

ADINA BEN PORAT

MACHON SARAH

TORAH EDUCATION FUND

SHIRLEY AND SHIER BERMAN

FUND FOR

OTTAWA JEWISH ARCHIVES

DORIS BRONSTEIN

TALMUD TORAH

AFTERNOON SCHOOL FUND

BARRY FISHMAN

OTTAWA JEWISH BULLETIN

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

MARTIN GLATT

PARLIAMENT LODGE

B'NAI BRITH

PAST PRESIDENTS' FUND

MENDEL AND VALERIE GOOD

HOLOCAUST CONTINUING

EDUCATION FUND

GREENBERG FAMILIES

LIBRARY FUND

FUND FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

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HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL FUND

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES
AGENCY FUND

JEWISH MEN'S

SOFTBALL LEAGUE FUND

JEWISH STUDENTS ASSOCIATION -

HILLEL FUND

JEWISH YOUTH LIBRARY

OF OTTAWA

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DAVID "THE BEAR" KARDASH

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COMMUNITY SCHOOL FUND

IN MEMORY OF EVA WINTROB

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY FUND

OTTAWA LODGE B'NAI BRITH #885

PAST PRESIDENTS FUND

OTTAWA LODGE B'NAI BRITH #885

PRESIDENTS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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OTTAWA JEWISH
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Helen and Rick Zipes on the birth of their granddaughter, Lylah Maple by Fran and Mort Ross.

ELAYNE AND WESLEY SCHACTER ENDOWMENT FUND

In Memory of:

Max Levitt by Elayne and Wesley Schacter and family.

SOL AND ZELAINE SHINDER ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Sol and Zelaine Shinder on their son, Neil's engagement by Marilyn and Daniel Kimmel.

LINDA SLOTIN AND JONATHAN FISHER ENDOWMENT FUND

R'fuah Sh'leimah to:

Sabina Rotenberg by Linda Slotin and Jonathan Fisher.

MAX AND PEARL SMOLKIN FAMILY FUND

In Observance of the Yahrzeit of:

Max Smolkin, a dear father-in-law and grandfather by Sheila Smolkin and family.

DORIS AND RICHARD STERN FAMILY FUND

Condolences to:

Frank Berman and family on the loss of his dear mother by Doris and Richard Stern and family.

Mazel Tov to:

Audrey and Gary Pancer on the birth of their new grandson by Doris and Richard Stern.

CASEY AND BESS SWEDLOVE MEMORIAL FUND

Birthday Wishes to:

Carol-Sue Shapiro by Marjorie and Ben Achbar.

STEPHEN AND GAIL VICTOR ENDOWMENT FUND

In Memory of:

Laya Abramowitz by Stephen and Gail Victor.

Norman Swedko by Stephen and Gail Victor.

Mazel Tov to:

Steven and Shelli Kimmel on the birth of their granddaughter, Avie Danya Greene by Stephen and Gail Victor.

Lynn and Mark Shabinsky on becoming grandparents by Stephen and Gail Victor.

R'fuah Sh'leimah to:

Cynthia Nathanson by Stephen and Gail Victor.

SAM AND HELENE ZARET MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Steven and Shelli Kimmel on the birth of their granddaughter, Avie Danya Greene by Neil and Debi Zaret and family.

THE WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE PHILANTHROPY PROGRAM

Providing support for services and programs that directly benefit women and children.

ZIPES KARANOFSKY FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND

In Memory of:

Max Levitt by Helen and Rick Zipes.

THE SAUL AND EDNA GOLDFARB B'NAI MITZVAH PROGRAM

LIEFF FAMILY B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Steven and Shelli Kimmel on the birth of their granddaughter, Avie Danya Greene by Francie Greenspoon and Norman Lieff.

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

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For complete details and list of eligible programs,
please visit www.ojcf.ca
or contact Mike at 613-798-4696, ext 252
or by email at mbazuk@jewishottawa.com

WHAT'S GOING ON | March 7 to 20, 2016

FOR MORE CALENDAR LISTINGS, VISIT WWW.OTTAWAJEWISHBULLETIN.COM/EVENTS AND WWW.JEWISHOTTAWA.COM/COMMUNITY-CALENDAR

TUESDAY, MARCH 8

JBabies Playgroup at Agudath Israel: Join Agudath Israel Tuesday mornings in March for an informal playgroup in the Family Lounge. There will be snacks, juice, a complementary changing station, and toys.

Weekly until March 29.

Agudath Israel, 1400 Coldrey Ave., 10 to 11 am.

Info: Emily Anzarouth, youth@agudathisrael.net

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

Art and Soul...Live Creatively: Explore Judaism's insights into the arts and how they beautify and transform our lives, 7:30 pm.

Also Thursday, March 10, 9 am.

Info: Devora Caytak, 613-729-7712, dev18@sympatico.ca

SUNDAY, MARCH 13

Daylight Savings Time starts: When standard time is about to reach Sunday, March 13, 2 am, clocks are turned forward ONE hour to 3 am daylight time.

Books and Bagels Book Review and discussion:

Breakfast followed by review and discussion. Rabbi Robert Morais reviews "Shanghai Legacy" by Marion Cuba, 9:30 to 11:30 am.

Temple Israel, 1301 Prince of Wales Dr., 9:30 to 11:30 am.

Info: Shayla Mindell, 613-224-1802

Israel: Challenges and Opportunities in a Changing Middle East: The Tkun Olam Volunteers at Agudath Israel and Beth Shalom invite the community to meet

and hear Shlomit Sufa, deputy head of the Mission, Embassy of Israel. Includes a light breakfast.

Agudath Israel, 1400 Coldrey Ave., 9:30 to 11:30 am.

RSVP: 613-728-3501

Info: Yaffa Greenbaum, 613-266-6677,

Yaffa.greenbaum@gmail.com

TUESDAY, MARCH 15

Deepening Jewish Experience with Rabbi Idan Scher: Ethics: Organ Transplants in Judaism.

Join Rabbi Scher for this third of a four-part series to explore Jewish wisdom and teachings.

Machzikei Hadas, 2310 Virginia Dr., 7:45 to 8:45 pm.

Part 4, Tuesday, March 29

Info: Rabbi Idan Scher, rabbischer@cmhottawa.com

Info: rabbischer@cmhottawa.com

Info: rabbischer@cmhottawa.com

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

Book Launch - "A Heroic Life:" The Canadian launch of

"A Heroic Life," a new biography about Raoul Wallenberg

by the Swedish journalist and author Ingrid Carlberg.

Human Rights Research and Education Centre,

University of Ottawa, 57 Louis Pasteur, 4 to 6 pm.

Info: Mina Cohn, 613-695-9700,

minacohn@yahoo.cacmhottawa.com

SUNDAY, MARCH 20

Community Purim Party: Purim Party sponsored by

the SJCC and the synagogues, 10 am to 12 pm.

Info: Gail Lieff, 613-798-9818, ext 303,

glieff@jccottawa.com

COMING SOON

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

Celebrate Purim with Agudath Israel and Beth Shalom: All are welcome to join and children are

encouraged to come. Don't forget to wear a costume!

Agudath Israel, 1400 Coldrey Ave., 7:45 to 9 pm.

Info: Emily Anzarouth, youth@agudathisrael.net

Info: youth@agudathisrael.net

THURSDAY, MARCH 24

Purim Party @ Machzikei: Come celebrate Purim with

delicious food and incredible entertainment.

Machzikei Hadas, 2310 Virginia Dr., 5:30 to 10 pm.

Info: Michael Goldstein, 613-521-9700,

mgoldstein@cmhottawa.com

Vered Israel Purim Party: Israeli style Purim get-

together for adults (21+). Israeli music, costume

competition, wine, hamantaschen, light beverages.

Please come in costume, 7:30 to 11 pm.

Info: Ella Dagan, 613-798-9818, ext. 243,

edagan@jccottawa.com

CANDLE LIGHTING BEFORE

MARCH 11	5:44 PM	MARCH 25	7:02 PM
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MARCH 18	6:53 PM	APRIL 1	7:11 PM
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BULLETIN DEADLINES

TUESDAY, MARCH 15	FOR APRIL 4
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MONDAY, MARCH 28 *	FOR APRIL 18
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* Early deadline: Community-wide Issue

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:

Shirley Barrett (née Grafman)

Morley Goldfield

Sandra Goldstein, Montreal

(mother of Andrea Rosenbloom)

Ruth Pellatt

Sarah (Sunny) Senzilet, Montreal

(mother of Michael Senzilet)

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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