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Meet Rabbi Eytan Kenter, spiritual leader of Ottawa's newest congregation

Rabbi Eytan Kenter spoke with the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin on July 8, just prior to celebrating his first Shabbat as the first spiritual leader of **Kehillat Beth Israel**. **Michael Aarenau** reports.

When someone would ask the young Eytan Kenter, the son of a rabbi, what he wanted to be when he was older, he'd reply "six feet tall," or "not a rabbi" (like his father).

Well, he grew to up to be an inch shy of six feet and a rabbi. Rabbi Kenter has assumed the position of senior rabbi at Kehillat Beth Israel – the new Conservative congregation created by the amalgamation of Beth Shalom and Agudath Israel – after seven years as associate rabbi at Congregation B'nai Torah in Atlanta, Georgia.

While Rabbi Kenter was always passionate about Judaism, he was highly interested in politics and his career might have been spent in Washington working on Capitol Hill. However, he realized he was more passionate about Judaism and decided on rabbinical school.

"I like the interpersonal connections, the opportunity to really get to know people and work with them and grow with them, and I realized the only place I could truly do that was from the pulpit," Rabbi Kenter said.

His seven years working as an associate

rabbi in Atlanta gave Rabbi Kenter the opportunity to learn about the kind of rabbi he wanted to be, he said, which shaped his vision about the importance of community togetherness, Jewish engagement and social justice.

Despite growing up in New York, "the Jewish capital of North America," and spending seven years in the large and fast-growing Jewish community of Atlanta, Rabbi Kenter said that Ottawa's size was actually a significant factor in his decision to move here.

"I think the size is just right ... Sometimes in very large Jewish communities, it becomes overly onerous to get things done, and to differentiate one's self in the community," he said.

Rabbi Kenter moved to Ottawa with his wife, Staci, who was a medical social worker in Atlanta in a children's hospital for kids with blood disorders and leukemia lymphoma, and their two-year-old son, Boaz, who is already excited about playing hockey.

He said he formed an instant connection with the membership of what would become Kehillat Beth Israel, and with Ottawa's Jewish community, while being



Rabbi Eytan Kenter with wife Staci and son Boaz.

CHANA BLUMES PHOTOGRAPHY

vetted for the senior rabbi position.

"This community spoke to me because it had all of the things that we were looking for with our family. It has a strong Jewish community with a Jewish day school and good resources, and the culture of being nice and welcoming too," he said.

"I also like the idea of being able to build a new shul and, with Kehillat Beth Israel being a really new synagogue, I have the chance to build something brand new within an already existing infrastructure – and that really spoke to me."

Rabbi Kenter said he has a clear vision
 See Rabbi Kenter on page 2

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OJCS and Hulse hold Day of Cultural Understanding > p. 11

Jerry Gray of The Travellers coming to SJCC > p. 22

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Rabbi Kenter: Passionate about social justice issues

Continued from page 1

for Kehillat Beth Israel, but his first policy will be a year of no new policies to give himself and the congregation's membership time to "explore together and figure out who we are."

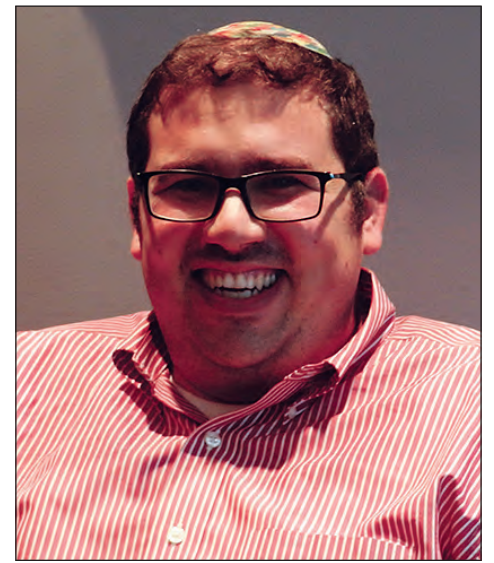
Over the course of the year, Rabbi Kenter plans to hold small parlour meetings with congregants to get a better grasp of the synagogue and to determine what's working well and what needs to be improved.

"Synagogues are in the relationship business," he said. "So it's not about how many programs we run, but how many of our members are engaged in meaningful ways. So one of the things that I'd really like to see at Kehillat Beth Israel is that sense of engagement – making sure all of our members are engaged in a way that's meaningful to them."

Rabbi Kenter is also very passionate about social justice initiatives and hopes to find issues his congregants are passionate about.

Since arriving in Ottawa earlier this month, Rabbi Kenter has already reached out to several other congregational rabbis and hopes that Kehillat Beth Israel will work together with other congregations on future projects.

"I'm a firm believer that we're always stronger when we work together than when we try to work apart. There's more that unites us than divides us, and, all too often, we allow those things that divide us to stand in the way of success," he said. "So the better the rabbis can do at talking to each other and working together, the



MICHAEL REGENSTREIF

Rabbi Eytan Kenter speaks with the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin a few hours before assuming the pulpit for his first Shabbat at Kehillat Beth Israel.

better it will permeate into the larger community as well."

See page 14: "Torah procession marks the beginning of Kehillat Beth Israel"

Elie Wiesel z"l passes away



PETER WAISER

Elie Wiesel, the Holocaust survivor, author and Nobel Peace Prize laureate who became a leading icon of Holocaust remembrance and a global symbol of conscience – seen here speaking at the Jewish Federation of Ottawa Annual Campaign kickoff on September 7, 2005 – died July 2 of natural causes at age 87. *My Israel* columnist Barbara Crook recalls an inspiring day spent with Wiesel, page 25.

Ottawa Jewish Bulletin appointment

The Ottawa Jewish Bulletin has announced the appointment of Eddie Peltzman to the position of business manager.

Born and raised in Montreal, Eddie has worked in advertising and marketing for more than 20 years. He was with Metroland Media for 11 years and was then instrumental in launching The Bay Observer, a regional newspaper covering Hamilton and Burlington.

Eddie is an avid golfer with many interests including history, old architecture, museums, hockey and football. As a newcomer to Ottawa, he is looking forward to discovering all that the city has to offer.

Eddie has assumed responsibility for print and online advertising sales, and for subscriptions.

"I'm excited about my move to Ottawa and in representing the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin. I'm looking forward to working with Bulletin clients and assisting them in meeting their advertis-



Eddie Peltzman

ing needs and in reaching their goals," he said.

Eddie can be reached at epeltzman@ottawajewishbulletin.com or 613-798-4696, ext. 256.

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Federation celebrates achievements and volunteers at AGM

The **Jewish Federation of Ottawa** used its annual general meeting, June 15 at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre, to update the community on Federation activities over the past year and to recognize several accomplished volunteers.

Michael Aarenau reports.

“Community collaboration is the key to our continued success,” said Jewish Federation of Ottawa Chair Linda Kerzner at Federation’s 82nd annual general meeting.

Among the major successes of the past year highlighted at the AGM were an increased Annual Campaign, unification of the two Orthodox day schools (Torah Academy and Rambam), expansion of the Shabbat Project, and the exponential growth of the PJ Library program.

Kerzner also noted that Jeff Miller, Annual Campaign chair for the past two years, has come to the end of his term and presented him with a gift on behalf of Federation. Michael Polowin succeeds Miller as Annual Campaign chair and will spearhead the 2017 campaign with Women’s Campaign Chair Sharon Appotive.

Federation President and CEO Andrea Freedman spoke with pride about Federation accomplishments over the past year and noted there are also a number of challenges on the community’s agenda.

She issued a call to action for all in the community to work together in meeting those challenges.

“Each of us has the capacity, the ability and, dare I say, the responsibility to add more richness and vibrancy to Jewish life ... I’m not saying that it will be easy, but I am saying it will be worth it.” Freedman said. “We have to act, we have to dream, we have to plan and, most importantly, we have to believe. If we work together as a team, we’ll make it happen.”

Other speakers included Ambassador Rafael Barak, who brought official greetings from the State of Israel and noted the special relationship Ottawa’s Jewish community shares with Israel, and Rabbi Rob Morais of Temple Israel, who delivered a D’var Torah.

The Federation presented three community service awards to accomplished volunteers. (The Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award is now presented every second year and will be awarded in 2017.)

Arielle Ellis received the new Student Leadership Award, which recognizes a student pursuing a post-secondary degree, who demonstrates leadership and outstanding commitment to the Ottawa Jewish community. Ellis received the award for her work as citywide president of Hillel Ottawa from 2013 to



Merle Haltrecht-Matte receives the Shem Tov Award from Steven Kimmel, past-chair of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, at the Federation AGM, June 15.

2015 as well as for her continued dedication to the organization through tikkun olam and Holocaust education projects.

Ellis, who was in Israel, accepted the award via pre-recorded video.

“It has been such a privilege living in Ottawa and working so closely with its Jewish community. [I know] that it will always hold a special place in my heart,” Ellis said.

Debbie Scharf received the Freiman Family Young Leadership Award, which recognizes a young community leader in Ottawa’s Jewish community. Scharf’s work on the board of Ten Yad, her tireless efforts in the unification of Torah Academy and Rambam, and her work as JET’s board chair since 2010, were cited as leading to the award.

In her acceptance speech, Scharf spoke about the importance of getting involved and spearheading projects that one is passionate about and emphasized the importance of Jewish education.

“The Ottawa Jewish community needs you and Jewish education needs you. We all have a role to play,” she said.

As recipient of the Freiman Family Young Leadership Award, Scharf also received the Lawrence Greenberg Young Leadership Development Award, which will allow her to attend the General Assembly of the Jewish Federations of North America to be held this year in Washington, D.C.

Merle Haltrecht-Matte received the Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award, which recognizes an outstanding volunteer’s lifetime of service dedicated to the betterment and enrichment of Jewish life in Ottawa. Haltrecht-Matte’s work with the Ottawa Kosher Food Bank, Temple Israel, including Temple’s Baby Quilt for Israel Project, IsraelConnect, and the Soloway Jewish Community Centre, were cited as examples of her volunteerism.

Haltrecht-Matte spoke about the joys of volunteer work and encouraged others to give their time to important causes.

“Everyone can do something,” she said. “Volunteers aren’t paid, not because they’re worthless, but because they’re priceless.”



Debbie Scharf receives the Freiman Family Young Leadership Award from A.J. Freiman at the Federation AGM, June 15.



Federation Chair Linda Kerzner presents a gift of appreciation to Jeff Miller, chair of the 2015 and 2016 Annual Campaigns, at the Federation AGM, June 15.

Ottawa Modern Jewish School updates curriculum and appoints new principal

BY MICHAEL AARENAU

After a year as interim principal of Ottawa Modern Jewish School (OMJS), Shelley Rivier says she is stepping down knowing the school has a renewed vision and a stable plan for the future.

This newfound vigour comes in the form of an updated curriculum and a new principal, Justin Shulman.

Shulman, a former assistant director of Camp B'nai Brith of Ottawa and a teacher with more than 12 years of classroom experience, sees his new role as OMJS principal as a way to give back to the

community.

"Becoming the principal of OMJS is an honour," said Shulman.

"What makes me most excited is making connections with [families] who may not be involved in the community yet, opening our doors, and welcoming [them] ... and having their kids experience an engaged curriculum."

Shelley Rivier, herself an OMJS graduate, feels Shulman is a perfect fit for the school, which currently has 44 students enrolled.

Those feelings were echoed by her sister, Brenna Rivier, president of the OMJS board.

"He really sees the importance of OMJS. He has a variety of skills and he just fits our school so well," said Brenna Rivier.

To update the OMJS curriculum, with the support of a Jewish Federation of



Justin Shulman (centre) has been appointed principal of Ottawa Modern Jewish School. He succeeds former principal Janet Kaiman (left) and interim principal Shelley Rivier.

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Ottawa grant, Shelley Rivier worked with Toronto-based curriculum designer Seymour Epstein, a specialist in creating curriculums for Jewish supplementary schools.

She said Epstein "helped reimagine what was best for our school. He understood that OMJS serves an important niche in the community and helped design the best curriculum to suit our needs."

As OMJS has combined classes – for example, Grades 2 and 3, Grades 4 and 5 – the new curriculum had to be designed

in a way that it taught new material for two straight years so that those who were in Grade 4 one year wouldn't be learning the same things in Grade 5.

Shelley Rivier hopes these enhancements will encourage increased enrolment at OMJS.

"I'd like to see us grow every year [as we] continue to meet the needs of our families," she said.

OMJS classes take place on Sunday mornings at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre. For more information, visit www.omjs.ca or call 613-798-9818, ext. 234.

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The next issue of the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin will be published August 22, 2016. Deadline: August 3.

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New curriculum and new leadership at Ottawa Talmud Torah

BY MICHAEL AARENAU

When the fall term begins at Ottawa Talmud Torah in September, the twice-weekly supplementary school will have completed a huge makeover thanks to new leadership, a new curriculum, a new location and a completely new vision.

The Ottawa Talmud Torah board has appointed Eliana Mandel-Carsen as the new school director and has formed an informal partnership with Congregation Machzikei Hadas. The school's Sunday afternoon classes will take place at the Alta Vista synagogue, while Tuesday afternoon classes will take place at the Ottawa Jewish Community School building.

Students will have the option of attending classes once or twice per week.

Machzikei Hadas Executive Director Rabbi Michael Goldstein sees the new partnership as "a way to breathe new life into the school" as well as facilitate greater community involvement.

Last year, Ottawa Talmud Torah had just 17 students enrolled, but Rabbi Goldstein says he hopes the school's changes will help attract many of the families whose children are not enrolled

in any form of Jewish education.

Rabbi Goldstein called attention to the "dynamic new leadership," at Ottawa Talmud Torah.

One of the new leaders is board member David Segal, who says he is extremely excited about the changes at Ottawa Talmud Torah.

"We want to be the best and we want to set a standard of excellence. This isn't just about providing the basics; we want to go above and beyond that," said Segal, the founder of DAVIDsTEA. "The vision itself is clear, and you have a group of committed, young, energetic people who want to make this happen."

Segal sees Ottawa Talmud Torah growing into a school with more than 100 students within five years.

Mandel-Carsen also predicted growing enrolment and said that 100 students within three years is "incredibly realistic."

Mandel-Carsen, who has several years of teaching experience in both Montreal and Ottawa, says the changes in the curriculum are what will really set Ottawa Talmud Torah apart.

The curriculum, she said, will be both "theme-based and cross-curricular," meaning that each month will revolve around a subject and that subject will

then be integrated into different aspects of the coursework for that month.

"We want to make sure that students have a voice and that we're encouraging critical thinking," said Mandel-Carsen.

"We really want to develop future leaders able to shape their environment while being confident in their Jewish identity."

Rabbi Idan Scher of Congregation Machzikei Hadas helped design the new curriculum with Mandel-Carsen and said the curriculum is something new and invigorating to Ottawa's supplementary school scene because it goes beyond the surface level of Jewish practices.

"As a rabbi, my mission is to share a Judaism that will speak to and inspire a new generation of Jews living in the globalized and diverse 21st century," he said.

"Our goal is to bring a new model of supplementary school to Ottawa based on a thoughtful and relevant curriculum delivered by select teachers who will bring the depth of Judaism to life for the child of today."

Mandel-Carsen stressed that Ottawa Talmud Torah is entirely non-denominational and that she wants the school to be as open and inclusive as possible to families.



Eliana Mandel-Carsen, the new director of Ottawa Talmud Torah, has teamed with Rabbi Idan Scher of Congregation Machzikei Hadas to design a new curriculum for the school.

"We're trying to create an integrated, dynamic approach to Jewish education," she said. "We want everyone to feel welcomed and excited and energized by their Jewish education."

For more information, visit www.ottas.ca or contact Ottawa Talmud Torah at 343-925-0111.

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**FEDERATION
REPORT**



**MICHAEL LANDAU, OTTAWA
JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

It has been a busy first year as chair of the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation, and I take pride in this year's successes.

Despite a turbulent financial market, we ended 2015 with a positive return of 3.7 per cent, net of fees. This is due in large part to the diligent work of the Foundation's Investment Committee, our investment adviser, BNY Mellon Wealth Management, and our fund managers.

As of this month, the Foundation's total capital is over \$54 million. We wouldn't have these impressive results without our family of donors and we are deeply grateful to all of you for your

Together we strengthen our community's future

continued generosity and philanthropy.

Several examples of our community's philanthropy are the grants awarded each year at our AGM.

The GJ Cooper Scholarship Award is the legacy of George Cooper, who set up a personal insurance policy and bequeathed approximately \$300,000 from his estate to the Foundation. From this, a memorial fund was created and, through it, the scholarship. The award is now granted each year to support a student who has displayed leadership qualities, academic excellence and an interest in the Jewish community. Shelby Levine, this year's recipient, exemplifies those qualities. On top of academic excellence, she is a community role model and leader, and I know she will continue to make us proud.

In addition, the Women's Collective Philanthropy Program presented a \$2,000 award. Their grant aims to fund grassroots programs that improve the lives of women and children in Ottawa's Jewish community and beyond. This year's recipient, Ausome Ottawa, is an

organization that helps families living with autism by providing an opportunity for children with autism to participate in an inclusive sports program that meets their needs. We wish them much success in this admirable and worthwhile endeavour.

I am excited to also report that we have two new endowment fund scholarships, which will begin awarding in 2016-2017.

Created by Steven Rubin to honour his late wife, Ilana, the Ilana and Steven Rubin Educational Endowment Fund, initially valued at \$1,800, will be awarded to a student to help him or her attend a Canadian or Israeli post-secondary institution. Applicants may contact Arieh Rosenblum at 613-798-4696, ext. 270 or arosenblum@jewishottawa.com. The deadline for applications is December 1.

The Norman Lesh Endowment Fund was created by the family of the late Norman Lesh to honour the memory of this innovative and dedicated community volunteer, leader, businessman and philanthropist. The Norman Lesh Philanthropy Award will support an

original and innovative philanthropic or communal endeavour. The award in its first year will be \$3,500. Details will be published in the fall, and the application deadline will be in spring 2017.

The Foundation is a thriving organization that is always trying to raise the bar even higher. One of the best ways you can help us do this is to take our Legacy Challenge. A legacy gift most often takes the form of a bequest in your will that designates a portion of your estate to create an endowment fund to support causes in the community that are closest to your heart. If you make a bequest of \$10,000 or more, we'll cover your legal costs of up to \$1,000.

Donations, like legacy gifts, allow us to support myriad important causes. Last year alone, we disbursed more than \$2 million to Ottawa's Jewish agencies.

We should all be proud of these results and of what we achieve together.

Again, I thank all of you for your generosity and I pledge to work my hardest in the year ahead to engage, educate and inspire our community of donors so together we can strengthen the security and financial viability of Ottawa's Jewish community.

For more information visit www.OJCF.ca or contact Arieh Rosenblum, director of Development at arosenblum@jewishottawa.com or 613-798-4696, ext. 270.

**FROM THE
PULPIT**



**RABBI CHAIM MENDELSON
CHABAD OF CENTREPOINTE**

I am writing this column from Brooklyn, N.Y., headquarters of the Chabad Lubavitch movement. I am here with tens of thousands of other members and admirers of the Chabad movement who are converging for a weekend to mark the Yahrzeit of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Schneerson.

Every year, I do my best to join this annual pilgrimage to the Rebbe's gravesite where I pay tribute to my mentor and spiritual leader. I reflect on his selfless leadership, his vision and his sensitivity.

I am always moved by the energy that pervades the community during this auspicious weekend, a spirit that is both solemn and uplifting. You can sense a collective desire to preserve and share the Rebbe's message of being a force of light,

Reflections on the Rebbe's leadership and vision

hope and optimism in what can sometimes be seen as a dark and fragile society. I am captured by his vibrant legacy that continues to be relevant.

Indeed, I am privileged to be one of 4,000 activists spread far and near, from Mumbai to Moscow, and St. Petersburg to Saskatoon, who have taken up full-time positions in the Rebbe's army of determined lamplighters. It is not an army of drafted conscripts. Rather it is a passionate team of Jewish leaders (shluchim) who have been swept up by the Rebbe's enthusiasm for transforming the world through goodness and kindness.

The Rebbe was the ultimate leader. He did not look for nor desire followers. He was looking to develop leaders who could execute his bold and sacred mission.

On Shabbat prior to this column's deadline, we read the Torah portion of Shelach, which details a tragic event. Moses selected 12 Jewish leaders to scout the Promised Land to determine the most effective way to conquer it.

Ten of the scouts came back with a negative report concluding that it was impossible for God to deliver on his promise of gifting the Land of Israel to the Jewish people. The inhabitants were just too powerful.

God was angry and punished the

Jewish nation.

The commentaries ask how it is possible that, after the scouts had personally experienced the wonders of the Exodus, they could still doubt God's strength.

The Rebbe explains that the scouts were not scared of the physical enemies, rather they were daunted by the spiritual effect of leaving the desert. They would no longer have their physical needs miraculously provided to them by God. They would no longer benefit from the nurturing and undisturbed care of Moses. They were looking to avoid the responsibilities of mundane living.

I believe this was the guiding force of the Rebbe's life. He did not want us to escape society because of a fear of materialism. He allowed us to recognize that we have the power to infuse our surroundings with acts of goodness and kindness, which will gradually uplift and transform the entire world.

So, when you see a public menorah lighting while vacationing in Aruba, or are invited into a Sukkah on wheels in Las Vegas, or when your child is hosted by Chabad on Campus for a Passover seder, this may be the Rebbe's personal whisper to you, to partner in his legacy by adding one more mitzvah.

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FROM THE EDITOR



MICHAEL REGENSTREIF

How far do we go in restricting freedom in order to protect freedom?

magazine and kosher supermarket in January 2015 and then the co-ordinated terrorist attacks last November near the Stade de France during a soccer game and at the Bataclan Theatre during a rock concert.

Other major terrorist attacks on Western countries recently have included the Brussels airport bombings this past March and the massacres in San Bernadino, California, last December and in Orlando, Florida, just last month.

Of course, no one who was here in Ottawa on October 22, 2014 will ever forget the lone wolf terrorist attack at the National War Memorial and Parliament Hill.

And I've lost track of how many breaking news stories about terrorist attacks in Israel I've posted at www.ottawajewishbulletin.com in the past couple of years.

Sometimes terrorism hits too close to our own lives.

My friend Jeff Hardy was an accomplished bass player who gave up his career as a professional musician, when

he started a family, to work as an executive chef for an investment firm in the World Trade Center. Jeff was cooking breakfast for the financial traders and died when the hijacked planes hit on 9/11.

The brother of another friend was seriously injured as he cheered for runners near the Boston Marathon finish line three years ago when terrorists detonated a powerful and deadly pressure cooker bomb.

Islamist terrorists – whether they are part of groups like ISIS, al-Qaida, Hamas, Hezbollah, and others, or lone wolf wannabes – would have the world live in a sort of strange, cruel and medieval reality.

And, for whatever currency Islamist extremists may have, it must be noted that they represent a very small fraction of Muslims. In fact, the number of Islamist terror attacks in Western democracies pales in comparison to the number of terrorist attacks in Arab and Muslim countries, where the vast majority of the victims are other Muslims.

Fighting and preventing terrorism is difficult and complex – especially for societies, like ours, which value democratic freedoms and human rights.

How far do we go in restricting freedom in order to protect freedom? How much power do we give to our security services? These are questions, which, sadly, will be on the agenda for many years to come.

Also, sadly, a world faced with terrorism increases the appeal of demagogues who seek to exploit fear and appeal to prejudice. We have seen evidence of that in Europe with the rising popularity of extreme right-wing parties and in the United States where a presidential candidate has threatened to ban Muslims from entering the country, among other measures.

Here in Canada, we seem to have rejected such demagoguery in the form of failed proposals like the charter of values proposed by the former government of Quebec and a snitch line proposed by one party in the 2015 federal election.

The solutions proposed by these demagogues will do nothing to solve the world's problems in dealing with terrorism. If anything, they will make the situation worse as they remove our democratic freedoms and human rights.

In fact, a world without democratic freedoms and human rights is just what the terrorists want.

As I write – just before this issue of the Bulletin goes to press – the world is reeling from yet another massive terrorist attack in France.

On the night of July 14, just after the fireworks celebrating Bastille Day, France's fête nationale, in the city of Nice on the French Riviera, a terrorist drove a truck into the assembled crowd and then jumped out and opened fire.

When the news first broke, the death toll was reported at 30. However, as the hours wore on, the number of dead kept rising. As of Bulletin press time the number is 84, but may rise even higher.

France has been particularly hard hit by the wave of Islamist terrorism that has plagued Western nations in recent years. There were the Charlie Hebdo and Hyper Cacher attacks on a satirical

IDEAS AND IMPRESSIONS



JASON MOSCOVITZ

Canada Day in Quebec is moving day

stores remain open. All the big chain stores are open. Although it is a statutory Quebec government holiday, every government liquor store is open and, for a week before the holiday, the outlets seemingly proudly post in huge bold type that they are open on July 1.

But what really nails it is the fact July 1 is also "moving day" in Quebec. July 1 is the date most leases begin in Quebec. For many years, May 1 was moving day in Quebec. In 1974, a federalist – not a separatist – government, made the change to July 1. So Canada Day has been moving day in Quebec for more than 40 years.

When they changed moving day to July 1, the government said it made more sense because children had finished their school year, thus avoiding disruption. It said the weather wasn't always good on May 1. It also said workers wouldn't have to lose a day's pay while moving since it was a holiday anyway. These three practical arguments inevitably – deliberately or not – diminished the meaning of Canada Day in Quebec.

So, in the rest of Canada, when all levels of government do what needs to be done

to make the conditions most advantageous for a beautiful celebration, in Montreal the streets fill with garbage.

Because people move on July 1, all the couches, chairs, dirty mattresses, clothes, books and personal things they no longer want are dumped on the sidewalk, all at once, on Canada's birthday. On street after street, in district after district, this eyesore junk sits during the Canada Day holiday period. It usually takes more than a week for it to be cleared away.

It is not even as if Quebecers treat Canada Day just like any other day. July 1 actually becomes the day to try to do anything else – important or not – rather than show any trace of official or unofficial celebration of the maple leaf.

But it is not like anyone sees anything wrong with this. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and his government find ways to work around it; as did his father; as did Brian Mulroney, Jean Chrétien and Stephen Harper. It has become the Canada we know and love.

Spending Canada Day in Montreal made me realize again how amazing Canada is. The founding fathers, English

and French, came together, and that meant finding ways to work around the differences.

Today, English Canada often forgets that Quebec didn't sign the patriated constitution in 1982. Another fading memory is how an attempt to get Quebec to sign in 1990 fell apart over the rest of Canada's refusal to recognize Quebec as a distinct society. Despite the setbacks, Canada remains together.

It may not be written in the constitution, but distinct Quebec is. Being the only province not to have signed the constitution is definitive proof of its distinct status within the Canada we have evolved into. The present sad state of the rest of the world measures our achievement.

The souls of Quebecers are soaked in the history of fighting to survive. For many French-speaking Quebecers, doing things like making Canada Day moving day, like not signing the constitution, are about never allowing Canada to surpass the prominence of Quebec in the equation. It is a reflex to think "Quebec first" and to not jeopardize that.

Being Canadian can be about fighting this dichotomy or it can be about making room for two different kinds of Canada Days. We made our choice a long time ago.

Canadian history is about the success of making it work.

We live in an amazing country and we celebrate it every year on Canada Day. Next year will be Canada's 150th anniversary, so we're looking forward to a truly special celebration. There will be frills and fireworks everywhere – with one notable exception because of the very framework upon which Canada is built.

Having spent Canada Day in Montreal this year, I was reminded of how Canada Day is nothing special in Quebec. Remarkably, it is a cultural thing in Quebec to refer to la fête du Canada or Canada Day not by name but, rather, just by "July 1st." Canada Day is not the chosen terminology most Quebecers use.

On Canada's birthday, many Quebec

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Elana Moscoe joins Federation as community engagement specialist

BY MICHAEL AARENAU

Elana Moscoe has joined the Jewish Federation of Ottawa staff as the new community engagement specialist. She will be staffing many community initiatives and projects including the Shabbat Project, March of the Living, the Shoah Committee and the Virtual Jewish Ottawa InfoCentre.

Moscoe, a native Ottawan who recently graduated from Queen's University with a degree in concurrent education, has been involved in numerous Jewish leadership roles. She was co-president of Hillel at Queen's University, where she also chaired Holocaust Education Week for several years, and worked with the American Jewish Committee in Brussels. Moscoe said she is excited to be able to use the skills she's acquired in those positions in her work with Federation.

"I've always been passionate about the Jewish community and in working in the non-profit sector – so this job really suits a lot of my interests," she said.

Moscoe said one of her challenges is the redesigning of programs so that they're more effective at serving the needs of the community.

"We need to learn from past feedback and [think] about what the community needs to be," she said. "We have a very strong community in Ottawa, but I think there needs to be more opportunities for people to become engaged in areas of their interest. So [that means] making involvement in the community more accessible."

One of the ways Moscoe plans to facilitate greater engagement in the Jewish community is through a matching program, which will put the right volunteers together with the organizations and agencies that need their help. Moscoe describes the initiative as a "concierge service" between people who want to get more involved and the organizations that need their support.

Moscoe reports to Bram Bregman, the Federation vice-president of community building. Bregman said he is extremely excited to have her on board.

"Elana brings to her role a rare combination of enthusiasm, intelligence and interpersonal skills. Through her warm personality, we know she'll engage volunteers well, and through her demonstrated commitment to Holocaust education, she'll serve March of the Living and the Shoah Committee well," Bregman said.

Moscoe is currently in the midst of preparing for Holocaust Education Month, which takes place in



MICHAEL AARENAU

"I've always been passionate about the Jewish community," says Elana Moscoe, community engagement specialist at the Jewish Federation of Ottawa.

November, and said she can't wait to unveil the plans to the community.

"We're currently looking at a very diverse range of presenters and just seeing how it all fits together," she said.

Elana Moscoe can be reached at 613-798-4696, ext. 355 or emoscoe@jewishottawa.com.

LETTERS WELCOME

Letters to the Editor are welcome if they are brief, signed, timely, and of interest to our readership. The *Bulletin* reserves the right to refuse, edit or condense letters.

The *Mailbag* column will be published as space permits.

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Thank you CIJA and thank you for supporting JNF

A special thank you to our friends at CIJA for creating a digital email campaign directed at Elizabeth May and the Green Party in support of JNF and Israel. So far, about 8,000 emails have been sent from people across Canada. Keep writing. Thank you.

KKL/JNF has been building Israel for all citizens since her inception in 1948 and for over 40 years prior. Our parks are open to all citizens of Israel with no admission fee. Furthermore, our work covers 100 per cent of Israel, from cities with very diverse populations to small Jewish and Arab villages.

KKL/JNF only plants trees on land it owns and on state land. All tree planting anywhere in Israel is always done in accordance with the Israel Land Authority (ILA), the governing body that manages the land owned by KKL/JNF and the State of Israel. A very well written article by former Ambassador Alan Baker on this subject appeared in the CJN in September 2015. www.cjnews.com/uncategorized/opinion-canada-park-wasnt-stolen-palestinians

KKL/JNF is a recognized NGO by the United Nations and regularly participates in environmental conferences and fairs under the auspices of the UN.

Funds raised by JNF Canada primarily go toward the employment of indigent workers who build charitable projects, including medical centres, playgrounds for special needs children, community parks, play areas for hospitalized children, community centres for at risk youth, bike trails, homes for abused women, and more. We look forward to focusing on building Israel for all of her citizens for many years to come.

Dr. Barwin retires from JNF Ottawa Board

After more than 20 years of service, Dr. Norman Barwin recently retired from the JNF Ottawa Board. He was a Negev Dinner honouree in 1993 and his dinner supported the Ma'ale Gilboa Reservoir in the Beit She'an Valley. Norman first joined the Board after he was the honouree. He served as president for three years and was dinner chair for a number of Negev Dinners.

"I have been gratified and impressed by the recognition and credibility of JNF in the Jewish and general community. Mazel Tov on all JNF Ottawa has achieved. I wish JNF Ottawa continued success," said Norman.

Norman, on behalf of JNF Ottawa, thank you for your many years of volunteering.

Mazel Tov to all inscribed in JNF Sefer Bar and Bat Mitzvah

Chloe Baker, by her grandparents, Barry and Ricki Baker, on becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

Mazel tov to Jared Scheinberg, Elana Blechman, David Silverstein, Lauren Shaffer, Amy Spilg, Tahel Hirsch, Matthew Novick, Sadie Sider-Echenberg and Danny Brodt.

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www.JNFottawa.ca

CIJA launches campaign encouraging the Green Party to reject anti-Israel resolutions

BY MICHAEL AARENAU

The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA) is holding a campaign encouraging the community to contact the Green Party of Canada, and its leader, Elizabeth May, to ask that resolutions endorsing the boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) movement against Israel and calling on Revenue Canada to rescind the charitable status of the Jewish National Fund of Canada (JNF) be rejected at the party's upcoming national convention, August 5 to 7, in Ottawa. www.cija.ca/green/

As CIJA points out, the two resolutions are the only foreign policy resolutions on the convention's agenda.

Richard Clark, CIJA's Ottawa-based assistant director of digital communications, told the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin there are "radical, anti-Israel elements that are trying to hijack the Green Party" and expressed both shock and concern at recent developments.

"BDS has proven itself over and over again to not be about peace but rather about delegitimizing the State of Israel," said Clark. "Israel is a world leader in environmental and green technology ... so why the Green Party would want to boycott Israel and all of these Israeli companies that [do so much for] the environment raises a bunch of questions."

Clark added that, since the JNF's inception, it has planted more than 240 million trees and has established more than 1,000 parks.

Green Party Leader Elizabeth May told the Bulletin she plans to oppose both motions at the convention – despite the fact that her name is listed as a sponsor of the JNF resolution.

May has attended several JNF Negev Dinners – in Ottawa and elsewhere – and has been quoted commending the organization for its "great work" in "making the desert bloom."

Asked why she sponsored the JNF resolution, May conceded that she sometimes is "too open to people" who approach her for resolution sponsorship. She stressed she does not support the JNF resolution and hopes it fails.

May said she did have some concerns about JNF's Canada Park having been built on "occupied territory," but met with JNF Canada CEO Josh Cooper and said she's relieved to have more information on the matter and to hear about the work JNF is doing to bring people



Green Party leader Elizabeth May says she will not support the anti-Israel resolutions at the party's Ottawa convention.

together and make Israel greener.

May also condemned the BDS resolution and said she hopes it will also fail at the convention. However, she expressed deep concern regarding the ability to conduct meaningful dialogue on issues relating to Israel, especially about the expansion of West Bank settlements.

May said members of the Green Party are becoming increasingly frustrated about the lack of progress in the peace process and about Israel's settlement policy.

About 8,000 people responded to the CIJA campaign in its first few weeks and contacted May and the Green Party to express their concern about the two resolutions. The campaign continues until the party convention next month.



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NCSY Centre rises from the ashes of devastating fire

BY MICHAEL AARENAU

Late in the night on May 26, 2015, the NCSY Centre at Centrepointhe Plaza – home to NCSY’s Torah High – was looted and destroyed in a mischievously set fire. The event left NCSY Ottawa Executive Director Gaby Scarowsky feeling uncertain about what the future would bring.

The storefront space is a vital part of NCSY programming, which, according to Scarowsky, engages at least 200 Ottawa Jewish teens per year through its out-reach programs, including Torah High.

While the remaining two weeks of Torah High classes last year were given in a vacant space in the same strip mall, Scarowsky said that, at the time, he had no idea what was going to happen next.

However, the community quickly stepped forward to help. The Jewish Federation of Ottawa established the NCSY Centre Fire Relief Fund, which raised more than \$6,000 and helped NCSY rebuild the facility in a way that better meets Torah High’s needs.

“After the fire, we discovered that we could change the layout of the facility. So we went from a one classroom facility to two classrooms. Not only did it double our capacity, but we added an entire kitchen,” Scarowsky said.

Torah High would go on to incorporate the kitchen into its programming throughout the year, most notably using it to prepare a Shabbat dinner with the students, something that was not possible with the previous facility.

On top of the kitchen and classroom expansion, Scarowsky updated the technology, adding a PlayStation 4 and a larger TV, as well as configuring the

tables and furniture to better fit the room.

“It was a blessing in disguise,” he said. “It’s a good lesson in life that sometimes when you’re going through difficult times, you don’t see how you’re going to come out of it, but it all works out in the end ... I can’t tell you the number of people who reached out to us to offer help ... the communal support was overwhelming. That momentary emotional feeling of devastation and sadness was immediately replaced by a feeling of loving kindness and community, and it was just an incredible experience.”

Despite the much improved facility, Scarowsky said that of course he would have preferred the fire had not happened.

In order to prevent future break-ins, Scarowsky has upped security at the NCSY Centre, including the installation of an alarm that’s hardwired directly to the city’s first responders.

This coming year, Scarowsky is looking forward to celebrating the 10th anniversary of Torah High, which had 111 students enrolled during the last school year, an all-time high.

Torah High actually had its 10th anniversary, but, due to the fire, it had to be put off in order to rebuild the facility and focus on the immediate future.

“We’re going to celebrate what our alumni have accomplished and show the community the impact of our programming as well as celebrate all of the people who have been involved and who have taken Torah High to where it is today,” he said. “This will hopefully show the community how their partnership with us has gone and showcase the fruits of our labour ... which is building a Jewish tomorrow.”



Michael Kent leads a Torah High class in the rebuilt NCSY Centre.



Glebe Shul blood drive: Members of the Glebe Shul gather for refreshments at the Canadian Blood Services Clinic following their successful blood drive, June 8. (Clockwise, from left) Taylor Winfield, Daniel Haboucha, Jonathan Shriqui, Ruthy Silva, Mitch Fox, Smin Shaps and Megan Murphy.



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Grade 6 students from the Ottawa Jewish Community School and Charles H. Hulse Public School gather in the Hulse yard, June 16, during their Day of Cultural Understanding.

Friendships blossom for OJCS and Hulse students during Day of Cultural Understanding

BY MICHAEL AARENAU

The Ottawa Jewish Community School (OJCS) Grade 6 students couldn't contain their excitement, June 16, when the doors of the Charles H. Hulse Public School gym opened.

Inside the gym, Grade 6 students from Hulse – most of whom are Muslim – were waiting to greet their guests for the two schools' 12th annual Day of Cultural Understanding.

The students had been exchanging letters all year and now finally had the opportunity to meet their pen pals in person and engage in a full day of activities together.

"We're planting the seeds of tolerance," said Patrick Mascoe, the Hulse teacher who created the program and continues to spearhead it each year.

Mascoe said he was inspired to create the program so students would learn about the importance of judging people based on their character and not by race or religion.

"It all starts with education," he said. "It's really easy to hate someone you don't know." But not when you meet someone and get to know them.

The day began with a scavenger hunt and was followed by team-building exercises using word games and physical activity.

OJCS teacher Linda Signer was beaming with pride as she watched her students happily interact with the Hulse kids.

"The program is absolutely wonderful. My kids were super excited to meet their pen pals, and I've had a lot of kids come up to me and tell me what they've learned

today. It's just wonderful," she said.

Sophia Mirzayee, a former Hulse student who participated in the program when she was in Grade 6 and is now studying human rights at Carleton University, returns each year to volunteer during the Day of Cultural understanding. She said she still keeps in touch with her OJCS pen pal and said the program has a lasting and positive impact.

The second half of the day was dedicated to Holocaust education. The students watched the film "The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas," a drama in which the Holocaust is seen through the eyes of two young boys: one a Jewish inmate of a Nazi death camp, the other the son of the camp commandant. Mascoe then led a discussion about the film and what the students learned from it.

"Hatred is a disease that can spread really easily if you let it," he said. "In your life, you're going to see people being bullied, so my questions are 'What are you going to do about it? Will you take a stand against hatred?'"

"Hatred isn't something in the past, it's all around you. And you can either choose to be a part of it or you can choose to judge someone based on who they actually are," Mirzayee added.

At the end of the day, the kids enjoyed popsicles, exchanged contact information and hugged their pen pals.

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Camp B'nai Brith receives prize for excellence in Israel education

BY MICHAEL AARENAU

Camp B'nai Brith of Ottawa (CBB) has been awarded the Goodman Prize for Excellence in Israel Education at Camp – valued at \$1,800 – by the iCenter for Israel Education, the Foundation for Jewish Camp and the Lillian and Larry Goodman Foundation.

CBB participates in the Goodman Camping Initiative for Modern Israel History, which helps camps enhance and expand their commitment to Israeli history through dynamic Israel education in all aspects of camp in order to build deep and meaningful connections with Israel for the campers.

CBB Assistant Director Cindy Benedek said she is incredibly proud of how the camp has been incorporating Israel into its programming, and the kids are equally as excited about it.

“It’s really been a wonderful time for us. Our campers are really engaged and enjoying the experiences we’re providing for them,” she said.

According to Benedek, one of the major changes to CBB has been in its Friday night programming, where campers do different Israel-based activities each week after Shabbat dinner. One of these activities is “Israeli Shark Tank,” where campers represent a city in Israel and make pitches to “celebrities” about why they should come to their city. Benedek says this is a great way for campers to learn about Israel while having fun.

Another aspect of CBB’s Israel programming is the hiring of shlichim – Israelis who work in Diaspora communities and then return home – as camp counsellors and as a part of what Benedek calls “the Israel Experience

Team.” Benedek said shlichim help infuse modern day Israel into CBB by bringing their everyday experiences to camp.

CBB Board Chair Michael Polowin is happy to see CBB embracing Israel education.

“One of the important pillars that we wanted to build on was our Jewish content, our connection to the community, and to Israel,” Polowin said. “Jewish summer camps are becoming very important as an alternative source of connection to our community ... so we needed to improve our programming and we worked very hard to do it.”

Susan Rifkin, executive director of the Goodman Foundation, said CBB earned

the award by going above and beyond the initiative’s program requirements by demonstrating a deep commitment to developing leadership, understanding and advocacy.

“The Israel landscape at CBB of Ottawa has changed drastically over the past two years, with the creation of the Israel Experience Team and the use of impromptu, teachable moments to convey an understanding and love of all aspects of Israel,” Rifkin said.

While it hasn’t yet been decided how CBB will use the \$1,800 award, both Benedek and Polowin said it will be invested in something that will improve the camp experience.

Ausome Ottawa and Camp B'nai Brith to team up for day of inclusion

BY MICHAEL AARENAU

On August 8, Ausome Ottawa, an organization that provides recreational programming for children with autism, will be sending 15 children and 15 helpers to Camp B'nai Brith of Ottawa (CBB) for a day of fun and inclusion.

The Ausome kids will spend the day utilizing CBB’s facility and engaging in recreational activities with the other campers like swimming, doing arts and crafts, and joining them in the dining hall for lunch.

Ausome Ottawa’s work was recently recognized when it received this year’s Women’s Collective Philanthropy Program Grant, valued at \$2,000, at the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation annual general meeting on June 8.

CBB Assistant Director Cindy Benedek said that, when Ausome Ottawa pro-

posed the idea to her, she didn’t hesitate to say yes and is excited about the children coming to camp.

Liisa Vexler, executive director and co-founder of Ausome Ottawa, said the day will be a great opportunity for the children – who don’t usually get to participate in the camp experience – as well as for the regular CBB campers who will “have the opportunity to interact with children who aren’t the same as them.”

Benedek spoke highly about the benefits that both groups will be experiencing as well.

“We’re a camp that believes ... every child deserves to experience camp. So, for us, it’s very important to extend that branch to a group of kids that wouldn’t normally be able to participate in an overnight camp experience,” Benedek said. “And, for us, [another very import-

ant aspect] is having our children participate with other children who have disabilities by allowing them the opportunity to share in the experience with them and learn and grow from that experience.”

Both Benedek and Vexler hope the day will become an annual event at CBB.

“If it’s successful, and everybody felt like it was a good thing, we’re happy to continue with it for many years to come,” said Benedek.

The day at CBB is one of many programs Ausome Ottawa runs throughout the year. The organization serves approximately 120 families, and some events – like basketball – are held in the Soloway Jewish Community Centre gym.

For more information about Ausome Ottawa, visit www.ausomeottawa.com or contact Liisa Vexler at lisavexler@ausomeottawa.com.

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Rabbi Tzvi Hersh Weinreb addresses Hakhel Shabbaton

BY JACK (YANKL) BOTWINIK
FOR JEWISH YOUTH LIBRARY

This year, 5776 on the Jewish calendar, is a *Hakhel* year – a year of assembly.

Hakhel refers to the Biblical commandment to assemble all Jewish men, women and children at the Holy Temple once every seven years to hear the Torah read by the Jewish king. Although this mitzvah is not in effect today because the Temple is not standing, Jews throughout the world hold gatherings during a Hakhel year to learn Torah, draw inspiration and promote unity.

From June 3 to 5, the Jewish Youth Library of Ottawa (JYL) teamed with Congregation Machzikei Hadas for a Hakhel Shabbaton featuring Rabbi Tzvi Hersh Weinreb, executive vice-president emeritus of the Orthodox Union.

Speaking from the heart, and drawing from his extensive experience as one of the foremost Orthodox Jewish leaders in North America, Rabbi Weinreb shared many insights, often peppered with humorous anecdotes, including one about a telephone exchange with the Lubavitcher Rebbe.

The event marked the first time the Chabad-affiliated JYL and the modern Orthodox Congregation Machzikei Hadas had partnered in organizing and hosting a



(From left) Rabbi Idan Scher, Rabbi Tzvi Hersh Weinreb, Joseph Caytak, Devora Caytak and Leah Bulka gather at the concluding brunch of the Hakhel Shabbaton, June 5.

community retreat.

“It was east meets west,” said Rabbi Reuven Bulka, rabbi emeritus of Machzikei Hadas, commenting on how the event brought together so many people from different parts of the city. “All had a thoroughly enjoyable and uplifting Shabbat.”

Rabbi Bulka said that he’s admired Rabbi Weinreb since they were students together at the same yeshiva.

While most of the Shabbaton was held at Machzikei Hadas in Alta Vista, it

concluded with a Sunday brunch and lecture on the topic of forgiveness at the Westboro home of JYL Directors Joseph and Devora Caytak.

The topics Rabbi Weinreb discussed over the weekend were diverse.

On the subject of interfaith dialogue, Rabbi Weinreb said it was not productive to engage in theological debate, but stressed the importance of working with leaders of other faiths on common human concerns and goals to foster respect between peoples and address

such issues as mental health and poverty.

In a different lecture, he urged everyone to have goals in life, develop a plan to achieve them and, once achieved, to celebrate and then set new goals. People who retire without goals, he said, quickly fall into depression.

Rabbi Weinreb also decried the lack of unity among Jewish people, the erosion of hope and the pervasiveness of cynicism, which he defined as responding to others’ achievements with a “So what?” attitude.

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Torah procession marks the beginning of Kehillat Beth Israel

BY MICHAEL AARENAU

The scorching heat and puzzled looks from pedestrians didn't affect the joy and strong feelings of unity experienced by congregants of Agudath Israel and Beth Shalom during their Torah procession, June 26.

The procession marked the impending amalgamation of the two Conservative synagogues as Kehillat Beth Israel, which became official a few days later on July 1.

Beth Shalom congregants sang and danced with the Torahs as they emerged from their temporary home at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre and walked down Carling Avenue to meet up with the delegation carrying the Torahs from Agudath Israel. The two processions met with great excitement and marched together back to Kehillat Beth Israel in the former Agudath Israel synagogue building.

They entered the sanctuary and placed the Torahs from both congregations in the ark.

Many in attendance were beaming with joy as they watched leaders from both congregations shake hands and sign the official documents that would see the amalgamation come into effect.

"It's a very momentous occasion, not only for the city of Ottawa but for the Jewish people in general to see how two congregations that have lived side by side for so long broke down barriers and became one *kehillah*,



Members and clergy of Agudath Israel and Beth Shalom arrive at their synagogue grounds with their Torah scrolls as the two congregations come together to form Kehillat Beth Israel, June 26

one community," said Cantor Daniel Benlolo.

"It's been an amazing experience! People from both sides have been participating and there's a *ruach*, a special spirit that is now in this synagogue ... that we hope is only going to build from today on."

"This really is an exciting process, we've really been phenomenally successful in bringing together two distinct cultures and two congregations that have a tremendous history in the city, and that's exciting," said Kehillat Beth Israel Co-President Stuart McCarthy.

McCarthy pointed to the new spiritual leader, Rabbi Eytan Kenter, and to Ritual, Education and Outreach Director Rabbi Deborah Zuker, as evidence of Kehillat Beth Israel's changing dynamics.

"We've asked, 'What's needed for the future of Conservative Judaism in Ottawa?' And that's the focus we're putting out now in terms of outreach to the community and outreach to members ... and we're quite unified in how we're going forward," he said. "So the future looks very good."



Torah processions from Agudath Israel (left) and Beth Shalom meet en route to Kehillat Beth Israel, June 26. The two processions joined together and returned as one to the synagogue.



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KlezKanada returns to the Laurentians, August 22-28

BY MICHAEL AARENAU

Every year, KlezKanada's weeklong summer retreat in the Laurentian Mountains brings together lovers of klezmer music and all manners of Jewish culture to take part in a celebration of Jewish arts.

KlezKanada expects about 400 people to attend this year's event, August 22-28, at Camp B'nai Brith of Montreal, near Ste. Agathe.

KlezKanada was founded in 1996 to preserve Yiddish music and Jewish culture through a wide-range of programming and activities, with the summer retreat being one of its most popular events.

The retreat is multi-faceted, providing many with a Jewish cultural vacation in the Laurentians while experiencing a week of diverse programming. As well, about 100 young artists between the ages of 16 and 35 from around the world, many of them on scholarship, attend to explore Jewish art and culture through mentorship.

KlezKanada typically features various workshops on Yiddish poetry, music, writing, theatre and film, as well as live performances from faculty members and the KlezKabaret, an opportunity for participants to perform.

KlezKanada Artistic Director Frank London, a member of the Grammy-winning band, The Klezmatics, says this year's retreat will be exceptional, featuring exciting evening and afternoon concerts by well-known greats in the Yiddish music circuit as well as performances by the Japanese klezmer and chindo band Jinta-la-Mvta and breakout Montreal Yiddish comedy duo, YidLife Crisis.

The retreat will also feature Yiddish theatre in the form Joanna Caplan's play, "Total Verrückt (Totally Crazy)," which tells the true story of Jewish cabaret performers held in the Dutch transit camp of Westerbork, paying homage to the necessity of art as a means of survival and an act of resistance.

Among the themes to be explored this year in several workshops and perform-

ances are the influence of Sholem Aleichem on Jewish culture, and the Turkish and Ottoman Empire's influence on klezmer music.

KlezKanada has typically attracted a group of attendees from the Ottawa area, among them A.C. Dolgin who has attended KlezKanada five times.

"It's absolutely amazing," she said. "The lake is gorgeous and there are so many different things you can do. It's fine if you don't know Yiddish, and it's fine if you don't play an instrument. But, if you just want to be exposed to an exciting culture, meet phenomenal people and eat great food, this is the place to be."

Her son is Josh Dolgin (a.k.a. Socalled),

whose fusion of klezmer and hip-hop music has taken the world of Jewish music by storm. Josh was introduced to klezmer music years ago as a KlezKanada scholarship recipient and is now a member of the faculty.

"He went, and it just grabbed him. The people and the atmosphere and the type of music just struck him, and it was absolutely real," said A.C. Dolgin.

According to London, KlezKanada has reinvigorated Jewish culture as many of the past scholarship recipients have gone on to spread the joys of klezmer music around the world.

Visit www.klezkanada.org for more information about KlezKanada.



KlezKanada faculty member Josh Dolgin (a.k.a. Socalled) performing at Montreal's Folk Festival on the Canal, June 19.

MICHAEL REGENSTREIF

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BY RABBI HOWARD FINKELSTEIN
OTTAWA JEWISH COMMUNITY SCHOOL

For years, Jewish community day schools have emphasized the need to integrate Judaic and secular studies. This has produced mixed results.

While the emphasis was placed on demonstrating the relevance of Judaism to life in the secular world, it perhaps is time to reverse that approach and demonstrate how the study of secular studies can enhance one's knowledge of Judaism.

This latter approach manifests itself in the realm of experiential Jewish education. While traditional Jewish educational models concentrate on the mastery of text, experiential Jewish education provides an alternative path to greater interest in Judaism and, ideally, lasting commitment to our faith.

This past year, the Ottawa Jewish Community School (OJCS) introduced what is known as J-STEM, the Jewish educational component combined together with the study of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Grade 8 students designed and built a functional model mikvah, learning about the intricacies of this area of Jewish law including *Taharat Hamishpacha*, while

utilizing their knowledge of science, technology, math and engineering. Different committees of students, ranging from the Halachic to the aesthetic, collaborated together on this model under the guidance of Rabbi David Rotenberg.

Our mikvah project took on even greater significance when a student, Rom Smolensky, created a model mikvah online using Minecraft, and providing an 'aerial' view of it. (Another student, Isaac Irigoyen, designed a 3-D model of the Second Temple also using Minecraft.)

This coming year, we will expand the J-STEM program to concentrate on the area of technology and Shabbat law to explore the interrelationship between the use of electricity and the Grama switch which has been used to devise Shabbat-friendly mechanisms and appliances in the areas of security, military and, health.

As our students are involved in robotics, we are looking to incorporate the study of robotics and Shabbat law with an eye to devising an apparatus reflecting on the symbiosis between Jewish law and the areas of STEM.

For more information about the Judaic program at OJCS, contact me at h.finkelstein@theojcs.ca or 613-722-0020.

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Canadian Hadassah-WIZO Tea



Sisters Jacquelin Holzman and Evelyn Greenberg were honoured by the Amit, Ina McCarthy, and Mollie Betcherman Chapters of Canadian Hadassah-WIZO (CHW) Ottawa Centre at the Annual Spring Tea, June 19, at the home of Dorothy Nadolny. (From left) Jacquelin Holzman, Amit President Hedy Gutman, CHW National Executive Director Alina Ianson and Evelyn Greenberg.

ROBIN CHERNICK

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(Continued on page 21)

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(Continued from page 20)

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Joel Morgan by Lesley and Jack Cramer, Allan and Marsha Maslove and Marcia and Stephen Aronson

Therapeutic Program

In Memory of:

Barbara Rubens by Jonathan Still

IN MEMORY OF:

Fern Letourneau by Anna Bilsky

Mort Baslaw by Anna Bilsky

Gordon Dankner by Golda and Ned Steinman

Joey Osterer by Sylvia Cohen, Helen Schramm, Karen Osterer, Dov and Jane Goldberg, Golda and Ned Steinman, Linda Slotin and Jonathan Fisher, Isla and Chaim Shustik, Sam and Roberta Goldmaker, Risa, Brent and Shira Taylor, Ivan and Donna Betcherman and the Labour and Delivery Friends and Co-Workers

Nick Steinmetz by Shirley and Gavin Kempton, Carol Pearl and Family, Clara Halasz, Michelle and Howard Burke, Ethel Bloom, Mary Wolman and children and Charles and Irene Starosta

Helen Gilboa by Golda and Ned Steinman and Len and Barbara Farber

Heidi Polowin by Sara Shabsove

John Franken by Cheryl Leyton, Gert Leyton and Manuel Glimcher, Ron and Judy Levine, Evelyn Monson, Sylvia Monson, the residents, staff and Boards of the Lodge and LTC Foundation, Stephen and Debra Schneiderman, Nettie Herscher, Rita Chazin and Family, Betty and Daniel Schwartz, Roslyn, Ruth and Sandra Dorenfeld, Faigie Freeman, Pinchas and Barbara Pleet, Faye and Dave Strohl and Ria Koster

Barbara Rubens by Leslie and Sandie Wood

Israel Rabinowitz by Stephen and Debra Schneiderman, the staff and Boards of the Lodge and LTC Foundation and Issie and Leah Scarowsky

Mort Baslaw by the residents, staff and

Boards of the Lodge and LTC Foundation, Jodi and Doug Nathanson, Irwin and Fenja Brodo, Stephen and Debra Schneiderman, Harriet and Mark Podolak, Evelyn Monson and Sylvia Monson

IN HONOUR OF:

Sylvia Monson Happy 100th Birthday by Raoul and Sandi Korngold, Risa, Brent and Shira Taylor, Maureen Monson Katz, Cheryl Leyton and Manuel Glimcher and Gert Leyton

Dr. Dan and Rhoda Levine Mazel Tov on your daughter, Shelby, receiving the G.J. Cooper Scholarship Award by the staff and Boards of the Lodge and LTC Foundation and Stephen Schneiderman

Chick Taylor Best wishes on your special Birthday by Sara Shabsove

Dr. Robert Smolkin Best wishes on your 80th Birthday by Bill and Jane James

Fran and Mort Ross Mazel Tov on the birth of your newest grandchild by Bill and Jane James and Toby and Tedd Nathanson

Murray and Marsha Kaiserman Mazel Tov on the birth of your granddaughter by Golda and Ned Steinman

Harold and Rosalie Schwartz Mazel Tov on the marriage of Leah by Golda and Ned Steinman

Alan Brass and Marian Silver Mazel Tov on Shira's passing the Bar by Golda and Ned Steinman

Joan Bercovitch and Ian Sadinsky Mazel Tov on Adam's graduation from Law School by Golda and Ned Steinman

Marvin and Naomi Krym Mazel Tov on the engagement of Rafi to Sarah by Golda and Ned Steinman

Lily Feig Mazel Tov on Noam's engagement to Leora by Maria Munevar

Linda Kerzner In appreciation for your inspiring speech at our Volunteer Recognition Event by the residents, staff and Board of the Lodge

R'FUAH SHLEMA:

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Jerry Gray, leader of legendary folk group The Travellers, to perform at SJCC

BY MICHAEL REGENSTREIF
EDITOR

I went to overnight camp for the first time in 1964. It was there, at Camp Hatikvah in British Columbia's Okanagan Valley, that I developed a fondness for the Israeli and North American folksongs that we'd sing en masse every day.

One of the most popular songs we sang at camp was "This Land is Your Land," written in 1940 by the great American folksinger Woody Guthrie – a song that over many decades has been considered by many to be an alternative national anthem in the United States.

The chorus to Guthrie's song is "This land is your land, this land is my land/ From California to the New York Island/ From the Redwood Forest to the Gulf Stream waters/ This land was made for you and me."

But we sang, "This land is your land, this land is my land/ From Bonavista to Vancouver Island/ From the Arctic Circle to the Great Lake waters/ This land was made for you and me," a version of the chorus sung by millions of Canadian campers and school kids over the years.

The Canadian variation of "This Land is Your Land" came courtesy of The Travellers, a Toronto-based folk group modelled on The Weavers, who rewrote the chorus and recorded and performed it on TV in 1956.

The Travellers – who got their start in 1952 at Camp Naivelt, the United Jewish Peoples' Order's summer camp near Brampton – recorded many LPs, were often featured on TV and radio shows, and were a popular attraction at concerts and festivals across Canada, including major events like Expo '67 in Montreal.



Jerry Gray of The Travellers brings his banjo and a collection of Canadian and Yiddish folksongs to the SJCC on August 22.

Long before the arrival of Canadian content regulations for radio and TV, the group was popularizing songs like "Something to Sing About" and "The Black Fly Song," which celebrated Canada and Canadians.

Banjo player Jerry Gray – now over 80 and retired from his other career as a dentist – was a founding member and lead singer of The Travellers. He still leads a version of The Travellers and

appears as a solo performer at concerts and community events, and he will be bringing his one-man show to the Soloway Jewish Community Centre (SJCC) on August 22.

The Travellers came along at a time when there was a large Jewish presence on the North American folk music scene.

"When I started in folk music, it seemed like the whole world was Jewish," Gray told me during a recent phone

conversation from his Toronto home. "Other than Pete Seeger, it seemed like everyone involved in folk music was Jewish."

Gray pointed to Toronto's Jewish Folk Choir in the 1940s as a catalyst for his interest in folk music.

"My mother was a member of that choir," he said, "and I absorbed all the Yiddish songs and songs like "I Dreamed I saw Joe Hill" and other songs performed by Paul Robeson who performed several concerts at Toronto's Massey Hall as a guest of the choir."

In 1953, Seeger introduced The Travellers to "This Land is Your Land," which, due to the McCarthy-era blacklist in the U.S., was not in wide circulation at the time.

Seeger, said Gray, suggested they rewrite the song with Canadian words. They did just that, and, within a few years, it spread across the country becoming popular here at a time when it was barely being heard in the U.S.

At the SJCC concert, Gray will be singing a variety of the Canadian folk-songs popularized by The Travellers as well as Yiddish folksongs he picked up as a boy from the Jewish Folk Choir.

"It'll be Canadian songs and it'll be Yiddish songs, and a little bit of the history of me – which is really the story of Canadian folk music on stage," he said.

There will most certainly be lots of singing along.

Jerry Gray of The Travellers performs Monday, August 22, 7 pm, at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre.

Tickets are \$10 and will be available at the door. Contact Roslyn Wollock at rwollock@jccottawa.com or 613-798-9818, ext. 254, for more information.

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Citing Jewish values, Hillel Lodge will not provide medically assisted dying

BY MICHAEL AARENAU

When the Supreme Court of Canada ruled in February 2015 that the ban on medical assistance in dying was unconstitutional, the federal government was tasked with enacting legislation on how and under what circumstances Canadians would be able to access medically assisted death. Bill C-14, the government's response to the Supreme Court ruling received royal assent on June 17.

In advance of the bill's passage, several Canadian hospitals and long-term care facilities established positions on medically assisted death. Among those long-term care facilities is the Bessie and Moe Greenberg Family Hillel Lodge, Ottawa's Jewish home for the aged.

Hillel Lodge's position is that it is a Jewish institution, which runs in accordance with Jewish principles and values, and, as such, cannot sanction medical assistance in dying at the facility. The Lodge further underscores its commitment to preserving life and providing all measures of palliative care for its residents.

Hillel Lodge Executive Director Stephen Schneiderman said much thought was put into crafting the position, which is

modelled on other faith-based institutions, including Jewish facilities in other jurisdictions, and Catholic long-term care facilities.

"We felt we needed to draft the position early in order to express our reservations and our objections with regard to compelling organizations [to engage in a practice] that may or may not fit with their religious beliefs," said Schneiderman. "We need our residents to know this is not an option we're prepared to offer here."

According to Rabbi Reuven Bulka, who has long been involved in health care

issues from a Jewish perspective, the Hillel Lodge position is "right on the mark" on what Judaism believes in the matter of medical assistance in dying.

"In Judaism, we view life as a gift from God. We're not supposed to do anything that's destructive to the life that God gave us," he said.

"This doesn't mean we mandate that people have to suffer. So a person can, if there's excruciating suffering, do whatever they need to alleviate the pain. But alleviating pain is different than removing one's life."

Rabbi Bulka said the government needs to ensure that quality palliative care is available across the country. He believes that, with greater accessibility to palliative care, the demand for medically assisted death would be lessened greatly.

Rabbi Bulka stressed that Jewish law is very sensitive to issues of pain and suffering and said that the artificial extension of life is not required, and we must do everything we can to provide comfort to those who are in pain.

"The alleviation of pain is a mandate we all have, and so is doing everything we can to save lives, but we also have to be realistic and, when there are situations where life can't be saved, we behave accordingly, which is not actively taking the life, but not artificially prolonging it," he said.

Jewish women's choir forms for summer

BY LAURA LUNN
OTTAWA JEWISH WOMEN'S
HAKHEL SUMMER CHOIR

Singing is a wonderful release and an opportunity to express your thoughts and feelings through music. Group singing has been scientifically proven to lower stress, relieve anxiety and elevate endorphins. Singing in a choir can promote healthy aging. So, the joy of singing in a ladies' choir may be just the lift you need.

To mark Hakhel, the Jewish year of assembly that occurs once every seven years, a group of women have formed the Ottawa Jewish Women's Hakhel Summer Choir. We assemble to sing on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 to 9 pm at 471 Tillbury Avenue. Our director is Gale Davidson, a graduate of the Julliard School of Music in New York, and we invite women to join us each week through the end of September.

From the Jewish perspective, singing elevates your spirituality. For example,

Hannah, the mother of the biblical prophet Samuel, sang when she had her son. And, when King Saul was depressed, the young David would sing and play for him, and his spirit would be restored.

As Hakhel only comes around once every seven years, let's come together and sing together.

To RSVP, or for more information about the Ottawa Jewish Women's Hakhel Summer Choir, contact Laura Lunn at llunn@magnum.ca or 613-715-9004.

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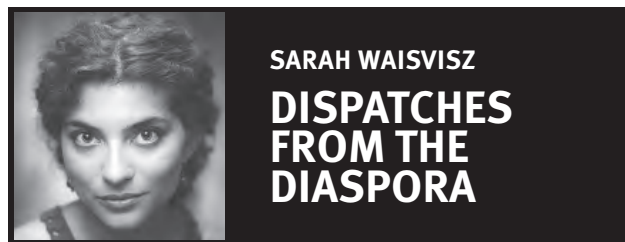
Of fasting and football in Tammuz

In 2014, the eve of the Fast of the 17th of Tammuz was a cool summer night in Amsterdam. As I cycled home, I saw through pub windows that Germany had broken Argentina's football heart. FIFA's 2014 World Cup was on the news there – not the air strikes, rockets, mounting escalation, possible ground invasion, and rising numbers of civilian deaths in Israel and Gaza that July.

That evening, I had attended a staged reading of a new script by British playwright Julia Pascal. "Honeypot" is about a Swedish woman with Shoah family-history who joins Mossad, but then falls for her Lebanese-Palestinian target. Staged by members of an anglophone theatre company, it was performed in the Café Mehzrab, a hub for international artists. The Mehzrab is run by a young Persian-Dutch storyteller whose parents serve Barbari bread, *Ash-e reshteh* (noodle, bean and spinach soup), and fresh mint tea made in a samovar.

I watched the play only half-present, dreading the news I would learn when I left our cozy enclave by the water and tuned into the BBC World News. It seemed like déjà vu. I remembered the summer war between Lebanon and Israel in 2006: weeks of not sleeping while fearing for my friends and their families while normalcy and yet another World Cup dominated life in Montreal. This time, I endeavoured to send out prayers for peace rather than anxiety. But I felt so helpless in Amsterdam with my World Cup madness, mint tea by the sea, and Middle East politics served up in a two-act play. I knew I couldn't do anything. Would this violence lead to the destruction of our metaphoric Temple? I eventually fell asleep by chanting "Salaam. Shalom. Salaam. Shalom."

The Fast of the 17th of Tammuz was on July 15 that summer and I fasted for the first time. I was also writing



This period of three weeks of mourning is a time of contradictions.

On the eve of the Fast of the 17th of Tammuz in 2014, I experienced

both the banal madness of the World Cup and the fierce madness of the world.

But this seeming contradiction

only increased my sense of gratitude

and my awareness of the beauty around me.

an academic article about human rights abuses in Haiti, and I spent the day in a haze of sadness and hunger, alternating between writing about one set of horrors and watching a new madness unfold on the BBC.

Few non-observant Jews mark the Fast of the 17th of Tammuz, a minor fast day when we remember five tragic events, including Moses breaking the tablets in anger after the Israelites built the Golden Calf, and how the Romans breached the walls of Jerusalem in 70 CE and destroyed the Second Temple. This is the first day of the three weeks of mourning leading up to Tisha B'Av,

the 9th of Av, when we read "The Book of Lamentations" and consider the existential and physical exile we continue to experience. Traditional Jews observe the customs associated with periods of mourning during these three weeks and refrain from celebrating weddings, listening to or playing music, and cutting their hair.

During the height of summer in the Northern Hemisphere, this period of mourning seems incongruent with the lush pleasures of the natural world. But, like so much in Jewish practice, there is something beautiful about the seeming contradictions between levity and sobriety and sadness and joy that we hold up together at this time. On both the 17th of Tammuz and Tisha B'Av, we recite what is known as the "Long Avinu Malkeinu," the extended version of the touchstone prayer about God's boundless and constant love for us. Also, if the fast days fall on Shabbat, they are postponed until Sunday, so that the joy and peace of Shabbat is not compromised. Moreover, this period is one in which we are encouraged not only to increase our study of Torah, but also to increase our offerings of tzedakah.

This period of three weeks of mourning is a time of contradictions. On the eve of the Fast of the 17th of Tammuz in 2014, I experienced both the banal madness of the World Cup and the fierce madness of the world. But this seeming contradiction only increased my sense of gratitude and my awareness of the beauty around me. Like the salt we sprinkle on challah, and the glass we break at weddings, our tradition encourages us to hold up sweetness and bitterness at once. Without sorrow, we cannot relish the goodness of life.

The Amsterdam sunset marking the end of the Fast of the 17th of Tammuz in 2014 was long and luscious. I sat on the roof to watch the northern night come and, for each star that emerged, I chanted "Salaam. Shalom. Salaam. Shalom."

Intrepid newbies enter the dragon

I'd been looking for a new challenge, so I was excited when Andrea Malek, co-president of Na'amat Ottawa, invited me to join her new dragon boat racing team. Andrea became interested in dragon boating after seeing how much fun her husband had last year when he participated in the Tim Hortons Ottawa Dragon Boat Festival. The Na'amat Newbies women's team comprised a dozen members of Na'amat Ottawa, including co-president Danielle Schneiderman and Na'amat Canada National President Sarah Beutel, as well as members' friends. Most of the team members had no experience with dragon boating.

The Ottawa Dragon Boat Festival is the largest festival of its kind in North America, with approximately 200 teams and 75,000 spectators. Dragon boat teams consist of 20 paddlers who sit in rows of two in a 20-metre long boat. In addition, a drummer sits in the bow and calls out the paddling commands while banging a drum. A steer person guides the boat from the stern. Each team competes in two heats against seven other teams. The fastest teams proceed to the finals.

At our first team meeting in May, guest speaker Lisa Rosenkrantz, an experienced dragon boater from the top fundraising team, explained that the key to successful dragon boating is synchronization. This is accomplished through proper paddling technique, obeying the drummer's commands and paddling in unison with the person



seated directly in front of you.

When Lisa asked us to outline our individual goals for dragon boating, responses included winning, not finishing last, raising money for the event's charities, and having fun. We all agreed we didn't want to fall out of the boat!

Our first time out on the Rideau River at Mooney's Bay was an adventure. We hired an experienced steer person to instruct us. We learned the commands, such as "ready ready" and "paddles up," and we practised paddling. At our second session, brave teammate Ilana Novick volunteered to be our drummer, which entailed precariously perching backwards on a tiny, elevated seat. Eventually, we simulated a 500-metre race in three minutes and 28 seconds, which is considered slow. By the third practice, we'd improved our synchronized paddling. Meanwhile, our matching team shirts had arrived. If we weren't going to win, at least we'd look good. At our final

practice session, we had to do a dry land practice indoors due to lightning and a tornado warning.

This year's festival took place from June 23 to 26. We were thrilled to march in the Parade of Champions led by a pipe and drum band. The opening ceremonies featured local dignitaries and traditional dancing Chinese dragons. Teams demonstrated their enthusiasm with boisterous cheers. We laughed as we chanted, "Give me an Oy. Give me a Vey. What do Na'amat Newbies Say? Oy Vey!" Having raised \$3,300 for local children's charities – the second highest amount raised by a rookie team – we qualified to participate in one of the Charity Challenge Cup bonus races that evening. This was a much-needed opportunity to get extra practice and to experience what it's like to race against other teams.

The next day, we participated in two races. Our muscles ached as we pushed ourselves to paddle hard and fast. We spent the four hours between races relaxing in our large tent that provided relief from the blazing sun. We kibitzed and noshed on the food we brought. Had there been an award for best buffet, we would have won.

Overall, we came in 187th place out of 190 teams, but, as our team captain Andrea Malek declared, "We can only go uphill from here!" We were proud of our accomplishments. We learned a new sport, exceeded our fundraising expectations, developed friendships and significantly improved with a final race time of two minutes and 53 seconds. We had a blast and we're already planning for next year.

An afternoon ‘when the great Elie Wiesel relived the innocence and happiness of the young Eliezer’

As the world recalled the lifetime achievements of Elie Wiesel, I looked back on one very special day with the educator, writer, activist and Holocaust survivor.

It was a beautiful day in September 2005. Prof. Wiesel – that was how I addressed him – was to be the guest speaker at the Jewish Federation of Ottawa Annual Campaign kickoff that evening, and I had the enviable job of being his chauffeur for the day.

As Jack Silverstein and I waited for him to clear customs, I was nervous. What did one say to a personal hero who was the most famous chronicler of the Nazi genocide as well as a tireless champion for human rights?

Would he be pleasant? Or arrogant, remote or rude? Fame and intellect do not guarantee kindness, or even good manners.

But my nerves vanished within seconds of meeting Prof. Wiesel, who was gracious and engaging.

He was slight, with a weathered face and a shock of grey hair that had resisted any attempt to tame it.

And then there were the eyes. Deep brown and penetrating, they paired ineffable sadness with genuine warmth.

I had first read his book, “Night,” 30 years earlier – an experience that changed my life in more ways than one.

Although I was not yet Jewish in 1975, I knew a fair amount about the Shoah and the atrocities committed by the Nazis. But “Night” was such a personal, painful and excruciatingly detailed story of a father-son journey through the horrors of Auschwitz and Buchenwald that it eclipsed anything I had previously learned.

And the book was to be my key to understanding a close family member’s history. I had known that my Hungarian-born Jewish aunt, Eva Lessard (née Kramer), had been in a concentration camp with her mother,



Renée.

But she had never talked to me about the details – and it was clear in our family dynamic that I was not to ask – until I mentioned that I had just finished reading “Night.”

To my astonishment, she started to talk about what she and her mother had gone through as prisoners in Auschwitz-Birkenau.

I remember only fragments of the actual details. But it was a story of mother and daughter looking out for each other, hiding the other’s illness or weakness before the regular selections, giving each other the will to survive the unspeakable.

It was so much like the story of young Eliezer Wiesel and his father, Shlomo.

But, while Eva’s story had a happy ending – she and her mother found new lives in Montreal, and her mother lived another 50 years after liberation – Eliezer’s father became weak, was beaten and deprived of food by other inmates and was killed by a guard less than three months before Buchenwald was liberated.

That lovely afternoon in 2005, however, invoked only memories of happier times. Prof. Wiesel and I went for tea at the home of renowned cantor and Holocaust survivor Moshe Kraus and his wife, Rivka.

Cantor Kraus had been young Eliezer’s choirmaster in the Transylvanian town of Sighet before the Nazi invasion, and it had been many years since their paths had crossed.

As we sipped tea on a balcony overlooking the Rideau River, the two great men reminisced about simpler times, when their lives revolved around music, religious studies and the mystical tales of Chassidic Judaism.

They sang snippets of the old songs, and the years melted away as they reveled in each other’s company and anecdotes. It was a gift to bear witness to this touching reunion.

That evening, Prof. Wiesel addressed an audience of 1,200 people. I have never heard an audience so quiet or so thoroughly engaged.

I remember little of the speech’s specific content – I hope that a video or transcript exists – but I remember the ovations and the lineup of people eager to share a moment with him.

I remember the quiet signal he gave me when he was ready to slip away. And I recall that I barely slept that night.

When I heard of Prof. Wiesel’s death earlier this month, I thought of everything he had suffered and everything he had accomplished. I thought of the bravery of my beloved aunt, Eva, who died in December 2014.

But my lasting memory will be of that sunny September afternoon, when the sadness in his eyes gave way to delight at seeing an old friend, and when the great Elie Wiesel relived the innocence and happiness of the young Eliezer.

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**See page 31
for Publication
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'The nature of memory and what it means to be a compassionate human being'

A History of Forgetting

By Caroline Adderson

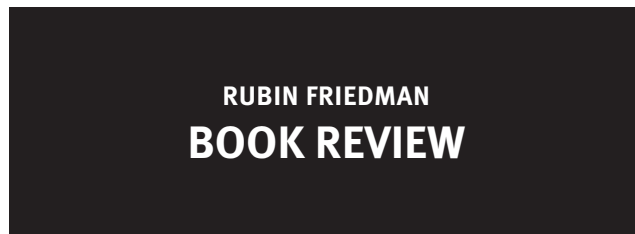
Biblioasis

296 pages

A *History of Forgetting* by Vancouver-based author Caroline Adderson – a newly revised version of a novel originally published in 1999 – deals with the complexity of living in the present with full compassion for others and the challenge of learning of the difficulties, pains and triumphs others have lived through, with full empathy. It shows that most often humans seek to forget, to suppress what has happened before, or at least to suspend our memory of the past and our awareness of horrors elsewhere so that we can simply go on with our daily lives.

Adderson deals with this essential human condition by creating a story within the frame of a visit to Auschwitz, which precedes and follows the main body of the tale. It concerns an individual facing a Poland in the mid-1990s, just coming out of Communist rule, where most have not yet fully come to terms with the horrors of the Holocaust and where there seems to be a prevailing mood to keep what happened there at arms length, in its proper place, although willing to benefit from the desire of others to remember.

Within this frame she deals first with the story of Malcom Firth, an aging Vancouver hairdresser whose partner, Denis, in the late stages of Alzheimer's disease, is forgetting everything, but suddenly starts to express hostility to Jews. Malcom has to face the challenge of



RUBIN FRIEDMAN BOOK REVIEW

dealing with his partner while facing the rapid change and modernization in his place of work as it is sold and remodelled, and the pressures of trying to hang on to his aging clientele in this milieu.

Then, Alison, a new hairdresser at the salon, a naive young woman hoping to learn, gradually discovers the pain and suffering around her at work. Eventually, she comes to understand the seemingly stand-offish Malcom and the pain he is going through.

As Alison's world expands, she comes in contact with a Holocaust survivor and gradually sees the disparity between the way those around her deal with the suppression of memory and the way the survivor remembers but goes on in dignity, still able to show compassion and sympathy for others.

This disparity becomes a terrible reality when a co-worker, a funny, entertaining and compassionate gay man whose face is out of kilter due to birth defects, is

killed during a vicious beating with a golf club at the hands of a neo-Nazi.

This brings to a head Alison and Malcom's growing awareness of the nature of the human condition. Alison becomes obsessed with pictures from the Holocaust and angers both her co-workers and her boyfriend, who cannot understand why she cannot just let her thoughts go and get back to normal. Finally, she must leave the boyfriend and take a break from her co-workers.

Together, Alison and Malcom set off to try to understand what links all these things together by travelling to Poland to visit Auschwitz.

How Alison and Malcom see their profession as hairdressers as caring for others and serving their basic

needs provides them with a path towards understanding what keeps all of us going as human beings. It is the compassion we show each other every day, the compassion that is missing entirely in the Poles they meet, and which flickers only intermittently in co-workers at the hair salon back home. Through compassion and kindness, we can remove the suffering caused by the past while honouring the memories we cannot forget.

Adderson has had the good fortune of being able to republish *A History of Forgetting*, seeking, she says, to fix some of the problems she and others saw in the original version.

In this new version, Adderson's poetic style draws the reader into the story with skill, and she handles the complex topic with sensitivity and humour. This is a novel that will repay the reader with insights into the nature of memory and what it means to be a compassionate human being.



Photo by Christopher Snow courtesy of undercurrents festival

Monstrous is a 65 minute solo show, in which writer, performer Sarah Waisvisz investigates her family's multicultural and multi-racial history, her own genetics, and her experiences of racism and uneven privilege in our "multicultural" Canada.

Wednesday, August 3 • 7:00 pm

Soloway JCC

Tickets: \$20 at the door

Contact: Roslyn Wollock (613) 798-9818 ext. 254 or Annette Paquin (613) 526-2968



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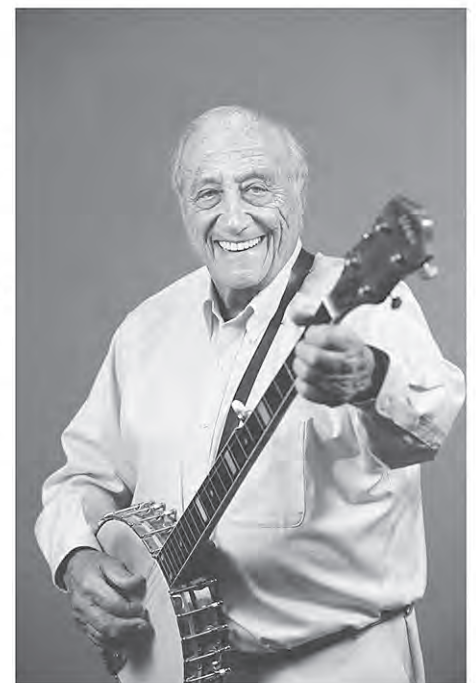
You won't want to miss this fun evening of nostalgia with folk music icon Jerry Gray, who, in 1953, helped form The Travellers, Canada's first folk song group and creators of the Canadianized version of "This Land is Your Land". You'll hear, and sing along with Jerry, a variety of well-known folk tunes and Yiddish selections. Jerry has performed with Pete Seeger, Theodore Bikel, Harry Belafonte, Gordon Lightfoot, Judy Collins, the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and many other folk music luminaries.

Monday, August 22

7:00 pm

Soloway JCC

Admission: \$10 at the door



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

FOUNDATION DONATIONS | Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation

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

AJA 50+ ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Merle Paquin by Margo and Frank Rosen.

MAZEL TOV TO:
Ruth Miller on her Bat Mitzvah, by Margo and Frank Rosen.
Merle Haltrecht-Matte for receiving the Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award by The Board of Directors of AJA 50+.

ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:
Steve and Doris Rauch by Margo and Frank Rosen.

SHIRLEY AND SHIER BERMAN FUND FOR OTTAWA JEWISH ARCHIVES

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Shirley and Shier Berman by Sydney and Cally Kardash.

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Yale and Dee Gaffen by Barbara and Len Farber.

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TAMIR ENDOWMENT FUND

IN APPRECIATION OF:
Fran Freedman-Kesler by Les Kom and Janice Cohen.

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IN MEMORY OF:
Jessica Miller by the Vered family.

FRANCEEN AND STANLEY AGES ENDOWMENT FUND

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:
Franceen Ages by Linda Blauer.

APPOTIVE FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:
Arieh Rosenblum on his marriage to Michelle Zigelman, by Sharon and David Appotive.
Michael and Melanie Polowin for Jacob's passing of the Bar, by Sharon and David Appotive.

IN MEMORY OF:
Esther Katz by Dan and Gloria Zwicker; and by Jeffrey and Sharon Appotive.

ANNE AND LOUIS ARRON MEMORIAL FUND

R'FUAH SHLEMA TO:
Sally Levitan by Daphne and Stanley Arron.

MAZEL TOV TO:
Barbara and Len Farber on the birth of their first grandchild, by Daphne and Stanley Arron.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:
Arnold Kimmel by Daphne and Stanley Arron.

RICKI AND BARRY BAKER ENDOWMENT FUND

ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:
Shier and Shirley Berman by Ricki and Barry Baker.

MAZEL TOV TO:
Sol and Zelaine Shinder on the marriage of Neil and Lori, by Ricki and Barry Baker.
Barbara and Len Farber on the birth of Regan, by Ricki and Barry Baker.

CAYLA AND MICHAEL BAYLIN ENDOWMENT FUND

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:
Laya Shabinsky by Cayla Baylin.

R'FUAH SHLEMA TO:
Jonathan Calof by Cayla Baylin.

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MAZEL TOV TO:
Chani, Bram, Yitzchak, Adeera and Zeeva on the birth of Zeeva Sara, by Lindsay, Neil, Ariel and Sadie Gottheil.

SAM AND ANN BROZOVSKY ENDOWMENT FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:
David and Joy Kardish on the birth of their grandson, by Ann Brozovsky.

SID AND BARBARA COHEN COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Bertha Palmer by Sid and Barbara Cohen.

SANDI AND EDDY COOK ENDOWMENT FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:
Arieh Rosenblum on his marriage to Michelle Zigelman, by Jessica and Marc

Borenstein; and by Sandi and Eddy Cook.
Barbara and Len Farber on the birth of Regan, by Sandi and Eddy Cook.
Ricki and Barry Baker on Chloe's Bat Mitzvah, by Sandi and Eddy Cook.

MAZEL TOV TO:
Eddy Cook on Father's Day by Daniel Cook, Samantha Cook and Jessica Borenstein.

JOSEPH AND ESTHER EISENSTADT MEMORIAL FUND

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHRZEIT OF:
David Sacksner by Joan Sacksner, by Shelley and Aaron, Jeffery and Lynn, Martin and Joelle and families.
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Gaston Marx by Joan Sacksner.
Sidney Lebow by Joan Sacksner.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:
Ethyl Lebow from Joan Sacksner.

BARBARA AND LEN FARBER ENDOWMENT FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:
Barbara and Len Farber on the birth of Regan, by Dee and Yale Gaffen.

ELLEN AND RAHAMIM FATHI ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Philip Keen by Ellen, Tamara and Michael Fathi.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:
Chick Taylor by Ellen, Tamara and Michael Fathi.

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IN MEMORY OF:
Harry Chesyn by Susan and Sam Firestone.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:
Isabel Lesh by Susan and Sam Firestone.

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Foundation FACTS



An Endowment Fund can be your way to make a commitment to our future.

An **endowment fund** creates a legacy in support of charitable organizations for current and future generations. Funds can be opened in amounts from \$1000 and up. Your dollars will be carefully invested in fixed income and equity markets - as part of the Foundation's larger portfolio - to generate distribution income. Each year, a portion of the funds are distributed to the causes that you care about.

The Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation supports the long term financial stability of the agencies which serve the Ottawa Jewish Community.

Find out more at OJCF.CA or contact **Arieh Rosenblum**, Director of Development at arosenblum@jewishottawa.com 613-798-4696 x270



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IN APPRECIATION OF:

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Renee Seal by Fran and Sid Gershberg.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Rose Kostiner by Fran and Sid Gershberg.

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Ann Gluzman by Sidney and Cally Kardash.

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MAZEL TOV TO:

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IN MEMORY OF:

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BEST WISHES TO:

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Shawn and Helen Goldberg by Ibolya and Joe Wiesel.
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Ganon Preschool Morahs: Angela, Mali, Andrea, Jan, Gayle, Jane, Christy, Nikki, Randi, Jess, and Lauren by Lindsay and Neil Gottheil.

MAZEL TOV TO:

Arieh Rosenblum and Michelle Zigelman on their marriage, by Lindsay, Neil, Ariel and Sadie Gottheil.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Lindsay Gottheil by Frank and Linda Newman.

BEN (BERCHIK) AND IDA GREENBERG MEMORIAL FUND

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Chick Taylor by Jerry and Lily Penso, by Bernice Kerzner; and by Max and Ellie Greenberg.

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MAZEL TOV TO:

Shelley Rothman on the marriage of Julie and PJ, by Linda and Murray Greenberg.
Debra and Peter Szirtes on the marriage of Jessica and Caley, by Linda and Murray Greenberg.

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Theodore Jacobsen by Vera and Leslie Klein.
Helen Gilboa by Vera and Leslie Klein.

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Henry Coopersmith by Andre and Cheryl Ibgby.

SAMUEL AND TILLIE KARDISH MEMORIAL FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Chani and Bram Bregman on the birth of their daughter, Zeeva Sara by Cheryl Kardish-Levitan and Brian Levitan & family.
Rabbi Elizabeth Bolton on being named as one of Forward's Most Inspiring Rabbis, by Cheryl Kardish-Levitan and Brian Levitan & family.

David and Joy Kardish on the birth of their grandson, Elliott Samuel by Cheryl Kardish-Levitan and Brian Levitan and family.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Leonard Potechin by Cheryl Kardish-Levitan and Brian Levitan and family; and by Joy and David Kardish and family.

BENJAMIN AND LILLIAN KATZ MEMORIAL FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Aviva and Leonard Lightstone on the birth of their first grandson, by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.
Sylvia Kershman on the publication of her book, by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.
Stephen Saslove on the end of his term as President of the Hillel Lodge Board of Directors, by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.

IN MEMORY OF:

Blumie Saper-Hughes by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.

BEST WISHES TO:

Carolyn Katz by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Leonard Potechin by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.

LIBBY AND STAN KATZ FAMILY COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Len Farber by Joany and Andy Katz and family; by Cheryl and David Katz and family.

MAZEL TOV TO:

Michael and Leah Farber, Barbara and Len Farber and Libby Katz on the birth of Regan, by Joany and Andy Katz and family.

ARTHUR AND SARAH KIMMEL MEMORIAL FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Leah & Morris Melamed and Elaine & Elliot Melamed on Deborah's engagement, by Daniel and Marilyn Kimmel.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Arnold Kimmel by Sheila and Larry Hartman, by Isabel Lesh, by Daniel and Marilyn Kimmel, by Stan, Ellen, Jordan and Kaylie Magidson; and by Linda, Warren, Jacob and Michael Melamed.
Daniel Kimmel by Isabel Lesh.
Isabel Lesh by Daniel and Marilyn Kimmel.

MORRIS AND LILLIAN KIMMEL MEMORIAL FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Randy Spiegel on receiving "The Amin Tzibur" designation, by Steven and Shelli Kimmel and family.

IN MEMORY OF:

Rabbi Yisroel Rabinovitch by the Kimmel, Kaiman and Levine families.

ANNICE AND SYDNEY KRONICK FAMILY FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Molly Kronick by Esther and Ellis Levine, by Art and Marsha Saper; and by Sally and Elliot Levitan.

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Corrine Levine by Debi and Neil Zaret.

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- Serving the Community
- Growing Our Collective Legacy

The Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation follows a strong investment policy guiding successful portfolio managers with oversight from

our investment committee and Board. The committee is made up of financial and business experts who lead the Foundation's growth with results that allow you to donate with confidence.



3-year annualized return (net of fees) as of Dec. 31, 2015. * Please note that past performance is not an assurance of future Foundation growth.

Contact: Arieh Rosenblum, Director of Development at 613-798-4696 x 270 or arosenblum@jewishottawa.com



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BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Arnold Kimmel by Steven and Hildy Lesh; and by Paul and Sharon Finn.

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BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

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Chick Taylor by Cathy and Stanley Levine.

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BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Sandra Levinson by Shirley Streaan-Hartman.

SALLY AND ELLIOTT LEVITAN ENDOWMENT FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Barbara Levinson for receiving the Thelma Steinman Direct Service Award, by Sally and Elliot Levitan.

IN MEMORY OF:

Joseph Osterer by Sally and Elliot Levitan.

BEST WISHES TO:

Sally and Elliott Levitan by Dundi and Lyon Sachs.

JOSEPH AND EVELYN LIEFF ENDOWMENT FUND

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Evelyn Lieff by Mark and Cindi Resnick, by Simone Gardner, by Carol Greenberg, by Leonora Allen, by Elissa and Avraham Iny, by Alan Sobcoff; and by Jackie Sheiner.

IN MEMORY OF:

Molly Kronick by Evelyn Lieff. Joseph Osterer by Evelyn Lieff. Bertha Palmer by Evelyn Lieff.

MAZEL TOV TO:

Cindi and Mark Resnick on the engagement of Ben and Hillary, by Evelyn Lieff.

R'FUAH SHLEMA TO:

Sally Levitan by Evelyn Lieff. Joan Bloom by Evelyn Lieff.

SAMUEL AND LEEMA MAGIDSON ENDOWMENT FUND

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Joseph Osterer by Shelley and Morris Schachnow.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Shirley Steinberg by Shelley and Morris Schachnow.

RHODA AND JEFFREY MILLER FAMILY FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Jeffrey and Rhoda Miller on the birth of their granddaughter, Madison Avery by Sharon and David Appotive and family, by Michael Cohen and Minda Latowsky, by Debi and Neil Zaret and family; and by Josh Engel.

MERVIN MIRSKY FAMILY COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Jane Ehrenworth Shore on receiving the Ted Metrick Distinguished Service Award, by Roslyn and Arnold Kimmel.

TANYA AND SAMUEL MOSES MORIN MEMORIAL FUND

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHRZEIT OF:

Samuel Moses Morin, a dearly beloved father and grandfather, by Harvey and Gertrude Morin.

Tanya Morin, a dearly beloved mother and grandmother, by Harvey and Gertrude Morin.

PINKAS AND YEHUDIT NEWMAN MEMORIAL FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Joseph Osterer by Marilyn and Will Newman.

OR HANESHAMAH ENDOWMENT FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Rabbi Elizabeth Bolton on being selected by The Forward as one of the North America's most inspiring rabbis, by Paula Speevak.

THE OTTAWA LION OF JUDAH ENDOWMENT FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Dorothy Nadolny on receiving the Kipnis-Wilson/Friedland award by Sheila and Larry Hartman.

HARRY AND BERTHA PLEET MEMORIAL FUND

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Shirley Steinberg by Pinkas and Barbara Pleet.

SYDNEY SLOAN POTECHIN MEMORIAL FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Molly Kronick by Dodie & Bram Potechin and family. The Honourable Madam Justice Heidi Susan Levenson Polowin by Sunny and John Tavel.

MAZEL TOV TO:

David Burt on his retirement by Sally Taller.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Leonard Potechin by Ena and Moshe Greengarten; and by Dodie and Bram Potechin and family.

ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:

David and Ann Schlesinger by Sally Taller.

MOE AND SARAH RESNICK ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Joseph Osterer by Penny and Gordie Resnick and family. Nathan Moss by Penny and Gordie Resnick and family.

ALTI AND BEREL RODAL FAMILY FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Brocho Leah and Rabbi Moshe Sassonkin, Mushki and Chaim Shaul Glitzenstein and Shmulik and Dvora Rodal on the birth of Sholem Dovber, by Alti and Berel Rodal.

Yossi and Chanie Kagan, Chana Raizel and Sender Kagan on the birth of Menachem Mendel, by Alti and Berel Rodal.

Mirel and Eli Moshe Levitansky and Menachem and Shterna Rodal on the birth of Yosef Yitzhak, by Alti and Berel Rodal.

IN MEMORY OF:

Rabbi Yisroel Rabinovitch by Alti and Berel Rodal.

SAMUEL AND RUTH ROTHMAN MEMORIAL FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Shelley Rothman on the marriage of Julie and PJ, by Sue and Steve Rothman; and by Corinne and Sheldon Taylor.

ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:

Paul and Rosie Parnass by Sue and Steve Rothman; and by Corinne and Sheldon Taylor.

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MAZEL TOV TO:

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IN MEMORY OF:

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GABY SASSOON FUND FOR VICTIMS OF TERROR IN ISRAEL

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Gaby Sassoon by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.

IN APPRECIATION OF:

Maureen Katz and family by Les Kom and Janice Cohen.

BEST WISHES TO:

Rabbi Barry and Shira Schlesinger, by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman. Dan and Catherine Sigler, by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.

IN MEMORY OF:

Merle Paquin by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.

Continued on page 30

Foundation FACTS



A Legacy Gift places your aspirations for the future of the community in expert hands.

You can provide for the ongoing support of the causes in the community with which you identify most closely. A **legacy gift** most often takes the form of a bequest in your will that designates a portion of your estate to create an endowment fund. Take Foundation's **Legacy Challenge**, and with a bequest of \$10,000 or more, we'll cover up to \$1,000 in legal costs.

The Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation supports the long term financial stability of the agencies which serve the Ottawa Jewish Community.

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Theodore Jacobsen by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.
Cynthia Bielak by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.

MAZEL TOV TO:
Carol Tradburks and Mark Walker on their engagement, by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.

ELAYNE AND WESLEY SCHACTER ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Lee Spagat by Elayne, Wesley, Adam, Josh and Anne Marie, and Michael Schacter.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:
Howard Nadler by Elayne and Wesley Schacter.

STELLA AND LOUIS SLACK MEMORIAL FUND

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:
Janet Ironstone by Myra and Lester Aronson.

MAZEL TOV TO:
Ricki and Barry Baker on Chloe's Bat Mitzvah, by Myra and Lester Aronson and family.

IN MEMORY OF:
Mabelle Sinyor by Bonnie and Paul Bowering.

LINDA SLOTIN AND JONATHAN FISHER ENDOWMENT FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:
Davina Finn on her graduation, by Linda Slotin and Jonathan Fisher.

VICTOR AND SHIRLEY STEINBERG ENDOWMENT FUND

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:
Shirley Steinberg by Max and Ellie Greenberg.

DORIS AND RICHARD STERN FAMILY FUND

BEST WISHES TO:
Henry Pukier by Doris and Richard Stern.

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Lynda and Jerry White by Doris and Richard Stern.

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IN MEMORY OF:
Theodore Jacobsen by Beverley and Abe Feinstein.

CASEY AND BESS SWEDLOVE MEMORIAL FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:
Jane Ehrenworth Shore on receiving the Ted Metrick Distinguished Service Award, by Carol-Sue and Jack Shapiro.
Stephen Bindman on receiving the Ted Metrick Distinguished Service Award, by Carol-Sue and Jack Shapiro.

BEST WISHES TO:
Margo Kardish by Carol-Sue and Jack Shapiro.
Allan Baker by Carol-Sue and Jack Shapiro.

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHRZEIT OF:
Alan Swedlove by the Shapiro family.
Ethel Achbar by Carol-Sue and Jack Shapiro.

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BEST WISHES TO:
Linda and Steven Kerzner by Stephen and Lana Tanner.

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Linda and Murray Greenberg on the 30th anniversary of their store, Capital City Luggage by Ann Lazear and family.

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Joseph Osterer by Sunny and John Tavel.
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MAZEL TOV TO:
Shelley Rothman on the marriage of Julie and PJ, by Risa, Brent and Shira Taylor.
Joseph and Sara Fishman on the birth of Maddie, by Risa, Brent and Shira Taylor.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:
Chick Taylor by Risa, Brent and Shira Taylor.

CHARLES AND ROSE TAYLOR ENDOWMENT FUND

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:
Chick Taylor by Evelyn Greenberg, by Marty, Ellen and Sharon Cardash, by Malca and Chuck Polowin and family; and by Susan, Mark, Stephanie, Aaron, Jennifer and Daniel Korn.

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Sally Levitan by Gail and Stephen Victor and family.

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BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:
Ron Goldberg by Helen and Rick Zipes.

MAZEL TOV TO:
Ricki and Barry Baker on Chloe's Bat Mitzvah, by Helen and Rick Zipes.
Barbara and Len Farber on the birth of Regan, by Helen and Rick Zipes.
Sharon and Paul Finn on the recent graduation of their daughter, Davina Annie Finn, by Helen and Rick Zipes.
Helen and Rick Zipes on the birth of their granddaughter, by Ron and Marilyn Goldberg.

ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:
Doris and Steve Rauch by Helen and Rick Zipes.

IN MEMORY OF:
Rabbi Yisroel Rabinovitch by Helen and Rick Zipes.

THE WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE PHILANTHROPY PROGRAM

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

WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE ENDOWMENT FUND

ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:
Lynne Oreck-Wener and Bob Wener by Zoe Oreck.

MAZEL TOV TO:
Arieh Rosenblum on his marriage to Michelle Zigelman, by Lynne Oreck-Wener and Bob Wener.
Annette Werk on becoming a great grandmother, by Lynne Oreck-Wener and Bob Wener.
Lynne Oreck-Wener and Bob Wener on the upcoming marriage of Eleni and Benji, by Annette Werk.
Carol and Peter Oreck on the birth of their grandson, by Lynne Oreck-Wener and Bob Wener.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:
Sharon Weinstein by Lynne Oreck-Wener and Bob Wener.

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MAZEL TOV TO:
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KAYLA REICHSTEIN B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

IN APPRECIATION OF:
Cindy and Nathan Smith by the Reichstein family.

DAHLIA AND ZACHARY SHABSOVE B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
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Sarah Greenberg by Tracey Kronick.

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

Attractive cards are sent to convey the appropriate sentiments.
All donations are acknowledged with a charitable receipt.



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WHAT'S GOING ON | July 25 to August 21, 2016

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

WEDNESDAY, JULY 27

Ottawa Jewish Ladies Hakhel Summer Choir:

Ladies, please come sing with the Ladies Hakhel Jewish Choir. We will sing Jewish songs led by Gale Davidson, a graduate of the Julliard School of Music.

Weekly until September 28.

471 Tillbury Ave., 7:30 pm.

Info/RSVP: Laura Lunn, 613-715-9004, llunn@magma.ca

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3

Monstrous, or The Miscegenation Advantage:

A one woman play created and performed by Sarah Waisvisz. Armed with a suitcase full of secrets, one woman brings to the surface family stories, lies, DNA, and past journeys in order to understand who she is. A show about seeking where we belong, 7 pm.

Info: Roslyn Wollock, 613-798-9818, ext. 254,

rwollock@jccottawa.com

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7

Camp B'nai Brith of Ottawa's Junior Day at Camp:

For children entering senior kindergarten and grade 1. Come enjoy an awesome day at camp, and experience what the buzz around CBB of Ottawa is all about. Be ready to try new activities, make new friends and experience the camp's family atmosphere.

7861 ch. River Rd., Quyon, QC.

Info: Cindy Presser Benedek,

cindy@cbbottawa.com

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10

Women's Torah Study with Rabbi Deborah Zuker:

Join Rabbi Deborah Zuker in her home for Torah study, Wednesday evenings near Rosh Chodesh. Subjects related to Women in the Torah and Jewish Tradition.

Presented by Kehillat Beth Israel. RSVP required, 7 pm.

RSVP/Info: Rabbi Deborah Zuker,

deborahzucker@gmail.com

COMING SOON

MONDAY, AUGUST 22

An Evening with Jerry Gray of the Travellers:

Join folk artist Jerry Gray for an evening of music from the 1950s and '60s, including Canadian songs, Yiddish songs, folk tunes and humorous selections. Bring your voices, your passion for nostalgia and be ready to 'singalong' with Jerry, 7 pm.

Info: Roslyn Wollock, 613-798-9818, ext. 254,

rwollock@jccottawa.com

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Annual Campaign Kickoff 2016:

Keynote speaker: Nancy Spielberg, accomplished businesswoman, fundraiser, philanthropist, documentary filmmaker and founder and co-founder of several charities. Dessert reception and optional screening of Spielberg's movie "Above and Beyond" follow the keynote speech, 7 to 9 pm.

An afternoon family concert features Canada's award-winning children's music duo Judy and David, 3 pm.

Info: Rena Garshowitz, 613-798-4696, ext. 241,

rgarshowitz@jewishottawa.com

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Pre-High Holiday Challah Bake:

An evening of inspiration, prayer and unity, as Ottawa Jewish women join together to knead, braid, pray, share and celebrate the special tradition of challah.

Ottawa Torah Centre, 111 Lamplighters Dr., 7 to 9 pm.

Info: Dina Blum, 613-843-7770, dina@theotc.org

SUNDAY and MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 and 26

Super Sunday:

Federation's 2017 Annual Campaign Telethon.

Sunday, 9:30 am to 4 pm; Monday, 6:30 to 8 pm.

Info: Dawn Paterson, 613-798-4696, ext 272,

dpaterson@jewishottawa.com

CANDLE LIGHTING BEFORE

JULY 29	8:13 PM	AUGUST 19	7:49 PM
AUGUST 5	8:04 PM	AUGUST 26	7:30 PM
AUGUST 12	7:54 PM	SEPTEMBER 2	7:17 PM

BULLETIN DEADLINES

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3	FOR AUGUST 22
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17	FOR SEPTEMBER 5
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31 *	FOR SEPTEMBER 26

* 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:

Moses (Morton) Baslaw

Yvette (Saada) Dahan

Barbara Greenberg

Lorna Gross, Toronto

(mother of Barbara Rother)

Philip Keen, England (father of Roger Keen)

Nathan Moss, Montreal

(father of William Moss)

Eric Naor

Avraham Paritzky

Michael Jack Rosberg

Morris Segal

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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Annual Campaign Kickoff

September 18, 2016

first ever
double
event!

Co-chairs:

Donna and Bernie Dolansky, Gillian and Neil Presner, Shawna Dolansky and Grant Overland

Speaker: Nancy Spielberg - 7 pm, SJCC

Nancy Spielberg, sister of the acclaimed film director, is an accomplished businesswoman, fundraiser, philanthropist, documentary filmmaker and founder and co-founder of several charities.

Her documentary film **Above and Beyond** tells the story of a group of Jewish American pilots who answered a call for help. They smuggled planes out of the U.S. and flew for Israel in its War of Independence. This ragtag band of brothers embarked on personal journeys of discovery and renewed Jewish pride.



Dessert reception and optional screening of Spielberg's movie following keynote



Judy and David Family Concert with snacks - 3 pm
OJCS Gym, 31 Nadolny Sachs Pvt.

Canada's Juno award-winning stars of TV and stage are... "Hands down, the freshest, most inventive children's music duo working today". - Billboard Magazine

Afternoon Family Concert: \$10/household
Evening Event: \$10/individual or \$20/household
Tickets at jewishottawa.com

Info: Rena at 613-798-4696 x241 or rgarshowitz@jewishottawa.com



Our community. Our responsibility. Our future.

jewishottawa.com JFedOttawa JewishOttawa