

OTTAWA JEWISH BULLETIN

MARCH 5, 2018 | ADAR 18, 5778

ESTABLISHED 1937

OTTAWAJEWISHBULLETIN.COM | \$2

Taking them to the street

Bracha bags journey from Mitzvah Day to those in need

BY LOUISE RACHLIS

Christopher Johnson is on a ByWard Market street on a chilly, damp, February afternoon, approaching dozens of people. But he isn't asking for anything – he's offering.

"Would you like a bag?" Johnson asks young and old, some in wheelchairs and some clustered on the sidewalk in front of the Salvation Army Booth Centre.

More than 100 drawstring Bracha bags were assembled at the Soloway JCC during the Jewish Federation of Ottawa's Mitzvah Day. They contained socks, granola bars, toothbrushes, juice boxes – and handwritten cards. All were eagerly accepted.

"When the kids come in on Mitzvah Day and write on the cards which go in the bags, it means a lot to the people receiving them," said Johnson, who is the coordinator of Jewish Family Services' StreetSmarts Outreach Program.

As recipients took out their cards and carefully read them, Johnson explained that Grade 1 and 2 pupils had written the messages.

"I've had people cry when they read them," said Johnson.

As coordinator and the one-man staff of StreetSmarts, Johnson works outdoors most of the time.

"Getting wet is the worst," he acknowledges. Along with dedicated volunteers, such as Simon Wright, StreetSmart's weekend supervisor for the last three years, Johnson works on the street, offering resources, referrals and basic supplies to Ottawa's downtown homeless population.



Christopher Johnson, right, explains to recipients that the cards were written by Grade 1 and 2 students, who helped put the packages together on Mitzvah Day.

Johnson, 36, and Wright, 38, spoke kindly to all, knew many by name, and introduced themselves to new people, offering them a StreetSmarts business card with contact information should recipients need to reach out for help. "People are always coming and going."

They said they'd look into it when someone asked about getting a sleeping bag or warm clothing. One man happily showed off the warm snow pants they had given him previously.

"We're out here for everybody," said Johnson. "If they say they need socks,

we give them socks. We also do first aid and carry Naloxone kits that reverse the effects of an opioid overdose."

Sometimes Johnson and Wright help get forms for people seeking to get into the housing registry for the Salvation Army, the Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health, or Shepherds of Good Hope.

The StreetSmarts program was started by Peter Cassidy in 2001. After Cassidy died in November 2014, Johnson carried it on.

"I took over because StreetSmarts See Bracha Bags on page 2

Doing the right(eous) thing

Hungarian couple honoured for saving Jewish family during the Holocaust

BY NORAH MOR

Andrew Kun's voice breaks when he thinks about the actions of his family friends 74 years ago.

"I'm a Holocaust survivor," says Kun, 79, who was just five years old when the Nazis were rounding up Jews in his native Hungary. He turns to Denis Lehotay, who was his childhood friend, at a ceremony in Ottawa in early February. "That is because of your parents. Without them, I wouldn't be here."

In 1944, Lehotay's parents, Mary and Victor, agreed to hide and protect five-year-old Andrew, while his pregnant mother, Klara Kun, went into hiding elsewhere in Budapest.

On February 9, Mary and Victor Lehotay were awarded the prestigious "Righteous Among the Nations" title posthumously at a ceremony at the Israeli embassy in See Right(eous) on page 2

inside:

Broward County's Jewish sheriff > p. 3

Ottawa's singing doctor > p. 5

Preparing for Passover > p. 14 & 15



Elegance meets
athleticism.

The Audi A7 Sportback.

Audi Mark Motors of Ottawa
295 West Hunt Club Rd.
613-723-1221

Audi Ottawa
458 Montreal Rd.
613-749-5941

➤ markmotorsofottawa.com

Bracha Bags: Gratefully received

Continued from page 1

helped me with my own addictions,” he said, “and I wanted to ensure the program continued helping people get through their social issues. That’s what we’re all about.”

Johnson says he “got clean” in 2004; Wright did in 2012. They say that their backgrounds enable them to “connect and to establish a relationship” more easily with those in the same situation.

Johnson has dozens of volunteers such as Wright who help with education programs and night direct outreach.

“I have some volunteers who have been with StreetSmarts for four years, and one woman has been with StreetSmarts for 10 years. Others have been volunteering on and off for years, and some people come in and out. A lot of volunteers have social issues and life experience.”

StreetSmarts doesn’t receive government funding; it relies on donations of supplies and money to keep going. It works within the spirit of JFS’s mission of *tikkun olam*, repairing the world.

“We need people out here making connections,” said Wright.

Johnson said he makes sure that the Bracha bags are distributed to those most in need as quickly as possible.

“While we focus on the square of Elgin and Bank Street, and the Market area and Vanier, every now and then we get a call to another part of the city.”

HOW TO HELP BEYOND MITZVAH DAY

On the street: Christopher Johnson of StreetSmarts says if you’re approached on the street, you don’t have to give people anything.

“What you can do is acknowledge them and say: ‘Hello, how are you doing?’”

In your car: Johnson says if you are approached in your car on a hot summer day, and you have extra bottles of water in your car, you can offer them.

Larger items: With larger items such as clothing or furniture, he advises that it’s best to donate them to an organization. “Research various organizations or call one of the outreaches and find out where you can donate items. With the Housing First program of the City of Ottawa, there is a high demand for furniture.”

StreetSmarts program: For more information or to help, please call the StreetSmarts direct line at 613-979-3387 or email streetsmarts@jfsottawa.com.

Fundraising event: All proceeds from a fundraising event called Lip-Sync for the Homeless will go to StreetSmarts outreach. Held in memory of Pete Cassidy, the event will be held May 5 at the Bronson Centre; see www.petessparklefund.com for more.



Andrew Kun, left, and his sister, Suzanne Kun-Turnau, owe their lives to the parents of Denis Lehotay, right.

Right(eous): Families remained friends

Continued from page 1

downtown Ottawa.

“My parents were simple people, (but) when many people covered their ears and eyes and ignored evil, they took a decision with life-long consequences,” said their son, Denis, at the ceremony, which was also attended by an emotional Andrew and his sister, Suzanne, who was born in hiding.

“I was saved, although I was in my mother’s womb when the Nazis took all the Jews from Budapest,” Suzanne told those gathered for the ceremony. “The Lehotays helped my mother find a place with a Christian woman who breastfed me right after I was born (when my mother) couldn’t keep me.”

When nosy neighbours started asking questions about Andrew, Mary Lehotay lied to protect her son’s friend, pretending that she had anti-Semitic attitudes in order to fool others.

“My mom used despicable and derogatory language on Jews when asked about Andrew’s stay with us by our neighbours,” recalls Denis, 78, a retired biochemist who now lives in Kingston. But those necessary lies belied her true beliefs.

“When we asked her why they had saved the Kuns, she simply said ‘there was no other way’.”

After the war, Andrew’s father, with whom the family was reunited, wrote thank-you letters to their rescuers. These precious letters were found in Denis’ sister’s belongings when she died three years ago.

In his testimonial to Yad Vashem, Andrew, who now lives in Florida, wrote that “in 1956, after the Hungarian revolution, my father arranged and paid for the Lehotay family to come to Montreal, where we lived.”

The two families continued to be in touch over the years.

“As a matter of fact, Victor Lehotay

“My parents were simple people, (but) when many people covered their ears and eyes and ignored evil, they took a decision with life-long consequences,” said their son, Denis, at the ceremony, which was also attended by an emotional Andrew and his sister, Suzanne, who was born in hiding.

was the photographer at my wedding in 1960,” Andrew wrote. “Need I say more?”

Victor died at the age of 75. Mary died 11 years ago, at the age of 97.

“Victor and Mary displayed extraordinary courage saving the Kuns, despite great risk and threat to their lives,” said Ester Driham, National Executive Director of the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem.

“That’s what made them deserving of this great award,” said Nimrod Barkan, Israel ambassador to Canada, who confided that his own family was rescued by strangers in Hungary as well. “I’m not sure I would have been courageous enough had I been in their shoes.”

Denis said the reason for submitting the application for the award of Righteous Among the Nations “is to remember their legacy.”

“Their grandchildren need to know that their grandparents did the right and honourable thing because ‘there was no other way’.”

More than 20 Canadians have been awarded the title “Righteous Among the Nations.”

SAVE THE DATE!
On April 26, 2018
The Ottawa Jewish Historical Society
in partnership with the Soloway JCC, will present
A retrospective of
Camp B’nai Brith Ottawa
Do you have memorabilia or photos?
Call Anna Bilsky at 613-728-4202
or e-mail at humbil@rogers.com

The Jewish sheriff leading the response to the Florida school shooting quotes the Talmud

'Whoever saves one life saves an entire world'

BY BEN SALES

(JTA) – As he leads the police response to the school shooting in Parkland, Florida, Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel is likely enduring some of the toughest days of his career. And he's probably looking to his Judaism to guide him through it.

Israel is the county's first Jewish sheriff, and it's an identity he has embraced. A 2016 campaign flier reported on that year by the local newspaper, the Sun-Sentinel, centres on the role that faith in general, and Judaism in particular, plays in his life.

"My Jewish faith is a central part of my entire life," the flier quotes Israel as saying. "My late father Sonny Israel fought in the Korean War and became a police officer because he believed in the call from the Talmud that 'Whoever saves one life saves an entire world.' Those words guided my brother and I, as we also became police officers."

Israel is the sheriff in charge of the area that includes Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, where 17 faculty and students were killed by a gunman on February 14. Israel's children, triplets, had attended the school. He called the mass shooting a "horrific, homicidal, detestable act."

"This is a terrible day for Parkland, Broward County, the state of Florida and the United States," he told reporters that day. "My very own triplets went to that school and graduated from Stoneman Douglas. They played football and lacrosse at that school. It's just catastrophic. There really are no words."

Israel graduated from what is now the State University of New York at Cortland in 1977 with a degree in political science, and subsequently took a variety of courses on law enforcement, including a course of study at the FBI National Academy. He joined the Fort Lauderdale Police Department in 1979 and served on the narcotics unit and the SWAT team.



Sheriff Scott Israel's triplets graduated from the Florida school where 17 faculty and students were shot on February 14.

A Democrat, he was elected sheriff in 2012 and re-elected four years later. The county is home to a large Jewish population. In the 2016 campaign flier, he mentioned fighting gun violence as one of his top issues.

In speeches, Israel is known to quote the Bible. A 2013 Sun-Sentinel article about him quoted a speech in which he referenced "Eishet Chayil," the Jewish poem about a valorous woman excerpted from Proverbs and traditionally sung on Friday night, as well as Ecclesiastes.

"As Broward's first Jewish sheriff, I carry a heavy burden knowing I am making history," the campaign flier said. "That is why I always strive to do what is right, what is best, what will help people. This is why this message is important – regardless of your personal

faith – because I want my children and grandchildren to always be able to look back with pride someday at my legacy as they continue to pass down our faith and legacy of public service."

Israel told the Sun-Sentinel that he attends the Parkland Chabad, and he is comfortable in churches as well as synagogues. His wife, Susan, is Christian, and they raised their children in both religions.

"I am Jewish," he said. "Susan is Christian. Like most families with parents of different faiths, we raised our children with extensive exposure to both our faiths. The triplets were all bar/bat mitzvahed. Now that the triplets are adults, they each have the free choice to decide their own faith."

Back Splash Texture Wall
Grout Colour Floor
Installation Sizes Smooth
Mix & Match Patterns In Floor Heat Ceramic
Showers Shapes Tile
Decorators Custom Flooring



OTTAWA
195 Colonnade Rd. S.
613-226-3830

www.westboroflooring.com

KINGSTON
649 Justus Drive
613-384-7447

Respecting tradition

At your time of need or when planning ahead, rely on us to provide everything you need.

We are proud to support the Jewish Memorial Gardens Revitalization Project.

Call us 24 hours a day at:
613-909-7370



Kelly Funeral Home
Carling Chapel
by Arbor Memorial

2313 Carling Avenue, Ottawa, ON
kellyfh.ca/Carling

Arbor Memorial Inc.

'The greatest crime ever committed by architects'

Exhibit of Auschwitz architectural documents a haunting experience

BY SHEILA HURTIG ROBERTSON
FOR THE CENTRE FOR HOLOCAUST EDUCATION
AND SCHOLARSHIP

The Evidence Room, a haunting installation that summarizes a forensic analysis of the architecture of Auschwitz, was recently on view at Carleton University's Azrieli School of Architecture and Urbanism.

The exhibit, which has been called a silent witness to "the greatest crime ever committed by architects," was on view from January 12 until February 16 in the school's Lightroom Gallery. It features more than 20 white plaster casts of documents that historian Robert Jan van Pelt introduced as evidence in a libel case in London, England, in 2000 when notorious Holocaust denier David Irving sued historian Deborah Lipstadt and her publisher, Penguin Books.

Van Pelt's compelling testimony was key to the outcome of the case, proving that Auschwitz was purposefully designed as a death camp. The plaster casts are a reminder of architecture's complicity.

Zachary Colbert, a practising architect, educator and Practitioner in Residence at Carleton University, guided Centre of Holocaust Education and Scholarship (CHES) members Judy Young, Batia Winer, Muriel Korngold Wexler, Sheila Robertson and friend Jennifer Zelmer through the exhibit.

The Evidence Room, which was created by van Pelt along with professors Anne Bordeleau and Donald McKay of the University of Waterloo School of Archi-



Committee members, from left, Sheila Hurtig Robertson, architect Zachary Colbert, Muriel Korngold Wexler, Judy Young Drache and Batia Winer were deeply moved after visiting the Evidence Room.

ture, and independent arts producer Sascha Hastings, has also been shown in 2016 at the Venice Biennale and the Canadian Centre for Architecture, and in 2017 at the Royal Ontario Museum.

"The intent of the architects who designed and constructed Auschwitz-Birkenau is rendered plainly and clearly in the form of white plaster casts of drawings, photographs, and correspondences," Colbert explained.

The replicas and casts consist of such architectural evidence as a gas column and a gas-tight hatch – both for the introduction of poison into the gas chambers

– a gas chamber door, blueprints, architects' letters, contractors' bills and photographs. Taken together, they provide proof that Auschwitz was a purposefully designed factory of death, equipped with large, homicidal gas chambers and massive incinerators.

"As an orphaned child survivor whose close family did not return from Auschwitz, I found the Evidence Room strangely affecting," said CHES member Judy Young.

She said that the exhibit presents "a deceptively discreet, minimalist, antiseptic-in-its-whiteness space as you enter."

"At first you see nothing, except what looks like blank white canvases on the white walls. Get up close to see, and you grasp the evidence of carefully planned and executed mass murder: architectural drawings and plans with dates and instructions for building the gas chambers, prisoner huts, and crematoria; documents about Zyklon B gas; detailed drawings showing the gas chamber door opening out of the chamber."

She said plans show the redesign of the chamber door – originally the door opened into the chamber, but was difficult to open because of the dead bodies piled up against it.

"One does not need the graphic images.... These understated images in cold plaster are meant to remain permanent in contrast to paper documents and drawings which decay or are lost.

"This is lasting evidence 'carved in Stone' of horror and inhumanity – but you have to look carefully and let it sink in."

70 YEARS

YOM HA'ATZMAUT
Community wide celebration

Celebrate Israel's 70th Birthday with Israeli food and fun for the whole family!

5:00 pm - 7:30 pm in the SJCC Gym:
Children's entertainment and activities with Israeli Shinshinim
and Canadian Friends of Hebrew U. Arts & Crafts, inflatables and games.

6:45 pm - 9:00 pm:
Live music with Shlomo Haviv Band

Delicious Israeli food from Babi's (for purchase, cash only)
Short Film on Ben Gurion

Thursday, April 19, 2018 • 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Free Admission • Soloway JCC, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private

VERED ISRAEL
CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL
PROGRAM

Yom Hazikaron, Tuesday April 17 • Flag Raising Ceremony, Thursday, April 19
Contact Ella Dagan (613) 798-9818 ext. 243, edagan@jccottawa.com

From vasectomy expert to musician: for Ron Weiss, there was no shortcut

Ottawa doctor releases new CD, with NAC concert March 7, Jay Stone reports.

Ron Weiss is the foremost practitioner of vasectomies in Ottawa. Indeed, he may be the all-time champion.

“I know that I do more vasectomies than anyone in the Western world,” he says. Soon, he will be celebrating his 50,000th such surgery in the usual way: the recipient not only becomes sterile, but also receives a special lollipop comprised of a condom on a stick with a smiley face.

“There’s that whole nudge-nudge-wink-wink thing that people do around vasectomy,” Weiss says. “But they love to have fun with it.”

Weiss is also a musician, a singer-songwriter who this month is releasing an ambitious album, called “Arrow & Heart”, which will be inaugurated with a concert at the National Arts Centre. Despite his heroic number of vasectomies, the album has a modest 10 cuts.

Such lines aren’t new around Weiss’s Glebe office — “I’ve been doing this long enough that I’ve heard all the jokes,” he says — but this time there’s (ahem) a *vas deferens*. “Arrow & Heart” represents the culmination of 40 years of musical dreams, with a few decades off to become a doctor.

Weiss was a high-school dropout in Toronto who dedicated his time to learning the classical guitar and classical piano. His ambition was to attend the Berklee School of Music in Boston.

But one day in 1977, he visited a friend in Montreal and met a woman named Debbie. It was love at first sight.

“My jaw just dropped,” Weiss says. “I was mute. In the next two weeks, I just fell head over heels in love.” His plans all changed. He wouldn’t return to Vancouver. He wouldn’t become a musician because that wasn’t a reliable way of supporting a family. (After he and Debbie Halton-Weiss had their third child, Weiss then got a vasectomy himself.)

He took night courses to finish high school, and was accepted to the University of Ottawa. He studied medicine there.

His career in vasectomies began almost by chance.

“My first child was born in September of first-year medicine, my second of three children was born in December of fourth-year medicine, so I graduated with two children and I didn’t have the



COURTESY OF RON WEISS

Ottawa doctor Ron Weiss has returned to his first passion, releasing an album of original compositions 40 years after giving up music.

For the past year, Weiss has been doing surgeries in the morning — 14 vasectomies before lunch — and going to the studio to work until suppertime.

luxury of pursuing a specialty beyond family medicine.”

He added vasectomies to his practice. A breakthrough occurred with the discovery of “no-scalpel vasectomies” by a Chinese urologist named Dr. Shunqiang Li. Eventually, Weiss dropped his family practice and made a career of helping prevent unwanted pregnancies. An Ottawa magazine once dubbed him “the Gretzky of vasectomies,” presumably because he helped so many men score.

His musical career was on hold — for one thing, he couldn’t make too much noise with young children at home — until 20 years ago, when Debbie went on a March of the Living trip to Poland and Israel. Before she left, she gave him a gift of \$400 to buy a guitar.

“I remember taking it home the

first day. I just sat on the back step and wrote this instrumental song like nothing. And then other stuff just kept pouring out, mostly instrumental at first, and then I started writing stuff with words. The process over the last 20 years started there.”

He formed a group, the Doc Weiss Band, which played clubs around town. He finally went to Berklee — taking an online course — to learn songwriting. He even made an album, but he says it wasn’t good enough.

“I realized some of the crap I was writing and realized what I could do to improve,” he says.

He hired folksinger Lynn Miles as a tutor. A year and a half ago, he wrote a birthday song for his wife and assembled a band to play it with him at her

party. The musicians, led by saxophone player Brian Asselin, encouraged him to make a CD.

For the past year, Weiss has been doing surgeries in the morning — 14 vasectomies before lunch — and going to the studio to work until suppertime. (Along with “Arrow & Heart”, he has also recorded an EP of three instrumental tunes that is being released only digitally.)

At 61, he continues to work as a doctor, but — inspired by the music of such artists as James Taylor — he’s finally achieving his original goal.

“It’s like I arrested my development in my early 20s and came back to it,” he says. “I’m a 23-year-old musician in a 61-year-old’s body. The stuff that I write would probably be popular in the ’70s or ’80s, but it’s not what you hear on the radio today. I think I write some great stuff and I think the album is wonderful.

“My audience is limited, and that’s just the way it is.”

Ron Weiss and an eight-piece band will play Wednesday, March 7, at 7:30 p.m. at the NAC Fourth Stage. Tickets are \$25 and available through Ticketmaster.

FEDERATION REPORT



IRWIN KREISMAN,
HILLEL LODGE PRESIDENT

We called her Bubbie Ocean. She was a Bubbie and half of the year she stayed in Florida, by the ocean. It was a name she liked and it stuck. But she wasn't just a great Bubbie. My mother, Beatrice, was a wonderful wife for 60 years to my father, Sam. They lived, they loved, they laughed, they ate out, travelled and entertained. And together they raised three terrific, handsome, brilliant and humble sons.

I believe that Bubbie Ocean would have loved Hillel Lodge. I am sorry

Music, dance and superior care at Hillel

that she missed out on the extensive programming, therapies and quality of care that she could have received there. In her late '80s, as her Alzheimer's progressed, she ended up spending too much of her day in her condo just watching TV with a caregiver. She passed away in hospital at the age of 91.

My mother was a very social person. Being around the other Lodge residents, staff and volunteers would have given her the kind of stimulation she craved and improved her quality of life. She would have benefitted from the Lodge's exemplary nursing and medical care – one of four attending physicians is there almost every week day and there is coverage on evenings and weekends. The nursing and personal care at the Lodge are also second to none. The care is supplemented by the diverse programs and services that fulfil the needs of the residents. These programs are designed to enrich their lives on a social, psychological, spiritual, emotional as well as physical level.

In addition to group physiotherapy three times a week, there is Zumba, Tai-

Chi, chair yoga, even chair belly dancing, chair bowling, and much more, such as singing and bingo. These are all done with the assistance of our caring staff, local students and volunteers who help, interact, engage and cheerlead with the residents.

There are also programs for our Russian-speaking residents. These include the Russian School of Dance, Russian music and the Russian Samovar with Anna, where other Russians come in to help and interact with the residents.

One of the highlights is the music program, which really engages the residents. They are entertained with country, classical, jazz and opera music. They hear Jewish cultural accordion and guitar and they even have a piano bar (there's no tip glass on the piano though!). There is singing and dancing once a week with "E-I-O George" who plays older songs to bring back memories, since many people, like my mother, suffer short-term memory loss, but maintain strong long-term memories – especially with regard to the old Jewish songs. My mother always remembered the words to those songs. It is a wonderful feeling to see the joy on

the faces of the residents as they recognize their old favourites.

The Lodge also ensures that the Jewish holidays continue to be a special time for families as it helps residents uphold and celebrate beloved traditions that remind the residents of days long ago.

The Lodge does this despite challenges. We make it happen even with inadequate government funding and the increasing needs and complexity of the care and services our residents require. We are doing more with fewer resources. We are relying more on community support to balance our budgets.

Getting into Hillel Lodge can be daunting. The waiting list is long. If you need help, contact our social-work staff members, Joanna Abrams or Linda Yeung. They can help you navigate the admission process.

If you would like to support the Lodge, and help it continue to build on its past record of success with unique features and special programs, please contact Mitch Miller at the Hillel Lodge Long Term Care Foundation, mmiller@hillel-ltc.com

FROM THE PULPIT



RABBI EYTAN KENTER
KEHILLAT BETH ISRAEL

Usually this section of the paper would have an article. This time around, I've decided to do something different. Below, you will find a series of texts with guiding questions for personal exploration or for conversation with family or friends.

Take a look at these teachings from our tradition, find your personal meaning in them, and then let me know what you learned or discovered. You can reach me at rabbi@kehillatbethisrael.com.

Rabbi Eliezer says: *One who makes his prayer "set" (as though it is burdensome to him), his prayer does not constitute "pleading" (for Divine mercy).*

Rabbi Yehoshua says: *One who is travelling in a dangerous place should*

How do we pray?

offer a brief prayer (and) say: "Save, God, Your people, the remnant of Israel; at every period of transition let their needs be before You. You are the Source of all blessing, God, Who heeds prayer." (Mishnah Berakhot 4:4).

Rabban Gamliel says: *Every day a person must pray 18 (blessings of Shemonah Esrei). Rabbi Yehoshua says: (One may say) an abbreviated (form of the) 18 (blessings).*

Rabbi Akiva says: *If his prayer is fluent in his mouth, he must say 18; and if it is not – an abbreviated 18.* (Mishnah Berakhot 4:3)

Rabbi Shimon says: *Be careful in the reciting of Shema (and praying). When you pray, do not make your prayer fixed, rather prayers for mercy and supplication before the Omnipresent, blessed be God.* (Ethics of the Fathers 2:13).

These teachings represent the struggle between *Keva* (fixed language) and *Kavannah* (personal intent).

- Are your most powerful moments of prayer when reciting the traditional liturgy, or when speaking the words in your heart?
- Is there a way for prayer to be both fixed and inspired by the moment?

- How can our prayers be truly meaningful if they aren't from the heart and how can we pray with a community if we aren't all praying the same words?



Prayer is meaningless unless it is subversive, unless it seeks to overthrow and to ruin the pyramids of callousness, hatred, opportunism, falsehoods.
– Abraham Joshua Heschel

In 1965, Rabbi Heschel joined a Selma to Montgomery March as part of the American civil rights movement. Upon his return, someone asked him whether he had found much time to pray while he was in Alabama, to which Rabbi Heschel responded: "I prayed with my feet."

SOME QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- According to Rabbi Heschel, what is the purpose of prayer?
- Have you ever been a part of a subversive prayer experience?
- How do these texts change how we might relate to the commonly used phrase: "Our thoughts and prayers are with..."
- Where, when, and how do you plan to pray next?

OTTAWA JEWISH BULLETIN

VOLUME 82 | ISSUE 9

Ottawa Jewish Bulletin Publishing Co. Ltd.
21 Nadolny Sachs Private, Ottawa, K2A 1R9
Tel: 613 798-4696 | Fax: 613 798-4730
Email: bulletin@ottawajewishbulletin.com
Published 19 times per year.
© Copyright 2018

PUBLISHER
Andrea Freedman

EDITOR
Michael Regenstreif (on leave)
Laura Robin (Interim editor)

PRODUCTION CONSULTANT
Patti Moran

BUSINESS MANAGER
Eddie Peltzman

DFL INTERN
Norah Mor

The *Bulletin*, established in 1937 as "a force for constructive communal consciousness," communicates the messages of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa and its agencies and, as the city's only Jewish newspaper, welcomes a diversity of opinion as it strives to inform and enrich the community. Viewpoints expressed in these pages do not necessarily represent the policies and values of the Federation.

The *Bulletin* cannot vouch for the kashrut of advertised products or establishments unless they are certified by Ottawa Vaad HaKashrut or a rabbinic authority recognized by OVH.

\$36 Local Subscription | \$40 Canada
\$60 USA | \$179 Overseas | \$2 per issue

Funded by the Government of Canada.

Canada

ISSN: 1196-1929
Publication Mail Agreement No. 40018822

Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:
Ottawa Jewish Bulletin
21 Nadolny Sachs Private,
Ottawa ON K2A 1R9

FROM THE PUBLISHER



ANDREA FREEDMAN

Adapting from the poet John Lydgate, U.S. President Abraham Lincoln once famously remarked: “You can please some of the people some of the time, all of the people some of the time, but you can never please all of the people all of the time.” Based on this quote, it is entirely possible that President Lincoln once worked for Ottawa’s Jewish community.

A couple of years ago, I found myself at a cottage near Toronto. When a friend of a friend’s mother discovered I work for the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, she let loose with a litany of complaints about the Toronto Federation,

Criticism is one thing, action is so much better

“It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena.”

with some things dating back decades. (Before I said a single word, the one-way “conversation” had lasted 15 minutes). While this personal exchange struck me as comical, I do encounter similar situations in my roles with Jewish Ottawa. And I struggle with it.

On the one hand, I am delighted that people want to express their opinions and that they care and are passionate about the Jewish people. This is indeed positive and commendable.

On the other hand, how do you distinguish between venting and unfair criticism based on a lack of facts, or bias, versus a genuine desire to engage, understand and make things better?

In the age of social media, it is increasingly complicated. Disparaging comments can be made so quickly on Facebook feeds, levelling thoughtless

criticism at people and institutions.

Can this passion be channeled constructively? I don’t know, but I hope so. I do know that I have a strong personal preference for working together to try to solve issues, rather than spending time on planning how and if to respond to public criticism. And I also know that I am only human. While I try to be objective, there is no question that it is easier to work and find compromises with folks who reach out personally rather than attack publicly.

I often quote from U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt: “It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena.”

Though they have their place, the

best arena is not Facebook or the Ottawa Citizen. One stark example is the recent column by Andrew Cohen, which criticized the work of the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA). Far better and more constructive are the coffee-shop discussions and meeting rooms where people who want to elevate our community debate, plan and dream. And, most important, people who really want to make a difference do it in their actions, rather than just observe and criticize.

Many years ago, a friend of mine had travelled around Southeast Asia and was struck by the poverty. Most of us would be touched by such scenes and perhaps share our angst about the suffering on Facebook. My friend was different. He started a non-profit organization designed to offer meaningful employment to the most disadvantaged in Cambodia. It now operates in several countries and employs hundreds, bringing entire families out of poverty.

Commentary and criticism can be useful. Constructive action is even better.

IDEAS AND IMPRESSIONS



JASON MOSCOVITZ

As Ontario’s Progressive Conservative party enters the final lap of its hastily called leadership race, my head is still spinning over the bus that ran over Patrick Brown on his way to the premier’s office.

There is something about how Brown was forced out. It leads to a really simple question: Is there something else going on? Nothing in politics just happens, and when something as monumental as the ouster of a leader happens three months before election day, you have to look at everything.

I don’t know Brown. I never met him. I may or may not believe reports of his uncouth, unethical and awkward attempts to have his way with young women. The important thing is he denies the two reported incidents that cost him his job, but no denial and no

An inside job on Patrick Brown?

Unless I am super naive, the door to indiscriminate destruction of people’s reputations by anonymous sources won’t happen because conventional journalism itself would be destroyed.

loud legal action – and not even an attempt to get his job back – can recalibrate the life he knew.

While we heartily applaud the good that flows from the #MeToo movement, we have to take stock on this one. It was less than a year ago that so many of movie mogul Harvey Weinstein’s victims went public with their stories. Had those women not gone public there wouldn’t have been a story. And without going public, there wouldn’t have been so many women and their stories that followed.

Seemingly forever, women were afraid to go public. Men shamefully exploited that inherent fear. What woman would leap forward and tell her story on television about being either sexually exploited or assaulted in the workplace?

The massive breakthrough that comes with woman losing their fear is a notable historic occurrence. And while woman are becoming more emboldened, with more and more of them going on television with their detailed accounts, you have to ask how it is that both of Brown’s accusers were faceless and nameless when they stepped forward with their

accounts of Brown’s wrongdoing.

In my day in journalism, no one could make an anonymous accusation of any degree of sexual impropriety against anyone, let alone a political leader on the eve of an election. The CTV network has to answer for crushing a sacred tenet of journalism, because if anonymous sources were allowed to destroy Brown, then the door is wide open for anyone to have their reputation dismantled in the next broadcast. A court-ordered publication ban on identity is different.

Unless I am super naive, the door to indiscriminate destruction of people’s reputations by anonymous sources won’t happen because conventional journalism itself would be destroyed in the process. So why did it happen to Brown?

Mistakes can happen in news reporting when reporters and editors are swept off their feet with amazing, earth-shattering stories. They can lose their tempered judgement with dreams of Watergate dancing in their heads. In political journalism, there is no bigger trophy than the forced removal of a political

leader. If your report forced the leader out, you can wear the crown, if not the Pulitzer Prize, for a lifetime. That may explain CTV’s role in this sordid affair.

As for the anonymous women, to jump on the momentum of the #MeToo movement without going public, like all the other women did – again, you just have to ask why. They used the growing power of the #MeToo movement to knock out Brown, but stopped well short of truly embracing it. The tea leaves, or a cynic, or a genius, might point to a purposeful political act with an endgame in mind.

The two women – two at a time to add punch to the fatal blow – were not likely to have been interested in helping Kathleen Wynn’s Liberals bring down Brown. The Liberals would have liked Brown to stay exactly where he was, since Brown was seen by the Liberals as being beatable in a campaign. There is also really no logic attached to these women having any need or desire to do business with the Liberals.

So that leaves the pointing finger in the direction of people in Brown’s own party. Brown asserts he had political enemies and the logic follows some wanted someone else to be the leader.

The political world will never change. Strip away the virtue and you are left with a street fight.

Good luck to the new leader.

MAILBAG | bulletin@ottawajewishbulletin.com

A DIFFERENT VIEW ON TRUMP VERSUS TRUDEAU

Columnist Jason Moscovitz is entitled to his opinion on Trump and Trudeau ("The Contrast between Trump and Trudeau," Ottawa Jewish Bulletin, February 5, 2018); but facts speak truth to feelings and opinions.

The fact is that Trump is "Making America Great Again" with respect to the employment rate for whites, blacks and Hispanics. He's improved the economy by lowering taxes and removing anti-business regulations. America is on the path to energy independence and cleaner air with clean-burning natural gas from fracking.

He revamped the Department of Veterans Affairs

(VA) and is building up the military. Trump is moving the U.S. embassy to Jerusalem. ISIS has been defeated and Syrians are moving back to their homes. And the list goes on and on.

On the other hand Trudeau is on target for "the budget will balance itself" and "diversity is our strength."

In just two years, Trudeau has managed to alienate small business with over-regulation and new taxes – so much for his promise to lower taxes on the middle class. Then there's the \$10.5-million payout to Omar Khadr and the court case against funding veterans' pensions.

Diversity is getting a boost from the influx of illegal US/Canada border crossings. Let's not forget Trudeau's constant reminders that Canadians are systemic racists, Islamophobic and homophobic (Motion 103 and Bill C-16). Say goodbye to pipelines and say hello to higher energy costs. But on the bright side, we can look forward to that fleet of 30-year-old fighter planes from Australia. And then there's NAFTA and so many other wins.

But you're right on one thing: Trudeau can boast the best socks the Fake Media has ever seen.

Allan Sand, Ottawa

OPINION: MISSED OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ABOUT OURSELVES

It was with great excitement that I found out that a national survey of Canadian Jews is moving ahead, headed by sociologists and Environics Research. (See The Canadian Jewish News: *Researchers undertaking massive survey of Canadian Jewry*, January 25, 2018: <https://tinyurl.com/y75vsmh9>). This survey will be the first of its kind in Canada. The aim is to not only understand the affiliated and non-affiliated Jewish community but will also delve into important Jewish topics such as identity and practice, childhood upbringing, anti-Semitism and attitudes about Israel.

Unfortunately, this new national survey will not be sampling from Ottawa. In order to achieve a representative sample, the focus is on the largest Jewish centres in Canada (Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver) where 80 per cent of Canadian Jews live. The lead researchers approached smaller Jewish Federations in Canada and some were willing to take part (the cost is about \$140 per interview) and others like Ottawa, were not.

Surprisingly, the Canadian Jewish community is one of the least studied in the world. Thus, it is nearly impossible to understand current issues facing us; including Jewish identity, priorities, attitudes and values. The Jewish Federation of Ottawa did not participate in the national survey because a few studies were recently commissioned locally. The difficulty with these local surveys is that they suffer from serious

methodological limitations because they rely on federation and synagogue membership lists. The results lead to bias and presume that responses are representative of the Jewish community as a whole.

Federations and Jewish organizations in Canada need to recognize that studies on their local populations are becoming more complex and will become costlier over time. A simple survey sent to current mailing lists and conducted online will not garner quality results and in fact, will often misrepresent the Jewish populations that you are trying to understand, serve and influence. But with the help of the community of researchers such as this national survey, the ability to obtain reliable data will be possible.

Jackie Luffman, Ottawa

Response: \$52,000 price tag too costly for budget:

The Jewish Federation of Ottawa gave serious consideration to taking part in the national survey, as we fully understand and appreciate the value of surveying our community.

We decided not to participate for two reasons:

First, the actual cost for Ottawa to participate was \$52,000. The survey was devised so that the principal investigators had enough funds to cover the "core" survey of 1,250 Jews in the three largest communities, Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver. For Ottawa to participate, which would have added three questions about Ottawa to the survey and would have gone out to 300 people, we would have had to find \$52,000 in the middle of a budget year, which is very difficult.

Second, in recent years there have been three different surveys of Ottawa's Jewish community, which Federation either led or participated in, that delved into attitudes towards Jewish identity, Jewish practice, affiliations, and attitudes toward Israel. We also hope there will still be valuable information that can be gleaned from the national survey.

Sarah Beutel
VP Community Building
Jewish Federation of Ottawa

Letters to the Editor are welcome if they are brief, signed, timely, and of interest to our readership. The Bulletin reserves the right to refuse, edit or condense letters. The Mailbag column will be published as space permits. Send your letters to Michael Regenstreif by email to bulletin@ottawajewishbulletin.com



Michael QAQISH
CITY COUNCILLOR
GLOUCESTER - SOUTH NEPEAN
613-580-2751
michael.qaqish@ottawa.ca
www.michaelqaqish.com



REGISTRATION OPENS • MARCH 7

INSPIRATION starts here

NCAC | NVAC
arts
dance | drama | music
digital arts | visual arts

NEPEAN CREATIVE ARTS CENTRE
ottawa.ca/nepeancreativeartscentre



ELEVATED HOME INSPECTION

Offers the following services:
Pre-Purchase Home Inspections
Pre-Listing or Pre-Sale Home Inspections
Pre-Renovation Inspections
Home Monitoring Services

March Home Inspection Tip:

Peeling paint, stains and mold in the bathroom indicates poor ventilation. Make sure the fan is properly sized and the exhaust leads directly outside.

Visit us on the web
www.elevatedhomeinspection.ca



Michael Levitan, BID
| 613 | 286-8925
elevatedhome@gmail.com

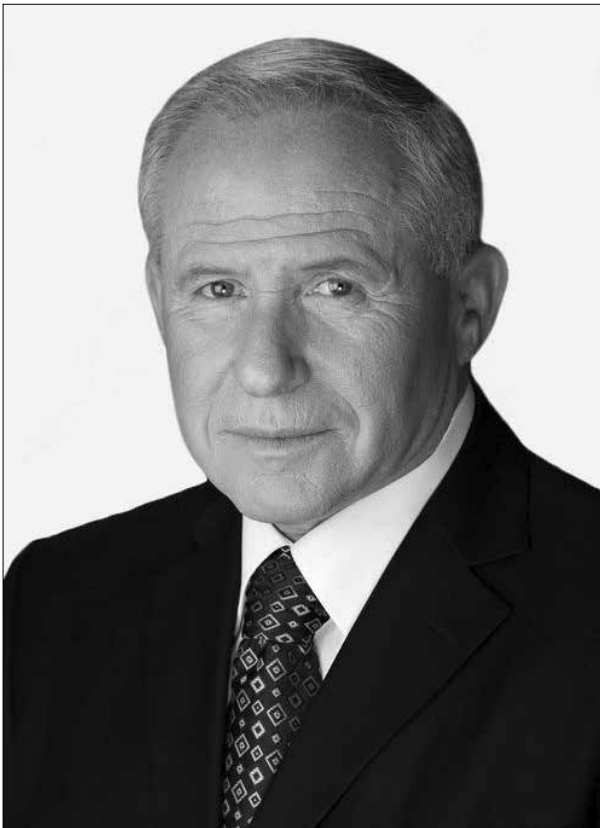


Dan Mader
Board Chair



Lynda Taller-Wakter
Executive Director

JNF is Past, Present, Future Building Israel since 1901



70 years of security

Learn about Israel's security with JNF's upcoming events

Israel's Security with *Gatekeeper's* Avi Dichter: April 22nd

The 2012 Oscar-nominated documentary *Gatekeepers*, the stories behind Israel's Shin Bet featured Avi Dichter who discussed the main events of his tenure as the former head of Shin Bet. He is coming to Ottawa on April 22 and will present a fascinating insight into Israel's security.

Today, Avi Dichter is a Member of the Knesset for the Likud. In the 20th Knesset, he is Chairman of the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee and chairs the Subcommittee for Cyber Defense. Among the key roles he has filled are Director of the Israeli Security Agency (ISA), Minister of Internal Security, Minister of Home Front Defense and chairman of the Foundation for the Benefit of Holocaust Victims (volunteer). Son of Holocaust survivors, Mr. Dichter is named for his grandfather who was murdered in the Holocaust.

In the military, Dichter served on the Itamar team in Sayeret Matkal, and participated in secret operations carried out by the unit. Following his military service, Dichter began working for the General Security Service as a sky marshal, and later filled a variety of field positions.

Following the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Dichter was called in to rehabilitate the ISA's bodyguard unit and was appointed head of security. He then served as head of the ISA during the second intifada – five of the most difficult years, with many terrorist attacks in Israel.

Sign up for our emails to stay in touch with our upcoming events.

205-11 Nadolny Sachs Pvt
Ottawa, K2A 1R9

613-798-2411 • ottawa@jnf.ca
www.jnfottawa.ca

Celebrate all occasions
Israel experiences
Legacy projects



Touch of Klez performs traditional Klezmer music with vocals and a range of instruments including mandolin, banjo and double bass.

Enjoy a Klez concert while helping the hungry Afternoon of fun and music planned for March 25

BY ESTELLE MELZER

Klez 11 will benefit the Kasher Food Bank, which supplements the food needs of more than 150 Jewish individuals and families in our community. Many Kasher Food Bank clients are seniors or new immigrants, but poverty can be an issue within all demographics in these tough economic times.

Klez Ottawa was initiated in 2008 by Adath Shalom Congregation. It was an evening of Jewish music and dance with the purpose of raising funds for the Kasher Food Bank. The first Klez evening was co-sponsored with Congregation Agudath Israel. Since then, Congregation Beth Shalom, The Glebe Minyan, Congregation Machzikei Hadas, Or Haneshamah (OrH) and Temple Israel have joined the sponsor list.

Many musicians and performers generously donate their time to create a lively, *freilich* experience of Jewish music, song and dance.

Klez 11 will include A Touch of Klez, Ottawa's well-known Klezmer band (now celebrating its 18th year) and Musica Ebraica, an accomplished choir specializing in Jewish music of all kinds. International Folk Dancers of Ottawa, led by Susan Barker, will lead the folk dancing and encourage everyone to join their circle and dance to the lively music. New this year, Folkshpeiler performers Shirley Steinberg and Ruben Friedman, will give us a taste of Yiddish humour, with some comedy sketches.

Touch of Klez performs traditional Klezmer music including bulgars, shers, Yiddish horas and waltzes. Members include Fred Brown (double bass), Ernie Brodo (mandolin), Eric Elkin (flute), Alison James (keyboard), Shaina Lipsey (vocals), Don McVeigh (banjo), Ruth Mendell (clarinet), Steve Shapransky (percussion) and Peter Teitelbaum (clarinet).

Musica Ebraica, with conductor Rabbi Liz Bolton and accompanist Carol Gurofsky, will present selections of Yiddish and Hebrew songs.

This year, the concert will be an afternoon event and take place at a new venue, the SJCC. As always there will be snacks and drinks.

The organizers of Klez 11 invite everyone, from kids to grandparents, to join us for a fun afternoon in support of a very important cause. If you cannot join us please consider becoming a sponsor, either as an individual, family or company. If you would like to become a private or corporate sponsor, please call Paul Adler at psadler@psadler.com.

Klez 11 will take place on Sunday, March 25, at 3 p.m. at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private. All proceeds from the concert will go to the Kasher Food Bank.

Admission to Klez 11 is \$10 per person, with an optional donation to the food bank welcome. Cheques should be made out to Kehillat Beth Israel, specifying Kasher Food Bank on the memo line.

(councillor)
Jan harder
Proudly Serving Barrhaven
for over 18 years!
613-580-2473
@BarrhavenJan
facebook.com/BarrhavenJanHarder
www.JanHarder.com

WAITERS ON THE RUN HOSPITALITY STAFFING AND EVENT SERVICES

Providing private Waiter services in your home for
2018 Pesach or any other occasions.

Weddings, Parties, Company & Private Events

RALPH H. PEPPER
GENERAL MANAGER

613.808.9612
WAITERSONTHERUN.CA





ADULT PROGRAMS

Spring 2018 • Aviv 5778

For full course descriptions or to register online please visit www.jccottawa.com.

You can also register in person at the front desk of the SJCC.

Contact: Roslyn Brozovsky Wollock – Adult Education Manager • rwollock@jccottawa.com • (613)798-9818 ext. 254

JEWISH EDUCATION

From the Bible to Bar Kokhba - 2nd Temple Judaism and Its Aftermath
with Professor Shawna Dolansky

April 26 – May 31
Thursdays 10:00 am – 11:30 am

Words That Hurt – Words That Heal
with Lauren Shaps

April 10 – May 1
Tuesdays 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm

A Taste of Melton (Admission Free Classes)
with Rabbi Steven Garten

These four classes introduce students to the Melton curriculum and method of learning.
It is necessary to reserve your spot by calling, (613) 798-9818 ext. 254

Mondays 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm
April 9 – April 30
OR
Wednesdays 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm
April 18 – May 9

SUNDAYS AT THE CENTRE

Photographing the Posthumous Landscape in Western Ukraine
with photographer and filmmaker David Kaufman

Sunday, April 22
10:30 am – 12:00pm \$10 at the door.

Russian Jewry and the Revolutions of 1917
with Professor Eugene Orenstein

Sunday, May 6
10:30 am – 12:00 pm \$10 at the door.

Celebrating Sholom Aleichem
with Shirley Steinberg and Rubin Friedman

Sunday, May 13
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm \$5 at the door

MUSIC

Canadian Musical Theatre *with Susan Blyth-Schofield*

April 11 – May 16
Wednesdays 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

New! Evening Class - Canadian Jazz: Going Strong for More Than a Century
with Karl Nerenberg

April 12 – May 24
Thursdays 7:00 pm – 8:30pm
No Class: April 19

Concert Series *with Katherine Addleman and Friends*

Fun and Games in the Goldberg Variations
with pianist Katherine Addleman

Monday April 9 1:30 pm
\$15 at the door

BEETHOVEN and BEYOND *with pianist Katherine Addleman and cellist Daniel Parker*

Monday May 14 1:30 pm
\$15 at the door

ART APPRECIATION

Sculpture, Architecture, and Design in the Gardens and Woods of Italian Renaissance Villas
with Dr. Susanne McColeman

April 16 – May 28
Mondays 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
No Class: May 21

ART

Mixed Media for Beginner/Intermediate
with Violeta Borisonik

April 11 – May 23
Wednesdays 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm
No Class: May 9

Paper Sculpture Workshop
with Violeta Borisonik

April 22 – April 29
Sundays 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm

LITERATURE

Travel Fiction *with Gefen Bar-On Santor*

April 10 – May 15
Tuesdays 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

LANGUAGE

S'iz Besser in Yiddish – It's Better in Yiddish – For Lovers of Mamaloshen
with Shirley Steinberg and Rubin Friedman

March 20, May 22, June 12
Tuesdays, 10:00 am – 11:30 am

Daytime: Conversational Hebrew from Scratch *with Sigal Baray*

April 12 – June 7
Thursdays 10:00 am – 11:30 am
No class: April 19

Evening: Conversational Hebrew for Beginners *with Ella Dagan*

April 10 – June 5
Tuesdays 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
No Class: April 17

Spanish *with Wendy Ordonez*

Beginner 2 (8 weeks)
April 13 – June 1
Fridays 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Advanced (10 weeks)
April 5 – June 7
Thursdays 12:15 pm – 1:45 pm

Intermediate (10 weeks)
April 5 – June 7
Thursdays 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

CAMP B'NAI BRITH RETROSPECTIVE

In partnership with the Ottawa Jewish Historical Society.

Thursday, April 26
7:30 pm at the SJCC

Share your memories of Camp B'nai Brith during this fun filled nostalgic retrospective evening.

Finding ways to give and get at the same time

MICAH GARTEN
GUEST COLUMN

As the Director of Development for the Jewish Federation and the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation, I like to think that it takes a lot to surprise me, and yet recently I received a call that was totally unexpected.

It was a long-time donor who began the conversation by explaining that although they had just made a pledge for the 2018 campaign, they hoped that I wouldn't mind if they made significantly increased gifts for the *next three annual campaigns!*

While I am never one to look a gift horse in the mouth, I couldn't help but ask what prompted this incredible generosity. It turns out that he had a stock that was doing particularly well and rather than pay a big tax bill on those gains, he chose to transfer that increase to us and get a big tax receipt.

It was a pleasure talking to him, as he was almost giddy with the thought of how he could make a gift far beyond what he could normally afford, all the while paying less tax. Imagine being able to fulfil your philanthropic goals AND save on taxes!

Even though I am the professional, it served as a nice reminder to me and I ended up calling my broker. We found a stock that had done particularly well that he wanted to sell anyway, and I was able to pay off my pledge immediately.

The experience got me thinking about whether there were other strategies I should consider, and so I reached out to Jeff Miller at GGFL, who prepared a short document on creative giving strategies to allow people to maximize their philanthropy while reducing their out-of-pocket costs. This includes very simple strategies, from gifts of securities or gifts in wills and life insurance products, all the way up to more complicated financial products such as charitable remainder trusts and flow through shares.

Every person's financial situation is unique, however, it is often valuable to take a moment and see if there are



RAWPIXEL.COM ON UNSPLASH

Every person's financial situation is unique, explains Micah Garten, however, it is often valuable to take a moment and see if there are mechanisms that can help you and your family with your goals.

mechanisms that can help you and your family with your goals. Please reach out to me if you would like to discuss your own philanthropic strategy. If you would like a copy of the document, you can find it on the Federation and Foundation webpages or I am happy to share it with you. I can be

reached at mgarten@jewishottawa.com or 613-798-4696, ext. 270.

Micah Garten is the Director of Development for the Jewish Federation of Ottawa and the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation.

**Do you have
an innovative
philanthropic
idea you need help
seeing to fruition?**

**KICK-START that
great fundraising idea
with \$3,500**

We want to hear from you!

The Norman Lesh Philanthropy Award, which honours the legacy of Norman Lesh, a philanthropist and forward-thinking community leader, will grant \$3,500 to help creative-minded people and organizations make a difference.



Norman Lesh
**Philanthropy
Award**



Tamir's first annual fashion show, Stepping Out in Style, was the 2017 recipient of the Norman Lesh Philanthropy Award.



Deadline April 13, 2018

Full details at ojcf.ca
Information: foundation@jewishottawa.com
or call 613-798-4696, ext. 252

A sunny Middle Eastern take on upside down cake

BY CHAYA RAPPOPORT

(The Nosh, via JTA) – Upside down cakes are one of my favourite types of cakes to make, mostly because they are an easy way to impress. In an upside down cake, the fruit is layered on the bottom of the pan along with sugar, and a simple, fluffy cake batter is poured on top. Once it's baked, the cake is inverted, and what was once the bottom of the cake becomes a gorgeously syrupy, fruity top. What could be simpler?

BLOOD ORANGE, SAFFRON AND SEMOLINA CAKE

2 teaspoons finely grated blood orange zest
1 pinch saffron threads
¾ cups granulated sugar
Butter for greasing the pan
⅓ cup raw or turbinado sugar
2 blood oranges, very thinly sliced, seeds removed
1½ cups semolina flour
1 cup all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon kosher salt
2 large eggs
1½ cups buttermilk
1 tablespoon orange blossom water
¾ cup unsalted butter, melted and slightly cooled

1. **Make the infused sugar:** Combine the blood orange zest and saffron threads with the granulated sugar and use your hands to rub the zest and saffron into the sugar until it is fra-

grant and slightly coloured by the zest and saffron. Set aside until needed.
2. Preheat the oven to 350 F. Grease a 10-inch cake pan. Dust the turbinado sugar over the bottom of the greased pan. Arrange the orange slices in circles over the sugar, pressing them closely together.
3. Make the cake batter: Whisk flours, infused sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt in a large bowl.
4. Add eggs, buttermilk, orange blossom water and butter; mix until no dry spots remain (a few lumps are OK; do not overmix).
5. Pour batter over oranges in pan and bake until top is golden brown and cake pulls away from sides of pan, 35 to 40 minutes. Transfer to a wire rack and let cool 5 minutes before inverting and turning out onto a rack or a large plate.
6. Serve slices with labne and saffron honey, if desired.



The Nosh food blog, via JTA, offers a dazzling array of new and classic Jewish recipes and food news, from Europe to

Yemen, from challah to shakshuka and beyond. Check it out at www.TheNosh.com.

HAKIM OPTICAL

hello Spring **SALE**

75% OFF plus! **Rx Lenses**

\$49

All Hakim Designer Frames

when you purchase 2 pair of complete Rx Eyeglasses Frames & Lenses

Over 160 Discount Outlets... 140 One Hour In-Store Labs

For nearest location call: 1-877-524-2020 • www.hakimoptical.ca

Don't pass-over this great promotion

Passover

desert egypt red sea bitter herbs plagues sinai Moses pharaoh wine seder matzah slavery 10 commandments first-born Miriam 4 cups shankbone 4 questions Aaron freedom

Send tribute cards to friends and family during this holiday season.

Buy five cards, get the sixth free!

To receive this offer, please call 613-798-4696 x 274 or email tributecards@ojcf.ca



Students of Chabad Hebrew School connect with a Torah scroll saved by a teenager on Kristallnacht in Hamburg, Germany. This Torah was at Ottawa Torah Centre Chabad on February 4.

DC Comics' newest writer is poised to make Superman Jewish again

BY MARCY OSTER

(JTA) – DC Comics' newest writer says that the choices he has made for his new Superman series are “deeply connected to (the character’s) origins.”

And those origins are very Jewish.

Brian Michael Bendis, who recently jumped ship from Marvel to DC Comics, will start drawing new comic books with the iconic superhero in May. He happens to be a product of a strictly Orthodox Jewish day school in Cleveland, Ohio.

“I’m a little Jewish boy from Cleveland and my connection to Superman is very, very deep, genetically,” Bendis told Forbes earlier this month.

Bendis’ personal background could have implications for the Superman character. From his given name Kal-El to his exodus from his home planet, Superman exudes the Jewish sensibilities of his creators, immigrants Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster (also Clevelanders).

“El” is a Hebrew term used to designate God. And just as Moses was nestled in a little basket for his trip down the Nile, Superman’s parents placed him in a rocket ship so he could escape his dying planet of Krypton. Instead of Pharaoh’s daughter lifting a crying baby out of a basket, Superman’s adoptive parents opened the rocket to discover a crying baby. The character’s transforma-



Christopher Reeve’s Superman costume on display at a Christie’s auction house in London.

tion from mild-mannered, glasses-wearing Clark Kent to avenging strongman has also been seen as a sort of Jewish immigrant’s wish fulfilment. The list of Jewish connections goes on.

Bendis told Forbes that it took some cosmic convincing to leave his long-time perch at Marvel for DC. While he was considering what to do, he said, he returned to Cleveland for his brother’s

wedding. He went to visit a friend who runs the Cleveland Public Library, and when he walked through the doors he ran into a Superman exhibition.

“It was like the universe was speaking to me, telling me ‘Oh you’ve got to do this!’ And it flooded back to me in the biggest way possible, and here we are,” he told Forbes interviewer Mark Hughes.

Bendis is perhaps best known from his days at Marvel as the man who killed off Spiderman — or at least his alter-ego, Peter Parker — in order to replace him with a new half-black, half-Hispanic character who gets bitten by a genetically altered spider. He said he was trying to make the comics look more like the real world.

Bendis was raised by a single mother in Cleveland and discovered comic books as an adolescent.

“I studied them like the Torah,” he told JTA in a 2013 interview.

He said the rabbis at his school did not enjoy his drawings, in particular the sketches of men in tights. He frequently got sent home for his artwork.

Bendis told Forbes that his new Superman “is a reflection of where he came from and the world we live in now.”

“Writing Superman in today’s day and age is such a powerful experience. We live in a world where we’ve heard, ‘Truth, justice, and the American way’ our whole lives, right? But this is the first time those things are really not to be taken for granted,” he said.

“Now I think it’s time (for) Superman to stand up and give us that hope we always want from him. It’s a great thing to be writing a character who exudes hope at a time when people really, really need it.”

Passover is almost here ... Are you ready?

(JTA) The period between Purim and Passover can be a stressful time for all those planning to host a Passover seder. To ease the challenging process of planning and preparing the festive meal, we offer this handy Passover checklist:

In the week after Purim: Begin going over your invite list for the seder. Parents, siblings and their kids, check. Know your numbers – and your guests! Prepare for gluten-sensitive relatives right away.

25 days out: Think about clearing out cabinets to make way for Passover food.

24 days out: Continue thinking

about clearing out cabinets to make way for Passover food.

23 days out: Throw out Passover food still crowding the cabinet from last year...

22 days out: Clear out last of cabinets to make room for Passover food.

21 days out: Announce to family that no more non-Passover food will be purchased between now and the holiday. Start planning pre-Passover meals based on the leftovers you have on hand: freezer-burned hamburger meat, bags of stale macaroni, whatever that thing is in the Tupperware.

20 days out: First Passover shop-



Getting ready for Passover requires more than just finding matching Haggadahs.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JEWISH FEDERATION OF NORTH AMERICA

I REALLY AM
BRILLIANT!



I discovered **SMARTBANKING** at **Your Credit Union**. At **YCU** I'm an owner instead of a number, which is just plain smarter. It means they exist to make money for me, not from me. So I get the lowest fees and these amazing returns on my term deposits. Choosing **YCU** was brilliant—and I do say so myself.

SMART TERM DEPOSITS

2.70%
FOR 4 YEAR
TERM DEPOSIT

2.85%
FOR 5 YEAR
TERM DEPOSIT



YourCU.com

1-800-379-7757



ping trip: condiments, tea bags, tomato sauce, tuna fish, shelf liner, grape juice, off-brand ketchup, one carton gluten-free “panko” matzah crumbs, potato vodka. Total bill: \$347.71. Oy!

18 days out: Begin planning menu: Search online for new Passover recipes. Brisket with horseradish gremolata? Skillet roast chicken with fennel, parsnips and scallions? Braised lamb shanks with dates, tangerines and baby onions? Check the number of steps and ingredients for each recipe, gasp, then agree to make the same three things you’ve been making for the past 19 years.

16 days out: Second Passover shopping trip: macaroons, Passover cake mix, soda, jars of gefilte fish, paper plates and disposable utensils, matzah meal, wine, almonds and walnuts, jarred horseradish, cottonseed oil, mayonnaise, potato vodka. Total bill: \$740.

5 minutes later: Return to grocery store for your free five pounds of matzah, per coupon. Reduce grocery bill by \$20.97.

10 minutes later: Return again to grocery store to buy one pound of gluten-free shmurah matzah for gluten-sensitive relatives. Increase grocery bill by \$67.26.

14 days out: Ask spouse to bring up kosher dishes, seder plate and Haggadahs from the basement.

13 days out: Ask spouse to *please* bring up kosher dishes, seder plate and Haggadahs from the basement.

12 days out: Ask spouse to *please* bring up kosher dishes, seder plate and Haggadahs from the basement, *or else...*

10 days out: Finalize guest list.

Finalize menu. Longingly peruse ads in Jewish newspaper for weeklong Passover cruises.

7 days out: Last shopping before Passover: beef, chicken, fish, produce, milk, cheese, parsley, shank bone, eggs, chocolate-covered matzah, and potato vodka. Total bill: You don’t want to know.

5 days out: Clean and kosher sink, counters, stove, oven and refrigerator. Begin cooking seder side dishes.

4 days out: Inform family that Passover rules already apply in kitchen: no bread, pasta, beer or everyday tableware or cutlery. When they ask what they are supposed to eat, reply “improvise.”

3 days out: Ask spouse to bring up table leaf from the basement. Begin vacuuming and cleansing all surfaces with the care normally given to sterilizing microbiological laboratories. Longingly peruse ads in travel and leisure magazines showing non-Jewish couples on Caribbean vacations.

2 days out: Ask spouse to bring up table leaf from basement, *or else*. Set table.

1 day out: Gluten-free relatives cancel. Stare despairingly at cupboard of gluten-free matzah.

Seder day: Welcome parents, siblings, their kids, aunts and uncles. Ask your youngest to recite the Four Questions, which he does perfectly, which is less impressive than it might seem when you remember that he’s 23. Read Haggadah. Eat festive meal. Welcome Elijah.

1 day after: Vow never to do this again.

2 days after: Agree to do this again next year.

Ottawa's Premier Healthy Low-Carb, Keto & Paleo-Friendly Eat-In & Take-Out Cafe

MEALS, SNACKS & DESSERTS

NUTRITIOUS & DELICIOUS TO-GO

WEEKLY MEAL DELIVERY SERVICE

290 Dalhousie Street | Mon-Sat | 10am-4pm



Featuring...

Signature Keto Bagels



www.CarbFree4Me.com

Stock up for Passover and do good at the same time

March 11 fair offers kosher wines, crafts, seder plates and jewelry

BY MARILYN SCHWARTZ
FOR BEIT TIKVAH OF OTTAWA

You can get ready for Passover and help local charitable organizations at the same time by buying Passover wines and gifts at the Annual Passover Fair.

The fair is a collaborative effort involving Canadian Hadassah-Wizo (CHW), Na'amat Canada and Congregation Beit Tikvah. It's open to the entire community and will take place from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 11, at Congregation Beit Tikvah, 15 Chartwell Avenue.

Na'amat Canada Ottawa offers a large variety of reasonably priced kosher wines from such countries as Australia, Chile, France, Israel, the United States and Canada as one of its key fundraising projects.

For the best selection, you can get the wine list ahead of time and place an order by contacting Deana Schild-

kraut at 613-726-9595 or deana.schildkraut@gmail.com. Your order will be ready to pick up at the fair. All profits from these sales are used by Na'amat Canada to enhance the lives of women and children in need in Canada and Israel.

Complementing the wine sale, Canadian Hadassah-Wizo Ottawa will offer unique Passover-themed gifts such as matzo covers, afikoman bags, aprons and wine bags in holiday fabrics. Canadian Hadassah-Wizo provides services for children and women and health care in Canada and Israel. Other vendors will sell items such as seder plates, jewelry, books, Jewish artifacts and more.

For more information, please contact Beit Tikvah at shul@cbto.org or 613-723-1800; Deana Schildkraut of Na'amat at deana.schildkraut@gmail.com or 613-726-9595; or Marilyn Schwartz at Marilyn_sch1970@yahoo.ca.



CHANGES TO INDIVIDUAL COMPENSATION PROGRAMS FOR HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

The Claims Conference has negotiated liberalizations with the German government. The following changes to individual compensation programs are now effective.

- Jewish Holocaust survivors who were persecuted in Iasi, Romania, for at least three months between August 1941 and August 1944 may be eligible for a monthly pension.
- Jewish Holocaust survivors who lived in hiding for at least four months, under inhumane conditions without access to the outside world, or lived under false identity for at least 4 months in Nazi-occupied territory and/or in Nazi satellite states, may be eligible for a monthly pension from the Article 2 or Central or Eastern European Fund.
- Jews who were residing in Algeria between July 1940 and November 1942, and suffered Nazi persecution such as restrictions or deprivation of liberty, may be eligible for a one-time payment from the Hardship Fund.

Pensions may only be paid to survivors who do not already receive a pension from a German source (including but not limited to, Article 2 Fund, Central and Eastern European Fund (CEE), German Federal Indemnification Law (BEG), Länderhärtefonds, Austrian pension (OFG) or Israeli Ministry of Finance) and who meet all other criteria, including the income and asset criteria.

In addition, Jewish Nazi victims who were not eligible for a payment from the Hardship Fund because they had received a prior payment from a German source, such as the BEG (Bundesentschädigungsgesetz) or a global agreement, may now be eligible for a supplemental payment that represents the difference between the amount received from that German source and € 2556.46 the current amount of the Hardship Fund one-time payment.

Applicants who were a fetus during the time that their mother suffered persecution described above should also apply. The Claims Conference funds homecare and other welfare services for vulnerable Holocaust survivors according to the criteria of the German Government. There is no cost to apply. Heirs are not eligible to apply.

To download an application from our website, please go to: www.claimscon.org/apply

For more information, contact: Claims Conference
PO Box 1215 New York, NY 10113 USA
Tel: +1-646-536-9100 Fax: +1-212-685-5299
Email: info@claimscon.org www.claimscon.org

The Claims Conference has an Ombudswoman. To contact the Office of the Ombudswoman, please email: Ombudsman@claimscon.org or write to The Ombudswoman, P.O. Box 585, Old Chelsea Station, New York, NY 10113

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

Nominate someone for the 2018 Community Service Awards today!

Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award

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

Freiman Family Young Leadership Award

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

Student Leadership Award

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

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

To be considered, nominations must include 2 letters of support, including one from an organization.

The nomination must specifically address all the outlined criteria.

Nominations for all awards will be considered for the year in which they are received and will be carried over once.

Awards will be presented at Federation's Annual General Meeting on **June 20, 2018**.



Questions? Please contact Solange at 613-798-4696 x 236 or sashe@jewishottawa.com



Our community. Our responsibility. Our future.

jewishottawa.com JFedOttawa JewishOttawa





In support of the Bess and Moe Greenberg Family Hillel Lodge In the Joseph and Inez Zelikovitz Long Term Care Centre

613-728-3990

Your donation to the Lodge assists in providing high quality care for our Jewish elderly.

Card Donations

Card donations go a long way to improving the quality of life for our residents. Thank you for considering their needs and contributing to their well-being.

On behalf of the residents and their families, we extend sincere appreciation to the following individuals and families who made card donations to the Hillel Lodge Long-Term Care Foundation between February 1 - 14, 2018 inclusive.

HONOUR FUNDS

Unlike a bequest or gift of life insurance, which are realized some time in the future, a named **Honour Fund** (i.e., endowment fund) is established during your lifetime.

By making a contribution of \$1,000 or more, you can create a permanent remembrance for a loved one, honour a family member, declare what the Lodge has meant to you and/or support a cause that you believe in.

A Hillel Lodge **Honour Fund** is a permanent pool of capital that earns interest or income each year. This income then supports the priorities designated by you, the donor.

Ruth and Irving Aaron Family Fund

In Honour of:

Belle Gitterman Best wishes on your recent Birthday by Ruth and Irving Aaron

In Memory of:

Sylvia Monson by Ruth and Irving Aaron

Bill and Leona Adler Memorial Fund

In Memory of:

Sylvia Monson by Marilyn Adler

Auxiliary of Hillel Lodge Fund

In Honour of:

Dora and Sam Litwack Belated best wishes on your 60th Wedding Anniversary by Sonja and Ron Kesten

R'Fuah Shlema

Marion Silver by Sonja and Ron Kesten

Norman and Stella Beck Family Fund

In Memory of:

Sylvia Monson by Stella and Sheila Beck

Jenny and Murray Citron Family Fund

In Memory of:

Carol Greenberg by Murray Citron

Tania Firestone Fund

In Honour of:

Sam Firestone Mazel Tov on your 65th Birthday by Barbara and Steve Levinson

Nell Gluck Memorial Fund

In Memory of:

Sylvia Monson by Henry and Maureen Molot

In Honour of:

Dr. Paul Nesbitt Mazel Tov on your milestone Birthday by Julia and Ted and Jess and Ayelet
Maya Nix Good luck on your American Adventure by Julia and Ted and Jess and Ayelet

R'Fuah Shlema:

Stuart Levine by Henry and Maureen Molot

Evelyn and Irving Greenberg Family Fund

In Memory of:

Carol Greenberg by Evelyn Greenberg

Gunner Fund

In Memory of:

Teena Goldberg by Sol and Estelle Gunner
Sylvia Monson by Sol and Estelle Gunner

Isadore and Evelyn Hoffman Family Fund

In Honour of:

Stephen Kimmel Wishing you every success in your new venture by Issie and Evelyn Hoffman

David, Harvey, Victor Kardish Family Fund

In Memory of:

Carol Greenberg by Margo, David, Aaron and Gail Kardish

In Honour of:

Neilah Shapiro Mazel Tov on your well-deserved award by Margo, David, Aaron and Gail Kardish

Maurie and Dorothy Karp Family Fund

In Memory of:

Sylvia Monson by Etta Karp

Norman and Gert Leyton Family Fund

In Memory of:

Sylvia Monson by Cheryl Leyton and Manuel Glimcher

Farrand and Joyce Miller Family Fund

In Honour of:

Joyce Miller Happy Birthday by Lorna Rosenstein and Felice Caron

Label and Leona Silver Family Fund

In Honour of:

Jeffrey Silver Wishing you a very happy Birthday by Label and Leona Silver
Rochel Silver Wishing you a very happy Birthday by Label and Leona Silver

Monica and Alvin Stein Family Fund

In Memory of:

Sylvia Monson by Monica and Alvin Stein
Teena Goldberg by Alvin and Monica Stein

Sternberg / Jacobsen Fund

In Memory of:

Sylvia Monson by Laya Jacobsen

Sarah and Arnie Swedler Family Fund

In Memory of:

Teena Goldberg by Arnie Swedler and Rhoda Zaitlin

Roslyn and Myles Taller Family Fund

Sylvia Monson by Roz Taller

Joel and Toby Yan Family Fund

In Memory of:

Sylvia Monson by Toby and Joel Yan

Carole and Norman Zagerman Family Fund

R'Fuah Shlema:

Norm Zagerman by John, Andrea, Morgan and Jordan Zagerman

Feeding Program

In Memory of:

Sylvia Monson by Carol Gradus and Linda Signer

R'Fuah Shlema:

Penny Resnick by Adam, Sherry and the girls
Sandra Zunder by Michael and Muriel Wexler

In Honour of:

Barbara and Jules Sigler Mazel Tov on the birth of your grandson by Michael and Muriel Wexler

Therapeutic Program

R'Fuah Shlema:

Penny Resnick by Jason, Elaine and Jacob Bronsther

Recreation Program

In Memory of:

Joan Lazarus by Sally Matook, Shala, Birki, Janice, Gigi and Mariel

Sylvia Monson by Miriam Silburt and Evelyn Greenberg, Grace Midgley, Michael and Muriel Wexler, Raoul and Sandi Korngold, Ron and Marilyn Goldberg

In Memory of:

Brian Timms by Marty Saslove

Bryant Steinberg by Rena, Mitchell, Tara and Kayla Sabloff

Sylvia Monson by the residents, staff and Boards of the Lodge and LTC Foundation, Marty Saslove, Harriet and Mark Podolak, Ingrid Levitz, The Good Companions, Danny and Marilyn Kimmel, Sheila and Irv Osterer and Family, John, Andrea, Morgan and Jordan Zagerman, Sheila Bahar, Agnes Sermann, Susan Feldberg, Morris Shapiro, Kenneth Kavanat, Anna Bilsky and Beverley and Abe Feinstein

Carol Greenberg by Marty Saslove, Sheila and Irv Osterer and Family, Harris Pleet and Aurete Lavie, Morton and Sylvia Pleet, Jeff and Felice Pleet

Graham Smith by Evelyn Monson and Sylvia Monson and Harriet and Mark Podolak
Elaine Wershba by Beverly and Irving Swedko
Alice Elizabeth Grundy by Laurie Chochinov
Eva Vininsky by Elaine Hauptman

In Honour of:

Barbara and Alec Okun In appreciation by Joni and Chummus Spunt

Lorna and Carl Raskin In appreciation by Joni and Chummus Spunt

Joanne MacKenzie Congratulations on the marriage of your son by Rhoda and Mike Aronson



Don't forget to burn/sell
your Chometz and...
Send cards that benefit
Residents of the Lodge

**THE LODGE EXPRESSES ITS SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR YOUR KIND SUPPORT
AND APOLOGIZES FOR ANY ERRORS OR OMISSIONS. DUE TO SPACE LIMITATIONS, THE WORDING APPEARING
IN THE BULLETIN IS NOT NECESSARILY THE WORDING WHICH APPEARED ON THE CARD.**

“GIVING IS RECEIVING” – ATTRACTIVE CARDS AVAILABLE FOR ALL OCCASIONS

Here's a great opportunity to recognize an event or convey the appropriate sentiment to someone important to you and at the same time support the Lodge. Call orders may be given to Cathie at 728-3990, 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Monday to Friday. You may also go to: www.hillel-ltc.com and click on the “Donate Now” button to make your donations. Cards may be paid for by Visa or Mastercard. Contributions are tax deductible.

Sex, politics, murder and exceptional writing

MURRAY CITRON BOOK REVIEW

The People of Godlbozhits

By Leyb Rashkin

Original published 1936 in Warsaw as

Di mentshn fun Godlbozhits

Translation by Jordan Finkin,

Syracuse University Press, 2017

471 pages

Leyb Rashkin was born in Kazimierz Dolny, a town south of Warsaw, in 1903. He managed a bank and several hardware stores and started to write fiction in the 1930s. This is his only novel. He was killed in 1939 trying to escape east from the German invaders.

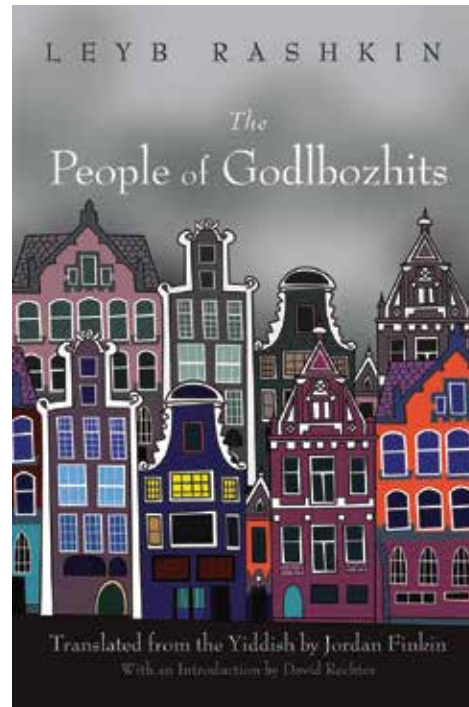
Godlbozhits is a fictionalized version of the author's hometown. It is presented as a *shtetl*, though the population appears to be only partly Jewish. Much of the narrative involves the triangular rivalry between Jewish businessmen, Jewish trade unionists, and Polish government authorities who hold whatever

real power there is. Rashkin is sardonic in dealing with the anti-Semitism of the Poles as well the shifts made by Jews in dealing with it, and with each other.

The author's style is reminiscent of such writers as Sholem Aleichem and Isaac Babel. The 20th century is very much present. There are motorcars, which are killing the horse-and-carriage trade. In the tanning factory the workers worry about "machines that do all the work themselves, shave and roll the leather," so the workers won't be needed. One goes to Warsaw by bus. The Austrian Empire is gone, but remembered. Bolshevik Russia looms over the people's lives. Oddly, there is no sense of the danger from Germany.

The plot is based on the love affairs of Shimen, an orphan who manages to get himself an education and a good job. The people's lives are rambunctious. There is sex. There is politics. The Poles are moving toward anti-Semitic authoritarianism. The Jews have the parties that North American Jews recognize as the roots of their own experience: the Zionists, the Bund, Communists, Hasidim.

It is appropriate that this book was recommended to me by a librarian. The story gets going when Shimen goes to the



Zionist library and asks for something by Sholem Aleichem. They don't have anything, but the librarian sends him to the trade union library where he meets Zosia, the blonde communist organizer who is his true love. There are other love affairs. There are strikes. The novel's climax is a murder in the synagogue, which leads to more suspicious deaths.

Above all, there is the quality of the writing. When Rashkin wants to describe poverty there are "little old men with frozen beards and children with little brown-blue faces." When Shimen meets Zosia, he hears her voice and looks around: "Now he could just make out how those large eyes had the lustre of a steel sickle."

This is the sunset that Shimen and Zosia see when they are leaving town because of a police roundup: "In front of them, off in the far distance, stood a dark-blue forest, and over the forest the fiery red half-circle of the sun. The other half of the fiery circle had dipped behind the treetops, which turned molten, their canopies catching fire."

The translation is by Jordan Finkin, a librarian at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati. Translators are generally told to make the text read as if it was written in English. Finkin mostly does that, but he is not afraid to leave fingerprints of the Yiddish original. Sometimes the fingerprints are a bit thick on the page, and require concentration, but it is worth it.

You can probably get this novel at Chapters if you try, but it is available now at the Greenberg Families Library at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre. I thank them for recommending it.

Bess and Moe Greenberg Family Hillel Lodge

Get To Know Us

ADVERTORIAL



Belle Gitterman

When you visit the Lodge, Belle will be one of the ladies who is always dressed elegantly, smiling and ready to share some of her "Belle" style of humour.

Belle was born in Ottawa on January 14, 1920 to Shmuel and Shifra Edelson Who immigrated from Lithuania. Her parents had a grocery store in Lowertown where you could buy enough herring to feed the family for 5 cents, and if you really wanted to splurge – shmaltz herring. The store was a landmark in

Lowertown across from the York Street School, a place where a generation of Jewish kids would pop in after school for candy. Belle's maternal uncle was Moses Loeb. Mr. Loeb also started a little candy store in Lebreton Flats and it grew into M.Loeb Ltd, one of the largest grocery chains in eastern Ontario.

She grew up in Ottawa during the Depression and was able to secure employment as an office worker at the federal government's Department of Finance. It was there that in 1939, colleagues introduced Belle to Samuel Gitterman and the two were married in the Ottawa Talmud Torah on George Street. As Belle recalls, "we were the only two Jews in the office." When describing their first date, Belle said; "he was inclined to be a bit shy, but I made up for it by talking too much." She remembers that "in those days, you never lived together until you were married." When their sons, Allan and Lawrence started school, Belle went back to work, working at the public library, a job that she loved very much.

Belle misses her late husband Samuel who passed away in 1998. She'll proudly tell you how he graduated from Baron Byng in Montreal and although Samuel was an excellent student, it took a few attempts to be admitted to McGill University due

to its strict anti-Jewish quotas, and that his university education was financed by an interest-free loan from Samuel Bronfman. Sam studied architecture at McGill and graduated 1st in his class.

Belle feels that Ottawa has always been a small town where everybody knows everyone and "what they're doing". Her late husband loved photography and he had the opportunity to travel and experience the world which he would share with Belle. On the wall in her room is a beautiful photo he took in Kenya, Africa of a young couple getting married. A wedding in the desert. When asked what her hobbies were, Belle smiles and with her sense of humor says that her hobby was getting a job and helping out. Their son Lawrence will tell you that he inherited his parents' love for travel (actually, he shared that quote via email from India while I was writing this article).

We can imagine how fulfilling Shabbat and High Holidays must have been in the Gitterman home, as her sons describe their mother as being "a great cook. Her potato knishes were to die for. She made brisket, cabbage rolls, and a wonderful chicken soup with dill." Lawrence even acquired a taste for braised tongue from her version, and he fondly remembers the delicious sponge cake she made at Passover.

Belle has two wonderful sons and is a proud grandmother and great grandmother.

Asked what she thinks about Hillel Lodge, and she replied "I love Hillel Lodge. I really do. They provide us with everything we need. I'm really happy here and it allows my kids to live free and do what they want to do."

By Mitch Miller

Executive Director, Hillel Lodge LTC Foundation



FOUNDATION DONATIONS | Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation

The Board of Directors of the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation acknowledges with thanks contributions to the following funds from January 30 - February 13 2018

Reminder: Printed acknowledgment must be requested to appear in the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin.

JOIN US IN BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY BY SUPPORTING THESE LOCAL AGENCIES

AJA 50+ ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Sylvia Monson by Steven and Doris Rauch.

SHIRLEY AND SHIER BERMAN FUND FOR OTTAWA JEWISH ARCHIVES

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Shirley and Shier Berman and family.
Teena Goldberg by Shirley and Shier Berman.
Sylvia Monson by Shirley and Shier Berman.
Rhea Wohl by Shirley Berman.

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES AGENCY FUND

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

William James by Sandra and Norman Slover.

IN MEMORY OF:

Teena Goldberg by Sandra and Norman Slover.

OTTAWA JEWISH COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Myra Abramovitch.

SOLOWAY JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE ENDOWMENT FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Michael Aronson on becoming Chair of the Soloway Jewish Community Centre.

SARA AND ZEEV VERED ISRAEL CULTURAL PROGRAM FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Sara Vered.
Teena Goldberg by Sara Vered.

ABRAHAM AND RACHEL BAROOK MEMORIAL FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Cynthia and Max Weinstein.

NORMAN AND MYRNA

BARWIN FOUNDATION OF THE PINCHAS ZUKERMAN MUSICAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Teena Goldberg by Norman and Myrna Barwin.

CAYLA AND MICHAEL BAYLIN ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Cayla Baylin.
Teena Goldberg by Cayla Baylin.
Sylvia Monson by Cayla Baylin.

CLAIRE AND IRVING BERCOVITCH ENDOWMENT FUND

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Sam Firestone by Ed Kerzner.

MARTIN AND ELLIE BLACK ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Martin and Ellie Black.

REFUAH SHLEMAH TO:

Joe Kruger by Martin and Ellie Black.

LT. COL. EDMOND AND MRS. ELIZABETH BLAIS MEMORIAL FUND

CONDOLENCES TO:

Lisa Cogan on the loss of her mother by Jules and Barbara Sigler.

LORI CAPLAN AND PHIL RIMER FAMILY FOUNDATION

In Memory of:

LEON GROYECKI BY LORI CAPLAN AND PHIL RIMER AND FAMILY.

MAX AND GRETE COHEN MEMORIAL FUND

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE FIRST YAHRZEIT OF:

Sid Cohen by his children Steven, Brian and Susie.

LESLIE AND CORNELIA ENGEL ENDOWMENT FUND

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHRZEIT OF:

Leslie Engel a dear father by Andre Engel.

ALFRED AND KAYSA FRIEDMAN ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Alfred Friedman.

REFUAH SHLEMAH TO:

Sandra Zunder by Alfred Friedman.

FRAN AND SID GERSHBERG FAMILY FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Esther and Irving Kulik on the birth of their first granddaughter by Fran and \ Sid Gershberg.

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. The Foundation's funds are carefully invested in fixed income and equity markets - as part of the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation's larger portfolio - to generate annual distribution income.

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 **Micah Garten**, Director of Development at mgarten@jewishottawa.com 613-798-4696 x270



- Building Trust
- 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.



5-year annualized return (net of fees) as of Dec. 31, 2016. * Please note that past performance is not an assurance of future Foundation growth.

Contact: Micah Garten,
Director of Development at 613-798-4696 x270
or mgarten@jewishottawa.com



OTTAWA JEWISH
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

FOUNDATION DONATIONS | Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation

STAN AND LIBBY GLUBE FAMILY FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Francie Greenspoon and Norman Lieff on the engagement of their daughter Rachel by Bev and Bryan Glube.

HERB AND DENA GOSEWICH ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Dena Gosewich. Mendel Shore by Dena Gosewich.

CAROL AND LAWRENCE (LORRY) GREENBERG COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Merovitz Potechin, by Bernie and Donna Dolansky, by Marty and Ellen Cardash, by Sharon Cardash, by Adrienne and Chuck Shabsove, by Noreen Slack, by Benita Siemiatycki, by Jonathan and Heidi Pivnick, Marilyn and Will Newman, by Lorraine Caplan and family, Leatrice Selinsky and family, and by Susan and Gillie Vered.

FRITZI AND MAX (CHIEF) GREENBERG MEMORIAL FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Linda and Murray Greenberg and family.

ZELDA AND JOHN GREENBERG ENDOWMENT FUND

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHRZEIT OF:

John Greenberg by Margot Greenberg. Zelda Greenberg by Margot Greenberg.

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Margot Greenberg.

HY AND PAULINE HOCHBERG ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Pauline Hochberg. Teena Goldberg by Pauline Hochberg.

SHARON KOFFMAN ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Sandra Zagon.

KRANTZBERG KRANE FAMILY FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Sylvia Monson by Myra and Sam Krane and family. Teena Goldberg by Myra and Sam Krane. Mendy Orloff by Myra and Sam Krane.

SUSAN AND DAVID KRIGER ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Evelyn Charach by Susan and David Kriger.

JANA AND MICHAEL LEVITAN FAMILY FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Jana and Michael Levitan and family.

RON AND RUTH LEVITAN ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Ron and Ruth Levitan. Herb Friedman by Ron and Ruth Levitan.

SALLY AND ELLIOTT LEVITAN ENDOWMENT FUND

JACOB MALOMET MEMORIAL FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Jonah Poplove by Diana Malomet.

NORMAN AND ANNE MIRSKY MEMORIAL FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Teena Goldberg by Millie and Steve Mirsky.

THE OTTAWA LION OF JUDAH ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Barbara Thaw by Leiba Krantzberg and Michael Metz. Carol Greenberg by Leiba Krantzberg and Michael Metz. Dora Mirels by Leiba Krantzberg and Michael Metz.

MAZEL TOV TO:

Neilah Shapiro on receiving the

Grossman-Klein Teen Leadership Award by Leiba Krantzberg and Michael Metz.

SYDNEY SLOAN POTECHIN MEMORIAL FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Dodie and Bram Potechin.

FLORENCE AND GDALYAH ROSENFELD ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Anita Rosenfeld.

FRANCES AND MORTON ROSS FAMILY FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Fran and Mort Ross. Sylvia Monson by Fran and Mort Ross. Henry Greenspoon by Fran and Mort Ross.

RICKIE AND MARTIN SASLOVE FAMILY FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Jeff and Rhoda Miller.

HAROLD AND FRANCES SHAFFER MEMORIAL FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Rhea Whol by Sonia and Sheldon Shaffer. Sylvia Monson by Sonia and Sheldon Shaffer. Teena Goldberg by Sonia and Sheldon Shaffer.

SAMUEL AND KATHERINE SIGLER MEMORIAL FUND

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Fred Cogan by Jules and Barbara Sigler.

REFUAH SHLEMAH TO:

Stuart Levine by Jules and Barbara Sigler. The mother of Marvin Green by Jules and Barbara Sigler.

STELLA AND LOUIS SLACK MEMORIAL FUND

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Seymour Mender by Myra and Lester Aronson.

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Myra and Lester Aronson.

MAX AND PEARL SMOLKIN FAMILY FUND

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHRZEIT OF:

Max Smolkin by Sheila Smolkin and family.

PATRICIA SMOLKIN MEMORIAL FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Neilah Shapiro on receiving the Grossman-Klein Teen Leadership Award by Howard Smolkin, by Annice Kronick, and by Carol-Sue and Jack Shapiro. Michael Geist on receiving the Order of Ontario by Nikki, Michael, Neilah and Benjamin Shapiro.

Joshua Freedman on receiving the Grossman-Klein Teen Leadership Award by Nikki, Michael, Neilah and Benjamin Shapiro. Shelby Levine for being published by Nikki, Michael, Neilah and Benjamin Shapiro.

IN APPRECIATION TO:

Leslie Klein by Nikki, Michael, Neilah and Benjamin Shapiro.

FREDA AND PHIL SWEDKO MEMORIAL FUND

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Sam Firestone by Beverly and Irving Swedko.

THE TARANTOUR FAMILY FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Teena Goldberg by Norma and Phil Lazear.

MOSES, CHENYA AND HENRY TORONTOW MEMORIAL FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Sylvia Monson by Tammy Torontow. and by Beatrice Torontow and family.

STEPHEN AND GAIL VICTOR ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Sandy Marchello, and by Stephen and Gail Victor.

THE WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE PHILANTHROPY PROGRAM

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

THE SAUL AND EDNA GOLDFARB B'NAI MITZVAH PROGRAM

ABIGAIL GREENBERG MITZVAH FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Tammy Torontow, and by Erin Bolling-Bleichman and Dan Bleichman.

LIEFF FAMILY B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Belle Greenspoon by Benita Siemiatycki and family.

MARSHALL ROTHMAN B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Carol Greenberg by Shelley Rothman.

DAHLIA AND ZACHARY SHABSOVE B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Bryant Steinberg by Adrienne and Chuck Shabsove.

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 tribute-cards@ojcf.ca. Attractive cards are sent to convey the appropriate sentiments. All donations are acknowledged with a charitable receipt.



There is a way to
LIVE FOREVER.

Take the Foundation
Legacy Challenge

Visit ojcf.ca

OTTAWA JEWISH
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Historical revisionism not limited to Poles

The new law in Poland that criminalizes references to incontrovertible facts about Poles being involved in the killing of Jews during the Holocaust suggests a reprehensible form of Holocaust denial. So wrote Rabbi Dow Marmur, Rabbi Emeritus of Holy Blossom Temple and a Polish-born Holocaust survivor.

The evidence of Polish complicity in the Nazi atrocities is well documented. In fact, one of the foremost scholars on the subject is Polish émigré Jan Grabowski of the University of Ottawa. His work is so renowned that were he to visit his native country, he might be put on trial for defaming the Polish state and the Polish people.

There is no shortage of adjectives that would describe this heinous anti-Jewish, anti-intellectual law. In fact, shortly after passing this law, the Polish parliament began debating a law that would outlaw kosher slaughtering, an enterprise that seems to provide significant economic benefit to the Polish economy. All Jews and all who believe in the value of historical accuracy are incensed by these political actions. Yet the rewriting of history for nationalistic purpose is not restricted to the Poles.

Today, there are many instances in North America where new-found national and social priorities lead to the revision of history. In the United States, the events of the Civil War have once again become a battlefield for historical reinterpretation. The commander of the Confederacy troops, Robert E. Lee, has been reviled as a racist. Long forgotten is the fact that he was first asked to command the troops of Abraham Lincoln. His refusal was based on his loyalty to Virginia, not slavery.



RABBI STEVEN H. GARTEN

A VIEW FROM THE BLEACHERS

Judah P. Benjamin, the first Jew elected to the U.S. senate who did not renounce his faith, served in three cabinet positions for the Confederacy. He was a wealthy slave holder and an eloquent supporter of slavery. He advocated arming slaves and allowing them to fight for the Confederacy.

His suggestion was not accepted until it was too late to be impactful. He escaped at the end of the war to Britain and was welcomed into Anglo Jewish society. His support of slavery was much more virulent than that of Robert E. Lee, but we rarely condemn him or ask that he be removed from textbooks on great Jewish Americans.

In Canada, we continue to question how we should respond to historical injustices against aboriginal people. There is no doubt that aboriginal people have good reason to demand a reconsideration of behaviours that once might have been acceptable, but are no longer. There are of course many Canadians who claim that past is past and that we cannot judge it by our own standards.

I wonder what the Polish parliament would say about our ongoing desire to alter historical perspectives. Of course there is a difference between altering

facts and altering perspectives, but the nuances of that distinction are not readily appreciated by many.

During the past year, while we celebrated the 100-year anniversary of the Balfour Declaration, even Jews were tempted to rewrite history. We celebrated the declaration as if there was unanimity of agreement as to its value. We conveniently ignored the fact that many high-profile Jews in Great Britain were ardent opponents of the declaration.

Edwin Montagu, the highest-ranking Jew in the British cabinet, argued that “when the Jew has a national home, surely it follows that the impetus to deprive us of the rights of British citizenship must be enormously increased.” And he added a very powerful sentence: “Palestine will become the world’s ghetto.”

In fact, a paragraph concerning “the political rights and status enjoyed by Jews in other countries” was included to assuage his concerns.

In addition, we ignored the fact that the Balfour Declaration allowed the British to renege on earlier promises to France regarding Palestine (Sykes-Picot Agreement). We ignore the fact that the declaration was used to extract from the League of Nations a mandate for Palestine, which was not favourable to the Jews during and after the Second World War. We ignore the fact that its existence was used to help protect the Suez Canal and played not an insignificant role in enticing Israel to participate in the 1956 war.

As we condemn the vile declaration of the Polish government, we would be well advised that historical blinders and temptations to rewrite history can infect all peoples, even our own.



2017 GJ Cooper Scholarship recipient Anna Frenkel was awarded a scholarship of \$15,687 at the Foundation’s Annual General Meeting (presented by Paul Finn, 2017 Scholarship Committee Chair).

Full details at ojcf.ca

Information: foundation@jewishottawa.com or call 613-798-4696, ext. 252

APPLY
NOW!

GJ Cooper Scholarship Award

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

Applications Open!
Deadline: April 13, 2018



OTTAWA JEWISH
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

What does #MeToo mean for our Jewish world?

‘Yes,” my father used to say about some development in the news. “But, is it good for the Jews?”

So what to make of the #MeToo movement? In recent months, the phrase has become shorthand for a marked cultural shift that’s seen women emboldened to disclose their personal experiences with sexual misconduct, harassment and, in the very worst cases, outright violent assault.

In the Jewish world, it is playing out in a number of ways. A Facebook group called #GamAni – the Hebrew translation of #MeToo – now has upwards of 500 members.

In the U.S., some women have come forward to disclose how their work as fundraising professionals has placed them in dangerous situations with donors. Early in February, there were also reports of a list circulating with names of Jewish men “with authority” who’ve been known for sexual misconduct.

In the religious sphere there’s commentary from all sides – everything from Adam and Eve being the original #MeToo moment, to reflections on what we can learn from the Torah about bystanders and speaking up for those being harmed.

The other element of #MeToo that appears to have some resonance in the Jewish world is the space opened up for a broader discussion and debate about the role of women in Jewish life.

Again in the U.S., we see some trying to encourage women to translate #MeToo into a campaign for equal pay for female religious and lay leaders.

Meanwhile, when U.S. vice-president Mike Pence visited Israel in January, the fact that female reporters were



STEPHANIE SHEFRIN
**MODERN
MISHPOCHA**

kept segregated from their male colleagues during a visit to the Kotel made international headlines. The same thing happened when Canada’s then-prime minister Stephen Harper visited in 2014 with little by way of visible protest. Perhaps that’s a reflection of politics of then and now – but now, those politics also include louder voices for women, a seeming interest in actually listening to them, and desire for real and meaningful change.

In the context of #MeToo, what can that change look like in our Jewish world?

As a start, I’d hope our lay leadership is reviewing the policies and procedures at all of our community organizations to ensure there are defined processes for handling complaints of sexual harassment or assault.

Second, women in Ottawa need to know that Jewish Family Services runs a program specifically designed for Jewish women experiencing abuse. See jfsottawa.com, click on the “Jewish Support” tab, then “Shalom Bayit.”

But there are broader issues worth exploring as well.

In January, U.S. Rabbi Daniel Brenner wrote a lengthy essay on what Jewish men could take away from the #MeToo movement. He, like many others, was struck by the fact so many of the high-profile men being accused in the fall were Jewish.

“I think that many Jewish men are avoiding a tough

conversation that we should be having: an internal, community-focused dialogue about the intersection of sex, sexuality and power in the lives of Jewish men,” he wrote.

“And if we do not ask if there are specific Jewish ways that men have been taught about sexuality and power, we will be unable to come up with specific Jewish ways to address them.”

Brenner reflects on the tension between what boys learn from day-school rabbis about sex and what they see being presented as relationships by the many Jewish actors, writers and other celebrities in the general culture.

The same, I think, can be said about Jewish women and how and what we are taught.

Rethinking how we might teach about sexuality, healthy relationships, power, consent – this is work likely needed across the religious spectrum.

As Brenner notes, while some in the ultra-Orthodox world might point to a strict segregation of the genders as a way to avoid the issue, Orthodox girls and women do still report sexual assault and harassment.

Questions need to be asked, Brenner writes, about how Jewish educators can do a better job and how that plays out in the summer camp environment too – a place where many young Jews first explore their own sexuality. Then there is how Jewish leadership helps parents talk to their kids about the issues as well.

I’ll borrow his conclusion:

“These questions have never been very high up on the Jewish communal agenda, but I hope that in the wake of #MeToo more people will see how important it is for the Jewish community to take them seriously.”

Yom HaShoah Community Commemoration featuring “The Mitzvah Project”

**Wed. April 11
7 pm**

Soloway JCC,
21 Nadolny Sachs Pvt.

A one-person
Holocaust Drama.
A combination of theater,
history and conversation,
The Mitzvah Project stars
Roger Grunwald and is
co-authored and directed
by Annie McGreevey.

FREE. All welcome!



Photos: Leo Correa

Info: Sarah at sbeutel@jewishottawa.com, 613-798-4696 x253



Sponsored by Azrieli Foundation
A program of the Shoah Committee of
the Jewish Federation of Ottawa



OTTAWA JEWISH BULLETIN

“A force for constructive communal consciousness.”

Employment Opportunity Summer Student

The Ottawa Jewish Bulletin, under the auspices of the Barry Fishman Ottawa Jewish Bulletin Scholarship Fund, is seeking a university student with a flair for writing and reporting to work at the Bulletin this summer.

Duties will include researching and writing news reports and feature articles on various topics of interest to the Jewish community; proofreading; and some clerical work.

To apply, send a cover letter, résumé, and writing samples, by April 20, to:

Pauline Colwin,
Director of Communications
Ottawa Jewish Bulletin
21 Nadolny Sachs Private
Ottawa, ON K2A 1R9, or via e-mail to
pcolwin@jewishottawa.com



VISIT: OTTAWAJEWISHBULLETIN.COM

Olympics showcase sport — and a world of possibilities

By the time this article goes to print, the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea, will be over. What we can take away from these Games?

Possibilities.

In the days leading up to the Olympics, I learned about some of the athletes and their journeys to the games. How do you become a world-class winter sports athlete when you're from a hot climate?

Akwasi Frimpong was born in Ghana but left as a child to live with his mother in the Netherlands. He excelled in track and field and became the Dutch national sprinting champion. His illegal immigrant status and later injuries impacted his running career, however, so next he tried bobsledding. He decided to give back to his native country by establishing the Bobsleigh and Skeleton Federation of Ghana. He qualified for the Winter Olympics as Ghana's first skeleton slider.

Skeleton is a daring sport in which the athlete slides along an icy track at up to 90 km/h while lying face down and head first on a small sled – not something a nice Jewish boy's parents necessarily envision for their son.

Just a few years ago, U.S.-born A. J. Edelman had a dream of representing Israel at the Olympics. An MIT graduate in mechanical engineering, he left his job in high tech, made Aliyah, and excelled in several sports before becoming Israel's four-time national skeleton champion and Israel's first-ever Olympic skeleton slider.

I sent a message of best wishes to Edelman, adding that he is an inspiration to Jewish children.

"Greetings from Korea," he replied. "Your words



GLORIA SCHWARTZ
FOCUS ON
FITNESS

made my day."

Everything starts with a first and that's when possibilities transform into reality. In total, six countries participated in the Winter Olympics for the first time. Several countries, such as Kenya and Madagascar, sent female athletes for the first time. Eighteen countries had just one athlete in their contingent. Imagine the pride and pressure of being the sole representative of your country.

There were some new events at the Games – mixed doubles curling, long-track speed skating with a mass start, big air snowboarding and mixed team alpine skiing – proving that the possibilities for sport are limited only by the imagination.

All athletes have to persevere to make it to the Olympics, but one athlete who particularly inspired me is Canadian snowboarder Mark McMorris who recovered from a near-fatal accident last year, made it to the games and won a medal. Of course, watching the Canadian Olympic athletes doing what they do so well – from curling to figure skating to hockey – inspires Canadians young and old to envision possibilities for themselves, whether in competitive sports or just for fun and fitness.

The United States had its first-ever openly gay male Olympians, freestyle skier Gus Kenworthy and figure

skater Adam Rippon. They were not only out, but outspoken in the media against LGBT-discriminatory policies espoused by the U.S. vice-president. Possibilities mean different things in different countries depending on the level of freedom afforded to its citizens. In the Islamic Republic of Iran, homosexuality remains punishable by death.

Several Muslim-majority countries, such as Lebanon and Morocco, participated in these Olympics, but Iran was the only participating nation that legally requires women – of all faiths – to wear hijabs. While watching the Iranian team in the Parade of Nations, I thought of the women in Iran who are being jailed and sometimes tortured for publically removing their hijabs to protest this symbol of oppression.

Though sports and politics are not supposed to mix, it's difficult to separate them. North Korea sent a delegation to the Olympics. The women's hockey team from North and South Korea played as a united team and an athlete from North Korea and an athlete from South Korea carried the Olympic torch together. One can only wonder – and history will tell – whether this was a genuine olive branch extended by North Korea's brutal and murderous dictator or simply propaganda. The North Korean team was monitored 24/7 by its chaperones. Any defections would likely result in the severe punishment of the defectors' relatives back home, such as a one-way trip to the infamous concentration camps.

The 2018 Winter Olympics offered many firsts. While some hopes and dreams were realized and some were shattered, it's the possibilities – perhaps more than the medals – that we remember long after the Olympics are over.



Children
Healthcare
Women

**Come Together,
Right Now**
to improve the
lives of women,
children, and
families in need.



Come Together
RIGHT NOW



CANADIAN HADASSAH-WIZO (CHW)
2018 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN FUNDRAISING GOAL = \$1.5M

CHW passionately supports programs and services for Children, Healthcare, and Women in Israel and Canada.

CHW HEAD OFFICE

1-855-477-5964

www.chw.ca

TO GIVE OR LEARN MORE:

info@chw.ca

www.facebook.com/
CanadianHadassahWIZO

Temple Israel

An egalitarian Reform congregation

***Jewish roots, contemporary
values, egalitarian***

Friday Kabbalat Shabbat Services, 6:15 pm.

Saturday Shabbat Services, 10:15 am.

Thursday morning minyanim:
second and fourth Thursdays, 7:30 am.

President Stephen Asherman
Rabbi Robert Morais
Rabbi Emeritus Steven H. Garten
Executive Director Heather Cohen

Temple Israel Religious School Principal
Sue Potechin
Administration
Officer
Cathy Loves

1301 Prince of Wales Drive, Ottawa, ON K2C 1N2
Tel: 613-224-1802 Fax: 613-224-0707
www.templeisraelottawa.ca



WHAT'S GOING ON | March 5-25, 2018

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

ONGOING EVENTS

Ottawa Israeli Dance
7 – 10 pm, on Tuesdays until May 29
31 Nadolny Sachs Pvt.
Contact: Judy, judy@ottawaisraelidance.ca
Contemporary Israeli dances. Old favourites. Great music. Exercise. All in a fun and friendly atmosphere.
Cost: \$5/evening (pay at the door).

Kol Miriam Ladies Choir
7:30 – 9 pm, Wednesdays until June 27
10 Nadolny Sacks Pvt.
Contact: Laura Lunn, llunn@magma.ca
Spiritual uplifting Jewish music by women for women.
Directed by Leora Nauta.

Mahjong at KBI
1:30 - 3:30 pm, Thursdays until May 31
Kehillat Beth Israel Congregation,
1400 Coldrey Ave.
Contact: Deborah Zuker, rabbizuker@kehillatbethisrael.com
Cost: \$2. Beginners and experienced players welcome.
Bring sets and cards if you have them.

TOTally Shabbat at Temple Israel
5:30 – 6 pm Fridays until June 22,
1301 Prince of Wales Dr.
RSVP: Sue Potechin, suepotechin@rogers.com
A multi-generational program for families with children under six. Songs, prayers, dances and stories.
Free family-friendly meal follows.

MONDAY, MARCH 5

Chocolate Seder
6:30 - 8:30 pm, Temple Israel Ottawa,
1301 Prince of Wales Dr.
RSVP: Maya Ruckenstein, frostypres.comm@gmail.com
If you love chocolate, this is for you!

TUESDAY, MARCH 6

Just the Right Support - Parent Workshop
7 – 9 pm, Jewish Family Services, 300-2255 Carling Ave.
RSVP: Ruchama Uzan, uzan.ru@gmail.com

Integration Act for Inclusion presents “Just the Right Support,” a workshop for parents and educators teaching tools to help you advocate for your child with special needs.

SUNDAY, MARCH 11

Annual Passover Fair
10:30 am – 4 pm, Congregation Beit Tikvah,
15 Chartwell Ave.
Contact: Marilyn Schwartz, marilyn_sch1970@yahoo.ca
Handcrafted items, jewellery, books, gifts. Kosher for Passover wine preorders available for pick up. Extra bottles available. Sponsor: Canadian Hadassah-Wizo Ottawa, Na’amat Ottawa,

TUESDAY, MARCH 13

Malca Pass Library Book Discussion Group
7:30 – 9 pm, Kehillat Beth Israel,
1400 Coldrey Ave.
Contact: Maureen Kaell, mkaell@rogers.com
Cost: \$5. “The Last Painting of Sara de Vos” by Dominic Smith will be reviewed by Kinneret Globerman; discussion will follow.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16

CSN and JLSA: Persian Shabbat
6 – 9 pm, Chabad House,
59 Sweetland Ave.
Contact: Chaim Boyarsky, rabbichaimb@gmail.com
Share Persian-style cuisine, socializing, and hear from Gila Gabay about Persian Jewry in Iran before the revolution.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17

CSN Ottawa presents: Shabbat with Historic Torah from Kristilnacht
11 am – 1 pm,
University Of Ottawa
Contact: Chaim Boyarsky, rabbichaimb@gmail.com
Celebrate Shabbat with the historic Kristallnacht Torah scroll. Sponsor: Rohr Chabad Student Network of Ottawa.

SUNDAY, MARCH 18

Limmud Ottawa annual conference
8:30 am - 11:59 pm
Contact: Jenny Roberge, jenny.roberge@gmail.com
Presenting the best in Jewish scholarship, art and culture. Sponsor: Limmud International, Zelikovitz Jewish Studies Program, Jewish Federation of Ottawa.

SUNDAY, MARCH 25

KLEZ 11
12 pm
Contact: Paul Adler, psadler@psadler.com
Cost: \$10. Community-wide event for klezmer lovers of all ages. Enjoy entertainment by Touch of Klez and Musica Ebraica, Yiddish dancing with International Dancers of Ottawa, silent auction. Sponsor: Congregations Adath Shalom, Kehillat Beth Israel, Temple Israel, Machzikei Hadas, Ottawa Reconstructionist Havurah.

Soloway JCC 5th Annual Biathlon
8:30 - 10:30 am
Register: Carla Gencher, cgencher@jccottawa.com
A fun day of fitness where teams of 18 spin and swim to raise funds for the Soloway JCC.

Books and Bagels
9:30 - 11:30 am, Temple Israel, 1301 Prince of Wales Dr.
Contact: Dar Blue, blued@me.com
Deborah Saginur will review *Judas*, by Israeli author Amos Oz. Bagel breakfast starts at 9:30.

CANDLE LIGHTING BEFORE			
MARCH 9	5:42	MARCH 30	7:10
MARCH 16	6:51	APRIL 6	7:19
MARCH 23	7:01	APRIL 13	7:28

BULLETIN DEADLINES	
MONDAY, MARCH 26**	FOR APRIL 16
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11	FOR APRIL 30
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25	FOR MAY 14
* Early deadline: Community-wide Issue ** Early deadline: holiday closures (all dates subject to change)	

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:

Benjamin Applebaum,
Minnesota, (brother of Debby Applebaum and Karen Parent)

Jeanette Berlin

Gerhard Harr

Lazzar Huniu

John Liberman

Sidney Markel

Ruth Goldrosen Nesselroth,
Montreal, (mother of Alan Goldrosen)

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.



Elegance meets athleticism. **The Audi A7 Sportback.**

The re-engineered A7 Sportback is a study in athletic aesthetics and elegance. Sporty new features and a strikingly unique design result in a remarkable vehicle that is in a class of its own.

> markmotorsofottawa.com

Audi Mark Motors of Ottawa

295 West Hunt Club Rd.
613-723-1221

Audi Ottawa

458 Montreal Rd.
613-749-5941

>> NEW

