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Leaving Ottawa will be difficult say Shinshiniot

Israel's **Shinshinim** program sends young volunteers to Jewish communities in the Diaspora for a year of service after high school. Ottawa's first Shinshiniot will return to Israel at the end of the summer. **Norah Mor** reports.

Noga Weiss and Canaf Ahituv, two Israelis who had recently graduated from high school, arrived in Ottawa last September as Ottawa's first Shinshiniot.

After a year of myriad activities, Weiss and Ahituv are spending the summer working at Jewish overnight camps – Weiss at Camp B'nai Brith of Ottawa and Ahituv at Camp Mossad, a Hebrew-speaking camp in the Laurentians north of Montreal – before they return to Israel.

The Shinshiniot spoke with the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin late last month before heading off to camp and said Ottawa has become their "second home."

"When I came here," said Weiss, "I knew it's only for one year. But, now, I feel that I've created another world for myself – and I don't know how to leave it."

"This has been a formative experience," added Ahituv. "I'm now open to new things and new perspectives."

"As Shinshiniot, we could undertake almost any initiative we thought of," said Weiss. "When we wanted to get involved somewhere, we just attended an event, made connections and started something new."

One such initiative was the first Chag HaSigd celebration organized in Ottawa. Chag HaSigd, marked on Cheshvan

29, is the day Ethiopian Jews celebrate the Torah and pray to return to Zion. Held at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre, the event included a traditional coffee and popcorn ceremony with the participation of Ethiopian Jewish families living in Ottawa.

Sarah Beutel, vice-president of community building for the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, worked with the Shinshiniot throughout the year.

"For the community," said Beutel, "Canaf and Noga brought a real piece of Israel and created a tangible connection with the country."

Beutel cited the kibbutz model that Ahituv and Weiss created for the students of Ottawa Jewish Community School.

"This illustrated what it really means to live in a kibbutz, with a joint bank account, communal institutions, shared agricultural livelihood, and so on."

Scott Goldstein, the Federation director of community collaboration, said nearly every Jewish day school, supplementary school and synagogue in Ottawa benefitted from programs with the Shinshiniot.

"The schools were grateful and impressed by how the two enriched school life," he said.

"On Yom Hazikaron, for example,



Shinshiniot Canaf Ahituv (left) and Noga Weiss return to Israel at the end of the summer following a year spent volunteering in Ottawa's Jewish community.

Canaf and Noga created a unique activity for Chabad Hebrew School where they presented cards to the children naming different emotions and asked about those emotions in daily life. Then, they asked the children to apply those emotions to bereaved families and to imagine how they must feel. This way, the children were able to understand this difficult subject, in a meaningful and holistic way."

On their return to Israel, Weiss will begin her army service almost immediately, while Ahituv will attend a mid-rasha – a post-secondary school where women study Judaism – before she begins her army service.

The Shinshiniot said leaving Ottawa will be difficult.

"We love everyone so much and don't know how to thank the community for everything it's given us," said Weiss.

During their year in Ottawa, Weiss and Ahituv lived with families in the community and said they especially wanted to thank the Ben-Choreen Freedman, Shapiro, Blum, Luden and Geist families who opened their homes and hearts to them.

A new pair of Shinshinim, Idan Ben Ari from Caesarea and Noa Gill from Haifa, will arrive in Ottawa on August 21 to begin their year of volunteer service with the Jewish community.

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Cantor Daniel Benlolo returns to Montreal

BY NORAH MOR

After 23 years in Ottawa, Cantor Daniel Benlolo will leave Kehillat Beth Israel next week to become cantor and ritual director at Shaare Zedek Congregation in Montreal.

Cantor Benlolo began his cantorial career when he was just 17 at the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue in Montreal, an Orthodox and Sephardic congregation. He arrived in Ottawa in 1993 to serve Congregation Beth Shalom, then an Orthodox congregation, and Beth Shalom West.

Beth Shalom West eventually severed its ties to Beth Shalom and became Congregation Beit Tikvah. Cantor Benlolo remained with Beth Shalom which eventually became a Conservative congregation. In 2016, Beth Shalom amalgamated with Agudath Israel Congregation to form Kehillat Beth Israel.

Late last month, Cantor Benlolo met with the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin in his Kehillat Beth Israel office to reminisce about his years in the city.

"It's more than a job, it's a passion," said Cantor Benlolo. "I figured it out after 23 years."

But "being a cantor was never enough for me, I wanted to do more. So I started to conduct bar and bat mitzvahs for the aged at Hillel Lodge; I produced a CD with the children at Ganon Preschool; and a musical, "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," with the participants of Tamir; I did interfaith work and sang to people from all over the world," he said.

Perhaps Cantor Benlolo's most notable achievements beyond his congregational work have been with Tamir, the Jewish Ottawa agency that provides assistance and programs to adults with developmental disabilities. Cantor Benlolo has directed Tamir's Judaic program and led the Tamir Neshama Choir for many years.

Cantor Benlolo's office walls were filled with photos and posters from his myriad activities over the years.

"I took every opportunity I had to do good for this community and everything I did has made me who I am today," he said.

Although he is moving to Montreal, Cantor Benlolo said the Ottawa community will remain important to him.

"It's important for me that people know my leaving does not mean I'm turning my back on the community", he stressed. "I'm going to keep coming back to



Cantor Daniel Benlolo blows the shofar to celebrate the amalgamation of Congregation Beth Shalom and Agudath Israel Congregation to form Kehillat Beth Israel.

visit and to sing at events. I also want to bring Tamir's choir to perform in Montreal. I will miss them so much and I'm so proud of them."

The months since making the decision to leave Ottawa "have been very emotional," he said. "I can feel the love and the power of the community. I am leaving here with mixed feelings, but now I need to be close to my family."

In a letter to Kehillat Beth Israel congregants about his decision to return to Montreal, Cantor Benlolo explained that his children have moved there and that his wife wanted to be there to help care for her parents.

"I'm very excited for this new chapter, but saying goodbye to Kehillat Beth Israel is both hard and heartwarming at the same time," he said. "KBI is one of the things I'm most proud of. The amalgamation is beautiful, and there's still much more to do."

Cantor Benlolo plans to decorate his Montreal office with the photos and posters that filled the walls of his Kehillat Beth Israel office.

"They are like pieces of memories. A good baggage that I carry with me to form the archive of my life. It's like reading a book when you can't start from the beginning or ignore everything you've read before. I really don't want to, either."

CORRECTION



The caption to this photo published June 26 incorrectly identified Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation incoming Chair Gillie Vered (right) seen with outgoing Chair Michael Landau, at the Foundation AGM, June 7. The Bulletin regrets the error.



Cantor Daniel Benlolo performs with the Tamir Neshama Choir.

Ottawa Jewish Community School bids fond farewell to Sheldon Friedman

BY NORAH MOR

On June 28, the Ottawa Jewish Community School (OJCS) said *l'hitraot* (farewell) for the second time to Sheldon Friedman, its beloved head of school.

Friedman came out of retirement in 2011 – he had already retired as principal of the Anne and Max Tanenbaum Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto – to lead OJCS for three years before retiring again after the 2013-2014 school year.

But, in need of an interim head of school for the 2016-2017 school year, OJCS asked Friedman to return for one more year.

“I finish the year on a very positive note,” Friedman told the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin as the school year ended. “The entire school – teachers, administrators, students and parents – appear relieved and happy with the school today. I think that we have accomplished much over the year, more than I had hoped for.”

Friedman’s OJCS colleagues expressed deep appreciation for what he has done for the school.

“I could not wish for a better mentor for myself and for the rest of the

school,” said vice-principal Brian Lamb. “Shelley’s mission for OJCS – Respect, Responsibility and Reaching for excellence – redefined the school all together.”

Many teachers said they were grateful for the support and the professional faith Friedman had in them.

“He motivated the staff to go above and beyond, and gave us tremendous support,” said Keren Gordon, the special resources co-ordinator.

Returning to OJCS after two years away, Friedman said he was happy for the opportunity to re-establish old relationships and to get to know people better.

When the Grade 8 students graduated, he said, “It struck me that I’ve known most of these children since Grade 3 – and now they are going on to their futures.”

“For the students,” said Gordon, “Shelley is like a celebrity. They know that he genuinely cares for them and what he tells them is special. Parents, the board – everybody knows how invaluable he is.”

“It was an invigorating challenge to



“I finish the year on a very positive note,” says Sheldon Friedman as he retires, for a second time, as head of school at Ottawa Jewish Community School.

come back here after a two-year break,” Friedman said with a smile, “but now it is my time to step back and let the young people take over.”

Friedman said he now plans to travel for a while and sit in his rocking chair on the porch.

Friedman’s hope for OJCS is that it “keeps up its magnificent work and strives for even higher achievements in the mission of ‘Respect, Responsibility and Reaching for excellence.’”

Jon Mitzmacher is the new head of school at OJCS.

OJCS, Hulse students share Day of Cultural Understanding

BY NORAH MOR

Students from the Ottawa Jewish Community School (OJCS) journeyed across the city, June 21, to spend a day with their predominately Muslim counterparts at Charles H. Hulse Public School at the 14th annual Day of Cultural Understanding for Grade 6 students from the two schools.

The students had spent the year as pen pals – writing letters to establish personal connections with each other.

The program was launched, and is still run, by Hulse teacher Patrick Mascoe who explained that he heard students expressing anti-Semitic views after 9/11.

“When I asked my students if they’d ever met a Jewish person, many said that they hadn’t,” he said. “So I came up with this program in order to create personal connections between these different societies, to show that we’re all very similar.”

The Hulse and OJCS students played ball games, went on scavenger hunts, and shared their views and experiences about hatred, tolerance and personal responsibility.

The students also heard from Holocaust survivor Elly Bollegraaf who added a solemn, yet empowering message to the day as she shared her personal story of surviving the Holocaust as a child thanks to people who took action to help her.

“They didn’t see anything wrong with Jews, only that we are human beings,” she said.

At the end of the day, eating popsicles, the students from OJCS and Hulse parted with hugs, saying “sha-



Ottawa Jewish Community School and Charles H. Hulse Public School students enjoy lunch together in the Hulse gym during their Day of Cultural Understanding, June 21.

lom” and “todah rabah.”

On the bus back to OJCS, students Daniel Vered, Theo Checroune, Sam Shaffer and Lazar Secter spoke enthusiastically about the program.

“We felt that we were really being embraced by the students of Charles H. Hulse,” said Daniel.

“It’s so cool that there are students [at Hulse] from Somalia, Kenya, Egypt, and other different countries around the world,” added Theo.

Lazar and Sam said they were thrilled to meet their pen pals in person.

“All year I’ve tried to paint pictures in my head of what he looks like, how tall he is or the colour of his hair,” said Lazar, while Sam added, “It was an instant click with my buddy, after all the times we’ve written each other.”

All four said they had fun and are happy that OJCS takes part in the program.

Young classical virtuosos perform at Hillel Lodge

BY NORAH MOR

“Today, Carnegie Hall has come to visit Hillel Lodge,” said Evelyn Greenberg as she introduced the 13th annual Ruth Berger Memorial Concert.

Held this year on June 19, the annual concert for Lodge residents is sponsored by the Canada-Israel Cultural Foundation and the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation and features musicians from the National Arts Centre’s Young Artists Program.

Established in 1999 by Pinchas Zukerman, the program offers outstanding young musicians from all over the world intensive summer training with renowned masters, exposure to various styles of music, and networking opportunities with other prominent musicians.

The concert, including compositions by Prokofiev, Brahms, Debussy, Scriabin, and Albeniz, was “absolutely wonderful,” said Lodge resident Sylvia Freedman. “I have seen and heard the best musicians, and these musicians are definitely at the top.”

The young musicians performing in the concert this year included violist Ella Bukszpan, 20, from Israel; bassist Jordan Calixto, 23, from the United States;



Musicians from the NAC Young Artists Program perform for Hillel Lodge residents in the annual Ruth Berger Memorial Concert.

violinist HyunJae [Hannah] Lin, 19, from South Korea; oboist Michelle Fang, 22, and clarinetist Ludovik Lesage-Hinse, 23, from Canada; and violinist Pinhua Zen, 20, from China.

Pianist Jing Yang, a Young Artists Program faculty member also performed.

“The musicians, in addition to being so highly professional and skilled, were

also passionate and stimulating in what they played,” said Greenberg after the concert. “The audience was absolutely spellbound and mesmerized by their performances.”



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Celebrating Canadian Jews of the last 150 years



A series of profiles throughout 2017 spotlighting the contributions of historically important Jewish Canadians to our country.

Lorne Greene 1915 - 1987

'The Voice of Canada' who became the second most popular TV father of all time

By Brenna Mackay

Born Lyon Himan Green in Ottawa on February 12, 1915, Lorne Greene was a Canadian actor, radio personality and singer who was best known for his role as Ben "Pa" Cartwright, the patriarch on the popular western TV series "Bonanza," which ran on NBC for 14 seasons and 431 episodes from 1959 until 1973 and which is still seen in syndication today.

Greene's parents, Dora and Daniel Green, were Russian Jewish immigrants to Canada and called him "Chaim" when he was a small child.

According to his daughter, Linda Greene Bennett, it is not known when he switched his name from Lyon to Lorne and added an "e" to the end of his last name.

Greene attended Queen's Univer-

sity in Kingston, Ontario, where he studied chemical engineering. While attending Queen's, Greene began to act in campus productions and discovered a passion for broadcasting at CFRC, the university's campus radio station. After graduating from Queen's, Greene joined the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) as a radio broadcaster.

During the Second World War, Greene served in the Royal Canadian Air Force and became the primary newsreader on the CBC's National newscast. He was nicknamed "The Voice of Canada," during this time, known for delivering difficult war news in a deep, strong, mellow voice. While working as a newscaster, Greene invented a stopwatch that ran backwards to help radio announcers keep track of how much time was left in their broadcast.

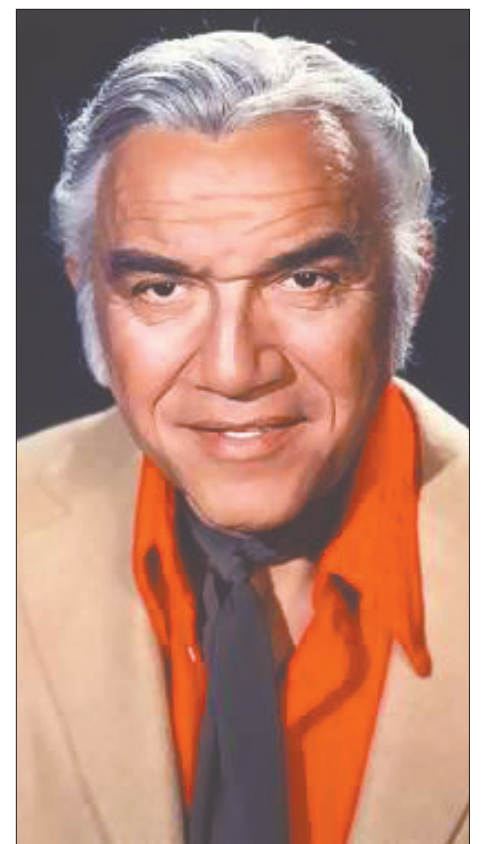
In the 1950s, Greene pursued an acting career in the U.S., appearing on Broadway and in film and television roles. Ben Cartwright in "Bonanza" was his first continuing role and he later played Commander Adama in "Battlestar Galactica" and "Galactica 1980." He also hosted and narrated "Lorne Greene's New Wilderness," a Canadian nature documentary series, and appeared in commercials.

As well, Greene made several albums as a country singer and scored a number 1 hit in 1964 with "Ringo," a song about Johnny Ringo, an old west outlaw.

In 2007, TV Guide rated Greene's Ben Cartwright as the second most popular television father of all time.

Greene was married twice and had three children. He died at the age of 72 on September 11, 1987 of complications from pneumonia after ulcer surgery. Shortly before death, Greene had agreed to star in a revival of Bonanza.

Greene was made an officer of the Order of Canada in 1969 for his service to the performing arts and the community and was awarded an honorary doctorate by Queen's University in 1971. Greene was the 1987



recipient of the Earle Grey Award for Lifetime Achievement from the Gemini Awards and has a star on Hollywood Walk of Fame.

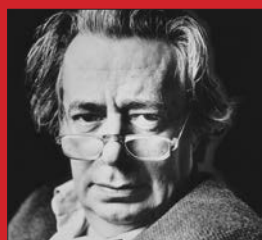
In 2006, Greene became one of the first four entertainers to be honoured by Canada Post by appearing on a postage stamp and he was inducted into Canada's Walk of Fame in 2015.



Next in the series

Mordecai Richler 1931-2001

Montreal-born Mordecai Richler, author of such classics as "The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz" and "Barney's Vision," was one of Canada's most important novelists and a polarizing and sharply opinionated essayist.



Submit an essay

To help mark Canada's 150th, we are welcoming personal essays from readers. Please share with us! What does it mean to you to be Jewish in Canada? As a Canadian Jew, what do you hope for our future? Is there anything special in our Canadian history that has impacted you as Jew? Please note, submission should be about 300 words and will be edited for style. Send submissions to: mregenstreif@ottawajewishbulletin.com

FEDERATION
REPORT



MICHAEL POLOWIN
OTTAWA JEWISH
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

OJCS lays the foundation for our children's success

were welcome to join our table, and going out awaited not only the end of the meal, but the end of the longest, most relaxing meal of the week. It was when we all caught up, when we laughed, when we were truly a family.

Our daughter Laya followed Jacob into Hillel. On a recent Shabbat, when she and a friend were in town from Toronto, Melanie hauled out the challah cover Laya had made in Grade 1, just as we do with other things made for Pesach, Chanukah and other holidays.

When they went off to public high school, as I did after Hillel, both remarked that entering a larger world made them feel more Jewish than they did when they were in "Jewish immersion." Hillel had given them a sense of who they were, and made them value their heritage in the broader world.

But more than that, it taught them well. Both have succeeded academically, in part because of the foundation they got at what is now OJCS. So have their friends, just as mine did long before. My class included future lawyers, doctors,

physicists and, quite literally, a rocket scientist. At a time when less French was taught at OJCS, our daughter went into accelerated French. Both kids left the school knowing what doing home-

We can be proud of the education given by the teachers of OJCS. Kids graduate from the school, and then over-represent at honour roll ceremonies across the city.

work was, and how to work in school. They, too, can list both accomplished and nascent professionals and scientists among their OJCS peers.

It's still true today. We can be proud of the education given by the teachers of OJCS. Kids graduate from the school, and then over-represent at honour roll ceremonies across the city. They are the next generation of professionals and scientists, and they will succeed in life, while knowing who

they are and where they come from. OJCS is the foundation of our community's future, and it will empower our kids to make Jewish choices and to chase their dreams.

I am honoured to be the incoming president of OJCS, and to follow Aaron Smith, who has been in the role for three years. In many ways, I will inherit the fruit of his labour, most excitingly in the person of our new Head of School Jon Mitzmacher, EdD. Our new American import took his seat at school on the Fourth of July, and has hit the ground running.

However, it's not all rosy. Enrollment is not where we need it to be and the finances are challenging. But the foundation is good, and we will have a new board ready to roll up their sleeves and work to provide OJCS what it needs to succeed. We could use your help on committees and volunteering to help us get things done. But most of all, we need you to get out there and tell your friends – we are already giving kids a great education, and it will only get better!

Michael Polowin is the incoming president of the Ottawa Jewish Community School. Visit www.theojcs.ca for information about the school and how you can volunteer or get involved on committees.

It has been said that education is "the foundation for our future. It is empowerment to make choices and emboldens the youth to chase their dreams."

A long time ago, our son was in kindergarten at Hillel Academy (now the Ottawa Jewish Community School or OJCS). Jacob came home one day and asked my wife Melanie and me why we didn't "have Shabbat in the dining room, with kiddush and challah and a white tablecloth?" That began a tradition in our family, which persists to this day. Our children knew that friends

FROM THE
PULPIT



RABBI IDAN SCHER
MACHZIKEI HADAS

We need to be consistent in our Judaism

ger to heat up, but as long as it's consistent it will eventually begin bubbling.

The Torah describes Joshua as "A lad, who did not depart from within the tent." He was consistent – never removing his pot from the flame. Whatever it took, he made sure that he was always there. He started out with a flame no

To succeed and find meaning, consistency of intention, action, and purpose is a necessity. It is no surprise that the same can be said for our Judaism. Being consistent with our Jewish connections is the surest way to find the rich meaning that can be found in the depths of our heritage.

During the summer, I always find that consistency is so much more difficult to keep up. It can be so hard to offer the same level of dedication while on summer holidays, making every Jewish action and decision so much more difficult.

But that is the lesson here that is so apropos. Even when things become more difficult, the rich meaning of our Judaism will elude us unless we are consistent under all circumstances. The Torah does not describe Joshua as someone with great management skills, or inspiring oratory skills. He doesn't have the flashy qualities that we usually associate with a dynamic leader. But he was solid, consistent, and unbreakable in his commitment to his actions and to his values each and every day. Consistency made him a great person, and it can do the same for each and every one of us.

To succeed and find meaning, consistency of intention, action, and purpose is a necessity... The same can be said for our Judaism.

Being consistent with our Jewish connections is the surest way to find the rich meaning that can be found in the depths of our heritage.

bigger than anyone else, but it was his power of consistency that made him stand out as the next leader of the Jewish people.

This is true in every area of our lives.

A fascinating point in Jewish history is when Moses prays to God to appoint a new leader over the nation. God responds to his prayer and appoints Joshua. Given that there were numerous eligible candidates for this position, why did God choose Joshua as Moses' successor?

If you have a pot of water on the stove and you are waiting for it to boil, but every few minutes you remove it, the water will never boil. It doesn't even matter how big the flame is, since each time it is removed and returned, the boiling process starts over from scratch. It is only the continuous process of heating which causes it to boil. The flame could be very small and it may take lon-

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PUBLISHER
Andrea Freedman

EDITOR
Michael Regenstreif

PRODUCTION CONSULTANT
Patti Moran

BUSINESS MANAGER
Eddie Peltzman

INTERN
Norah Mor

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FROM THE EDITOR



MICHAEL REGENSTREIF

Moscovitch's poignant story of Jewish refugees

As the show opens, we meet Caplan as The Wanderer, the play's narrator, a constant presence who sings the songs (most of which Caplan co-wrote with director Barry), tells stories, jokes with the audience, dances, and even puts on a tallit to perform a wedding. Caplan, bearded like an Old World Chasid, is larger than life on stage playing The Wanderer with seemingly wild abandon – like a cross between Tevye and Tom Waits. While Caplan is definitely the star and always on stage, he also fades into the background when necessary.

“Old Stock” tells the story of Moscovitch's great-grandparents, Chaim and Chaya, Jewish refugees fleeing anti-Semitic pogroms. Fresh off the boat in 1908, Chaim, 19, who had lost his family in a pogrom, and Chaya, already a widow at 24, meet briefly in a line to see the doctor at Pier 2 in Halifax (the forerunner to Pier 21), the entry point to Canada for immigrants and refugees from Europe at the time. Chaim was sent to the line because he had a rash and typhus had to be ruled out before he could be admitted into the country.

Chaya was there because of a cough that, she insisted, was not tuberculosis.

The story picks up again in Montreal. Chaim, who was smitten with the cynical Chaya at first meeting, arranges a match with her through her father, and we see their hard life unfold in early-20th century Montreal. Although “Old Stock” is often very funny, it is a refugees' story filled with great tragedy (and, ultimately, joy).

In addition to Caplan, there are four other musicians on stage including clarinetist Chris Weatherstone, violinist Mary Fay Coady, Graham Scott on accordion and keyboard, and Ottawa-based drummer Jamie Kronick. The songs and music – encompassing klezmer, folk, cabaret, rock, and even free jazz styles – are central to the play and are brilliantly performed by Caplan, who adds his banjo and guitar playing to several of the numbers, and the band.

As key musicians, Weatherstone and Coady sit with the band while playing music. But they also stand up and move to the centre of the set as the central characters of Chaim (Weatherstone) and

Chaya (Coady). Their constant transitions from musicians to actors are seamless – thanks, no doubt, to Barry's direction.

Based on the lives of Hannah Moscovitch's paternal great-grandparents, “Old Stock” is a specifically Jewish story that many of us can relate to. My own grandparents arrived in Canada from Eastern Europe in that same era. It is also a universal story which will resonate with the successive waves of refugees and immigrants (and their children and grandchildren) who have continued to arrive in Canada over the 109 years since Chaim and Chaya Moscovitch got off the boat in Halifax.

The production was brilliantly staged and the play – which made me both laugh and cry – reminded me to appreciate the sacrifices and hard lives of my own ancestors.

The four-performance run of “Old Stock” at the NAC's Azrieli Studio was all too brief. Chatting with Caplan at the opening night reception, I told him that I hoped the show would return to Ottawa for a longer run. He said discussions were underway to, hopefully, make that happen. I'm certainly anxious to see it again.

A warning though, “Old Stock” has mature themes and is not suitable for young children or those offended by profane language and/or frank references to sexuality.

The Canada Scene Festival at the National Arts Centre (NAC) has been a highlight of this summer in Ottawa. Celebrating Canada's 150th birthday, the festival presented a wide selection of first class music, theatre, dance and visual arts productions by Canadians from across the country.

As a music lover, I attended some wonderful Canada Scene concerts at the NAC. But the absolute highlight, for me, was the magnificent production of “Old Stock: A Refugee Love Story,” a musical theatre piece created by playwright Hannah Moscovitch, who grew up in Ottawa, singer-songwriter Ben Caplan and director Christian Barry of the Halifax-based 2b theatre company.

IDEAS AND IMPRESSIONS



JASON MOSCOVITZ

Why Donald Trump is attacking the media

Trump's attacks on the media were becoming crueler and crueler. When he attacked yet another woman TV anchor in the ugliest of sexist ways, you just knew there was no turning back. The president kept firing heavy artillery. And his targets in journalism and public opinion fired back.

Commentators dismissed Trump for being disgusting. They also said he is “off balance,” a nice way of saying he is crazy. The thought of anyone going on TV to say the president is crazy makes you believe that he may very well be. Why else would anyone ever even suggest such a thing to a mass audience?

Anyone who knows anything about politics knows that only losers attack the media. They do so out of anger, bitterness and often humiliation. They feel a need to strike back because they feel hurt and misunderstood. These are usually politicians who have great difficulty accepting responsibility for their own mistakes.

When president Richard Nixon got into Watergate trouble, he rekindled his lifelong distrust of the news media. But, unlike Trump, he did so with a

certain degree of cunning. Rather than get the Oval Office and the presidency immersed in the language of aggressive, over-the-top attacks, he used Spiro Agnew, his vice-president, to do the dirty work. Agnew was a very good attack dog – until he was kicked out of office for taking kickbacks.

Agnew was not only a loser, he was a disgraced loser. Just as Nixon turned out to be when he, too, was forced to resign. They are prime examples of how those who attack the media are those with dirty hands, guilty consciences and lots to hide.

It was interesting to see how some opinion leaders in the United States sensed that Trump had so much to run from that he used his attacks on the media to divert attention from the real issues plaguing his presidency. And, while it may have worked, temporarily diverting attention from the Russia probe, that wall came crashing down because Donald Jr. took the Russian bait and then invited his brother-in-law to be stupid too.

It is all so silly and so amateurish

you wonder how the Trumps made so much money in the private sector. But they did, doing it their way, not the Washington way. The president who came to Washington vowing to “drain the swamp” now finds himself trying to stay afloat in the very dirty water of the same swamp he so cursed.

And it only took six months for Trump's son and son-in-law to be directly implicated in the Russia scandal, with no escaping the fact they both exercised terrible judgement – terrible judgment that may prove to be criminal. This is devastating news for a president who has seen turmoil and constant controversies diminish his chances of ever getting his head out of that water.

Trump is stuck in quicksand of his own making. He is stuck in a pile of his own lies and wide-gapped contradictions. He is also stuck with his decision to attack journalists and the organizations they work for. When a political leader gambles with his or her credibility, the journalists swim like sharks because they are emboldened by seeing their adversary, in this case the president, struggling to get his game back.

But, of course, that is assuming Trump has a workable political game plan to get back to. Tweeting and lying don't cut it.

Nor does running a family business in the White House.

It is interesting to consider how U.S. President Donald Trump's latest scandal, certainly the most serious to date, helps us better understand how the Russian collusion stories led to Trump's unprecedented attacks on the media. Trump was vicious and he was personal. He was also desperate. He needed to create a diversion.

After all, it was his very own son, his namesake, whose very own emails show how he was receptive to colluding with the Russians to get dirt on Hillary Clinton. His brother-in-law, Jared Kushner, and Trump's then campaign manager, Paul Manafort, were also on the email chain. How much worse could it get? Boy, did the president need to create a diversion?

Lionel Metrick approaches his 100th birthday

BY NORAH MOR

Canadian soldiers were fighting in the First World War when Lionel Metrick was born in Ottawa to Jewish immigrant parents on August 15, 1917.

Next month, the retired dentist and Hillel Lodge resident – who still swims three times per week – will celebrate his 100th birthday.

Metrick keeps a faded certificate of “Better Babies of Examination,” in his room at the Lodge. Issued by the “Local Council of Women” in 1918, it indicates he is at the 98 percentile for “physical and mental development for babies of his age.”

“I give my mom all the credit for having produced a fat and healthy kid,” he said. “Any good I achieved was due to my mom who had given me a good start; that and good luck.”

Metrick attended Lisgar Collegiate where he skipped Grades 7 and 8 going directly into Grade 9 after Grade 6.

“The greatest compliment I ever received,” he recalled, “was in Grade 5, when my teacher, in front of the whole class, said, ‘Metrick is a student who leaves nothing to be desired.’”

Metrick attended night school at St. Patrick’s College using money from Bar Mitzvah gifts for tuition. It was only enough money to cover the first year’s tuition so he worked at a shoe repair store, earning \$12 a week during the Great Depression.

“I worked six days a week with no holidays, from 8 am to 7 pm, and I gave \$11.50 of these earnings to my mom,” he said. “With the rest I bought the Sunday paper – every week.”

After four years at St. Patrick’s, Metrick earned his BA, and went to work for the federal government as a clerk in the Department of National Defence. He then served as an army officer during the Second World War.

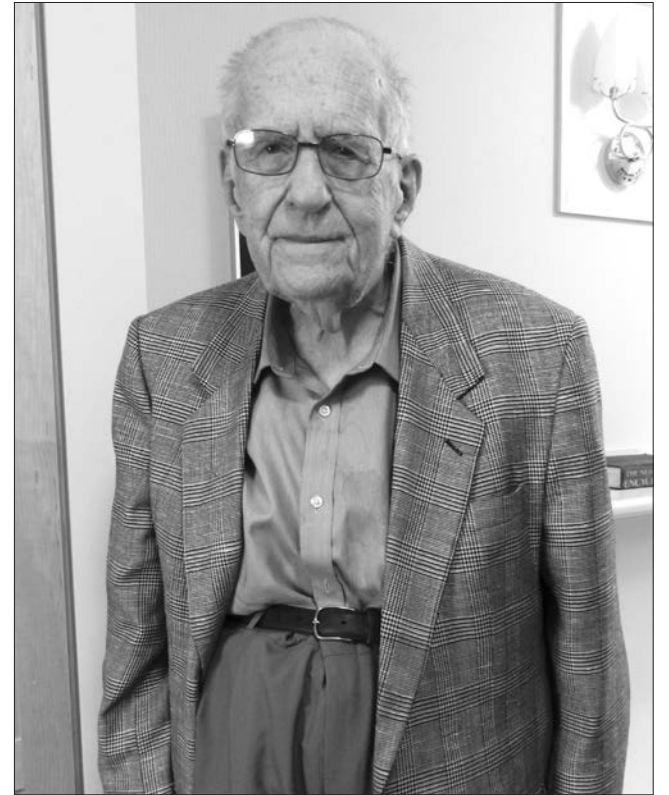
In 1942, Metrick married Sarah Dorfman. Originally from Carman, Manitoba, she graduated from the University of Toronto law school – the only woman in her class – and then came to Ottawa to also work for the federal government. They had three children and Metrick now has two grandchildren.

After his army service, Metrick enrolled in the dentistry school at the University of Toronto.

Metrick practiced dentistry in downtown Ottawa for more than 40 years and said he always kept his fees low because he knew his working class patients’ earnings barely covered such necessities as food, clothing and shelter.

Asked for some words of advice as he approaches his centennial, Metrick said he believes in brotherhood, in helping each other.

“Our existence is very short, so we need to always try to contribute to the happiness of the people around us.”



“We need to always try to contribute to the happiness of the people around us,” says Hillel Lodge resident Lionel Metrick who will celebrate his 100th birthday on August 15.

Ottawa student chosen for prestigious Bronfman Fellowship program

BY NORAH MOR

Alexander Moss of Ottawa is one of 26 Grade 11 students from all over North America who are currently in Israel for what the Bronfman Fellowship describes as “a transformative five-week program of

study and travel... followed by a rigorous year of programming centred around pluralism, social responsibility and Jewish texts.”

Established in 1987 by the late Edgar Bronfman, a philanthropist originally from Montreal who was president of

the World Jewish Congress from 1979 until 2007, the Bronfman Fellowship is a program that encourages Grade 11 students to engage in debates about Jewish identity, social responsibility and leadership.

The fellows, who come from varied backgrounds and religious practices, are chosen from among hundreds of applicants based on their involvement and commitment to Jewish life in their communities.

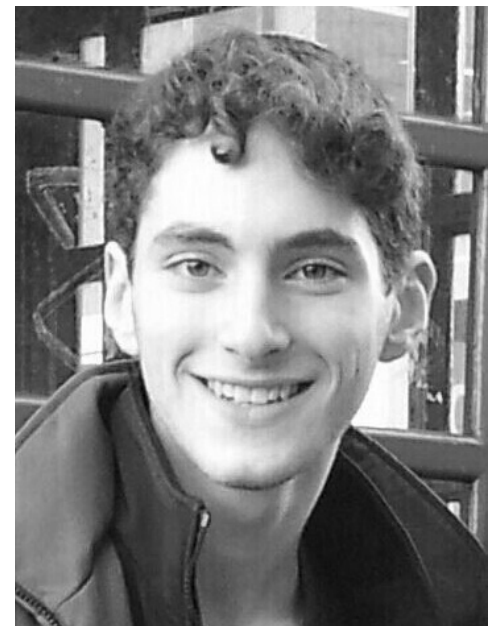
Moss, 17, a homeschooled student, is deeply involved in Jewish life. He is one of the organizers of the annual Limmud Ottawa event, has participated in Yiddish and Israeli folk dance classes in Ottawa, and the International Bible Contest in Israel. Moss placed 10th in the 2016 contest.

“I’ve been interested in the [Bronfman Fellowship] program for years,” said Moss, “following family members and mentors who are alumni of it.”

Moss said he hopes the Fellowship will help him acquire skills to become a future leader of the Jewish community – in Ottawa and beyond.

“The Bronfman Fellowship can empower young Jews to become leaders. It helps us to delve into fundamental questions of Jewishness, while giving us skills and knowledge, as well as the confidence to speak up for ourselves,” he said.

“One of the most exciting things about the program is that we’re coming from very diverse groups – religiously, socially, culturally, and so on,” Moss added. “This might help to unify and strengthen the Jewish community, while



Alexander Moss says he hopes the Bronfman Fellowship program will help prepare him for a leadership role in the Jewish community.

honouring our differences.”

Referring to Ottawa as his “beloved hometown,” Moss said he is “proud of our own [Jewish] unity. People of many different groups and practices seem to interact here much more than they might in larger communities. Limmud Ottawa is an amazing example of that and I urge everyone to go.”

“I can’t wait to stay up until 3 am, discussing Jewish identity and politics; to challenge the other Fellows and to be challenged myself with different perspectives; to learn from all the participants, the presenters and sessions – and to breathe the Israeli air,” Moss said before leaving for Israel.

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Negev Dinner 2017 – November 6
Featuring inspirational founder of ALEH

Israel's start-up nation often conjures technology darlings. On the medical front, Israel is also a leader not only in research and medical devices, but also in patient care. One world class example is ALEH, the organization that JNF Negev Dinner Honouree Lawrence Greenspon has chosen to support. ALEH's philosophy of care closely aligns with Mr. Greenspon's active support of individuals with special needs. To wit: In 1981, International Year of the Disabled Person, Lawrence Greenspon co-founded REACH, the Resource Education Advocacy Centre for the Handicapped and was a chair and board member of the organization for over 10 years. REACH has over 100 lawyers in Ottawa who volunteer their legal services to individuals who are disabled.

Be inspired by Doron Almog

Major General Doron Almog, MA, MBA, Research Fellow Harvard University and Washington Institute, is the founder of ALEH Israel and will deliver an inspirational keynote address at this year's Negev Dinner.

When his son Eran was born with extreme autism, Maj. Gen. Almog began what would become his life's mission: the establishment of the ALEH Negev-Nahalat Eran rehabilitative village in 2005. The facility was named Eran, who passed away shortly after its inception. Maj. Gen. Almog has since served as chair of the village. His contribution to security and society has been acknowledged with a number of awards including the Israel Prize for lifetime achievement and special contribution to the society of Israel; and the Yigal Alon Award for Exemplary Pioneering Social Activities presented to Aleh Negev.

Throughout his life, Maj. Gen. Almog has dedicated himself to his beloved country Israel.

He fulfilled most of his army service, both as a soldier and in leadership capacities, in elite IDF units: a commander during the Yom Kippur War; command of the first task force to land in Entebbe airport during the 1976 rescue operation; and command of many clandestine missions to bring 6,000 Ethiopian Jews to Israel.

Since retiring from the IDF he has chaired the Hoopoe Foundation to protect nature in Israel; was chief-of-staff for the economic development of the Bedouin Sector in the Negev; and founded the Athlone Global Security investment fund specializing in high-tech start-ups.

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Six guidelines that shape who I am as a leader

Rosabeth Moss Kanter, a Harvard business professor, says strong leaders follow six guiding principles to evoke positive change: showing up; speaking up; looking up; teaming up; never giving up; and lifting others up. I strongly believe these guidelines shape who I am as a leader in the Jewish communities of Ottawa, Kingston, and abroad.

Showing up reflects the importance of being present and active to show support in ongoing activities. For me, this means caring and being involved. A leader is one who genuinely cares about the improvement of self, others, and the community.

Speaking up is essential when facing issues and challenges. For my final teaching practicum, I travelled to Santiago, Chile's Jewish day school, to engage high school students on how to approach the anti-Israel BDS (boycott, divestment, sanctions) movement on campus. The main emphasis was on the power of speaking up, and how individuals can use their voices to speak up and empower others.

Looking up to other Jewish community leaders ensures that I stay motivated and inspired to achieve my objectives. In the Ottawa Jewish community, I have always looked up to my teachers at OJCS, community leaders, and my family. As an educator, I base my teaching philosophy on the values taught to me by my mentors and teachers. These teachers, who are also community leaders, have instilled in me the importance of critical thinking and analysis, coupled with the ability to relate religious, theoretical and academic content to real-life situations.

Teaming up with others leads to optimal team performance. Whether leading a Birthright trip, participating in Jewish Ottawa's dragon boat initiative in Israel, or mentoring Jewish students on campus, teamwork leads to accomplishments. It is engagement and active listening, meaningful conversations, motivation, and innovative thinking that allowed my teams to reach their maximum potentials.

Never give up is a motto that leaders love and strive for. This was my third time applying for the G. J. Cooper Scholarship. I believe that each time I applied, I grew and developed significantly as a leader. When something does not work out the way that was hoped, leaders see it as an opportunity for growth rather than failure. Every year, I have developed my leadership skills through participating in new activities to support the Jewish community. Whether it is establishing a Hebrew high school program in Kingston, teaching Jewish students in South America about Ottawa's Jewish community, or running Israel programming on campus, I believe that the ideal leader must seek continuous self-development and growth and I encourage others to do the same.

Inspiring others is a key characteristic of leaders.

GUEST COLUMN
ANNA FRENKEL



Anna Frenkel is the 2017 recipient of the G.J. Cooper Scholarship from the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation.

In my role as the director of the Kingston Bader-Elkin Talmud Torah Hebrew School, I came up with an initiative to lift the morale of the community and students through instilling Jewish pride. I created a pen pal project between the Kingston Bader-Elkin Talmud Torah and the Hebrew School in Dublin, Ireland. Students correspond with each other and discuss their Jewish traditions at home and Jewish life and events in their communities while posing questions and learning about each other's communities. This project motivates students to attend classes, where they have the unique opportunity to better understand their own Jewish community and to relate to issues of international Jewish communities. Colleagues have said this project has infused optimism and Jewish pride, connecting Jewish students from around the world.

I am sincerely grateful and deeply honoured to accept the G.J. Cooper Scholarship. It is my Jewish education at the Ottawa Jewish Community School and Torah High, inspirational teachers and community leaders, and work and volunteer experiences at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre that have shaped the leader I am today.

Anna Frenkel is a graduate of Queen's University in linguistics and education and is preparing for post-graduate studies in speech-language pathology.



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PJ Library's free books for kids spur Jewish connections, study finds

BY BEN SALES

(JTA) – Families that receive free Jewish children's books from the Massachusetts-based PJ Library say the program has helped them feel more connected to their Jewish communities, with interfaith families especially saying it has spurred them to celebrate Jewish holidays and Shabbat and to learn more about Judaism, a new study found.

The study, released June 27 by PJ Library and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, found that 69 per cent of participating families say the program has helped them feel more connected to their Jewish communities, whether by attending programs run by PJ library itself or activities run by local Jewish institutions.

Respondents also say the program helps them feel “more knowledgeable and confident” about how to engage in Jewish traditions with their children (83 per cent), and 91 per cent say the program is a valuable parenting tool.

More than half of intermarried couples who subscribe said the program makes their family more likely to observe Shabbat, and 64 per cent said it makes them more likely to observe

Jewish holidays. Nearly 90 per cent of intermarried respondents said the books helped them learn more about Judaism, according to the triennial survey.

More than 25,000 users responded to the survey, which was conducted with the external evaluation firm Informing Change.

The program, launched in 2005 by the Grinspoon Foundation, now sends one book a month and occasional music CDs to 170,000 children ages six months to eight years among 125,000 families in the United States and Canada. A parallel program, Sifriyat Pijama, operates in Israel. PJ Library estimates that its books are read 6.5 million times a year. Local Jewish federations – including the Jewish Federation of Ottawa – and other institutions partner with the foundation in covering costs.

The findings confirm the goals of the program's founders, who hoped that bringing parents and children together over Jewish-themed books would not just be worthwhile in its own right, but inspire them to connect with other Jewish programs and institutions.

“We take seriously that each night parents are inviting us to join their family during one of the day's most



Harold Grinspoon, the founder of PJ Library, reads one of the program's books to children.

treasured moments before bedtime,” Winnie Sandler Grinspoon, president of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, said in a statement. “Parents have told us that the PJ Library books their families receive each month not only help them feel more capable of raising Jewish children, but also make them more excited to pass on the traditions and beliefs they cherished in their own childhoods or have come to cherish as adults.”

The survey also found that subscribers had relatively high Jewish involvement. While the 2013 Pew Research Center's study of American Jews found that 30 per cent do not affiliate with a denomination, the number was only 10 per cent for PJ Library subscribers.

And while the Pew study found that the intermarriage rate since 2000 is 58 per cent, it's less than half that, 28 per cent, among PJ Library subscribers.

The study's authors said they were not surprised that PJ Library families are more likely than the general population to be affiliated with Jewish organizations, since families usually hear about the program through synagogues, federations or Jewish community centres.

Among subscribers, satisfaction rates are high. Nearly two-thirds of subscribers, according to the study, read the books at least weekly, and 95 per cent read them at least once a month. Virtually all respondents – 99 per cent – said they have been “influenced or supported by PJ Library.” A majority of families responded that the books made them more likely to use a charity box or to increase their Jewish involvement in some other way, and 83 per cent said it helps them feel more knowledgeable and confident about how to engage in Jewish traditions with their children.

“Books are a natural way to invite people into a global community and to pass values and traditions onto the next generation, ensuring our children and their children grow up connected to their Jewish heritage,” said Harold Grinspoon, a real estate developer in western Massachusetts and the founder of PJ Library.

Responses to the study, which was funded by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, were gathered between November 2016 and January 2017. The study had a one per cent margin of error.

Ottawa results show higher rates of community engagement among PJ Library families

BY NORAH MOR

Local results from the PJ Library study show that PJ Library families in the Ottawa area are highly satisfied with the project and tend to be engaged in other activities and programs in the Jewish community.

The level of engagement by Ottawa's PJ Library families shows in the high response rate to the survey: 31 per cent of Ottawa families responded to the survey. This compares to an average of 22 per cent for medium size communities and only 20 per cent for all North American communities.

As for broader Jewish engagement, 75 per cent of Ottawa families have attended more Jewish events than in previous years. This compares to 46 per cent for all medium size communities and 38 per cent for all North American communities.

“The survey attests the high quality of the PJ Library program in Ottawa,” said Sarah Beutel, vice-president of community building for the Jewish Federation of Ottawa.

“For example, PJ Library recently



Children and parents enjoy a PJ Library in the Park event, June 26, 2016, at Centrepointe Park. The PJ Library program in Ottawa sponsors events for families, children and parents throughout the year.

partnered with Federation to expand its target group to include children aged eight to 11.”

Beutel said the findings also suggest directions PJ Library should focus on in the future.

Increasing enrolment in Ottawa's

Jewish educational institutions among PJ Library families is a goal to pursue, she explained.

For more information about PJ Library in the Ottawa area, contact Ariel Fainer at 613-798-4696, ext. 240 or afainer@jewishottawa.com.

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THE DIFFERENT COLOURS OF ISRAEL

When thinking of Israel, one often thinks of the Kotel, with its beige Jerusalem stones, or the vibrant spices of the shuk, or the country's well-known blue and white flag. This past trip, I had the unique experience of seeing another side of Israel which made me very proud: one that welcomes and celebrates Israel's LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer) community.

On June 9, thousands marched in the Tel Aviv Pride Parade, which ended in a party at the beach. While some say the parade has become too showy and lacks content, to me it was beautiful to see Israelis and international visitors openly celebrating the diversity practiced there. It was my first exposure to the rainbow flag with a big Magen David in the middle, a sight that made me proud to call myself Israeli.

On June 25, the Toronto Pride Parade was held. The conversation there was of separation. But inclusion is not achieved by exclusion. While Israel is often portrayed as a religious country, and full LGBTQ rights are still being fought for, it was incredible to see the coming together of strangers at the Tel Aviv Parade. For many LGBTQ people, Israel is a safety net where they can openly be themselves. While the country still has much to discuss, the progress made should not be discounted.

On August 27, Ottawa will host our Pride Parade and it is my hope that there will be a strong Jewish presence there to help celebrate, and to remind the world that we, too, embrace the diversity in our community and in the community around us.

Elishua Ben-Choreen



Ottawa's Elishua Ben-Choreen (left) and Idit Lowenstein enjoy the party after the Tel Aviv Pride Parade, June 9.

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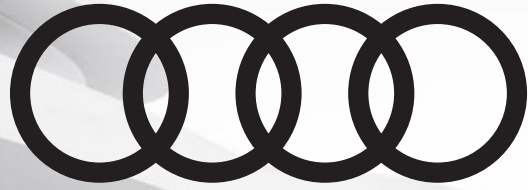
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 **NEW**



Leon Levit's *A Mercedes in the Sand* published in English

Publication of her father's novel in English was arranged by **Ruth Levit Miller** of Ottawa. **Norah Mor** reports.

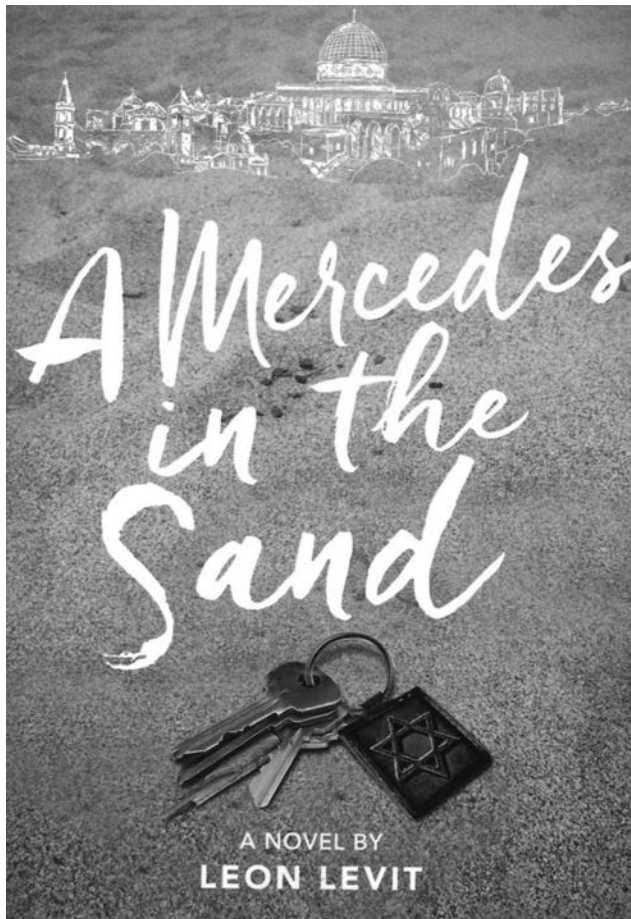
Leon Levit was a German Jew who arrived in British Mandate Palestine in 1932. He served in the British Army in Palestine during the Second World War and participated in Israel's 1948 War of Independence. He later became an Israeli diplomat whose postings included New York, where he was Israel's economic attaché, and Turkey, where he was Israel's chargé d'affaires.

In retirement from Israel's Foreign Ministry in the 1960s, Levit wrote *A Mercedes in the Sand*. In the novel's foreword, Levit wrote that his novel is a work of fiction about a "German Jew who lost one home in the land of his birth and who found another elsewhere after many internal and external struggles."

Levit wrote the book in German, his mother tongue, and it was still unpublished when he died in Tel Aviv in 1974. Through the efforts of his daughter, Daphna Levit, the book was published in its original German in 2002 as *Ein Mercedes Im Sand*.

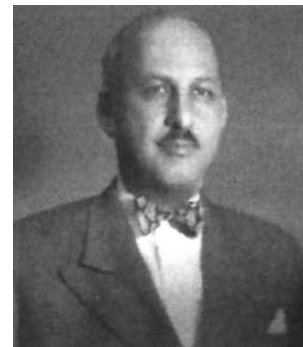
And, now, through the efforts of another daughter, Ruth Levit Miller of Ottawa, *A Mercedes in the Sand* is now available in English translation.

Miller says arranging for translation and publication of *A Mercedes in the Sand* was a "labour of love." She describes her father's story, set in Germany and Israel, as a "pearl of a book that I want to share with the whole world."



"My father was a citizen of the world," said Miller. "He spoke German, English, Hebrew, Latin, Italian and Turkish. He was a person who always saw both sides of the coin, always analyzed and examined situations he faced."

"In the book, he presents a very different perspective of Germany before the war, of the British soldiers



Leon Levit

in Palestine and their relationships with the Jews and Arabs in the area, and of the Jews and the Arabs themselves."

Miller stressed that *A Mercedes in the Sand* is a novel and not autobiography.

"He typed the book on a little Remington typewriter and thought the book would never be published in Germany. Sadly, he didn't live to see that it was not only published there, but that it was a great success," she said.

"The humour is brilliant," said Miller, calling attention to his depictions of British Mandate Palestine and the first experiences of *Yechas* (a derogatory term in Israel for assimilated Jews from Germany) arriving from a more luxurious lifestyle than was realistically possible in the Middle East at that time: "A Mercedes in the sand in a land that had yet to have roads."

Indeed, *A Mercedes in the Sand* is an often-funny page turner – even as it delves into such serious matters as the Nazis rise to power in Germany, identity politics, and racism and prejudice in different societies.

In addition to such familiar places as Tel Aviv and Haifa, Levit presents places like Kfar Ofot ("village of chickens" in Hebrew) and Kibbutz Pina Nidahat (Hebrew for "a distant corner"). His use of Hebrew, Yiddish and Arabic slang enriches the text.

A Mercedes in the Sand is available from Amazon at in both Kindle and paperback editions. <http://tinyurl.com/yaj2mrvq>.

Israeli-Palestinian water deal

JERUSALEM (JTA) – Israel and the Palestinian Authority announced an agreement, July 13, which will see an increase of up to 30 million cubic meters of fresh water going to the Palestinians.

Jason Greenblatt, U.S. President Donald Trump's special envoy to the Middle East, brokered the deal as part of a larger trilateral agreement including Jordan for the construction of a 137-mile pipeline to bring water from the Red Sea to help the Dead Sea. The pipeline also will power a water desalinization plant that will provide the additional fresh water. Israel will sell the water to the Palestinian Authority.

During the announcement of the water deal in Jerusalem, Greenblatt declined to discuss whether he was making progress in bringing the Israelis and Palestinians to the peace table.

Greenblatt has been in Israel for five days and met with Israeli and Palestinian officials during his visit to discuss moving forward with the Israel-Palestinian peace process, according to reports.

On July 13, Greenblatt met in Ramallah with Pales-

tinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas to discuss progress toward peace, a day after meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Greenblatt also met with Israeli Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman.



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Developing Future Leaders program helps students develop leadership and job skills

GUEST COLUMN

MEGAN HOLLINGER

The Developing Future Leaders (DFL) Program is run through The Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies at Carleton University. It is rather like a hidden gem for students who receive placements for paid internships, mostly with Jewish agencies or agencies which have a relationship with the Jewish community.

I have completed three years in the program, one year as a junior intern and two as a senior intern.

I started in 2014 and was placed with JET (Jewish Education through Torah) Ottawa. I was worried about how I would accommodate an internship, a second part-time job at a Jewish supplementary school, and full-time studies. I was pleasantly surprised, though, to find that



MEGAN HOLLINGER

scheduling my hours was simple. DFL interns are expected to complete 100 hours in the program over the course of two semesters; 80 hours are for the actual placement and 20 for professional

workshops. It is up to the intern and their agency supervisor to work out the intern's schedule allowing for flexibility.

My placement at JET allowed for professional learning and personal growth. At JET, I was able to work on its major programs for the Jewish community. My experiences at JET helped me develop many professional skills and I stayed with JET for two years as a DFL intern. My third-year DFL placement was at Ottawa Modern Jewish School (OMJS).

At OMJS, I was a teacher for Grades 2 and 3. As a teacher, I was expected to make and implement lessons and curriculum. This placement allowed me to greatly develop my leadership and communication skills. Organization and patience are also key skills I developed through my duties with OMJS.

Over the course of my three years as DFL Intern, I was expected to attend a number of seminars as part of the program. These seminars allow interns to learn more about their roles and what is expected of them. The seminars mainly

act as professional workshops. Interns take part in presentations and exercises meant to increase our value as future leaders and as professionals in the job market.

The DFL program is incredibly beneficial and has helped me and all of the other interns gain valuable job skills and to be more prepared for the tough job market we face today.

Gaining job skills, building a resumé, and earning income are among the more apparent benefits to participating in the DFL program. Other benefits include the opportunity to meet new people, form contacts, and gain exposure to the Jewish community in order to be prepared to take on leadership roles in it in the future. To this day, I cannot believe the opportunity the DFL Program gives interns to increase their value for future professional endeavours.

I highly encourage other students to apply for this program.

Visit <http://tinyurl.com/y862z2cf> for more information.

Canada reverses ban on labelling West Bank products as 'Made in Israel'

(JTA) – Federal government authorities withdrew a guideline that prevented goods produced in the West Bank from being labelled “Made in Israel.”

In a statement released July 13, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) said that two wines that had fallen under the labelling ban did in fact “adhere” to the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement and could be sold as labelled.

The two wines, both produced in the West Bank, were temporarily withdrawn from store shelves in Ontario.

Jewish organizations that lobbied heavily against the labelling restriction welcomed the news.

“We are excited and relieved to hear that through the actions of CIJA and the response of the Government of Canada, CFIA has revoked this directive and affirmed that these products can be sold without re-labelling,” read a statement from the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA), the advocacy arm of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa and other Jewish federations in Canada. “We commend the Government of Canada for moving quickly to rescind the decision.”

On July 11, the Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO) instructed vendors

to remove from their shelves and stop importing wines imported from the West Bank that were labelled as products of Israel. LCBO cited a previously unreported July 6 ruling from CFIA that wine products made from grapes “grown, fermented, blended and finished in the

Two wines that had fallen under the labelling ban did in fact “adhere” to the Canada-Israel Free Trade Agreement and could be sold as labelled.

West Bank occupied territory” could not be labeled “Product of Israel.”

That directive stated that the government of Canada “does not recognize Israel’s sovereignty over the territories occupied in 1967 (the Golan Heights, the West Bank, East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip)” and “as such wine products from these regions that are labelled as a Product of Israel would not be acceptable.”

Israel and Canada signed a free trade agreement in 1996.

“We did not fully consider the Cana-



Vered Saadon toasts with an Israeli tour group in Rahelim, West Bank, June 21.

da-Israel Free Trade Agreement,” the subsequent Canadian Food and Inspection Agency statement reads. “These wines adhere to the Agreement and therefore we can confirm that the products in question can be sold as currently labelled.”

An official for B’nai Brith Canada, speaking to the National Post, said he was told by a “high-ranking official” in the government that a “low-level person” at CFIA made the initial labelling decision without seeking authority from the federal government.



Yaakov Berg poses at his Psagot Winery in the West Bank, June 21.

Lorne Mallin brings monthly 'Chanting and Chocolate' sessions to Temple Israel

BY NORAH MOR

In 2004, Lorne Mallin launched a monthly event in Vancouver called "Chanting and Chocolate" at which participants share a passion for Jewish chanting and afterwards socialize over tea and chocolate brownies.

Mallin relocated to Ottawa earlier this year and brought Chanting and Chocolate with him. While the monthly program has continued in Vancouver, the Ottawa events take place on the last Monday of the month at Temple Israel from 7:30 until 9 pm under the aegis of the Temple Israel Adult Education Program. The sessions are egalitarian and men and women of all religious backgrounds are welcome.

Chanting and Chocolate combines two of Mallin's passions: a love of sacred Hebrew chanting and a love of the Abayudaya Jewish community in Uganda. There is a suggested donation of \$10 to attend the sessions and the proceeds are donated to the Abayudaya community to sponsor school fees for five orphans and provide sanitary pads for schoolgirls.

"It's an internal transformation," Mallin said of chanting, "through which I'm trying to keep the gates of righteousness open all the time, not just on Yom Kippur.

"The first time I heard the chants, I thought 'this is beautiful.' But, what amazed me the most was that they made my mind go quiet for some time, the 'mon-



The Chanting and Chocolate Band leads a session at Temple Israel, June 26. (From left) Aditi Magdalena, Joel Yan and Lorne Mallin.

key in my head' became silent."

The chants are very short pieces of sacred texts from Prophets, Torah or prayers. They are easy to pick up quickly, "but they are full of kavana (dedication), with beautiful melodies, followed by minutes of personal chanting," said Mallin.

Mallin writes some of the chants, others come from other sources and are in English, Hebrew or Luganda, the language of the Abayudaya. Mallin went to Uganda and lived and worked with the Abayudaya in 2009-2010.

Asked about the significance of chocolate to the

evenings, Mallin explained, "One night somebody brought chocolate chip cookies and I noticed that all of a sudden, everybody stayed, talking and chatting, when the chanting was over. So I took it upon myself to bake the triple chocolate brownies using dark, semi-sweet and milk chocolate."

The next Chanting and Chocolate session at Temple Israel is on Monday, July 31. Because the evening falls on Erev Tisha B'Av, the chocolate will be served before the chanting rather than after.

For information, visit www.chantingandchocolate.com or contact Mallin at lorne.mallin@gmail.com.



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Rabbi Hamerman to present lecture series on the centrality of Israel to the Jewish world

BY ESTELLE MELZER
ADATH SHALOM CONGREGATION

Adath Shalom Congregation is delighted to announce that Rabbi Shimshon Hamerman, one of Montreal's most respected Jewish educators, will give a series of lectures titled "The Long Journey Home: A History of the State of Israel from Pre-State to Today." His six talks will take place during Adath Shalom Shabbatons on Saturdays, August 19 and October 28.

On August 19, Rabbi Hamerman will set the theme for the series with his opening dvar, "The Centrality of Israel in the Bible and in Judaism." After services and Kiddush lunch, he will present his second talk, "Pre-State 1750-1917." That evening, Rabbi Hamerman will present "The British Mandate 1917-1947." This lecture will be followed by a Havdalah service and light refreshments.

On October 28, Rabbi Hamerman will continue his series on Israel with three more lectures. During Shabbat services he will deliver a dvar titled "The Unconditional, Conditional Covenant – God, Land and People." After Kiddush he will discuss "Israel's Wars and Accomplishments." That evening, in his final lecture, "The Arab-Israeli Conflict," Rabbi Hamerman will examine the real causes and some of the issues that gave rise to this conflict.

Whatever your personal view on Israel, Rabbi Hamerman will shake up your preconceptions, challenge what you think you know, and surprise you with unfamiliar details and fresh perspectives. Those familiar with Rabbi Hamerman's interactive learning sessions know that one outcome is guaranteed. He will make you think and feel as he develops his thesis: the centrality of Israel to the existence of the Jewish people throughout the ages, wherever they happen to live.

This series of lectures is free and open to everyone in the hope that it will enhance our community's



Israel is central to the existence of the Jewish people, says Rabbi Shimshon Hamerman.

appreciation of Israel's 70th anniversary which will take place during the upcoming Jewish year 5778.

Mark August 19 and October 28 on your calendar and join Adath Shalom Congregation for a stimulating and thought-provoking learning opportunity. For more information, contact Estelle Melzer at estelle.melzer@gmail.com.

Shabbat services for Adath Shalom Congregation take place Saturday mornings, 9:45 am, in the Ottawa Jewish Community School

chapel, 31 Nadolny Sachs Private on the Jewish Community Campus. Drop by anytime to experience our friendly atmosphere and egalitarian, participatory service.

During the High Holidays, Rabbi Hamerman will be the spiritual leader at Adath Shalom Congregation, enhancing the services with his insight and humour, and participating in lively learning sessions with our youth. For information about tickets or our affordable membership, call 613-240-4564.



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A parent's perspective on March of the Living

March of the Living is a Holocaust education and Israel experience trip for high school students encompassing observance of Yom HaShoah at Auschwitz and celebrating Yom Ha'Atzmaut in Israel. **Janice Friedlich** is the parent of two students who have participated in the March and shares her thoughts on why the program is such a valuable experience.



A group of students from Ottawa enters Birkenau on Yom HaShoah during the 2015 March of the Living.

Having lived in both small and large cities in Canada, I have often said that living Jewishly in Canada outside Toronto or Montreal requires more of an effort, but that the rewards that come from that effort are greater.

Toronto and Montreal will have huge contingents participating in the March and, yes, many of those students will be from Jewish high schools which incorporate the trip into the curriculum. Students from smaller communities like Ottawa, Edmonton, Calgary, Winnipeg and Vancouver – which form the March's Coast-to-Coast contingent – have to think about it a bit more and, perhaps, juggle some things around to make the scheduling work.

In my opinion, though, it is so worthwhile; so worth the effort. The Coast-to-Coast contingent is a group of kids who really want to be there on this life-changing experience.

My kids participated in the 2012 and 2014 trips. Both were in Grade 11 at the time and both were able to deal with missing school. Teachers and school administrators were very supportive once they learned about the educational value of what the kids would be seeing and doing while away. Upon return, they shared their experiences at school. And they continued to do so. In the years since going on the trip, my daughter has had the opportunity to share her experiences on the March by speaking at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre during Holocaust Education Month, on Parliament Hill at a ceremony com-

memorating the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, and to many MPs and dignitaries on Parliament Hill a second time as the Friends of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre launched the Tour for Humanity Bus here in Ottawa.

I have seen other participants return from the trip engaged and determined to share their experiences and act as the witnesses they have become, speaking for those who no longer can.

Part of the amazing experience of this trip is that there are still survivors of the Holocaust who are able to travel with the students and share their memories. Both of my kids shared very different, yet equally incredible experiences with the survivor on their trips.

For one of the survivors it was returning to his village in Poland for the first time since he was a child and finding the apartment where he lived with his family. For the other, it was an impromptu bar mitzvah atop Masada as he was raised by a Christian family to ensure his survival and only rediscovered his Judaism much later in life.

As the years pass and the Holocaust becomes less recent history, it becomes more important than ever to “never forget”; more important than ever for us and our kids to remember those who died in the Holocaust. March of the Living takes that further. Our kids become witnesses. They visit places that were once thriving centres of Jewish life in Poland and learn how those communities were wiped out. They observe

Yom HaShoah with thousands of other students with a solemn march from Auschwitz to Birkenau. They see other concentration camps, death camps and cemeteries as they try to understand the magnitude of the Shoah.

The support of their peers, the survivors and chaperones makes this bearable. The week in Poland is heavy and intense. Then, together, they fly to Israel and celebrate the survival of the Jewish people.

Again learning so much about history and Israel, this second week of the trip

is really incredible. Doing it with thousands of other Jewish kids from around the world over Yom Ha'Atzmaut is something very special.

This trip is the opportunity of a lifetime. Well worth the time and money invested.

The next March of the Living trip for students in Grades 10, 11 and 12 will take place in April 2018. For information, contact Natalie Abenheim of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa at 613-798-4696, ext. 355, or nabenheim@jewishottawa.com.

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Make hay while the sun shines: Things to do this summer

As if this past winter wasn't bad enough, we experienced an exceptionally rainy spring. As I write in the first week of July, it's the first day in about 18 that we haven't had any rain in Ottawa. What a relief to finally enjoy time outdoors without the need to carry a rain jacket or an umbrella, and without worrying about plans being disrupted by a downpour.

Now that I'm feeling like summer is finally here, I'm thinking about what I want to do while the weather is beautiful. You can use my list as a starting point for your own ideas based on personal preferences. While it may seem obvious, it's all too easy for Facebook addicts (myself included) and workaholics to let the hours and days slip by. Spending more time outdoors being active is good for your physical and mental health.

Play ball. If you have young children or grandchildren, you may have enrolled them in a sports team such as soccer or Little League. Games and practices mean lots of sitting around for parents. Instead of being a passive observer, why not get moving while your children are active? Bring a soccer ball and kick it around with another parent or bring a softball and play pitch and catch. You can still watch your little darlings and cheer them on while getting in some exercise. If you're not at that stage of life, there are other ways to enjoy a game of ball. Think back to your youth and the games you played in the school yard or on the street such as dodge ball or champ. There's no age restriction on ball games. Get some friends or family members together for a friendly competition. If you're on your own, take a bat and a ball to a park and practice hitting and fetching the ball.



GLORIA SCHWARTZ
FOCUS ON FITNESS

While it may seem obvious, it's all too easy for Facebook addicts (myself included) and workaholics to let the hours and days slip by. Spending more time outdoors being active is good for your physical and mental health.

Get wet. Jump in a lake or a pool. Do some laps. Splash about. Toss around a beach ball. Summer is so short. Embrace it. If you don't have a swimming pool, take advantage of your local community centre or public swimming pool. You're likely to see friends and other familiar faces. You'll benefit from the fresh air, sunshine and the feeling of water on your skin. If you have a cottage or can get to a lake or a public beach, you'll also enjoy the psychological benefits of the natural surroundings.

Cook and dine al fresco. Who wants to spend hours cooking over a hot stove when you can grill outdoors? Savour the flavours of summer on the patio or have a picnic in a park. Lighter, heart-

healthy meals are relatively easy to prepare. Skip the drive-thru. Say no to pizza delivery. Summer is about fresh produce. Nothing says summer like peaches and cream, corn on the cob, and locally grown berries. How about some grilled fish, asparagus and sweet watermelon? My mouth is watering just thinking about all of the delicious, nutritious whole foods that are abundant in July and August. Cut up your favourite veggies, drizzle them with olive oil, season to taste and wrap them in foil. Roast them on the barbeque while grilling your protein and in a few minutes you'll have a wonderful meal that will dazzle your taste buds.

Book your health checks. While making the most of summer and getting outdoors as much as possible, don't neglect your health. If you don't want to be cooped up in doctors' offices in the summer, take a few minutes to book non-urgent appointments for the fall. Are you due for a physical with your physician? Some appointments are somewhat unpleasant so we tend to procrastinate. Schedule that mammogram or other important test. Book your eye exam. Don't forget a dental checkup. Ask your doctor if you should have your hearing tested. And don't overlook your feet. Feet tend to flatten with age. As a result, many seniors wear the wrong size shoes. Regardless of your age, if your shoes are ill-fitting, if you have bunions, corns, blisters, or foot pain, consider booking an appointment with a foot specialist. If you have new or changing moles or a history of skin abnormalities, make an appointment with a dermatologist. You may need to get referrals from your family doctor.

After you're done booking your appointments, get back outside and enjoy what's left of summer!

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Netanyahu must realize he needs support of Diaspora Jews

Bibi has done it again – alienating Diaspora Jews and turning his back on religious pluralism to stay in power.

But, by backtracking on hard-won agreements to accommodate an area for men and women to pray together at the Western Wall and to loosen the ultra-Orthodox stranglehold on conversions to Judaism, has Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu gone too far this time?

And has he underestimated the degree to which his actions would outrage many of his staunchest supporters?

Whatever the fallout from this particular act of hubris, it's clear that the time has come to reform Israel's electoral system so that single-issue parties – whatever their views – no longer wield disproportionate power in the country's dysfunctional coalition governments.

For most of his time in power, Netanyahu has relied on ultra-Orthodox parties to make up the numbers in his ruling coalition. This has prohibited religious reform of any kind and cemented the power of a relatively small group of ultra-Orthodox religious leaders with an increasingly narrow view of who is a Jew.

There was hope for change after the 2013 elections, when Netanyahu had enough mainstream coalition partners to exclude ultra-Orthodox parties, and the government even introduced legislation to require ultra-Orthodox Jews to perform national service or enlist in the armed forces.

But that coalition lasted only a couple of years. After the 2015 election, Netanyahu's ruling coalition included more right-wing parties as well as the ultra-Orthodox parties, Shas and United Torah Judaism.

Plans for compulsory service by ultra-Orthodox citizens have been pushed back to 2020 or beyond.

And now the unholy alliance has pressured Netanyahu to renege on a January 2016 agreement – carefully crafted with input from Israeli and North Amer-



ican leaders of the Reform and Conservative movements – to create an area at the Western Wall where men and women could pray together.

Netanyahu has also refused to block legislation that would grant all authority for religious conversions to the Chief Rabbinate, which has ridiculously restrictive criteria and has recently “blacklisted” 160 Diaspora rabbis, including ultra-Orthodox and Orthodox leaders, whose conversions are no longer recognized.

I am not anti-Orthodox. But my Judaism includes all forms of Jewish worship. And I believe that Israel, which prides itself on being the only democracy in the Middle East, is damaging its credibility and its future by subscribing to the ridiculous and clearly anti-democratic belief that some Jews are better than others.

The Israeli government has no problem sending secular, Reform, Conservative and Modern Orthodox youth to the army to risk their lives every day in the service of their country.

The Jews who perished in the Holocaust reflected all denominations. Indeed, the smallest hint of Jewish heritage was often a death sentence.

We rightly mourn and venerate those who perished only because they were Jewish. But many of them would be second-class Jews in today's Israel.

Israel doesn't check Jewish credentials before it accepts the hundreds of millions of dollars raised by

Jewish individuals and organizations in North America and the rest of the Diaspora.

But the government clearly has no room for their opinions.

The backlash was immediate and harsh.

The powerful Jewish Agency for Israel cancelled a gala with the PM.

Isaac Fisher, a board member of AIPAC, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, has asked for the return of \$1 million in Israel Bonds and says he will no longer raise money for Israel because of Netanyahu's “serious act of contempt.”

Canadian billionaire and committed Israel supporter Charles Bronfman wrote Netanyahu that he did not know any other country that “denies Jews based on denomination.”

Author, scholar and columnist Daniel Gordis is calling on Diaspora Jews to use financial pressure to “create a coalition crisis.”

In his June 29 column in the Jerusalem Post, Gordis said Diaspora Jews should support Israeli rabbis who understand religious pluralism.

He says we should consider Netanyahu and his coalition partners “toxic,” and exclude them from events with Jewish groups.

He even suggests we should boycott El Al, and stop raising money for Israeli hospitals to protest Health Minister Ya'acov Litzman's role in the coalition.

“When their hospitals begin to falter... when their airline faces bankruptcy, when their prime minister is a publicly humiliated pariah, Israelis will begin to notice and will start to care.”

Would Diaspora Jews go this far? Probably not.

But maybe it will take something equally drastic for Netanyahu to realize that he truly needs the support of Diaspora Jews – and for ordinary Israelis to respect our values, not just our donations.

Do-it-yourself Judaism for lifelong learning

School's out for the summer, and I know that some of you, dear students and teachers, are grateful for the pause. Believe me: I feel you. And so I want to warn you that this column is all about learning, especially learning for fun, a concept that may be a challenge for you to even consider. So I won't be offended if you skip this month's edition of Dispatches from the Diaspora.

For those continuing to read, I want to start a conversation about what I call DIY Judaism. How can we support each other in learning about our tradition so that we can make choices about our practice, rather than take Jewishness for granted?

I know I'm not the only one out there who likes to study and learn. Some might even call this a Jewish value, or at least a value associated with nerds and graduate students. However, despite my PhD, I don't love to sit in a classroom. I am partly a kinetic learner and I appreciate learning by doing, as well as participating in experiential learning processes. This self-awareness, in concert with my interest in Jewish learning, leads me to wonder whether we have Jewish learning opportunities in our community, for adults, that are based in doing and in action. I am interested in finding or creating non-judgemental opportunities that empower people with skills and knowledge so that they can choose to practice their Judaism in a way that feels best for them.

Kashering dishes/Making blessings on different categories of food and drink/Putting up and taking down a mezuzah

Our community offers many diverse recreational



adult and children's courses and programming on Jewish subjects, including the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning, various introduction to Judaism courses offered by our religious leaders, JET's many programs and classes, etc. But, what about classes which deal with the practical ins and outs of practicing our Judaism? I want to connect with other curious people who want to learn about Jewish activities without the pressure of converting or becoming more frum. And without the pressure of being told that some of these activities are obligations reserved for men.

Blowing the shofar/Tying tzitzit/Making your own tallit/Counting the Omer

Do you already belong to a congregation or youth group that learns how to do these activities? Does your chavurah take them on? If you aren't taking a conversion class, or if the family you grew up in wasn't religious, or if you don't belong to a congregation, or you don't have a rabbi to talk to, how do we learn to do things so that we can choose whether or not we want to make them a part of our personal Jewish practice?

Cleaning a house for Passover/Shopping for Passover according to different levels of observance, some based on culture/Blessings for finding the symbolic chametz and blessings for burning the chametz

Baking challah/Lighting and blessing Shabbat candles/Saying the various Shabbat blessings including Kiddush and blessings for children/Making Havdallah to close Shabbat

In Chicago, SVARA – www.svara.org – is a “traditionally radical yeshiva” that is “dedicated to the serious study of Talmud and committed to the Queer experience.” Could we build a learning community in Ottawa that is egalitarian, experiential, feminist, and dedicated to sharing Jewish knowledge to adults from all walks of life? Could it be ambulatory, democratic, empowering, progressive, and based on learning by doing?

Creating your own blessings according to the blessing structure/Living and engaging our commitment to social justice/Doing tikkun olam – truly doing the work of repairing the world

I want us to have access to our rich and beautiful traditions, no matter what we grew up with. I want us to know as much as we can so that we can engage responsibly with our past in order to live respectfully in the present. I want us to love our Judaism and be invested in it as full participants. I'm still working on a catchy name for this initiative, and I am open to your suggestions and ideas about how to support progressive Jewish learning and enthusiastic Jewish curiosity. For now: class dismissed.

Compelling novel peels back layers of hope and loss

ERIC VERNON
BOOK REVIEW

The German Girl

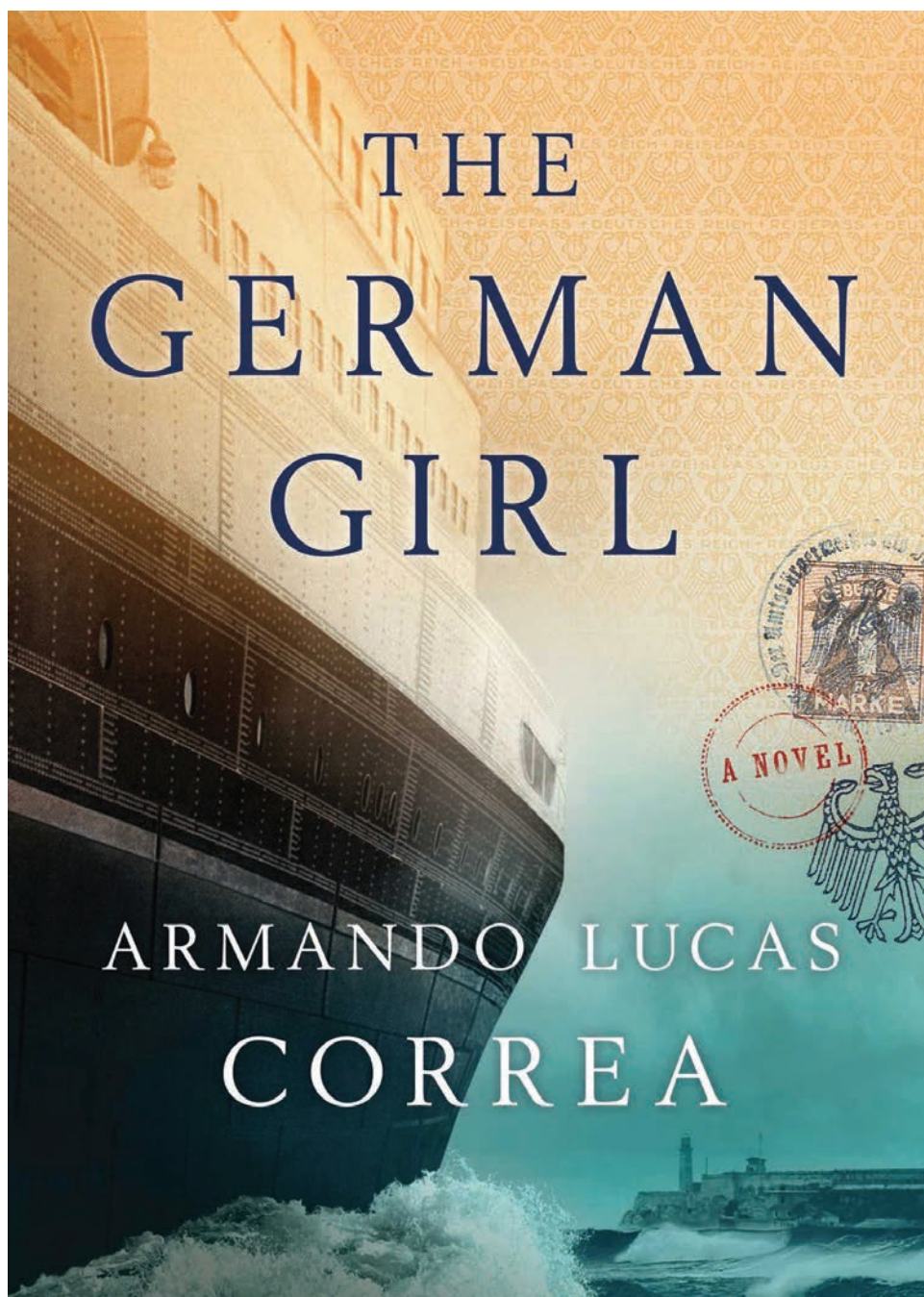
By Armando Lucas Correa
Translated from Spanish by Nick Caister
Atria Books
368 pages

Cuban-born writer Armando Lucas Correa opens *The German Girl*, his first novel, in 1939 Berlin where 12-year-old Hannah Rosenthal is desperately trying to cope with the increasingly harsh anti-Semitism of post-Kristallnacht Germany.

The Nazis, whom Hannah and her best friend Leo call the “Ogres,” are ramping up their efforts toward establishing their racially pure state. Facing the increasing horrors of state-sponsored persecution, so clearly evident in what Hannah’s mother sees as “too many broken windows,” the time has come to leave. With precious tickets in hand, Hannah and her parents prepare to board the *MS St. Louis* to escape the lethal madness of Nazi Germany.

I should note at this juncture that the *St. Louis* intersected my professional life on several occasions. As director of government relations for Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC), I dealt for several years with the issue of historical recognition of Canada’s refusal to allow the ship’s desperate passengers to enter Canada and the “none is too many” exclusionary immigration policy that underpinned that fateful decision. Toward the end of my career with CJC, I was finally able to secure government funding to place a fitting memorial to the *St. Louis* in the immigration museum at Pier 21 in Halifax.

As such, I read *The German Girl* with great interest. But the story is so much more than the compelling account of Hannah’s last few months in Germany, the fascinating details of her voyage on the *St. Louis*, the heartbreak of the ship’s denied landing, and the pathos of her



subsequent life in Cuba.

Correa soon introduces us to 12-year-old Anna Rosen, who lives with her single mother in present-day New York City. The author then organizes his novel around parallel narratives of Hannah and Anna. Both, for example, have lost fathers under calamitous circumstances. Cuban authorities ultimately rescinded the entry visas secured in Germany and permitted only a tiny number of *St. Louis* passengers to disembark. Hannah and her mother are among those who leave

the ship; her father is denied permission and later becomes one of the Holocaust victims among those forced to return to Europe. In Anna’s case, her mother was pregnant with her the day her father went to work on 9/11 and never returned.

As it turns out, though, the narratives are fated to converge: Anna’s Cuban-born father was Louis Rosenthal, for whom Hannah played the role more as mother-figure than aunt.

Hannah’s troubled life in Cuba reminds us that not all those who left

the ship in Cuba were spared the everlasting effects of the “Voyage of the Damned.” It is only in her late- 80s after decades of lonely isolation that Hannah finally reaches out to her grand-niece. She sends Anna a package of family photos and mementoes of Berlin in the 1930s and her fateful transatlantic voyage. As Hannah says, “It would have been unjust toward my parents if I had concealed her legacy. You need to know where you come from. You need to know how to make peace with the past.”

Anna’s mother would do well to take this lesson to heart. Her grief in widowhood is inconsolable and Anna can only fill in the gaps of her father’s absence through her own imagination. The package from Cuba becomes the catalyst for unclocking the mystery of Anna’s lineage and loosening her mother from the iron grip of tragic memory. The two will embark upon their own fateful journey to Cuba, not to preserve their lives, but to discover their true heritage and ultimately to help both Anna’s mother and her great-aunt make their peace with the past.

Under the spell of her great-aunt in Havana, legacy and destiny come together for Anna. She is enlightened about her father’s place in the family, as she learns the tragic circumstances of Hannah’s life under both Hitler’s Germany and Castro’s Cuba. But Anna’s future is also infused with new meaning as she learns of the mantle she must henceforth assume as the last of the Rosenthals, an astonishing blessing for Hannah as her own end nears.

Correa deftly peels back the layers of the two-sided coin of hope and loss. Ultimately this plays out in the human condition as we travel on our own voyage in search of family, home, love and redemption. Correa richly brings his characters to life in a mostly sympathetic way as they seek their path along this often treacherous, but ultimately rewarding, journey. The echoes of the contemporary refugee experience in our own troubled world clearly reverberate as well.

The German Girl is a compelling story and a welcome addition to the shelf of contemporary fictional accounts of the Shoah in its various dimensions.

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Descendants of Holocaust survivors launch new group

BY TOBY HERSCOVITCH
CENTRE FOR HOLOCAUST EDUCATION
AND SCHOLARSHIP

Descendants of Holocaust survivors in Ottawa recently met to connect, share experiences and find new ways to pass on the lessons of the worst genocide in human history – especially once their parents and other eyewitnesses are all gone.

The informal gathering, at the home of second-generation descendant Batia Winer, was organized by the Centre for Holocaust Education and Scholarship (CHES) at the Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies at Carleton University. Some 30 people attended, mostly children and grandchildren of survivors, all recognizing that keeping

the promise of “Never Again” will soon fall on their shoulders.

Five key themes emerged as the guests shared their reasons for participating:

Several people said they want to find their own voices within the Holocaust narrative. Descendants wrestle with the message they want to convey. Should they retell their parents/relatives’ experiences or add their own interpretation and how it contributed to their life choices?

Others spoke about a sense of obligation to their ancestors, to help create a better world from the ashes of the Holocaust.

A third goal is to carry on the legacy of Holocaust survivors’ families. In particular, many descendants want to help



Child Holocaust survivor Elly Bollegraaf wants to ensure that descendants of survivors will carry on the legacy of speaking to students about the Holocaust.

their children learn more about their family’s history.

Fourth, we need to ensure that descendants can eventually speak about the Holocaust in schools, since most survivors are no longer alive or well enough to do so anymore. This was a particular concern of Elly Bollegraaf, a child survivor herself, who regularly speaks to students and is hoping the next generation will take over this crucial role.

(Visit <http://tinyurl.com/y7mtggu7> to see excerpts from the video testimonies of 10 Ottawa Holocaust survivors, including Elly Bollegraaf’s.)

Finally, participants from families who rarely or never spoke about the Holocaust are discovering their own backgrounds, and a thirst for more information and connections to others with a similar history.

Plans are underway for a Forum for Descendants of Survivors during Holocaust Education Month in November.

Visit <https://carleton.ca/ches/> for more information about CHES or contact us at chesatcarleton@gmail.com.

Florence Melton School holds graduation

BY ROSLYN WOLLOCK
SOLOWAY JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE

After two years of study, the 2017 graduating class of the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning in Ottawa gathered, June 22, for their graduation ceremony.

Rabbi Steven Garten, director of the Melton School in Ottawa, presented students with certificates and words of thanks for the stimulating two years they had spent learning together.

Speaking to the students, both Rabbi Garten and Rabbi Reuven Bulka reminded them of the impor-

ance of learning Torah, the requirement to share that knowledge with others, and the value of constantly challenging what is being taught.

The 22 Ottawa graduates are among the 3,000 Melton students at 50 sites around the world who graduated in 2017. The Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning, a project of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, is the largest pluralistic adult Jewish education network in the world. The graduation was a culmination of 120 hours of enriching, comprehensive study, comprised of four courses of text-based lessons: “The Purposes of Jewish Living,”

“The Rhythms of Jewish Living,” “Jewish History (The Dramas of Jewish Living),” and “The Ethics of Jewish Living.”

Many of the graduates said the Melton program was a significant entry into lifelong Jewish study and the majority have already committed to returning to the Soloway Jewish Community Centre this fall to continue their Jewish learning journey.

Fall courses begin the week of September 11. For more information on the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning, contact Roslyn Wollock at 613-798-9818, ext. 254 or rwollock@jccottawa.com.



The 2017 graduates of Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning of Ottawa: (From left: David Spring, Margo Rosen, Irene Shanefield, Jackie Sitwell, John Cox, Cynthia Powell, Sabina Wasserlauf, Annette Paquin, school director Rabbi Steven Garten, Minda Chaikin, Karen Shiller, Norman Barwin, Iris Arnon, Helen Rauch and Sid Kardash. Absent from photo: Esther Rosenberg Paritzky, Barbara Goldrosen, Julie Kanter, Mike Aronson, Leila Ages, Sherill Besser, Erica Sher and Fran Klodawsky.



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- Jeff Miller Mazel Tov on receiving the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award by Ruth and Irving Aaron
- David and Monica Kardish Mazel Tov on the birth of your grandson by Ruth and Irving Aaron
- Peter and Minda Wershof Mazel Tov on your 40th Anniversary by Ruth and Irving Aaron

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Tova Khacshour by Marilyn Adler and Neil and Daniel Blacher

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- Cindy Cherry Mazel Tov on Josh being called to the Bar by Marilyn Adler and Neil Blacher

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- Laura Spergel by Murray Citron

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In Honour of:

- Barry and Ricki Baker Best wishes on your 50th Anniversary by Barbara Cohen

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David and Saritte Eskenazi Mazel Tov on Lee Noa's Bat Mitzvah by Elaine Friedberg and Bob Dale

Kathi Kovacs and Irwin Schweitzer Mazel Tov on the birth of your granddaughter by Elaine Friedberg and Bob Dale

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- Marcia Molot by Henry and Maureen Molot
- Bernie Stein by Henry and Maureen Molot
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In Honour of:

- Deidre Butler Mazel Tov on your promotion by Henry and Maureen Molot
- Connie and Gerald Steinberg Mazel Tov on the birth of your grandson by Henry and Maureen Molot
- Jackie Holzman and John Rutherford Mazel Tov on your 30th wedding Anniversary by Henry and Maureen Molot
- Kaysa Friedman Mazel Tov on your special Birthday by Manny and Cheryle Gluck

R' Fuah Shlema:

- Bernie Rosenblatt by Henry and Maureen Molot

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- Marcia and Steve Aronson Mazel Tov on the birth of your grandson by Sol and Estelle Gunner

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- Len and Barb Farber Mazel Tov on your 45th Anniversary by Nordau and Roslyn Kanigsberg
- Hartley Stern Mazel Tov on taking on the Chair of the JFO by Nordau and Roslyn Kanigsberg

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- Israel Jankielewitz Beloved father and grandfather by Gale, Victor and Sydney Kardish

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- Mr. and Mrs. Williams Mazel Tov on all the wonderful occasions by Brenda, Nathan, Jesse and Daniel Levine

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In Memory of:

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- Laura Spergel by Joyce Miller

In Honour of:

- Anne Miller Very best wishes on your special Birthday by Joyce Miller and Family

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- Mitch and Lisa Miller Mazel Tov on your 18th wedding Anniversary by Ken and Leah Miller

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Joel Taller by Norean Taller and Family
Etta Hersh by Sharon Appotive
Laura Spergel by Joy Bodnoff, Jeff and Felice Pleet and family, Barbara and Steve Levinson, Joy and Seymour Mender and Family
Helen Golby by Violet and Ben Segal
Leah Frimerman by Sylvia and Morton Pleet and Harris Pleet

In Honour of:
Maria and Allan Taylor Mazel Tov on your recent marriage by Sara Shabsove
Joe Levitan Congratulations on your special Birthday by Joy and Seymour Mender and Family
Stephen Saslove Mazel Tov on receiving the Shalom Perel President's Award of Merit by Norean (Harris) Taller and Family
Flo and Joel Morgan Mazel Tov on your granddaughter Ariella's Bat Mitzvah by Carol and Laurie Pascoe

Rhoda and Jeff Miller Mazel Tov on the birth of your grandson Archer by Joy and Seymour Mender and Family
Jeff Miller Mazel Tov on receiving the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award by Barbara and Steve Levinson
R' Fuah Shlema:
Ed Kerzner by Yale and Dee Gaffen

Therapeutic Program

In Memory of:
Etta Hersh by Jeff Appotive

Recreation Program

In Memory of:
Laura Spergel by Lee Bodnoff-Curry

In Honour of:
Joel and Flo Morgan Mazel Tov on your granddaughter's Bat Mitzvah by Esther and David Kwavnick

In Memory of:
Etta Hersh by Gloria (Appotive) and Dan Zwicker, the residents, staff and Boards of Hillel Lodge and the LTC Foundation, Shirley Viner, Sheila Bahar
Laura Spergel by the residents, staff and Boards of Hillel Lodge and the LTC Foundation, Sharon and Paul Finn, Bill and Laurie Chochinov
Tova Khacshour by the residents, staff and Boards of Hillel Lodge and the LTC Foundation, Ron Deschamps and Eli Cohen and Family
Menachem Rodal by Esther and Alan Williams
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In Honour of:
Donna Klaiman In appreciation for enriching the garden and the lives of the residents at Hillel Lodge by the residents, staff and volunteers of the Lodge
Debbie Scharf Thank you for your wonderful presentation at our Volunteer Appreciation Event by the Staff and Boards of Hillel Lodge
Seymour Brownstein Mazel Tov on your well-deserved award by Roz and Steve Fremeth
Joe Levitan Mazel Tov on your 65th Birthday by Roz and Steve Fremeth
Marilyn Adler, Stephen Schneiderman, and the Hillel Board of Directors In appreciation for

their long-standing support by the Members of Touch of Klez
Ricki and Barry Baker Mazel Tov on your 50th Anniversary by Norman and Elaine Wolfish
Dr. Michael Malek With sincere appreciation by Sheila Nadrich
Joy Chochinov Best wishes on your birthday by Bill and Laurie Chochinov
Ralph and Lynda Levenstein Best wishes on the marriage of Liat Lankelevic and Ari Fisher
Jeff Miller Mazel Tov on receiving the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award by Esther and Alan Williams
Hymie Reichstein Mazel Tov on receiving the Shem Tov Community Volunteer award by Esther and Alan Williams
Evelyn Greenberg Mazel Tov on receiving your well-deserved awards by Esther and Alan Williams
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Norman Slover Mazel Tov on your well-deserved retirement by Beverly Friedman
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Avi Gabbay, 'Israel's Macron,' wants to lead Labour Party from the centre

BY ANDREW TOBIN

TEL AVIV (JTA) – He's charismatic. He's an outsider. And he's a political centrist.

Some have hailed Avi Gabbay, the telecom exec who was elected July 10 to lead the centre-left Labour Party, as Israel's version of French President Emmanuel Macron, the banker who recently swept to power with an outsider campaign.

"Like Macron, Gabbay brings hope," said Abraham Diskin, a political science professor at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. "People are again saying: Here is a new medicine. The old medicine didn't cure us."

But Israel already has two charismatic, outsider centrists in national politics. Both Yair Lapid and Moshe Kahlon in recent years led new moderate parties to electoral success, though not rule. So what does one more Macron mean for the country?

Gabbay (pronounced gab-BYE) successfully courted Labour's left wing to win the primary. But he is widely viewed as a moderate.

He entered politics as a founding member of Kahlon's centre-right Kulanu party, and joined Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's right-wing government in 2015. During the campaign, Gabbay was even forced to retract a televised denial that he had previously voted for the ruling Likud party.

Labour, like much of the historic Israeli left, is a shell of itself. According to Diskin, Gabbay would now be wise to embrace the centrist label. It is no accident, he said, that Kahlon and Lapid – who led his studiously middle-of-the-road Yesh Atid into the government in 2013 – found success far from either political pole. Israel has a long history of successful centrist parties, most notably Ariel Sharon's Kadima, which won the 2006 election.

"Macron knew the centre is the best place to be, because most voters are there. That's how you get political control," said Diskin. "Or look at [prime

minister David] Ben-Gurion. He tried to rule from the centre and leave leftist parties out of his government. One of Labour's biggest problems is that it has forgotten this lesson."

After leading Israel to independence in 1948 and then dominating Israeli politics for three decades, Labour has fallen on hard times. The party's most recent national election win was 18 years ago, and opinion polls have showed it ranked just fourth or fifth in size among major parties.

Gabbay, 40, is expected to give a much needed popularity boost to his party, at least in the short term. But his wider effect on Israeli politics is less clear. A stronger Labour could actually solidify Netanyahu's grip on power by siphoning votes from Yesh Atid, the only party polls have shown challenging Likud.

Alternatively, some hope Gabbay – whose parents emigrated from Morocco – will help Labour overcome its long-standing image as a bastion of well-to-do Israelis of Ashkenazi, or European Jewish, descent and attract some of the working-class Mizrahi, or Middle Eastern Jewish, voters who vote for Likud or Kulanu. In that way, he could expand the centre-left.

Gideon Rahat, a political scientist at Hebrew University and a researcher at the Israel Democracy Institute, said Gabbay appeared to have the tools to rebrand his party.

"Israeli politics is highly personalized. So Gabbay's personality and his character are huge assets," said Rahat. "Maybe more significantly, he's Mizrahi. He may be able to take some Mizrahi votes not just from Lapid, but also from Kahlon and Netanyahu."

Gabbay grew up in a Jerusalem transit camp, one of eight children, and, after serving in the Intelligence Corps, went on to make millions as the chief executive of Bezeq, Israel's telecommunications monopoly. In 2015, he helped launch Kulanu and became the environmental protection minister. But a



Avi Gabbay attending a news conference after winning the Labour Party primary in Tel Aviv, July 11.

year later, he quit in protest after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu replaced defense minister Moshe Kahlon with the hawkish Avigdor Liberman as part of a political deal.

He joined Labour about six months ago.

Amid a crowded field, Gabbay made it to the party's two-man runoff by coming in second to Amir Peretz, 65, a former Labour head and defense minister, who is also Mizrahi. Incumbent Labour chair Isaac Herzog got the third most votes and threw his support behind Peretz along with most of the Labour establishment.

Nevertheless, Gabbay prevailed by winning the hearts of the party's rank and file. He appeared likable and nonchalant in his many TV appearances and made savvy use of social media. On

July 9, he shared Peretz's Facebook post asking the public for helping finding his son's lost dog. The comradely gesture earned critical last minute coverage and social media buzz.

After Gabbay's victory, Labour leaders quickly threw their support behind him. Ehud Barak, the party's most recent prime minister who has hinted at a political comeback, called it a revolution in Labour and said Netanyahu and his allies would be "sweating tonight, with good reason."

For his part, Diskin predicted Gabbay would do little to redraw the political map. But with some political skill, he said, the newly elected Labour leader might be able to form a government with the two other centrist parties. Then, he said, Israel could have its Macron moment.

IN APPRECIATION

My grateful appreciation to everyone who generously made donations in my honour to The Therapeutic Centre at the Canadian Hadassah-WIZO Hadassim Children and Youth Village. This Village offers a safe haven for neglected and abused children in Israel providing critical and timely tailored treatment to vulnerable youth who urgently need our support.

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ISSY SCAROWSKY

Book launch: *The Life of Moshele Der Zinger: How my Singing Saved my Life*, the autobiography of Cantor Moshe S. Kraus, was launched at a reception at Ottawa City Hall, July 3. (From left) Robert Hage, former Canadian ambassador to Hungary and Slovenia; Barbara Crook, MC for the book launch; Rivka Kraus; Cantor Kraus; and Raymond Coderre of Baico Publishing.



Wallenberg Citation: Rabbi Steven Garten and Imam Mohamad Jebara received the 2017 National Raoul Wallenberg Citation for Moral Courage in the Face of Anti-Semitism in a ceremony, June 19, on Parliament Hill. (From left) Blandine Stringer, Wallenberg Citation Initiative volunteer; David Kilgour, MC for the event; Naima Sidow, who nominated Rabbi Garten for the award; Rabbi Garten; Imam Jebara; and Daniel Stringer, co-founder of the Wallenberg Citation Initiative.



JUSTIN SHULMAN

OMJS graduation: The Ottawa Modern Jewish School held its graduation ceremony, June 25, at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre. (From left) Teacher Kami Francis; graduates Jordana Rappaport, Julia Blane, Allison Gorber, Rebecca Feig, Jazz Rosenberg; and teacher Danny Shalom.



ERICA GREEN

Kehillat Beth Israel: Young children and their parents gather, Friday, June 23, at Kehillat Beth Israel's Canada 150 Teddy Bear Shabbat event.



OTC interfaith event: Ottawa Torah Centre Chabad (OTC) held an interfaith program, "Fasting in Islam and Judaism," in partnership with the Canadian Institute of Intercultural Dialogue, June 15. The program, held during Ramadan, was attended by Muslim and Jewish families and included a break-fast dinner. "It was a very meaningful experience for both communities to get know and learn more about each other," said Rabbi Menachem Blum of OTC.



OTC course: Participants in the six session course, "Survival of a Nation: Exploring Israel Through the Lens of the Six-Day War," gather for a group photo with instructor Rabbi Menachem Blum at Ottawa Torah Centre Chabad.

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MAZEL TOV TO:

Josef and Devora Caytak on the wedding of Bracha Lea and Berel by James and Rena Borovay.
Rachel Lyman and family on Rachel's graduation from OJCS and receiving the Derech Eretz prize by Carol and Laurie Pascoe.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Joe Levitan by Carol and Laurie Pascoe and family.

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Arthur and Linda Cogan on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson by Martin and Roxy Freedman.

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MAZEL TOV TO:

Diane Koven on the birth of her grand-

son by John and Dayra Diener.
Hyman Reichstein on being the recipient of the Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award by John and Dayra Diener.

DOLANSKY FAMILY FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Donna and Bernie Dolansky on Gillian being the recipient of the Freiman Family Young Leadership Award by Judi Hoffman; and by Arnold and Roslyn Kimmel and family.
Morley Bernstein on his Bar Mitzvah by Bernie and Donna Dolansky.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Morley Bernstein by Bernie and Donna Dolansky.

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MAZEL TOV TO:

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FATHER'S DAY WISHES TO:

Andre Engel by Tehillah Rabinovitch and family.

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ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:

Barbara and Len Farber by Ingrid Levitz; by Donna and Bernie Dolansky; and by Alicia and Brian Bailey.

MAZEL TOV TO:

Hartley Stern on becoming Chair of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa by Barbara and Len Farber.

KATIE ELLEN FARBER MEMORIAL FUND

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Ian Ruxton by Alfred and Kaysa Friedman.

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David Shentow by Aldred and Kaysa Friedman.

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Bumy Engel a beloved brother by Leah Gencher.

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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: Andrea Freedman, President and CEO at 613-798-4711 or afreedman@jewishottawa.com



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Shira Iny by Danny and David Globerman.

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Shirley Greenberg on her receipt of the Order of Ontario by Dena Gosewich.

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The wonderful morahs at Ganon for another great school year by Lindsay and Neil Gottheil.

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Ethel Rosenblatt by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.

REFUAH SHLEMAH TO:
Laurence Wall by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:
Rita Hornstein by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.

MAZEL TOV TO:
Sam and Roberta Goldmaker on their new home by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.

Yigal and Wendy Hadad on the engagement of Jennifer to Adam by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.

Morris and Leah Melamed on the engagement of their granddaughter Jennifer to Adam by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.

David and Ethel Malek on the marriage of their granddaughter Sarah by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman. Naomi Lipsky-Cracower on her honour by Canadian Hadassah-Wizo by Maureen Katz. Anna Lee Chiprout on the birth of her grandson by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.

Les Kom and Janice Cohen on the birth of their grandson Max by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.

Joel and Emily Kom on the birth of their son Max by Maureen Katz and Sidney Featherman.

SYD, ETHEL, LINDA AND STEVEN KERZNER AND FAMILY COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND

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Linda Kerzner by Barbara and Len Farber.

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MAZEL TOV TO:
Wendy and Yigal Hadad on the engagement of their daughter Jennifer to Adam by Marilyn and Daniel Kimmel. Leah and Morris Melamed on the engagement of their granddaughter Jennifer to Adam by Marilyn and Daniel Kimmel.

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David Walsh by Steven and Shelli Kimmel and family.

REFUAH SHLEMAH TO:
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MAZEL TOV TO:
David and Marlene Wolinsky on the birth of their granddaughter Maddie by Steven and Shelli Kimmel.

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Shirley Movshovitz Kriger a beloved mother by Susan and David Kriger.

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MAZEL TOV TO:
Evan and Carol Diamond on Miriam's achievement of her doctorate by Susan and David Kriger.

NORMAN AND ISABEL LESH ENDOWMENT FUND

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHRZEIT OF:
Norman Lesh a wonderful husband, father and grandfather by Isabel Lesh and family.

Abe Hanser, a very dear uncle by Isabel Lesh and family.

REFUAH SHLEMAH TO:
Edward Kerzner by Isabel Lesh. Sheila Nadrich by Isabel Lesh.

RHODA AND JOE LEVITAN AND FAMILY COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND

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Jeff Miller on being the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award recipient by Sally and Elliott Levitan.

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Kenneth Mirsky by Sally and Elliott Levitan.

IN MEMORY OF:
Judith Friend by Sally and Elliott Levitan.

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Cindi and Mark Resnick on the birth of their grandson by Evelyn Lieff. Ruth Milne on the birth of her great grandson by Evelyn Lieff.

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Marcie Fein by Harvey and Yvonne Lithwick.

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Judith Friend by Alvin and Diana Malomet.

THE MARCH OF THE LIVING

IN MEMORY OF:
David Shentow by George and Vera Gara; by Sarah, Jack, David and Lev Silverstein; by Sharon, David, Ryan and Brody Appotive; and by Debbie Halton-Weiss and Ron Weiss.

TANYA AND SAMUEL MOSES MORIN MEMORIAL FUND

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHRZEIT OF:
Samuel Moses Morin, a dearly beloved father and grandfather by Gertrude and Harvey Morin.

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

THE OTTAWA LION OF JUDAH ENDOWMENT FUND

Anniversary Wishes to:
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Murray Cohen on his special birthday by Frances and Morton Ross.

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Bruce and Bonnie Engel on their upcoming nuptials by Richard Roth and Riva Levitan.

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Herb Schwartzman by Shelley Rothman.

RICKIE AND MARTIN SASLOVE FAMILY FUND

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David Hart by Martin Saslove and family.

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MAZEL TOV TO:
Ian and Randi Sherman on Matthew's graduation from Osgoode Hall Law School by Sol and Zelaine Shinder. Matthew Sherman on his graduation from Osgoode Hall Law School by Sol and Zelaine Shinder.

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Herve Filion by Jules and Barbara Sigler.

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Joan Bloom on the loss of her sister by Phyllis and Marvin Silverman.

MARGO AND JUDAH SILVERMAN FAMILY COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Roger Greenberg on being inducted into the Ottawa Sport Hall of Fame by Margo and Judah Silverman.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Margo Silverman by Debbie Halton-Weiss and Ron Weiss.

STELLA AND LOUIS SLACK MEMORIAL FUND

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Myra Aronson by Barbara Cohen; by Francoise and Ron Vexler; by Simmy Gardner; by Barbara and David Slipacoff; by Alfred and Kaysa Friedman; by the Eisenstadt Family; by Jennifer, Donna, Jordan, Gregory and Megan Aronson; by John and Sunny Tavel; by Barry and Ricki Baker; by Ray and Ernie Goldstein; by Laraine and Victor Kaminsky; by Rena Borovay; by Laurie Nadolny and Bill Green; by Judi Hoffman; by Marlene Levine and Andrew Siman; by Marilyn and Larry Gordon; by Liza Cogan; by Linda Mirsky; by Sandra and Marvin Granatstein; by Noreen Slack; and by Sol and Estelle Gunner.

ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:

Myra and Lester Aronson by Sol and Estelle Gunner.

IN MEMORY OF:

Sheila Schectman by Myra and Lester Aronson; and by Bonnie and Paul Bowering.

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IN MEMORY OF:

Cyril Bowering by David, Sharon, Ryan, Yoni, Jaye and Brody Appotive.

JACK AND LINDA SMITH ENDOWMENT FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Jessica Smith on becoming Bat Mitzvah by Fenja and Irwin Brodo.
Linda Smith on her granddaughter Jessica's Bat Mitzvah by Feja and Irwin Brodo.
Nathan and Cindy Smith on their daughter Jessica's Bat Mitzvah by Jonathan and Judy Bosloy.

PATRICIA SMOLKIN MEMORIAL FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Blake Stewart by Nikki, Michael, Neilah and Benjamin Shapiro.

REFUAH SHLEMAH TO:

Tatiana Pravnova by Nikki, Michael, Neilah and Benjamin Shapiro.
Inger Weibust by Nikki, Michael, Neilah and Benjamin Shapiro.

IN APPRECIATION OF:

Nikki Shapiro by Benjamin Shapiro.

GUSTAVE AND ESTHER SOLMAN ENDOWMENT FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Irving Solman on his Bar Mitzvah Jubilee by Murray and Carolyn Shaikin and family.

LAURA AND GORDON SPERGEL ENDOWMENT FUND

In Memory of:

Laura Spergel by Elana Kirsh and family.

DORIS AND RICHARD STERN FAMILY FUND

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ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:

Joan and Russel Kronick by Doris and Richard Stern.

IN MEMORY OF:

Nettie Sherman by Doris and Richard Stern.

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Stanley and Ellen Magidson on Kaylie's graduation by John and Sunny Tavel.

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MAZEL TOV TO:

Allan Taylor and Maria Medeiros on their marriage by Debbie Baylin and family; and by David and Monica Kardish.

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Leah Frimerman by Stephen and Gail Victor.
Laura Spergel by Sandy Marchello.

ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:

Len and Barbara Farber by Stephen and Gail Victor.

MAZEL TOV TO:

Naomi Lipsky-Cracower on her recognition by Hadassah by Stephen and Gail Victor.

MICHAEL WALSH AND LISA

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Jeff Miller on being the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award recipient by Debbie Halton-Weiss and Ron Weiss.

Hyman Reichstein on being the Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award recipient by Debbie Halton-Weiss and Ron Weiss.

Gillian Presner on being the Freiman Family young Leadership Award recipient by Debbie Halton-Weiss and Ron Weiss.

Eyal Podolsky on being the Student Award recipient by Debbie Halton-Weiss and Ron Weiss.

Rabbi Steven Garten on receiving the Wallenberg Citation by Debbie Halton-Weiss and Ron Weiss.

IN APPRECIATION TO:
Linda Kerzner by Debbie Halton-Weiss and Ron Weiss.

IN MEMORY OF:

David Walsh by Debbie Halton-Weiss and Ron Weiss.

SAM AND HELENE ZARET MEMORIAL FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Lysee Darwish on her graduation from medical school by Debi and Neil Zaret and family.

Brody Appotive on his graduation from law school by Debi and Neil Zaret and family.

IN MEMORY OF:

Laura Spergel by Debi and Neil Zaret.

ZIPES KARANOFSKY FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Carol-Sue and Jack Shapiro on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Benjamin by Rick and Helen Zipes.

Rena and Max Cohen on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter by Rick and Helen Zipes.

David Baker and Marla Karpman on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Max by Rick and Helen Zipes.

Barry and Ricki Baker on their grandson Max's Bar Mitzvah by Rick and Helen Zipes.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Joe Levitan by Rick and Helen Zipes.

ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:

Marilyn and Ronnie Goldberg by Rick and Helen Zipes.

IN MEMORY OF:

Benjamin Luffman by Rick and Helen Zipes.

THE WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE PHILANTHROPY PROGRAM

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

WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE ENDOWMENT FUND

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Susan Halprin and Bryan Klein on the engagement of Julie and Allan by Lynne Oreck-Wener and Bob Wener.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

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REFUAH SHLEMAH TO:

Bonnie Finkelstein by Lynne Oreck-Wener and Bob Wener.

RYAN GOLDBERG B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Joel Taller by Reva and Ernie Goldberg.

STACEY SAMANTHA KATZ B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:

Barbara and Len Farber by Joany and Andy Katz and family.

Alicia and Brian Bailey by Joany and Andy Katz and family.

MAX MORGAN MITZVAH FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Sarah Beutel and Steven Morgan on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Ariella by Carol and Laurie Pascoe.

BENJAMIN SHAPIRO BAR MITZVAH FUND

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David Smith by Nikki, Michael, Neilah and Benjamin Shapiro.

Josh and Sam Freedman by Nikki, Michael, Neilah and Benjamin Shapiro.

Cheryl Cogan by Nikki, Michael, Neilah and Benjamin Shapiro.

Evan Green by Nikki, Michael, Neilah and Benjamin Shapiro.

Ashley Standon by Nikki, Michael, Neilah and Benjamin Shapiro.

Helen Viva by Nikki, Michael, Neilah and Benjamin Shapiro.

MAZEL TOV TO:

Sarah Beutel and Steven Morgan and the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Ariella by Nikki, Michael, Neilah and Benjamin Shapiro.

David Baker and Marla Karpman on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Max by Nikki, Michael, Neilah and Benjamin Shapiro.

Nikki and Michael Shapiro on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Benjamin by Erin Bolling-Bleichman and Dan Bleichman.

David Baker and Marla Karpman on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Max by Rick and Helen Zipes.

Barry and Ricki Baker on their grandson Max's Bar Mitzvah by Rick and Helen Zipes.

ARIELLE ZELIKOVITZ B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Nikki and Michael Shapiro on their son Ben's Bar Mitzvah by Lenora, Evan, Noah and Arielle Zelikovitz.

NOAH ZELIKOVITZ B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Bonnie and Bruce Engel on their anniversary and vow renewal by Lenora and Evan Zelikovitz.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions may be made online at www.OJCF.ca or by contacting Erin at 613-798-4696 extension 274, Monday to Friday or by email at tributecards@ojcf.ca. Attractive cards are sent to convey the appropriate sentiments. All donations are acknowledged with a charitable receipt.

WHAT'S GOING ON | June 26 to July 24, 2017
FOR MORE CALENDAR LISTINGS, VISIT WWW.JEWISHOTTAWA.COM/COMMUNITY-CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

**The Canadian Jewish Experience (CJE)
A Tribute to Canada 150 (Exhibit)**
30 Metcalfe St., 10am - 6pm every day until Dec. 12, 2017
Contact: Tova Lynch, 2017cje@gmail.com

FRIDAY, JULY 28

Teddy Bear Shabbat - Beach Party!
Kehillat Beth Israel Congregation, 1400 Coldrey Ave.,
5:30 - 7:30pm
Tots and their teddy bear friends are invited to this fun and celebratory Shabbat family experience!

SATURDAY, JULY 29

The Commentary with Rabbi Zuker
Kehillat
Beth Israel Congregation, 1400 Coldrey Ave., 12 - 1pm
Join Rabbi Zuker for in-depth study of the texts that anchor

our tradition. This study session will take place during kiddush lunch in the Lottner Library.

MONDAY, JULY 31

Chanting & Chocolate: Joyful singing from the heart
Temple Israel, 1301 Prince of Wales Dr., 7:30pm - 9pm every month on the last Monday until Aug. 27, 2018,
Contact: Lorne Mallin, 604-222-3379,
lorne.mallin@gmail.com, <http://chantingandchocolate.com>
Join us for sacred Hebrew chanting with beautiful melodies and spiritual intention to open the heart and connect with the Divine.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6

PJ Library Does Jr. Day at B'nai
(Camp B'nai Brith of Ottawa)
Camp B'nai Brith of Ottawa,
7861 Chemin River, Quyon, 9am - 6pm
CBB of Ottawa has invited all PJ Library (non-PJ Library)

young families for a jam-packed, fun day at camp! Bus leaves the Soloway JCC at 9am and returns at 7pm.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 27

PJ Library End of Summer Pool Party
SJCC Outdoor Pool, 10am - 12pm
Crafts, stories, splashing, and fun in the sun!

CANDLE LIGHTING BEFORE

JULY 28	8:16 PM	AUGUST 18	7:44 PM
AUGUST 4	8:05 PM	AUGUST 25	7:32 PM
AUGUST 11	7:55 PM	SEPTEMBER 1	7:19 PM

BULLETIN DEADLINES

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1 **	FOR AUGUST 21
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16	FOR SEPTEMBER 4
MONDAY, AUGUST 28*	FOR SEPTEMBER 18

* 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:

Jennie Bindman

Montreal
(mother of Stephen Bindman)

Jack Edelson

Joan Gluck

Benjamin Luffman

Winnipeg
(father of Jackie Luffman)

Laura Spergel

Rhoda Weitzman

Montreal
(mother of Jodi Weitzman)

*May their memory
be a blessing always.*

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



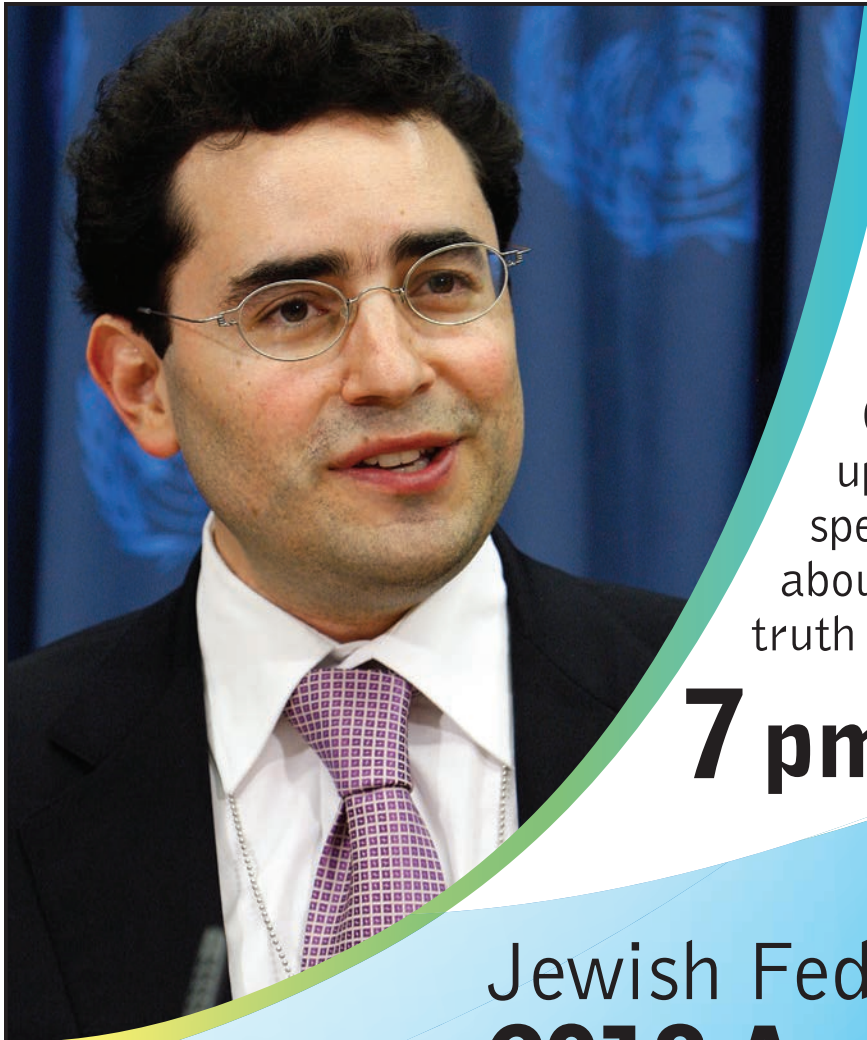
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Special Guest

Hillel Neuer

Executive Director, UNWatch

Montreal-born lawyer and human rights activist, influenced by his Canadian values and Jewish upbringing, Mr. Neuer will speak to our community about his passion for truth and justice.

**Chairs:
Karen Palayew
and Lorne Segal**

7 pm

Jewish Federation of Ottawa
2018 Annual Campaign

KICKOFF

Sunday, September 17, 2017

**Beloved children's entertainers
Sharon and Bram, will be performing a
sing-a-long concert for the entire family.**

3 pm



Afternoon Family Concert: \$10/household

Evening Event: \$10/individual or \$20/household

Tickets at jewishottawa.com

Info: Samantha at 613-798-4696 x241 or
ssharkey@jewishottawa.com

Both events take place at Soloway JCC, 21 Nadolny Sachs Pvt.



Our community. Our responsibility. Our future.

jewishottawa.com JFedOttawa JewishOttawa

