



## Teaching the Holocaust

Local poet finds way to reach children **P14**

## Shem Tov Awards

Read about this year's nominees **P10**



# Hamilton Jewish News

THE VOICE OF JEWISH HAMILTON

JULY 2014 VOL 28:5/ SIVAN, TAMUZ 5774

AGREEMENT #40007180

## A Community Without Walls

The theme of Federation's AGM on May 29 was 'Community Without Walls'. The concept is simple. It means partnering with our beneficiary agencies to understand the challenges we face as a community and working together to solve them. It means recognizing that sustainable solutions can only be achieved together, by breaking down some of the silos that exist in the community and working more cooperatively together and across the community. And finally, it means listening to the feedback we receive from our stakeholders and

acting upon it in the spirit of building an even stronger community. Many things have changed in our community over the years while others have remained the same. Demographics and perspectives have shifted and the economy remains uncertain. We face a number of challenges and due primarily to economic pressures, we face some tough decisions. We have begun to take that more holistic view of community that will enable us to achieve a Community Without Walls. With your help, we will get there.

See Our View on page 5

## Harry Hotz looks back



A 2010 photograph of Dr. Harry Hotz, still practicing pediatric medicine at the Wilson Medical Clinic until finally handing in his stethoscope at the age of 91.

Photo courtesy of the Hamilton Spectorator

The audience of 600 rose as one to give a standing ovation to Dr. Harry Hotz, 93, as he concluded his remarks to the University of Toronto medical school's graduating class of 2014 on June 2. Speaking on behalf of the class of '44, Hotz offered a retrospective on the days of Jewish quotas and lessons learned from six decades of practice. Excerpts of his speech can be found on page 8.

## A different kind of Israel experience

SAR-EL VOLUNTEERS SAY REWARDS OF GIVING BACK MAKE ARMY BASE LIVING WORTH EVERY MOMENT



Hamilton's Sar-El participants: Back Row, l to r: Larry Cohen, Ralph Orman, Allen Rams. Front Row, l to r: Sharon Levy, Karen Beer, Bev Orman, Gord Garshowitz, Doreen Korman and Flora Rams. Photo by Wendy Schneider

**T**he mattresses are paper thin. The coffee is terrible. The living conditions are primitive and the work, tedious. But the nine Hamiltonians who volunteered with the Sar-El army volunteer service program in Israel last year say they'd do it again in a heartbeat.

The desire on the part of diaspora Jewry to help Israel shoulder her defense burden is a phenomenon that reaches back even before the birth of Israel to the end of the Second World War: Stories abound of Jewish war vets from far-flung places heading directly from their units to join the Haganah (the predecessor to today's Israel Defense Forces) and of the hundreds of North American Jews who played a role in an extensive clandestine arms-smuggling network that sought to arm the nascent Jewish State. (Even Hamilton Jews played a role: A 1947 incident involving a failed attempt to smuggle gun parts into Buffalo is

documented in Leonard Slater's book, *The Pledge*.)

Volunteers flocked to Israel again during the Six-Day War and the Yom Kippur War, but it wasn't until the first Lebanon war in 1982, that someone thought of creating an organization whose sole purpose was to facilitate and manage the volunteer phenomenon. That someone was Aharon Davidi, a retired brigadier general living in the Golan, whose efforts to bring more than 650 volunteers to help with agricultural harvests in the Golan, led him to found Sar-El, the national project for volunteers for Israel.

Continued on page 9



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# The ABCs of BDS

**RABBI DAN SELSBERG**  
BETH JACOB SYNAGOGUE



Israel just celebrated the 66th anniversary of her independence, which also marks the 66th anniversary of the war between Israel and her neighbours. Critiquing how Israel has handled itself in the face of that war is not an anti-semitic act. Acknowledging that Palestinians suffer is not an anti-semitic act (nor is it an anti-Israel act). Acknowledging that Israel is the proximate cause of some Palestinian suffering in the 47 years since Israel took control of the West Bank is neither anti-semitic nor anti-Israel.

Working to find a just and peaceful solution to the conflict, supporting the establishment of a Palestinian state in the West Bank, and encouraging the parties to compromise their maximalist dreams and settle for a imperfect compromise are all laudable acts, agreed to by successive Israeli, Canadian, and American governments. And, at the same time, the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement-encouraging boycott, divestment, and sanctions against Israel until it unilaterally surrenders its viability- is both anti-Israel and is shot through with anti-semitic implications.

Why? Because BDS does not pretend to support compromise or peace. It does not support a peaceful settlement of the conflict. It does not make any demand for any change in behaviour from groups dedicated to the destruction of Israel, like Hamas, Hezbollah, Islamic Jihad, or others. It does not seek to protect suffering Palestinians from harm unless the harm is perceived as coming from the Jewish state – oppressing Palestinians is apparently not worth protesting if it is done by Muslim-majority entities. Israel is falsely labeled an apartheid state for its policies vis-a-vis the Palestinians in the West Bank, but Arab states that have similar policies toward their Palestinian residents (and others) are given a free pass. Boycotts are only directed against Jews. Divestment is only directed against Jews. Sanctions, I'll let you figure out the pre-requisite. It is reasonable to ask why.

This is not a movement about alleviating Palestinian suffering. It is a movement about opposing Israel. How do I know? Read their website: [www.bdsmovement.net](http://www.bdsmovement.net). You will not find support for peace. You will not find condemnation of any group or nation that is not Israel, regardless of how abysmal

their human rights record – and believe me, you don't have to go too far from the disputed territories to find institutionalized bigotry and carnage directed against Arab civilians. Why the conspicuous silence? Why not seek the well-being of Palestinians, wherever they may be found? Why not induce more people to your side by endorsing compromise? Why not support peaceful coexistence? They don't say.

Given the time and passion devoted to the cause, it is unreasonable that the pro-BDS crowd is unaware that peace and compromise are topics of discussion, and that people other than Jews have a negative effect on the lives of some Palestinians. The only reasonable conclusion is that the BDS movement does not say

**“This is not a movement about alleviating Palestinian suffering”**

it supports peaceful compromise because it does not support peaceful compromise. It does not speak out against injustices that are committed by non-Jews. The Jewish state is singled out not because it is uniquely evil, but because the BDS movement is uniquely bigoted

against a Jewish state living side-by-side with Arab and Muslim states.

I'm a deep lover of Israel, and an ardent Zionist. I also believe that both Israelis and Palestinians need to compromise and find a way to settle into a peaceful coexistence, with two states for two peoples, with full citizenship rights for all regardless of where they live. I'm perfectly content to hear critiques of Israeli policies vis-a-vis the Palestinians – there are lots to be made, and I agree with a number of them. I also see the BDS movement for what it is – an attack on the idea of finding a peaceful resolution between the parties in the conflict. Israelis are not children – they can be criticized without it being bigotry. Palestinians are not children, either – they can be held responsible for their actions, and not ignored as passive participants in the conflict, as the BDS material strangely assumes. Supporting peace and compromise might not be enough to end the conflict- we all fear that, despite our most fervent hopes, there may be no solution. But one-sidedness and thinly veiled bigotry lead to more suffering. Palestinians and Israelis deserve better. The only boycott I'll support is against those who oppose peaceful compromise and coexistence.

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**FAMILY REUNION**

Hamilton native Ben Caplan played his hometown shul at Beth Jacob Synagogue in May to the delight of community members and Ben Caplan fans who came from as far as Wisconsin to see the show. His original songs, fuelled by a charismatic presence and unruly passion rocked the house. Pictured here is Caplan with ecstatic parents Marvin and Judi Caplan, "I get to come back to Hamilton maybe two or three times a year at the most," Caplan said in an interview with View Magazine. "I've had the opportunity for me to play some really beautiful shows in some churches over the last decade and to be able to come back to Hamilton and play for the first time in a synagogue, is a joy." The feeling was entirely mutual. Photo by Joanne Cohen

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## COMING UP

### ROSH HASHANA ISSUE

- **Deadline for Booking Ad Space**  
July 29, 2014
- **Deadline for receiving copy**  
Aug 7, 2014
- **Deadline for receiving ad copy**  
Aug 18, 2014
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The end of one journey and the beginning of a lifetime of modeling tolerance. Asper Foundation Human Rights and Holocaust Program participants at their graduation ceremonies at Temple Anshe Sholom. Photo by Lawrence Yanover

## 2014 ASPER PROGRAM

On June 1, 83 students of diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds were both changed by and brought closer to each other through their participation in the 2014 Asper Foundation Human Rights and Holocaust Studies Program, in partnership with the Hamilton Jewish Federation. More than 40 volunteers and a team of chaperones were recognized for their contributions to the program.

### Students share their Asper experience

This Asper journey has been one of the most effective and thought-provoking experiences of our lives. ... It was a fantastic opportunity to have been taught by some of the best teachers in Hamilton.

*Tiffany Facey*

This journey is unlike any other, and will always stay close to our hearts ... I know it is up to us to be move away from being bystanders and step up to be leaders in our communities. Hamilton is full of great minds young and old. It was a pleasure to work and learn with other leaders in our community.

*Megan Swing*

None of us could ever regret participating in this program because of all the knowledge and understanding we gained. The sessions were stirring, and teachers were so passionate, making the experience that much more touching. I hope one day we can help prevent atrocities even if that means starting in our own communities. *Briana Locke*

To learn about human rights and pressing issues in our past and present is important and amazing but nothing compares to experiencing them in person. Each exhibit opens a new thought, each with its own horrors. To feel the loss of 6.2 million people all at once is nothing that can be described but only experienced by one's own heart.

*Tamara Kilby*



Madeleine Levy and Nadia Rosa  
Photo by Lawrence Yanover

### Federation presentation

Federation president, Carl De Leon, made a special presentation to Dr. Nadia Rosa and Madeline Levy for their exemplary contributions to Holocaust and human rights education through the Holocaust Education Committee. Board of Education directors also recognized Levy for her outstanding leadership as the Asper program chair for the past five programs.

## Teachers explain why Holocaust education matters

This is experiential learning at its best," wrote Waterdown District High School teacher Nathan Tidridge in an email to the HJN, about the recent Holocaust Student Symposium organized by Federation's Holocaust Education Committee (HEC). The symposium, an annual event held at Mohawk College for high school students across Greater Hamilton, features a keynote address by an expert in Holocaust education as well as survivor testimony. Since 2011, the symposium has also been an occasion during which the Sharon Enkin Award for Excellence in Holocaust Education is presented to local teachers who have demonstrated a commitment to teaching the Holocaust and its lessons. Tidridge and St. Mary Catholic Secondary School teacher, Tobi Hawthorne, were this year's recipients of the \$500 award.



Award winning teachers Tobi Hawthorne and Nathan Tidridge  
Photo by Jason Leizer

Hawthorne said that tolerance and refusing to be a bystander to human rights abuses are concepts she consciously incorporates in all of her classes.

"For me, these are universal lessons applicable to all subjects

and all curriculum." But nothing compares to the impact of survivor testimony, which she describes as communicating "what no text, movie or teacher can – experience, empathy and authenticity."

Tidridge, a history teacher, said that teaching the Holocaust "is one of the most important events that I will explore with my students – its lessons are both human and universal."

"Students today represent the last generation that will be able to meet a survivor first hand and personally hear their story," he added. "In a world that is increasingly not connected by relationships, but by technology ... listening to someone express their pain and reveal their strength is invaluable. It is an intimate experience, and we need more of this in our society."

## A report from Federation's



BY LORNE FINKELSTEIN, LEN RITTER AND HANNA SCHAYER

On April 1, 2014, members of the Hamilton Jewish Federation's Public Relations Committee organized a meeting with representatives of the Hamilton Never Again Group (NAG), the Jewish Faculty Association executive (JFA) of McMaster University, and McMaster Hillel representatives to discuss the Hamilton Jewish community's response to the Boycott Divest Sanction (BDS) vote that took place during the General Assembly at McMaster Students Union (MSU) on March 26, 2014.

The BDS movement is typical of the new face of anti-Semitism, promoting international hatred against Jews and Israel under the guise of human rights. BDS is not interested in reconciliation or peace; its primary purpose is to delegitimize and ostracize the Jewish state.

The initial discussions at our group meeting focused on understanding the atmosphere at the MSU General Assembly, where the vote took place. The second part of our meeting included discussions of the types of responses the Hamilton Jewish community should make in the wake of this vote.

While most of our Jewish community was unaware of the significance of the McMaster BDS vote, several members did attend the assembly as observers. The Hillel representatives summarized how the Jewish students prepared for the meeting, and their actions during the meeting.

The Hillel representatives at our meeting were exceptionally proud of the Jewish students for

their behaviour and bravery under extreme circumstances. Many observers described the hostility towards the Jewish students as mob-like.

The President of the McMaster Student Union subsequently responded to a critical Spectator editorial against BDS, and wrote a letter to the editor stating that the motion was not binding on the organization as there was no quorum when the vote took place. The McMaster Students Union is not a proponent of, nor does it endorse, the BDS campaign. However the motion may next be presented to the MSU's Student Representative Assembly where the outcome cannot be predicted.

The next portion of our group meeting focused on how each group perceives our responsibility in supporting Jewish and pro-Israel students, and how we keep the general public and our Jewish community informed about future BDS actions.

We all agreed that student safety and wellbeing must be central to any response and must be co-ordinated with them. We also agreed that the Hamilton Jewish Federation has an obligation to counter the hate represented by those supporting boycott, divestment and sanction, and ensure that all community members are kept informed. To that end, Federation's Public Relations Committee will be engaged in educational programming on BDS in the coming year, focusing on positive actions with which the community can engage.

## Join a winning team of community builders



The Lion of Judah (LOJ) program brings together women of all ages who have a desire to play an essential role in creating social justice, healing the sick, feeding the hungry, preserving human dignity and building Jewish identity. Historically, Hamilton's LOJ division has accounted for approximately 20 per cent of the total funds raised through the annual Community Cam-



paign. Among the initiatives that LOJ has helped fund is Hamilton's PJ Library. In addition, plans are currently under way to distribute the funds that were raised at an LOJ-sponsored jewellery sale that benefitted both our community and Megemeria, an Israeli project that teaches Ethiopian Jews the craft of jewellery.

Above: Local chef, Sean Davis, treats Hamilton Lions Danna Horwood, Lisa Morris, Janet Asa, Rita Richter, Rhoda Katz, Shirley Molot, Judy Bennett, Sasha Weisz and Michele Finkelstein to a delightful afternoon of a hands-on cooking demonstration. Inset: LOJ chair, Danna Horwood (right) welcomes new Lion, Carolyn Molot. Photos: Chris Nusca, Wendy Schneider

# Thanks for living generously!



From left to right: Community Campaign chair Yves Apel, CeCe Schreiber leadership award winner Joy Zians, Federation CEO Barb Babij, Federation president, Carl DeLeon and Jeffrey Brown, treasurer, at the AGM. The cheque represents funds available for allocation to Federation's beneficiary agencies. Photo by Wendy Schneider

The Hamilton Jewish Federation thanks each and everyone who made a donation to the **Community Campaign**, because they know that no gift touches more lives. Because of your generosity, we were able to allocate **\$1,154,801** to our beneficiary agencies. A special shout out to the dedicated members of the **Campaign Cabinet** and our **volunteer canvassers**.

## Still on target: Community Campaign update

WENDY SCHNEIDER

Community Campaign chair, Yves Apel is pleased with this year's campaign results. "We should pat ourselves on the back," he said. "We raise a lot of money every year, and even though some of our major donors are no longer with us, others have stepped up to the plate." Like Lawrence Yanover and Frances Cohen, for instance, whose matching gift initiative was responsible for motivating many in the community to increase their gifts.

It's that kind of commitment and innovative thinking that keeps Apel optimistic about meeting the \$2.6 million goal over two years set by the Campaign Cabinet last summer. "Last year our campaign

strategy focused on how we engage our donors... It was a first step in getting more people involved and having more meaningful one-on-one conversations," he said.

With the help of Toronto-based consultant Mark Gryfe, the Cabinet has adopted a new campaign blueprint and a marketing strategy they hope will lead to increased participation in the business of sustaining Jewish life in Hamilton.

Among other things, the blueprint creates a top families or Double Chai division, raising the major donor level from \$5,000 to \$6,800. For event purposes, we will be looking at household giving, and will include adult children of the Double

Chai families. For canvassing purposes, the men's division has been redefined and condensed into a single division encompassing donations from \$1-\$6,799. New gifts will focus on Hamilton alumni. The women's division remains essentially the same for canvassing purposes.

The new strategy also establishes a calendar of events throughout the campaign season as well as a communications plan designed to ensure that people in the community gain a deeper understanding about the ways in which the Campaign sustains Jewish life in Hamilton.

Apel is confident this new blueprint, combined with other new strategies Federation is implementing, will bear fruit.

## O U R V I E W

**BARB BABIJ, CEO**  
HAMILTON JEWISH FEDERATION



You're hearing a lot about Federation's vision of a Community Without Walls. This concept evolved from the responses to the survey I began a number of months ago. The intent was to use the results to inform Federation's future direction. As promised, here are some early emerging themes:

Working together, outreach, community planning and the need to consolidate economically. (Sample responses can be found below.) We have begun to act on these themes.

### Working Together

This year, Federation's Budget and Allocations committee made the unprecedented decision to allocate funds towards cross-school, cross-community programming. The concept is to promote a sharing of scarce resources and encourage our community's schools to work together. We will be inviting educators from our beneficiary agencies to meet to define the criteria for "eligible" educational programs and how this initiative will work. The committee also allocated funds for SNAP, our Special Needs Action Project initiative. We have already formed a cross-community committee that has begun identifying the scope of needs in Jewish Hamilton. The next issue of the HJN will outline its progress.

### Outreach

We are proud to announce a new look for the community website at [www.jewishhamilton.org](http://www.jewishhamilton.org), the gateway to everything that Jewish Hamilton has to offer. Among its new features is the Jewish Hamilton Blog, where we hope to start a discussion about the issues we all care about. And of course I will continue to reach out through the survey. (We have a 10 per cent response rate – thank you!)

### Community Planning

In July Federation will convene a community planning session, whose goal is to continue the input process and help define the future of Jewish Hamilton. It is one more step in the on-going process of planning and outreach.

There is still much work to be done and other plans are already in place to continue building on this concept. I am confident we can create new solutions to lingering challenges, and achieve a Community Without Walls.

### A Sample of Survey Responses

"People do not know who, what, where, when and why about Federation."

"It would be important for Federation to engage in new ways with the other key institutions and for all to row in the same direction."

"There needs to be a greater community-wide plan in place."

"We need consolidation of various components and to reduce the duplication of services."

"The Federation should coordinate the community and stop the competition for dollars."

"Appreciate the effort Federation is putting into the community."

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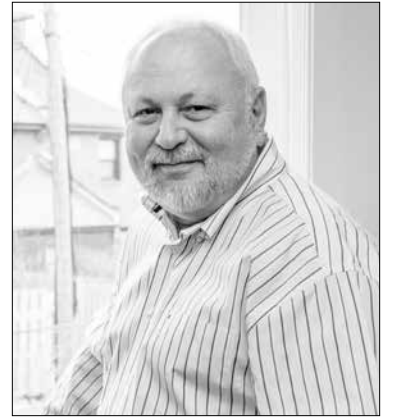
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# Fundraising challenges in a changing world

Story and photo by WENDY SCHNEIDER, The Hamilton Jewish News

Volunteering has always been his first love, and now that Len Lifchus is retiring, Peterborough will be the richer for it. The CEO of the United Way of Burlington and Greater Hamilton has completed his five-year contract and is moving back to the city where he held the same position for a 10 year period prior to moving to this area. Lifchus has already committed to directing an amateur theatre production of *Cats* and teach a course at the local community college.



Retiring United Way CEO Len Lifchus

In a conversation with the HJN in early spring, Lifchus offered some insights into the world of fundraising, a topic of particular relevance to the Jewish community.

**What are the changes you've observed in the fundraising world over the last number of years?**

Fundraising today is very stressful. Across the country we're seeing more competition, more demand for programs and services, less government funding for programs and services — all this happening at a time when donors are being more selective. This generation of donors wants to know the program their money's going into and wants to know that they're making a difference. But while they're often very quick to respond to a crisis or disaster, it's becoming harder for charities to get long-term support for programs that require an ongoing commitment of resources like seniors programs and food banks.

**What have been United Way's specific challenges?**

One of our biggest challenges has been that United Way is not a direct program delivery agent. We are seen as a flow through. And, although we're able to say to our donors where the highest needs are, people want to deal directly with the agencies that are delivering the services. Now we've sustained our funding. I'm very proud of that fact that we've been able to sustain our funding despite the loss of corporate business in the community. Between U.S. Steel (Stelco, in its earlier incarnation) and Dofasco, and a couple of other companies, millions were given to the United Way each year. That's not the case anymore. We've had to adapt by developing a different style of fundraising.

**What does that look like?**

By stewarding donors and developing relationships. By listening to what the donors want and then reacting accordingly. Organizations like ours have to demonstrate to the average donor why his or her gift through them is so important, that we've done a lot of the research and know where the needs are. We support 75 agencies that collectively run 131 programs, so there's an efficiency in running one campaign. While our claim to fame is that supporting United

Way or Federation, for that matter, is an effective and efficient way to contribute, it still behooves us to listen to the donor and align their wishes with the actual needs. And if they're not there then we need to go out and find what it is the donor wants to fund. Toronto United Way has done this very successfully.

**What are your impressions of Hamilton's Jewish community?**

I think it's a giving community when there's a cause. But it's really important that organizations are tuned in so that when someone comes into the community, they go out of their way to make them feel welcome. Because otherwise one day there'll be nobody to fill the volunteer jobs that are being done by a small core group.

**Filling volunteer positions seems to be a universally difficult challenge.**

The challenge of finding volunteers is not unique to the Jewish community. If you talk to most organizations that use a lot of volunteers, this is something they're all going through. The younger generation will volunteer, but they want short, very specific commitments. Will they give you five, six years? No they won't. Will they give you three months? Maybe. They want something very specific. It's not like my parents' generation.

**What's been your organization's secret to success?**

We recognized that we needed to listen to our donors and to do more advocacy on behalf of our agencies. I believe in the last five years, United Way has increased our stature in the community. Many years ago we were known for anti racism, but we're known now for working to fight poverty, working for kids and helping to build stronger communities. But it's taken time to make the shift, to restructure and make administrative changes. Our board is so committed to change, that, at a time when organizations were laying off people, the board authorized the hiring of a team of experts and specialists who focused on building the pieces of leadership and planned giving and stakeholder relations. As one of the oldest charities in Hamilton, we've been doing this along time but we're not doing it the same way.

# BOOK CLUB UPDATE

Story and photos by WENDY SCHNEIDER, The Hamilton Jewish News



Book club members gather for a matinee screening of Marjorie Morningstar. Back row, l to r: Nimmi Khurana, Carol Davids, Karen Beer, Charlotte Price. Front row, l to r: Heather Ritter, Irene Albert, Jean Vertlieb, Molly Kumer, Wendy Black and Bev Lasky. Missing: Deanna Waldenberg, Sharon Levy-Cohen, Carolyn Heijm, Jo-Ann Pomerantz and Phyllis Shragge.

It really came as no surprise to the HJN to learn of the existence of at least three more community book clubs in addition to the six featured in the Passover issue. Among them is a club that enjoys gatherings like the one in the top photo for a matinee screening of the 1958 film Marjorie Morningstar, a creative solution to the problem of not finding enough copies of the Herman Wouk novel. The club was founded seven years ago by Jo-Ann Pomerantz, Karen Beer and Heather Ritter.

South African ex-pat Karen Saperson and her friend, Bev DeBeer, are the founders of another club that meet over gourmet meals cooked by the evening's host. This group's book choices tend to reflect its members cultural background (one-third come from South Africa) and professional interests (another third are mental health professionals. Recent books read include Bitter Fruit by Achmat Dangor, Cry the Beloved Country by Alan Paton, Interpreter of Maladies by Jhumpa Lahiri and Snakes in Suits: When Psychopaths Go to Work by Paul Babiak and Robert D. Hare.

Another club, founded by Sylvia Jacobs and Jeanette Nathan, has been meeting on the first Tuesday of every month for 18 years. Its members, according to member Joyce Dain, enjoy using the Internet to look up information about books and authors. Books on this year's reading list include The Sense of an Ending by Julian Barnes, Outliers by Malcolm Gladwell and Unorthodox by Deb Feldman.



At 18 years and counting, one of our community's most veteran groups: Back row, l to r: Esther Levy, Gloria Mostyn, Marilyn Foreman, Pearl Enkin, Andrea Stringer, Marcia Halpern, Tishelle Adelman, Emmy Singer, Jeanette Nathan. Front row, l to r: Sylvia Jacobs, Jeanette Tauber, Sheila Miller and Joyce Dain. Missing from the photo: Sheila Burman, Sandra Fuss and Anna Taylor.

## review

### SKINNY DIPPING WITH THE MUSE

by Ellen S. Jaffe

REVIEWED BY LIL BLUME



A book of poetry is an invitation to reflect. Poetry places us in a landscape of stories. The author's stories bring our own to mind and lead to stories of our shared world. Ellen S. Jaffe's poetry, in her new book *Skinny-Dipping with the Muse* (Guernica Editions, 2014), offers many prompts towards reflection. Jaffe, co-chair of three Hamilton Jewish Literary Festivals, has made her home in Hamilton since 2000.

The first section, *Forms of Kaddish*, contains poems that call out to family and friends no longer with us. Ellen writes to her great-grandmother:

*I call to you with my trembling tongue,  
out of practice for singing, for loving,  
for speaking Yiddish, language of the heart.*

Ellen calls out to Malca Litovitz, another poet from Hamilton, when she sees Malca's poem posted in the subway:

*and wish I could call you now,  
deep underground,  
to let you know.*

Our beloved dead cross our minds when we see evidence of their lived presence in the world:

*I think now of my grandmother's  
black cashmere sweater, birthday present at ninety-one  
and how I wore it for eighteen years  
after she died, her smell still in the wool.*

The second of the four sections is called *Love Stories*. Many of these poems reflect on an intimate relationship and its constant shifts from closeness to distance.

*every poem is about love, someone's said,  
or maybe about loneliness,  
about longing, losing, finding, keeping, weeping.*

One poem expresses a desire to encounter the world the way we encounter a deer in the forest:

*seeing his face,  
the place his eyes had been  
no fear, just  
an opening for grace.*

Poems struggle with love and longing, but the imagery often reveals distance and absence – followed by the silence and loneliness of being together:

*Driving with you/alone through the heart of the country  
into the ghost town of love.*

While the romantic imagination of the narrator constantly exceeds the loved one's capacity (or desire) for intimacy, *Skinny-Dipping* ends with a kind of redemption:

*There is a day, morning sunshine or driving rain,  
when you realize spells won't keep you safe,  
after all, that your heart  
will still break,  
let in both dark and light,  
when you discover which rules to break  
and which to keep  
...  
when words ...  
rest for a while in the hollow of the soul  
nesting cupped  
around the body  
of the world.*

Ellen Jaffe will read at Lit Live, 27 King William St. on Sunday, Sept. 7 at 7:30 p.m.



The recent Hamilton Hebrew Academy gala honoured Irwin and Sandra Fuss and Brian and Nancy Somer (pictured left). Also honoured were Racheli Kirat (far right), who was presented with an alumni award and Flora Rams (second from right) who was given the school's volunteer award.

Photo by Lorne Chesal

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# A doctor looks back

BY DR. HARRY HOTZ  
Special to the Hamilton Jewish News

When I chose Medicine as a career and entered the University of Toronto Medical School in 1939, my motives to become a doctor I am sure were much like yours - based on a genuine desire to help people. We started with a class of 240 students. The next year there were only 123 men and four women.

In those post Second World War days when countless new discoveries were being made and used successfully, it was estimated that a doubling of medical knowledge happened every 50 years. Since then it has exploded. In 1980 information doubled every seven years; in 2010 every three and a half years and in 2020 it is expected to be 0.2 years - just 73 days! The science and formal medical knowledge gives us the skills to make a difference in people's illnesses and suffering.

But we all know that medicine is so much more than just the science behind the illness. It's about people. You will have many memorable experiences from the patients you treat.

How times have changed since 1944. Despite our four female students sitting in the front row, one professor would stubbornly insist on greeting the class with "Good morning Gentlemen". We look forward to celebrating the future careers of more than 50 per cent of medical school students today who are women.

Our class had 22 Jews. All were confronted with the University of Toronto hospital's infamous "Jewish File". As a result, 13 of our 19 classmates who received post graduate training went to the United States.

Correspondingly, I began my residency in pediatrics at the University of Chicago, and completed it as senior resident at the new Children's Hospital in Honolulu, Hawaii. It was Ben Sadowsky, a leader of the Toronto Jewish community, who helped change this discrimination. He was the father-in-law of our classmate Leonard Davies. Ben was an aide to Vincent Massey during the First World War. They were stationed at Niagara on the Lake where Massey was head of the wartime prices and trade board. He later became

Canada's Governor General. They became good friends. Ben approached Vincent Massey when he was chancellor of the University of Toronto just after the Second World War.

Ben explained that there were no Jews on the staff of the University of Toronto hospitals. They refused to take Jewish interns except for two at the Toronto General. It limited to zero the number accepted for post graduate training. Faculty membership was held at zero.

Massey said he was unaware of this discrimination, that it would be stopped ... and he did. Let gender, colour, race and religion be of no consequence in selecting and promoting our medical students!

I started my community pediatric practice in Hamilton in 1949. I loved it so much that I only retired two years ago at 91. The last 15 years of practice were spent working at a clinic two to three mornings a week, mainly with immigrant and refugee children.

Remember I mentioned valuable patient interactions earlier? In my heyday, I would make up to 15 house calls daily. On one house call I saw one of the daughters of a professor at McMaster University. I decided to visit her the next day as she had a high fever. As I rang the doorbell and kept knocking at the door there was no response. On trying the door

**"There were no Jews on the staff of the University of Toronto hospitals"**

knob, it opened the door. There were four unconscious people in the home - carbon monoxide poisoning was the cause. I opened the doors and windows and called 911. The ambulances arrived shortly thereafter. All were taken to hospital and all survived. You can't say house calls were not important!

Hippocrates once said: "It is more important to know what sort of person has a disease than to know what sort of disease a person has." It underscores the importance of humanity to medicine - and this has never changed over the past 2000 years.

In closing, I want to thank my wife Ruth for her companionship, love and support. We are celebrating our 65th wedding anniversary in September of 2014.

# Experience Israel with Sar-El

cont'd from page 1

by WENDY SCHNEIDER, the Hamilton Jewish News  
Photos courtesy of Sar-El Canada

At 12 Sar-El trips and counting, Gord Garshowitz is more typical than one might think: Of the 4,000 people from 30 countries around the world who sign up with the organization every year, more than 60 per cent, like Garshowitz, are repeat volunteers. As a member of the board of Sar-El Canada, the retired teacher's responsibilities include conducting screening interviews with local applicants, so he is very well-acquainted with the community members who gathered at the home of Ralph and Bev Orman in late April to talk about their recent Sar-El experiences. Joining them were Larry Cohen and Sharon Levy, Flora and Allan Rams, Doreen Korman and Karen Beer.

Summer camp for adults. That was the general consensus on how best to describe the Sar-El experience, with its communal living, communal showers, bad food, absence of technology but with plenty of camaraderie and feeling the love from a specially-assigned counselor whose only concern was to look after your every need. The fact that days are spent counting inventory, checking bullets or scraping adhesive tape off antennae with an exacto knife rather than swimming, water-skiing or tennis lessons seems like a minor detail.

Couples who sign up for Sar-El are assigned to separate barracks, but that only made it more fun for Ralph and Bev Orman, for whom the highlight of the trip was getting to know their bunkmates, who hailed from Australia, Germany, the U.S. and Canada. "The average age in my bunk was about 80," said Ralph Orman, who recalls waking up every morning looking forward to having fun with "an amazing group of guys."

"The group experience was marvelous," said Karen Beer, but so too were meeting and talking with "all these beautiful soldiers."

"They were gracious, respectful and appreciative. It was a huge thrill to be amongst them," she said.

Flora Rams and Sharon Levy were both enamoured with the young IDF soldier assigned to look after them. "She made the trip," said Rams, "and even though we were like her parents, she felt like one of us."

This was Doreen Korman's first time in Israel. "It was on my bucket list," she said, and volunteering with Sar-El was a great way to experience the country "from the inside out."

One aspect of Israeli army life that left a deep impression on participants was how the IDF appears to accommodate recruits of all abilities and circumstances. Larry Cohen said he was both "surprised and impressed" to see developmentally delayed recruits working together at specifically-assigned tasks.



Karen Beer's job was checking bullets at an army base near Beersheba



Allen and Flora Rams volunteered at a warehouse base near Beersheba.



Doreen Korman (left), Larry Cohen and Sharon Levy at the Batzup base near Ramla.



Ralph Orman: "The best thing was the people we met."

If reading this makes you want to book your next flight to Israel with Sar-El, the Hamilton participants advise visiting the Sar-El website for a complete picture of what to expect. Sar-El, they caution, is no

five-star experience. But for those looking for a meaningful way to experience Israel beyond what any tourist can expect to see, than Sar-El might be just what you're looking for.



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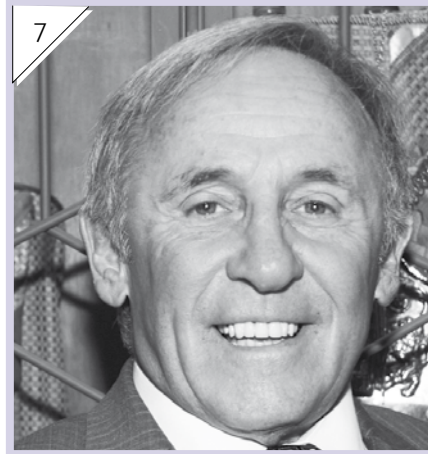
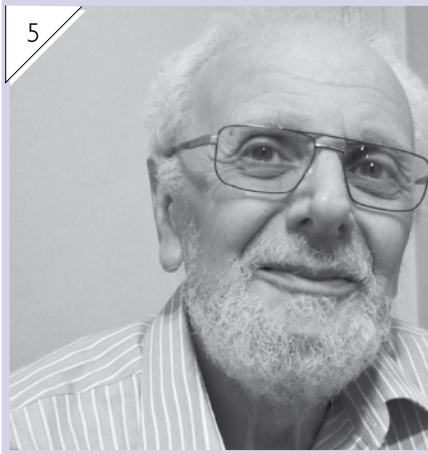
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p o r t r a i t s



2014 shem tov awards

**1. BETH TIKVAH FOUNDATION - MEL ENKIN**

The Beth Tikvah Foundation is proud to name Mel Enkin as its Shem Tov nominee. When Mel was first contacted by Stan Tick to join the Beth Tikvah Foundation of Hamilton board, it's likely that he had no idea what would be involved. But it's clear that Stan knew that Mel, who, when he commits to something, ensures that it gets done, and has been a tremendous asset to Beth Tikvah's development over the past three years, would fit in perfectly. Mel's knowledge of community, ability to find solutions to any issues that arise at our residence has made him an obvious choice as our Shem Tov nominee.

*Mel Enkin: "Serving Beth Tikvah gives me a profound sense of satisfaction in knowing I play a part in helping our Residents reach their full potential to lead safe, happy and fulfilling lives. It is also a privilege working with a group of dedicated professionals who continue to make Beth Tikvah a home our community can support with pride."*

**2. ADAS ISRAEL - TRUDY GARDNER**

Trudy Gardner is an exceptionally sensitive and dedicated woman. Her spirit of volunteerism is manifested in areas that few are even aware of. She is first to arrive to services on Shabbat to ensure that the cup of blessing is appropriately washed and set. She is also the last to leave, remaining to clear the dishes from Seudah Shlishit long after everyone has gone. Trudy is the unofficial greeter on Shabbat morning, welcoming those who are new to the community and making everyone feel valued and respected.

*Trudy Gardner: "Cleaning up after Seudah Shlishit is what I do to show that I am thankful for everything that I have learned there."*

**3. JNF - DAVID LOEWITH**

Shem Tov is an appropriate description for David Loewith, this year's JNF nominee. In fact, many other community organizations could attribute this description to a dedicated and committed volunteer for many years. David and his family have been Negev Dinner honourees, and since serving as JNF president in the 1990s, David has continued to sit on our board and contribute in so many ways. Whether it is offering their farm for a JNF event or making calls for the Negev Dinner, David is always there to

offer ideas on how to make JNF and Jewish Hamilton stronger.

*David Loewith: "I support the JNF because, along with improving the environment, it has projects that enhance the quality of life for all Israeli citizens."*

**4. SHALOM VILLAGE - BRIAN ALBERT, BARRY BENDER & DENNIS SCHWARTZ**

Once a month, three amazing and dedicated volunteers lead a meaningful Shabbat service at Shalom Village's on-site Ohav Zedeck chapel. The Torahs, benches and artwork were previously part of Hess Street Synagogue. Dennis Schwartz, Barry Bender and Brian Albert have been running the Shabbat program for the past 16 years. They are caring, organized, patient and considerate and ensure our residents participate and enjoy an Orthodox service. They go out of their way to make everyone who attends feel welcome and leave with a smile. They also ran the service on the day of a blizzard. We really value and appreciate this wonderful group and we would like to recognize them within the greater Jewish community for their fantastic work.

*Brian Albert: "Volunteering at Shalom Village, to me, means giving life to a lot of people. I have had many close family and friends who have lived at Shalom Village."*

*Barry Bender: "Volunteering at Shalom Village provides me with an opportunity to service a very special congregation, to learn and pray and sing together and to feel part of a firm and dedicated team."*

*Dennis Schwartz: "It is a rewarding pleasure to contribute to the religious experiences of the residents. Shalom Village is a wonderful organization and I am happy to contribute a small amount to its success."*

**5. KEHILA - ED WALDES**

Ed Waldes has been an active participant in Kehila's language arts program for many years. His regular storytelling has acted as an inspiration for our young children who enjoy each of his presentations. His participation has been greatly appreciated and we hope he will be able to continue.

*Ed Waldes: "I am deeply moved and flattered. My reward comes from the looks on the faces of those wonderful children...and the hugs I get when the story ends. I hope to be allowed to continue."*

**6. NA'AMAT HAMILTON - SANDI SEIGEL**

Na'amat Hamilton is proud to nominate Dr. Sandi Seigel for the Shem Tov award. Sandi, an active member for more than 20 years, has chaired the programming committee and served as co-president. A mother of three sons, Sandi is a pediatrician who has special interests in neonatal care, in HIV positive infants and children of HIV positive mothers, and in children who have been subjected to child maltreatment. Sandi is an outstanding example of what it means for a busy and fulfilled professional to still make time to volunteer and contribute to the success of an organization.

*Sandi Seigel: "I have been privileged to work with the fantastic women of Na'amat Hamilton for many years supporting such an important and worthy cause and am honoured to receive this award."*

**7. TEMPLE ANSHE SHOLOM - ROY POLLINGTON**

Temple Anshe Sholom is pleased to nominate Roy Pollington, a constant and caring volunteer, as our candidate for the Shem Tov Award. Roy has been actively involved at Temple since 1993, and, in his role as usher, is usually the first person to greet you when someone walks into a service. He has served for many years on the board and participates in numerous committees. He is a backbone of the Temple's caring committee, providing Shiva support and often leading Shiva minyan services. He regularly delivers Divrei Torah and helps lead Shabbat services when the rabbi is away.

*Roy Pollington: "Temple Anshe Sholom is the only place that I ever felt I belonged. From the time I first walked in the door of the Temple, I knew I was home. Through my volunteer work I get the satisfaction of knowing I can make a difference. It's a way to pay back all of the people who touched my life."*

**8. JCC - EVA RAPHAEL**

Over the years Eva has spent countless hours volunteering at the JCC. Eva is always willing to help set up, clean up, organize and sometime she has even been the "cook". It is so nice to know that Eva is willing to volunteer her time no matter where, when and for how long.

*Eva Raphael: "When I was a little girl my mother was always volunteering her*

*time. From her I learned the importance of helping others. I was involved with the JCC when it was on Delaware Ave, B'nai Brith Women, the CNIB, Hadassah WIZO and the synagogues. I have devoted my time to the JCC over the past few years. I have always enjoyed volunteering my time and I love meeting new people."*

**9. HAMILTON JEWISH FEDERATION - VADIM GERSHKOVITZ AND Yael REZNICK DE MARCO**

The Hamilton Jewish Federation is delighted to nominate Vadim Gershkovich and Yael Reznick De Marco as our Shem Tov Nominees. Vadim and Yael took on key positions on the YAD executive in the area of communications and marketing and served as the catalysts behind many of the YAD programs over the last several years. They also invested their time and energy by attending National Young Leadership Conferences and applying the skills they learned through taking on leadership roles in several of Federation's partner agencies.

*Vadim Gersbkovitz: "Being passionate and excited is essential to us humans. We have to be involved in something, not because it is providing us with financial and material benefits, but because we feel the urgency and the need to do it. Only then, looking back, one can say: "Loved every minute of it. Let's do it again!"*

*Yael Reznick: "Our community is a welcoming and warm place, we have amazing people and I have created wonderful relationships. YAD is community building, a place of relationships and networking of like-minded people. A place that helps foster a sense of belonging and creating a nurturing community. A place where the Federation is giving back to the community and I was happy to be part of this experience."*

**10. BETH JACOB - SANDRA RABIN**

Sandra Rabin is a valued member of the Beth Jacob team of volunteers. Hers is the friendly voice that answers the Beth Jacob phone on Monday mornings. Sandra is efficient and helpful to all, whether it is a congregant making a donation or tracking down the best price for tablecloths for staff. Sandra has volunteered for the past six years, always willing to do anything that is needed, and actively support Beth Jacob events. Thank you Sandra for all you do!

*Sandra Rabin: "Volunteering to me is the act*

## i n g i v i n g



## Honouring our community volunteers

*of giving back and providing help where it is truly needed. It is very meaningful to me to do something good for others, with no personal gain. I find joy in taking time out of my life to help in my Synagogue and putting the needs of those in the community first."*

### 11. HJMS - EVELYNE OHAYON

Evelyne Ohayon gets under your skin when she administers staff flu shots in the fall and sticks with you. All of her children have attended the Hamilton Hebrew Academy and the Hamilton Jewish Middle School. In spite of how full her days are with work and family, she is always willing to help others. She makes the time to organize special activities and support projects. Whether we are looking for drivers for a sporting event, trip, special event or a student initiative at Shalom Village, she is there for our students encouraging and cheering them on. Most recently, she has worked hard to coordinate and facilitate fund raisers for the Grade 8 year-end trip. Thank you Evelyne for everything you do!

*Evelyne Ohayon: "I'm very honored and humbled with the nomination of the Shem Tov award. The only thing I can say is that it is all about the kids! To see the smile on their faces or the twinkle in their eyes is the best of the best."*

### 12. SHAAREI BETH EL - STEVE TAYLOR

Oakville's Shaarei Beth El is delighted to nominate Steve Taylor as its Shem Tov nominee. After stepping into the presidency role in 2009, one of Steve's first innovations was to guide the staff in improving communications. He himself writes a weekly Shabbat note that is always thought-provoking. Both fair and decisive, Steve has guided us towards financial stability and spearheaded our campaign to renovate our building. Steve has been a wonderful, caring, crucial and approachable president and we thank him for his tireless work.

*Steve Taylor: "Four years ago I had the honour of being voted in as president of Shaarei-Beth El, and my goal was to establish a continual tie to the community and perhaps bring us all one step closer to each other and our place of worship. It has truly been an honour and a privilege to serve this community."*

### 13. HHA - FLORA RAMS

After 30 years of being a paralegal, Flora

Rams thought that her days of sleeping in were finally here. But that same year, she started volunteering one half-day a week practicing reading skills with Grade 1 students at the HHA. That was seven years ago. Since then, Flora has been volunteering her time two days a week, working with students in Grades 2, 3 and 6. Her students adore her. At its gala tribute dinner on May 28, the HHA recognized Flora Rams, an integral part of our institution.

*Flora Rams: "As I have done for two days a week for the past seven years, I set the alarm for six o'clock in the morning knowing that I am going to the HHA to make a difference. Knowing if I try hard enough, young children who are unable to read, do math and spelling*

*at the beginning of the year, that by the end of the year, they will be able to do so."*

### 14. JGS - STEVEN BROCK

The Jewish Genealogical Society nominates our treasurer, Steven Brock for a Shem Tov award. Steven joined the society in its early days and quickly became an active participant in almost all aspects of its operations. Over the years, he has taken aspects of his own genealogical research and developed useful and informative presentations which he has shared with the society's members and the community at large. He has also endeavoured to promote the society and enhance its reputation well beyond the borders of the Hamilton area.

*Steven Brock: "I have been very blessed to have received valuable help and support from so many people in my quest to rediscover my ancestors. It is now my pleasure to pay it forward and give back to the community wherever I can. If in the process I can call on my own passions to inspire others to search out their family roots and fulfil the mitzvah of remembrance, then I feel that I have done some good in this world."*

### 15. JSS - ELLA PAVLOVA

We at Jewish Social Services, are pleased to honour Ella Pavlova with a Shem Tov Award. She is a dedicated volunteer who comes to JSS to bake once a week. Having immigrated from Ukraine in 1992, she knows many recipes for traditional Jewish home baked goods. She delights her recipients with nostalgic treats such as mandel broit, kugel, all kinds of cookies and cakes. In her very refined manner, Ella aims to please! Ella has used her cooking skills to volunteer at Adas Israel, Temple Anshel Shalom, and CISA. Ella enjoys giving back to the Jewish community and sees this as a perfect way to do so.

*Ella Pavlova: "I like to bake. I like to donate my time to do something useful for the Jewish community"*

### 16. MCMASTER HILLEL - SARAH SILBERBERG

Put simply, Sarah did it all at McMaster Hillel/JSA during her four years at Mac. She was actively involved from her first weeks of school, taking on progressively leading roles within the organization. For the last two years, Sarah served as Hillel President. Under Sarah's leadership and because of the example she set, Hillel flourished to become a welcoming, positive and supportive home for Jewish students on campus. This past spring Sarah was the driving force behind our students' brave and effective efforts to combat the BDS movement on campus.

*Sarah Silverberg: "I have become a leader in Hillel because it is vitally important for there to be a strong Jewish community and Jewish voice on campus. Being a Hillel leader has helped me shape my own Jewish identity and I hope it has allowed other students to explore their own."*

## CeCe Schreiber Volunteer Leadership Award

### Joy Zians



Those who know Joy will agree that it is hard to think of a volunteer in the community who is more involved in helping so many organizations. She does everything with a smile and the happiness to do a mitzvah. Joy is a teacher at the preschool at the Hamilton Hebrew Academy and volunteers many additional hours to ensure her students have the best pre-school experience. She is a member of the Chevra Kadisha, volunteers at the Hamilton Mikvah, assists with outreach for Beth Tikvah, organized a Women's prayer group at JSS and promoted the kosher food bank. In addition, Joy trains the girls in the middle school in Israeli dancing to prepare them for competition in Toronto. She visits residents at Shalom Village and brings them homemade challahs, and is a member of the SNAP Committee. And Joy does all this with a full time job. Kol Hakavod!

*Joy Zians: My volunteer experiences are a little selfish because volunteering is a gift I give to myself. If I can help another or make someone smile, then I am the one who gains the most. I'm the better person for having met so many amazing people through my volunteer experiences. I highly recommend others try opening new doors because you just might like what you see on the other side.*

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Beth Tikvah's new executive director, Chris Barone

Photo by Wendy Schneider

## BIG NEWS FOR BETH TIKVAH

Stories by WENDY SCHNEIDER, the Hamilton Jewish News

Chris Barone has big plans for Beth Tikvah. The recently hired executive director of the Arkell Street residence for developmentally delayed adults said he's been given a mandate by the agency's board to expand the agency's services, which includes outreach service. Currently the residence is home to six individuals of both Jewish and non-Jewish backgrounds, as well as offering support to individuals who live outside the residence. But Beth Tikvah's outreach services, run until now by dedicated volunteers, has not reached its full potential.

"The way Joy Zians and Sandra Morris put together the content was excellent," said Barone, "but the attendance has been very disappointing."

"It's been three years since the agency has had an executive director and Barone is wasting no time in getting the word out about the role he believes Beth Tikvah should be playing in the Jewish community at large.

"We are the only agency this side of Toronto that can support individuals within a Jewish framework," he said. Barone's vision is Beth Tikvah's taking its place among other Hamilton agencies in offering support to individuals with developmental disabilities "at every life step

down the road." That's why it's so important to him that the community be informed that families seeking support for their loved ones can state a preference to be assisted by a Jewish organization.

"If that information is there, it would only make sense for us to provide that service and support because we have the knowledge, we have the background, we have the history."

"But we not only have an obligation to the Jewish community," he added. "We have an obligation to the Hamilton community to try to minimize the wait lists for residential or supported independent living."

A native of Ancaster, Barone, 41, brings a wealth of experience to his new role. He spent 14 years working Rygiel Supports for Community Living, working his way up to Director of Services.

"I feel very lucky to be in this role because I'm going to be with an agency that is focused on growing," he said. "As Franklin Simkevitz, chair, and the board indicated at the very beginning, 'we know there are needs out there that are not being met within a Jewish framework and our goal is to fill those needs, so to have this opportunity is huge.'"

## Book recalls local hero's wartime escapades

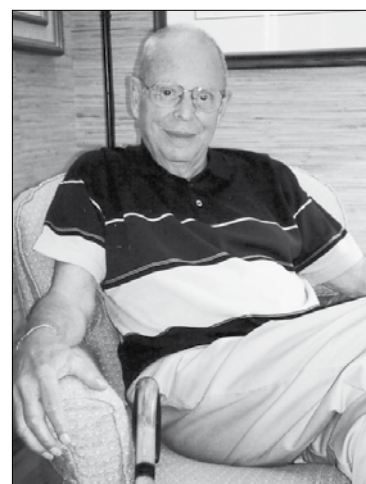
Local author, David New has written a book about the late David Goldberg, a Second World War hero and native Hamiltonian, who was awarded the managed to evade Nazi troops after his plane was shot down over occupied France.

New made Goldberg's acquaintance back in the mid-1990s at the Westdale branch of the Hamilton Public Library.

"In those days a bunch of us gathered there Saturday mornings around a giant boardroom-like table in the back corner," he told the HJN. "We would read newspapers, look at some books, and end by discussing all of the world's problems."

Eventually, said New, it came out that Goldberg had been a Spitfire pilot during the Second World War.

"I was thrilled at the news. I had always been interested in the fighter planes of that war ... and here before



Dave Goldberg in a 2002 photo, provided courtesy of Mary Goldberg

me was a man from my own home town who had flown the legendary Spitfire!"

New asked Goldberg if he would be interested in New's writing a book about Goldberg's wartime experiences.

"I knew David was not given to talking about himself and certainly would not consider himself special or any type of hero," said New, but Goldberg seemed to like the idea and gave New his blessing.

"I had four other published books, mostly dealing with religious subjects. This was something new and exciting for me. The book would salute those men and women of David's generation, in the services and at home, whose youth had passed during years occupied with the insanity of war."

An Ordinary Hero: The Story of David Goldberg, WWII Canadian Spitfire Pilot is now available at Amazon.ca.

"If I write a hundred books, this will probably be my favourite. My one regret? That I was unable to find a publisher in time to present David with a published copy of his story,"

# 50 years an icon

GOOD BUSINESS SENSE, STRONG WORK ETHIC, AND SENSE OF COMMUNITY BEHIND MILLI'S SUCCESS

by WENDY SCHNEIDER, the Hamilton Jewish News

She put Hamilton on the map of high fashion retail, and 50 years later, her iconic Main Street store is still *the* place to go for cutting edge designer women's wear and unrivaled customer service. Now an octogenarian, Milli Gould shows no signs of slowing down. According to her son, Mark, she is still very much "the boss and the fashion authority," spending several days a week serving customers at her store's Yorkville location, opened 10 years ago after repeated requests from her many Toronto-based customers who were driving the QEW to the original Hamilton store.

How an exclusive, up-scale clothing boutique was able to thrive in a blue-collar city is a question upon which Mark Gould loves to reflect. The store's success he said, is directly attributable to an "amazing partnership" between his mother and his stepfather, the late Allen Gould. "My father was a brilliant businessman ... and my mother is a brilliant fashionista."

Milli was a young widow with two young sons when she first met Allen Gould during a Florida vacation. Her first husband, Benny Mintz and 13-month-old daughter, Fern, had died tragically in a house fire two years earlier while Milli was pregnant with her son Ben. After their wedding, Allen and Milli settled in Pittsburgh, subsequently moving to Hamilton 1964 where Allen had contacts in the scrap metal business. Allen went on to open a small brokerage business and Milli opened a small boutique on Main Street across from Hamilton City Hall. When it became clear after a year that his wife's store was making more money, Allen closed up shop and devoted himself to managing the books at Milli.

Thus began a business partnership defined by calculated



The famous dress Milli redesigned  
Courtesy of the Hamilton Spectator



The original store at 82 Main St.  
Photo courtesy of the Gould family

and bold decisions that often left observers of the Hamilton retail scene scratching their heads – like the decision to relocate uptown instead of downtown after the city expropriated their first store.

"In those days downtown was a thriving retail community. This end of town was nothing," said Mark. "Everybody said, 'you're crazy. You'll never do any business out there.'"

Things were, in fact, tough at the beginning.

"In those days there was Fosters, Raphael Mack, and about 10 other retail stores that they had to compete with ... They had the manufacturers all tied up and nobody would sell to my parents," said Mark.

So after a year of business, Allen told Milli they were going to Europe. Off they went to the continent "like a couple of tourists," discovering European fashions that no one else was selling.

News of the little Hamilton boutique that specialized in special occasion evening wear travelled quickly after that.

"The women from Toronto were looking for something a little bit different," said Mark, and there was no other retailer at the time that could match Milli's fashion sense.

"My mother was willing to take chances and to redesign," he said, referring to a 1964 photograph that appeared in the Hamilton Spectator of Milli in a stunning gown that featured a very large bow in the front. When the dress came in, said Mark, the bow was in the back.

"That's the kind of thing that she did ... In those days it was very special."

While today's merchandise tends to be more informal than in yesteryear, the Milli experience is still defined by its unparalleled customer service. Special rooms



Milli Gould and her sons Mark (left) and Ben

Photo by Kevin Thom



The iconic store at 310 Main St. W.

Photo by Wendy Schneider

"My mother was always willing to take chances."

Mark Gould



Shalom Village's MilliMobile

There's another Milli experience of an entirely different nature for which Shalom Village residents and their families are particularly grateful. It's hard to miss the large white wheelchair-accessible vans enscribed with the word MilliMobile in the same block letters that grace her stores. Shalom Village is just one of the many institutions in Hamilton, Toronto and Israel that have benefitted from the generosity of the Allen and Milli Gould Family Foundation. Mark, again, credits his stepfather, Allen Gould, for having the foresight to establish a family foundation decades before it became common practice.

The foundation has served as a vehicle through which the Gould children and grandchildren have learned how to give.

"You're not born with a philanthropic gene. It has to be taught," said Mark, adding that family, a good work ethic and supporting community are the values he and his brother strive to live by.

"Those are the important things in life, and nothing else really matters."

for viewing current collections, lunch and coffee served, in-house tailoring are luxuries that Gould says have as much appeal to today's fashion-conscious women as it did for their mothers and grandmothers.

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# Teaching about evil

HOW POETRY AND ART CAN HELP CHILDREN RELATE TO THE HOLOCAUST

by ELLEN JAFFE, Special to the Hamilton Jewish News

Is the subject of the Holocaust subject too painful, or too distant, for children in Hamilton 2014? Can they use it to create poetry and art? I pondered these questions as I prepared a writing workshop for students in Grades 3 to 7 at Hamilton Hebrew Academy (HHA). I did not know they would create haunting images like these: smoke curling to the sky like souls...a butterfly who flutters over the cold colourless camp...a Star of David finally free, soaring in the wind.

I offered to work at HHA in a program funded by the League of Canadian Poets for National Youth Arts Week/Young Poets Week, May 1-7. Since it was close to Yom Ha-Shoah, the teachers and I decided to commemorate the Holocaust with writing and art. We concluded with a presentation on May 8 for students to share their work.

I talked with students in each class about what they already knew about this time, from reading and family memories, and what they themselves might feel if they had to go into hiding or to a camp. I showed them the book *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*, poems and paintings by children from Terezin Concentration Camp near Prague – art which survived although most of the children did not. This helped them understand how the children felt and how the creative process helped them express their feelings. The butterfly became a



Grade 6 HHA students Liah Akselrod and David Naftali with the artwork they created for Ellen Jaffe's Holocaust workshop.

Photo by Wendy Schneider

Pictured are David Naftali with his painting, "Dark Angels," souls rising to heaven above iron gates, and Liah Akselrod, whose poem reads: I touch my dirty clothes, covered in mud, and remember the beautiful silky dress that I wore on my Bat Mitzvah.

Grade 7 students personified a creature or inanimate object – seeing things in a new way. One example (excerpt): The Words on the Sign: "Work makes you free," or does it? / I remember the faces of those crying men, women, and children, yet I have never seen one face twice. / The lie spills all over the place like cold, white milk." Moshe Tzvi Sharpiro

Sarah Weston spoke for all the teachers when she said, "I was amazed by the students' ability to express emotions such as the feeling of being ripped from one's mother, and personifying the feeling of being a yellow star on the jacket of a Jewish child."

I think the project helped the students better understand their Jewish identity, their own feelings, and their creative abilities. Above all, it shows the power of writing and all the arts to help us deal with difficult, heart-breaking situations and to connect us in our shared humanity.

*Ellen S. Jaffe is a Hamilton writer; with Lil Blume, she coordinated three Jewish Literary Festivals in Hamilton.*

symbol of our work.

We discussed using empathy and emotion, imagination, and sense-impressions to make writing come alive. Teachers, parents, and I were all "heart-struck" at the way each student connected deeply with the subject and expressed intense feelings and images. I appreciate the teachers welcoming me to the school community and coordinating the vibrant art component and the moving presentation. Participating teachers

were Goldie Weiser, Sarah Weston, Leona Overend, Marlene Schertzer, and Joanne McIntosh, Principal.

Each class used a different poetic form, and students were free to explore their own ideas and emotions. Here are some examples:

Grade 3: "I Wish, I Remember," presented as a choral reading. Two memorable lines: I remember the tears in my parents' eyes/I wish I could remember my parents. The poem ends, I wish the Holocaust

had never happened.

Grade 4 focused on similes (bright as a fire shining through the night) written on their art: a brilliant butterfly and handprints to show this is their personal story.

Grade 5 wrote short poems, such as haiku. One example: Germany 1940: The voice of a bird/beautiful sound to hear/Suddenly silenced. (Johnathan Gershkovich)

Grade 6 worked with the five senses and emotions, using details like the "stench" of rotten food.

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# In praise of Jewish summer camp

Mac professor's personal experience supports research that says attending or being a counselor at a Jewish summer camp can have a particularly strong impact on Jewish identity.

by CELIA ROTHENBERG, Special to the Hamilton Jewish News

Without a doubt, my most vivid memory of a “Jewish” experience when I was growing up was Friday night dancing at Camp Ben Frankel, a small, community-based, Jewish sleepaway camp located near the tri-state intersection of Illinois, Kentucky, and Missouri just outside of Carbondale, Illinois. Summers in southern Illinois are hot, humid, and buggy, but we all dressed up in our nicest clothes on Shabbat, looking our sunburned best. I loved it.

I went to camp for 10 summers, beginning in the late 1970s, attending as a camper and, later, a counselor, a pattern of attendance common for many who fall in love with the camp experience. For me, camp was a combination of what I imagined to be kibbutz-style communal life and living “close” to the land and nature; it was also my first and most powerful exposure to a staunch Zionist ideology, an Orthodox style of eating and praying, and the typically American belief that anything – truly anything, like making small town, Midwestern kids into Yiddish singing, Hebrew praying, kosher eating Jews – is possible if you just try hard enough (the popular Zionist song, *Im tir-tzu*, “If you will it, it is no dream,” a line from the writings of Theodor Herzl, took on a rather different meaning in that context). Camp was singularly important in shaping the direction of my life’s work, which I have spent studying the attraction, the importance, and the power of religion.

Three summers ago I began a new research project that looks at the history and present state of my old summer camp. I took my three sons with me; they joined their cabins and I stayed in housing provided for staff who don’t work directly with campers. Two of my sons have insisted on returning every summer since then, allowing me to carry on with my research. While my research

focuses specifically on Camp Ben Frankel, it speaks to the experiences so many campers have at all kinds of Jewish sleepaway camps.

One focus of my research is on the feelings of “family” that Jewish summer camps have long excelled at creating for campers. Camps of all kinds – girl scout camps, sports camps, and so on – describe their campers as becoming a “family.” And, of course, Jewish kids who attend Jewish sleepaway camps already have Jewish families at their homes. What’s different and, indeed, particularly powerful about the Jewish summer camp family experience?

To answer this question we need to first ask: What is a Jewish family? One scholar of Jewish studies, Nathan Glatzer, has argued that the Jewish family could be classically, ideally, and traditionally, defined as: (1) patriarchal, (2) three generational, (3) a stage for the “wholeness of life,” (4) the site for observing all daily Jewish ritual and holidays, and (5) a learning family centrally focussed on the study of Jewish texts. This decidedly ahistorical typology obviously cannot be used to describe accurately Jewish families today or, most likely in the past. As an idealized model, however, it does point to some of the archetypal, if not actual (or even necessarily desirable), factors that have made Jewish families identifiably Jewish.

Inspired by Glatzer, I argue that camp creates a unique and vivid experience of Jewish family for campers by (1) establishing clear social hierarchies that include multi-generation Jews; (2) creating a self-sufficient, all-encompassing Jewish home; and, (3) suffusing that home with a uniquely powerful Jewish “soundscape.” The result is a uniquely physical and spiritual experience of total Jewishness for campers that they remember long after camp has ended.

Camp is specifically and carefully



Adam and Isaac Shenker, two of the author's three sons, at Camp Ben Frankel.

Photo by Celia Rothenberg

“The special sounds of camp engulf campers and create a world of Jewishness that fills their ears, and ultimately their hearts.”

structured to include and delineate campers by age group. Camp is obviously not “three generational” in the standard – biological – sense. The net effect, however, of having campers who return year after year and slowly move up the camp power structure is the creation of a generational-like structure that provides campers with a model for what to look forward to for themselves in the future.

Camp also collapses and coalesces distinctions among home, school, religious school, synagogue and playground. Not only *ha-Motzi* but also a variety of Hebrew songs are sung before every meal; the Israeli flag is raised with (in this case) the American one; fair play on the soccer field is taught as a specifically Jewish value. In an increasingly fragmented, postmodern world, campers’ daily lives revolve wholly around camp’s grounds where everything is Jewish.

Finally, Jewish summer camps rock. At most camps, from the moment campers arrive until their very last moments in camp, camp’s staff and knowing campers create a Jewish “soundscape.” This particular soundscape is made up of old and new Hebrew and Yiddish songs that encompass everything from the early morning flag-raising to the late evening bonfire. The special sounds of camp engulf campers and create a world of Jewishness that fills their ears, and ultimately their hearts.

Gerson Cohen, chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America from 1972 until 1986 proclaimed that the Jewish summer camp is “the greatest contribution made by American (and Canadian!) Jews to modern Jewish life.” That may very well be the case.



*Shem Tov Volunteer Awards*

**Shalom Village Shabbat Team enables meaningful experiences**

Services help our residents stay connected with their community

**Besides being important to their spiritual well-being**, Shabbat services help our residents stay connected with their community. It is a meaningful experience that enriches their lives, and it wouldn't be possible without the dedication of the volunteers who make it happen. Our staff cannot do it on their own, so they rely on our Shabbat Team to porter residents to and from the services, help set up and serve the Kiddush lunch that follows, and lead the services.

**Shem Tov Award**

Three of those volunteers, who have led services in our shul for many years, were recently recognized with a Shem Tov Volunteer Award. Brian Albert, Dennis Schwartz, and Barry Bender were presented with awards at the recent Annual General Meeting of the Hamilton Jewish Federation.

**Beautiful and meaningful**

These gentlemen help us provide beautiful and meaningful religious services to our residents.

As you may know, many of our staff are not Jewish. Although we can intellectually understand the traditions and rituals of Shabbat, holidays, and other services, our teams along with Rabbi Seleven, need their help to provide our residents with an authentic and meaningful experience during our services.

**Quality of life**

This is a key piece of quality of life for our residents; ensuring they can embrace their spirituality at Shalom Village without having to leave their home.

We can always count on these volunteers to be here for our services, through snow, rain, or beautiful sunshine. They take time away from their own families, shuls and community to make sure our residents stay connected to their traditions and spirituality.

**Thank you**

To Brian, Dennis and Barry — from all of our residents and staff — thank you for this vital contribution you make as volunteers.



*Dennis Schwartz, Barry Bender, and Brian Albert were presented with awards at the recent Annual General Meeting of the Hamilton Jewish Federation*

**33<sup>rd</sup> Ladies Auxiliary Tea**

**Support our long-standing tradition!**



**Truly amazing** – this year marks the 33<sup>rd</sup> year of the Ladies Auxiliary Tea! Join us on July 3, 2014 at 1 p.m. to enjoy our traditional “Chai” Tea featuring freshly baked scones with clotted cream and jam, finger sandwiches, fruit, delightful sweet treats, a wonderful bake table, and a gift raffle.

**Why “Chai” Tea**

The Hebrew word chai (pronounced “high”) means alive, or living. Living is what Shalom Village is all about, and we toast ‘l’chayim (to life). Eighteen is the numeric value of the word chai and is the historical value of our donation levels.

**Fire protection**

Proceeds from this year’s tea will be used to install a sprinkler system in our original Long Term Care building. The safety and security of our residents and their loved ones is our top priority. This upgrade will honour our commitment. This past winter we installed a new sprinkler system in our original Apartments. Our Shalom Village Too building had sprinklers installed when it was built in 2004. With the completion of this project, all of our residents will be protected by this important safety system.

**Costly**

As you can imagine, retrofitting a building for this type of upgrade is very costly. We estimate this project will cost at least \$150,000.

We are reaching out to our community to help us fund this project. **Please consider increasing your annual tea donation to help us fund this vital upgrade for our most vulnerable residents.**

Your generosity will provide peace of mind for our residents and their



families; something you cannot put a price on.

**How you can help**

Our volunteer Tea callers will soon be contacting you. Please consider becoming one of our VIP donors at these levels: \$54, \$72, \$118, \$250,

\$360, \$500...and helping us with this top priority project.

**Don't wait!**

Call 905-529-1613 ext. 356 to order your tickets and make your donation today.

**Need to know**

The 33<sup>rd</sup> Shalom Village Ladies Auxiliary Chai Tea

Date: Thursday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014

Time: 1 pm

Place: Goldie’s Place at Shalom Village

Tickets: \$25

*Tax receipt issued for allowable portion*

**Thank you**

Grateful thanks to the families of **Solomon Adler, Sylvia Morris, Robert Walker, Carmela Pizzuti, Marilyn Rich and Dorothy Sherman** for requesting donations to Shalom Village in lieu of flowers.

Memorial donations support the *Possibilities Fund* at Shalom Village, making many special programs and services possible for our residents.

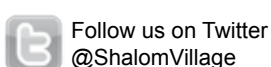
**Coming Events**

- Butterfly release party — June 27
- Shalom Village Ladies Auxiliary Chai Tea — July 3
- Shalom Village Hannukah Hustle, 1k / 5k walk, 5k / 10 k run — November 16



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**Making possibilities possible**

# The stories we tell

Her work with seniors made Linda Ander Goodbaum uniquely qualified to convince her 87-year-old father to write down his memories of growing up in Jewish Hamilton

by LINDA AND MAX ANDER, Special to the Hamilton Jewish News

When my dad was in Florida in the winter of 2008, I asked him if he would be willing to share some of his life experiences. I believe that story writing is a good way for people to gain a perspective on what has happened in their lives. Everyone has a story to tell and it is a matter of finding a way that allows a person to comfortably share it. When I wrote to my dad I had already interviewed six seniors and edited their stories. I asked each person to tell me about a time in their life when they had an important decision to make and how they knew the path they chose was the right one for them. I suggested that this type of self-reflection can sometimes produce a “eureka moment” or moment of clarity that can feel like a spiritual experience.

My father grew up in pretty grim circumstances in Hamilton and in spite of great poverty and challenges he became an Ontario champion wrestler and a winner in the Maccabiah games. He always worked hard and together with my mom, raised five children. He built a thriving business. He had so many accomplishments that it was a bit overwhelming for him to figure out how to get started.

I told him to choose one event in his life to begin with and write about how he dealt with it. Start small and don't worry about how

long you make it. I reassured him that dredging up old memories would not make him depressed. Writing your own story can be very empowering when you realize how you were able to overcome life's challenges. Sitting at the computer in the community centre in Aventura, Florida my father revisited his past and made peace with his life in the process. Here are a few excerpts from the story he calls, A Search for Meaning.

#### My father was a shoemaker

I was born on Nov. 6, 1926 at 21 Railway Street in Hamilton in a modest home to parents who had come from Poland. My father was 48 years old and my mother was 20 years his junior. My older sisters Mary and Bertha were three and two and my step-sister Rose was 16. Rose was born in Poland and her pregnant mother and older brother died of an infectious disease before my father could bring them over to Canada. Once the war had ended Rose was reunited with her father who had by that time married my mother, Annie.

The first and only toy I had was a shoemaker's hammer and box of nails. My father repaired and replaced soles and heels, stitching, stretching and dyeing the shoes. I went with my dad when he was peddling during the summer. He would call out “rags, bones and



Max Ander with the writer's sister at Hamilton's RGB Rock Garden circa 1950.



Max Ander today, with his daughter, Linda. Photos courtesy of the Ander family

bottles” over and over. We were ridiculed and called names and I found this to be humiliating. My father was observant and studied at the synagogue. He was a hard worker.

#### The kid is named Max

A mohel was brought from Toronto because he was more qualified than the locals who did circumcisions. I was named after my father's father Mendel, and thus was given a Yiddish name. My sister Rose was honoured to hold me following the procedure. Railway Street where I lived had an ethnic mix mostly of Italian and Jewish people. There were two synagogues within walking distance on Cannon and Hess streets. We had two groceries nearby, a playground across Cannon Street, Hoffman's scrap metal yard next door and another scrap metal with an icehouse. The railway tracks ran along the street down the hill to the scrap yard and asphalt plant. This was not the finest neighbourhood.

#### Mrs. Dingwell probably saved me

In everyone's life there are people that are most influential and memorable. Mrs. Dingwell selected me to be part of both a school choir and a quartet. She was a wonderful teacher, not very attractive but her smile and

pleasant personality got the best out of us. Our choir became quite good. We competed in a Kiwanis competition and our quartet sang to all the classes at Christmas time. I remember singing “ Oh come all Ye Faithful”. My father would have had a fit had he known that I was singing a Christian song, as he was quite religious himself. He never heard me sing at school. My teacher treated all of us as worthwhile and her caring countered the abuse I received at home. She saved me from the anger and distress I felt at home and raised my self-image. I learned to sing harmony and my love of music has lasted to this day and is an important part of my life allowing me the skills and confidence to lead services at synagogue.

*Max Ander is a devoted husband, father of five, grandfather of 14 and great grandfather of four. He had a successful career spanning many years in the flooring business. With his vast knowledge of the building industry he became bugely successful as a home inspector. He learned to read Torah later in life and continues to share his knowledge and skills by conducting services at synagogue and Shiva homes.*

*If you know of someone with a story to tell for this series, please contact [uschneider@jewishhamilton.org](mailto:uschneider@jewishhamilton.org)*



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JNF NEGEV DINNER

# What an evening... What a show!

Story by Frank Simkevitz, photos by Lawrence Yanover

It was a rather extraordinary evening. Close to 600 people came out to the Hamilton Convention Centre to help celebrate the tribute to Steve and Jeff Paikin at our annual Negev Dinner. The Paikin brothers come from a family of people committed to community. Their parents, Larry and Marnie were both individually honoured by the Jewish National Fund and this was their sons' turn.

The brothers were being recognized for their commitment to their respective communities. They have led by example. Steve is best known for his media presence while brother Jeff, perhaps best known as a home builder, is also known to many for his involvement with the Hamilton Sports Celebrity Dinner.

The event was held on Sunday, June 8 and featured a performance by Hamilton's All-star Jazz Band during the cocktail reception. Zach and Natasha Paikin, children of Steve and Jeff respectively were the emcees and Natasha's sister, Sasha wowed the audience with her singing of the two anthems.

Brothers Steve and Jeff appeared both genuinely moved by the tributes, including a brief video from Martin Short and David Shore. Steve and Jeff responded by praising their parents and thanking their families. After the presentation of the citation, the audience was treated to a performance by the world renowned Canadian Brass. They are five exceptional musicians and seem to be able to make their brass instruments play in ways they were not designed to do. Comments across the board were nothing but superlatives.



Emcees Zachary and Natasha Paikin with their fathers, Steve and Jeff Paikin.



Proud parents Larry and Marnie Paikin with their sons and daughters-in-law Andrea (left) and Francesca (right).



Members of the Canadian Brass delight the audience with a rousing performance.



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The Special Needs Action Project committee continues to focus on the challenges faced by families who have children with special needs.

SNAP is currently planning a concert with a very special, surprise entertainer, which will take place in early September. The projects that will be supported include community education with an inclusion focus, in-service training for teachers, parent education, assessment – well you get the idea.

Stay tuned for more details.

# jcc EVENTS

## YOM HA'ATZMAUT



On May 6, 250 community members came together to celebrate Israel's birthday at the JCC. The program offered something for everyone and was a great success.

Photo by Terry Babij

## YOM HASHOAH



Magda Guzner enjoys the Raoul Wallenberg exhibit at the JCC's annual Yom Hashoah commemoration that took place at the Beth Jacob Synagogue.

Photo by Wendy Schneider



Photo by Cathie Coward, The Hamilton Spectator

# TEMPLE CLEANS UP!

Social action and community outreach; that is what our Temple Anshe Sholom family cares very much about. It is for this reason that, after meeting Alan Hansell, the founder of Stewards of Cootes Paradise, we jumped at the chance to help clean up our watershed area. Temple Anshe Sholom is blessed to be situated in one of the most lovely and magical places in our city. Right in our backyard are trails leading into the Carolinian forest, to a body of water that is home to more than 70 per cent of the bird and fish species in Canada. We recognize our responsibility to help steward this treasure. It was also an opportunity to reach out

to our neighbouring Westdale Reformed Church and work side by side on this project. Our first clean-up event was Sunday, May 4 from 1:30 to 4 p.m. and participants ended the day in celebration, feeling empowered to make a difference and inspired by the camaraderie of working with friends.

Dubbed the Hamilton Multifaith Watershed Stewardship Project, we look forward to continued clean-up outings, which will be announced on our website [www.anshesholom.ca](http://www.anshesholom.ca) and these are open to our entire Jewish community.

Above, Miriam Shore helps to re-naturalize an area of Cootes Watershed.

# Lessons learned about compassion

by CAROL KRAMES  
Jewish Social Services

My husband and I have recently returned from an outstanding "Compassion Conference" for health care professionals. Below are some important principles that can help us in our daily lives:

1. Until we can feel self-compassion it is difficult to feel compassion for others. Self-compassion involves treating ourselves with care and understanding rather than harsh judgment.

2. It's hard to accept ourselves as being "just average." To tell someone they look average, that their work is average, that their children are average can seem insulting. Yet, what does average mean? It is impossible for everyone to be above average. Yet this is what we expect from ourselves and our families.

3. Self-esteem can be a crippling concept. Self-esteem by definition means judgement. How do others see us, and more important how do we judge ourselves. Self-compassion, on the other hand, is acceptance without judgment.

4. Compassionate individuals respond to the needs of others. When we ask someone if they need help it implies that they are weak. Ask instead, "What do you need?"

# KEHILA FETES YVES & LUBA APEL



Kehila's Art of Giving art auction and sale took place on May 15 at the Dundas Valley School of Art. The event, held in honour of Yves and Luba Apel (pictured above), benefitted the bursary and Leia Ger special education funds. More than 50 pieces of art were donated by local artists for auctioning. The Apels have been committed members of the Kehila community for more than 10 years, supporting the school in a multitude of ways, demonstrating how very talented they are at the art of giving. Many thanks to the Apels as well as to event co-chairs Sandee Smordin and Jodie Waxman and their committee for making this event a grand success.

Photo by Wendy Schneider

# Na'amat celebrates another successful author luncheon



Na'amat members pose with author Nancy Richler. Front row, l to r: Dora Fischer, Nancy Richler, Deena Sacks; Back row, l to r: Dena Honig, Na'amat national president, Orit Tobe, Sandi Seigel and Shelly Sender.

Why do the Na'amat members pictured here look so happy? Because they're basking in the glow of yet another successful Celebrity Author Luncheon, which this year featured Nancy Richler. Throughout the last 29 years, the group has hosted a who's who of Canadian authors, including Mordecai Richler, David Suzuki, Robertson Davies, Margaret Atwood, Pierre Berton, Anne Michaels, Barbara Gowdy, Lynn Johnston, Jane Urquhart, M.G. Vassanji, Timothy Findley, Nino Ricci, Lawrence Hill and Dr. Vincent Lam. Funds raised by Na'amat events are directed towards supporting services for women and children in Israel. For those interested in learning more about the group, please email [helen.r.metz@gmail.com](mailto:helen.r.metz@gmail.com).



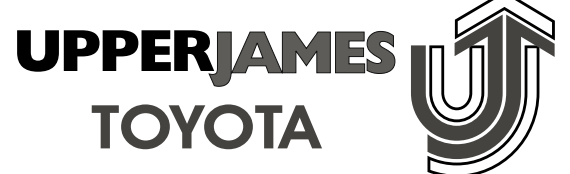
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