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Ottawa rocked by anti-Semitic graffiti attacks

BY MICHAEL REGENSTREIF
EDITOR

The Ottawa Police Services hate crimes unit is investigating incidents of anti-Semitic graffiti at Ottawa's two largest synagogues and at a home in the Glebe neighbourhood used as a Jewish Renewal prayer and study centre. The three incidents took place between November 13 and 17.

As well, similar incidents of racist and Islamophobic graffiti were discovered November 18 in Ottawa at a church with a black minister and at a mosque.

Congregants and shul officials arriving for morning prayers November 17 at Congregation Machzikei Hadas, Ottawa's largest Orthodox synagogue, discovered swastikas painted on the doors to the shul and swastikas and anti-Semitic and white supremacist hate messages painted on the side of the building. Jewish Federation of Ottawa signage on the Machzikei grounds was similarly vandalized.

Rabbi Michael Goldstein, the congregation's executive director, said police were immediately called and the graffiti was removed.

"We will not be intimidated by this cowardly act," said Rabbi Idan Scher, the congregation's spiritual leader. "This act

will not impact the services and programs offered at the shul. The morning services continued without interruption and we will continue stronger and more unified than ever."

Rabbi Reuven Bulka, rabbi emeritus of Machzikei Hadas, said the incident was a rare occurrence, that there had only been one other incident at the shul in the decades since the congregation moved to its Alta Vista location in 1973.

A similar incident was discovered on November 13 at Kehillat Beth Israel (KBI), Ottawa's major Conservative congregation. Officials at KBI immediately filed a police report and had the graffiti removed quickly, but did not make the incident public until after the attack at Machzikei Hadas came to light.

KBI Co-President Stuart McCarthy said the initial decision to not publicize the incident was made to deny validation to the vandals.

Rabbi Eytan Kenter, KBI's spiritual leader, noted that congregational life has continued normally since the incident with services, meetings and classes taking place as scheduled.

"I can think of no better way to 'stick it' to those responsible than by ignoring their
See Graffiti on page 4



Jewish Federation of Ottawa sign on the grounds of Congregation Machzikei Hadas defaced by a swastika, November 17, 2016. MICHAEL GOLDSTEIN

Opinion: Embracing Jewish education in our community

BY AARON SMITH

Living in a world where UNESCO threatens our Jewish heritage and an election south of the border brings up shades of anti-Semitism, I have spent a lot of time thinking about the state of Jewish education in Ottawa.

We are experiencing a resurgence of

institutions across the spectrum of Jewish education. In recent years, we have seen new leadership and enhanced programs at many of the supplementary schools, and great successes in Barrhaven and beyond in attracting new families that previously were not accessing any sort of Jewish education for their children.

Additionally, Torah High continues to attract Jewish teens to connect and continue to build a Jewish identity.

In our day schools, the Torah Day School of Ottawa, an integration of two schools that were passionate about Orthodox education, demonstrates the power of working together within a

community while the Ottawa Jewish Community School continues to educate our future community leaders with our students achieving spectacular results, scoring in the top 25th percentile nationally in subjects such as reading, writing and arithmetic.

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Special Shabbat culminates with unity Havdallah service and celebration

For the third year, Ottawa's Jewish community joined with Jewish communities around the world, November 11-12, in observing and celebrating Shabbat. The Shabbat Project, which began in 2013 in South Africa and has spread to the far corners of the world, encourages Jews to "do Shabbat" on one particular Shabbat. **Diane Koven** reports.

Congregations and other organizations in Ottawa that offer Shabbat programming all participated in the Shabbat Project in some way on November 11 and 12 and then came together as a community at a special Unity Havdallah service and celebration.

Many synagogues held communal Shabbat dinners, while individuals and families were encouraged to host others in their homes for a traditional Shabbat meal.

Several groups organized Challah Bakes – for women, for families and for children – in the days preceding the special Shabbat and during the week following. The Jewish Federation of Ottawa held a hugely successful community-wide Challah Bake for women at Kehillat Beth Israel on November 10. Co-chaired by Melanie Fremeth and Sarah Gordon, the event attracted 200 women for an evening of fun and meaning as they joined thousands of women throughout the world in the mitzvah of preparing challah.

Reva Goldberg attended the Women's Challah Bake and enjoyed both the event itself and the delicious challah, which

her family enjoyed as a result.

"It was an easy way to meet people, working together on a project with eight women at each table," she said.

The participants each prepared three small challah loaves to be baked at home, and they were asked to donate one of the loaves to the Ottawa Kosher Food Bank. Goldberg said she thought the donation to the food bank was a particularly nice idea.

After the conclusion of Shabbat on Saturday evening, November 12, a community-wide Unity Havdallah service was held at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre, which brought people together from all segments of the Jewish community to usher out Shabbat in the traditional way.

Andrea Freedman, Federation president and CEO, welcomed the large and enthusiastic crowd and introduced three members of the community who spoke of their particular Jewish involvement.

Lindsay Gottheil represented PJ Library, a program of the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, which partners with local sponsoring organizations – in Ottawa, the Federation – to supply



Co-Chairs Melanie Fremeth (left) and Sarah Gordon, get ready to prepare their challahs at the women's Challah Bake, November 10, at Kehillat Beth Israel.

age-appropriate, Jewish-themed books to children each month free of charge. Gottheil talked about how her family celebrates Shabbat together and how the books supplied by PJ Library have been helpful and inspirational.

Dan Wolfish, representing Kehillat Beth Israel, compared the hectic weekdays in a busy household to preparing for a wedding in contrast to the peace and tranquillity when Shabbat, the Sabbath Queen, arrives. He finds meaning, he said, in continuing the traditions of his ancestors, "and you realize that the prayer you are giving your children is the same prayer that our ancestors said to their children."

"Shabbat is about community, collegiality, friendship and connection," Wolfish added.

Eyal Padolsky, a third-year University of Ottawa student and president of Hillel Ottawa, asked, "What makes this week special?"

Replying to his own rhetorical question, Padolsky said there was nothing special about the week and noted that the whole current month of Cheshvan on the Jewish calendar is "holiday-free."

"Because we are Jews, it is our responsibility to take the ordinary and make it extraordinary ... This coming week, I challenge each and every one of you to take something mundane and make it special. I see this as the essence of Judaism and the true meaning of Shabbat," Padolsky said.

The Havdallah service was led by Rabbi Noam Katz, an educator at Leo Baeck Day School, a Reform movement day school in Toronto, and musician who has performed around the world. With



Rabbi Noam Katz leads a song at the Unity Havdallah Service.

the lyrics to the songs projected on a screen, and accompanied by drummer Jared Gershon, Rabbi Katz played guitar and led the audience in the Havdallah blessings, followed by a rousing sing-along of familiar Hebrew tunes. A beautiful rendition of "Oseh Shalom," was sung to the tune of Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah" and continued with everyone joining together to sing "Hallelujah" in tribute to the Jewish Canadian poet, songwriter and singer who had died earlier in the week.

"We lost a great poet this week," said Rabbi Katz. "We honour his memory by the poetry he shared with us."

The Havdallah event also included crafts, many people made their own Havdallah candles, games for the children and socializing over refreshments.



Karen Palayew (left) holds her handmade Havdallah candle at the Unity Havdallah Service, November 12, at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre. Many in attendance made their own candles.

British chief rabbi stresses Jewish concern for all people

Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis, chief rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth, spoke about “a Jewish response to a divided world” during a visit to Ottawa described as “historic.” **Pauline Colwin** reports.

Jews must recognize that our commitment to the well-being of all people is a critical and essential part of our faith.

This was the impassioned message delivered November 3 by Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis, chief rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth, to a capacity crowd of more than 500 gathered at Congregation Machzikei Hadas.

In addition to members of the Jewish community and rabbis from across the denominational spectrum, the audience included political leaders, diplomats and Christian and Muslim clergy.

Rabbi Mirvis’ powerful and historic speech, interspersed with humour and charm, gave all present the clear directive to join him in his quest to help heal our divided world.

The world, Rabbi Mirvis explained, is currently suffering a new type of division – a divide that is not between left and right, conservative and liberal, but between open and closed, nationalism versus globalism.

Countries across Europe have embraced a “drawbridge up” attitude and have closed their borders to refugees while tightening their economic practices. In the United States, there are calls for “Americanism before globalism.” Only Canada, said Rabbi Mirvis, is

bucking the trend as we continue to welcome refugees and foster open trade.

What does this mean for Jews? Unfortunately, Rabbi Mirvis said, when it comes to an “us versus them” mentality, Jews are inevitably classified as “them.” Jews are seen as outsiders. But are we? Are we open or closed? Do we see ourselves as separate?

Indeed, we are separate, the rabbi explained. We even have a blessing, part of the Havdallah ceremony, which thanks God for the separation of different things: the sacred and the secular, darkness and light, and between Israel and all other nations.

“Jews,” said Rabbi Mirvis, “understand that we are exclusivists. We have our culture, our own communities, our own schools, our own calendar and our own Jewish homeland.”

However, he stressed, “We are not permitted to just sit and watch as others suffer. We are required by our faith to do something about it. This is integral to our identity.”

Indeed, we are not only commanded to “love our neighbours as ourselves,” but also to recognize that all people are created in the image of God. “We must honour and respect the divine presence in all humanity.

“Be proud of your culture and respect



Jews are not permitted to watch as others suffer, said Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth, in an address at Congregation Machzikei Hadas, November 3.

all others’ cultures too ... Our message to the world, then, is that it is not good to only be particular and exclusive, and it’s not only good to be universal and assimilated. We can be unique and still work in concert with others.”

Rabbi Mirvis used the analogy of an orchestra: We can each be unique, each playing our own instrument; but, played together in joint purpose, in harmony, we can make beautiful music.

The simple but powerful message was met by a standing ovation.

Rabbi Idan Scher of Congregation Machzikei Hadas thanked his colleagues from Ottawa’s faith community for their presence and urged all in attendance to take action, to take responsibility to respond to Rabbi Mirvis’ message.

Rabbi Scher stressed that, because we live in Canada, a country that respects

people, and where we enjoy equality and religious freedoms, we are at an advantage in making a difference. Together, he said, the mark we can make on the world can be astounding.

Andrea Freedman, president and CEO of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, expressed a similar sentiment as she explained that Federation’s mandate is to put the Jewish value of *tikkun olam* – repair of the world – into action.

“We are guided by our Jewish values to not only help those in our community, our country and our Jewish homeland, but to help all those in need. This is particularly apparent when Federation launches special appeals like the one this past summer for Fort McMurray fire relief,” she said.

Others in attendance were equally moved and stressed the importance of the rabbi’s visit and his message.

“The visit of the chief rabbi was welcome validation of Ottawa’s importance as a vibrant centre of Jewish life. The compassion and sensitivity so evident in his remarks confirmed Rabbi Mirvis’ well-deserved reputation and served as an inspiration to all of us who strive to do better and be better,” said Shimon Koffler Fogel, CEO of the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs.

“I am inspired by Rabbi Mirvis’ passionate plea to Jews and members of all faiths to use religion as a source of peace and goodness in the world, not as a source of hatred and violence. This is a message that resonates very powerfully with me, and looking around the room during the talk it was clear that this is a message that resonates with all of the political and religious leaders in attendance,” said Rabbi Michael Goldstein, executive director of Congregation Machzikei Hadas.

The event was co-sponsored by Congregation Machzikei Hadas and Mizrachi Canada.



Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth is presented with a paper cut of himself on Parliament Hill in Ottawa, created by artist Zahava Goldstein. (From left) Rabbi Mirvis; Rabbi Reuven Bulka, rabbi emeritus, and Rabbi Idan Scher of Congregation Machzikei Hadas; Jewish Federation of Ottawa Chair Linda Kerzner; and event Co-Chairs Bram Bregman and Ron Prehogan.



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MICHAEL GOLDSTEIN

The doors to Congregation Machzikei Hadas defaced with swastikas, November 17, 2016.

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with Daniel Bernard Ph.D.

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Jewish characters in films have been represented by American commercial filmmakers in a multitude of ways. Observing clips from over a hundred years of film, we will examine how the image of "the Jew" and "the Jewess" relate to Jewish experience, and demonstrate the dynamic relationship between the U.S. film industry and the dominant social paradigm of each era of production.



Bernard is the creator and writer of the Kickstarter-funded comic book series, *The Chieftains*, based on the Book of Judges. He holds a B.A. (Honours) and a Ph. D in Religion from Concordia University, Montreal, where he has also served as Adjunct Professor.



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Graffiti: Church and mosque also attacked

Continued from page 1

attempts to bring terror and fear to our community," he said on Facebook. "We cleaned up and lived our lives as usual, and that must be devastating to the perpetrators of this act."

On November 15, an incident of anti-Semitic graffiti was reported at the home of Anna Maranta, leader of the Glebe Minyan, a Jewish Renewal prayer and study group. Most of the group's programs take place at Maranta's home.

"Obviously, there is deep concern in Ottawa's Jewish community, and we are horrified by these blatant displays of hatred," said Jewish Federation of Ottawa President and CEO Andrea Freedman.

"We are working closely with the Ottawa Police Services who have responded quickly to all of these incidents and are taking this matter very seriously," Freedman said. "These acts of cowardice are an affront not just to the Jewish community, but to all Ottawans and Canadians who share our core values of respect, tolerance and kindness."

Freedman also noted an outpouring of support from other faith communities in Ottawa and from elected officials.

"It is reassuring to know they join us in standing up against all acts of racism, anti-Semitism and bigotry. The Jewish community of Ottawa will not be intimidated, and we will stand united against such deplorable acts of hatred," she said.

Among the officials expressing their support was Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

"To the Canadian Jewish community: I stand with you. Our government denounces recent acts of anti-Semitism in the strongest terms," Trudeau tweeted from Argentina, November 17, while on an official visit there.

The incidents discovered on November 18 took place at Parkdale United Church, which is led by Reverend Anthony Bailey, a prominent African-Canadian clergyman in Ottawa, and at the Ottawa Muslim

Association, a mosque led by Imam Samy Metwally.

The Islamophobic graffiti attack on the mosque came after the Ottawa Muslim Association posted a message on its website expressing solidarity with the Jewish community following the anti-Semitic incidents earlier in the week:

"Such hate crimes have no place in our communities and are contrary to the spirit of inclusion that makes our city such a safe and wonderful place to live. We stand with our Jewish brothers and sisters in solidarity. Anti-Semitism hurts all of us in the same way that any other form of hatred hurts us."

The Jewish Federation of Ottawa and the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs quickly expressed Jewish community solidarity with the church and mosque.

"Federation is angered by last night's hateful, racist vandalism at a church and a mosque in Ottawa. We stand in solidarity with our Christian and Muslim friends who, like the Jewish community, have recently been targeted by acts of hate," the Federation noted on Facebook.

"We know from the overwhelming outpouring of support and condemnation that the sentiments expressed in this vandalism are not representative of the broader Ottawa community. It is important we come together and condemn hate in all its forms."

Ottawa Police Services Insp. Mike Laviolette said police are investigating all of the incidents and exploring the possibility that all may be related.

"There are certainly similarities with the first three incidents targeting Jewish institutions, so that's certainly a theory that we're exploring," he said.

Anyone with knowledge of any of these incidents is urged to contact the Ottawa Police Services hate crimes unit at 613-236-1222, ext. 2466.

This story will be updated at www.ottawajewishbulletin.com as new information becomes available.

Liberman: Reach understanding with Trump team on settlement building

JERUSALEM (JTA) – Israel’s defense minister said his country should reach an agreement with the incoming administration of U.S. President-elect Donald Trump to freeze building in isolated West Bank settlements in exchange for continued building in settlement blocs.

Avigdor Liberman made the remarks November 16 at a briefing with reporters, the first since his Yisrael Beiteinu party joined the ruling government coalition in May.

Liberman also said that Trump’s advisers have sent official messages to the

Israeli government asking that it stop commenting on Israeli expectations for the administration’s future policies regarding Israel.

“I hope that we have enough sense to stop the jubilation and public enthusiasm. It is undoubtedly damaging,” Liberman said.

“In the messages we received from the Trump team, they asked us to act modestly. We will wait and we won’t establish facts on the ground.”

Liberman said the government should concentrate on having the new Trump administration ratify the Bush-Sharon formula, under which then-prime minister Ariel Sharon committed Israel to the two-state solution and to refrain from building outside of major settlement blocs.

He called concentrating settlement construction on the areas where 80 per cent of the settlers live a “good thing,” though Liberman acknowledged that such a policy would not help him politically.

Speaking about a controversial bill to legalize some West Bank outposts, notably Amona, Liberman said: “I’m not certain that it’s the best solution,” and added he believes it will be impossible to avoid evacuating the outpost as per a Supreme Court ruling.



Israeli Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman says Israel should reach an agreement with U.S. President-elect Donald Trump’s administration on settlement building.

Israeli minister impulsively gifts \$50,000 research drone to Russia

JERUSALEM (JTA) – An Israeli government minister’s impulsive gifting to Russia of a drone used for agricultural research could land him in trouble with the United States.

Agricultural Minister Uri Ariel offered the unmanned research helicopter to Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev earlier this month while the Russian leader was visiting Israel. Medvedev reportedly was playing with the drone’s controls when Ariel made the offer of the gift.

But the drone, which is owned by the Israeli government’s Volcani Institute, was turned over without some of its software and other features, angering Russian officials, who have threatened to scupper a newly signed \$15 billion agricultural deal with Israel, Haaretz reported. It was the only scientific

research helicopter of its kind in Israel.

It is not known if any American technology was used in the drone, which would have required U.S. permission to be turned over to the Russians.

The drone, which is valued at about \$50,000, is designed to carry thermal and infrared cameras capable of providing complex images of the actual uptake of water and water-borne materials such as pesticides by crops and trees after irrigation. Its data helps in water conservation.

Ariel also violated a government regulation stating that government ministers can only give gifts to visitor from abroad of up to 300 shekels, which is less than \$100. In some cases, a gift can be worth up to 700 shekels, but requires permission from the ministry’s director general.

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**FEDERATION
REPORT**



**AARON SMITH, OTTAWA
JEWISH COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

Continued from page 1

Across all of these institutions, students are being offered learning environments with other Jewish children and are beginning their own personal journeys of developing a love of Judaism and a connection with Israel within a vibrant Ottawa Jewish community. Educating our children Jewishly is the only way to ensure they are equipped to address challenges to Judaism in our community and beyond.

The challenge we continue to face is that not enough children in our community are accessing Jewish education, either from supplementary or day schools.

It is no secret that there has been a

Jewish education must be our community's top priority

decline in day school participation across North America, including in Ottawa. We have seen a decline in overall day school enrolment in Ottawa from more than 600 children in 2005 to about 335 students in 2016.

The bigger challenge is that, over that time, we have seen, at best, flat line participation in supplementary schools in Ottawa, with about 300 participating annually. With a relatively static population of approximately 14,000 Jewish people in Ottawa, we can estimate there are about 2,300 school-aged children that could be accessing Jewish educational programs in the city. This means that about 70 per cent of the children in our community are not receiving either a supplemental or day school Jewish education. This is where we need to come together as a community. We can do better. We must do better.

To do so, in my opinion, requires two key elements.

First, we must make Jewish education for our children a key priority. We must make it a priority as parents, grandpar-

ents, aunts and uncles, and community members to promote the importance of Jewish education for our children.

Education of our children is of utmost importance. A Torah commentary states "the future of the Jewish people depends on the education of its children, and Halachah provides that even before building itself a synagogue, a community must provide for the Torah education of its young." While we do not all come back to shul after the High Holidays each year, we should all commit to increasing the number of children in our community that attend some form of Jewish educational institution in Ottawa.

Second, we must all have a sense of love for participating in our community's Jewish educational institutions. In "Parashat Ki Tavo," we heard that we are expected to approach Judaism with joyfulness and not out of a sense of obligation. This is an empowering thought. Becoming involved and participating in our schools from a sense of love of community and love of our children will propel us further than participating

from a sense of obligation. We must show our children the same love that generations before us have shown for the future of our communities as evidenced by the sacrifices made, and the challenges overcome, by the Jewish people around the world.

As a community, we should strive for 100 per cent participation of children in our community in some type of formal Jewish education. I urge all families in our community to have their children educated Jewishly, to give our children the knowledge and confidence to be Jewish in a challenging world.

I encourage more volunteers to step up and commit themselves to one of our amazing educational institutions and to make a difference in the life of a Jewish child in our community.

I hope that more community leaders will decide to make Jewish education the number one priority for their influence and support. Education of our community is the key to community continuity and to the future of Jewish life in Ottawa. We need to provide our children with the knowledge to be able to understand the importance of maintaining Jewish continuity and to effectively practise Jewish customs and rituals. The climate in the world right now towards Jewish heritage and Judaism is a wake-up call. Let us all make Jewish education our number one priority this year.

**FROM THE
PULPIT**



**RABBI ROBERT MORAIS
TEMPLE ISRAEL**

We live in interesting times... Elections are strange things ...

When I was a student at York University, I ran for student government. We put up posters, held debates, canvassed.

I was a one-issue candidate. I was advocating for the rights of fraternities and sororities, which, at the time, were banned at York University. In the end, I won my seat through acclimation. My opponent withdrew.

I spent the year being harassed and criticized for not representing the interests of all students at York. Go figure! Not long afterward, I voted in my first Canadian election.

Many years later, while living in Detroit, I became a U.S. citizen and

'Our faith and enduring values will be a strong foundation as we move forward'

subsequently have voted in local and national U.S. elections. Like so many on either side of the border, I followed the U.S. election closely. I cast my ballot early, to make sure I could fulfil my civic right and responsibility.

We Jews have not always enjoyed the right to vote. In the United States, for example, Jews were only permitted to vote beginning in 1828; and in England in 1858. We fought hard to be seen as part of the social and political fabric of wherever we lived.

I have been proud to cast ballots in several elections on both sides of the border. I really do believe that, unless you participate in the electoral process, you do not have a right to critique those elected.

Elections are often fought over issues, other times over philosophy. But the results of this year's U.S. election clearly indicate that a huge number of people did not care about the issues and did not care about who the candidates were, but felt deeply that the status quo in Washington was broken and no longer represented their interests.

Eight years after the economic melt-

down brought on, primarily, by poor regulation of the financial industry, millions of Americans are still suffering the loss of their pensions or the decimation of the value of their homes. The polls say more voted – in large measure – against the current system than for a particular candidate. After decades of industrial decline, with nothing to replace it, people are frustrated and angry, many unable to support their families.

The next few years will be filled with challenges. The leaders of the Union for Reform Judaism recently wrote: "... Abraham went out into a place of great uncertainty, we now find ourselves in an unanticipated time and place. But we know, like Abraham, that our faith and enduring values will be a strong foundation as we move forward. We love the stranger, feed the hungry and care for the orphan and the widow."

While we do not live in the United States, what happens there has a direct and dramatic effect on our lives. I pray that our leaders have the wisdom to guide us through what will undoubtedly be challenging times.

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FROM THE EDITOR



MICHAEL REGENSTREIF

An appreciation of Leonard Cohen, 1934-2016

songs and poetry, died in 1978.

Growing up, Cohen studied extensively with his rabbinic grandfather and was profoundly influenced by him on several levels. In much the same way that he and the rabbi would spend many hours discussing the meaning of a single sentence, Cohen said he often devoted similar amounts of time, sometimes more, to a turn of phrase in a poem or song. As well, there are the biblical and Judaic themes in much of his work.

As a McGill student in the early-1950s, Cohen began to make his mark as a poet. His first book of poems, *Let Us Compare Mythologies*, was published in 1956, and Cohen quickly became one of the Montreal's major English-language literary figures. In 1957, along with mentors Irving Layton, Louis Dudek, Frank Scott and A.M. Klein, he was recorded for "Six Montreal Poets," a Folkways record album. Other acclaimed books of poetry soon followed.

In 1963, Cohen's first novel, *The Favorite Game*, was published. Cohen's protagonist, Lawrence Breavman, the son of a prominent Jewish family from Westmount who

loses his father early and achieves literary fame as a university student, was clearly based on himself. The book vividly describes Breavman's coming of age, his move from beyond the parochial world of his upbringing into bohemian circles and the conflicts of a Jewish man falling in love with a gentile woman.

A second novel, the abstract and somewhat difficult *Beautiful Losers*, followed in 1966. That book was an experimental, post-modern novel about the obsessions of a love triangle that seemingly drew its inspiration from the conflicts between the French, English and indigenous peoples in colonial times and in the contemporary world of Quebec's Quiet Revolution.

In his youth, Cohen had learned to play guitar and dabbled with traditional folk songs. As a McGill student, he played in the Bucksin Boys, an amateur country and western trio. Eventually, Cohen's interest in music and poetry would intertwine in song. Around the time that *Beautiful Losers* was published, Cohen turned his attention to songwriting.

The 1960s were an exciting time for innovative songwriters. Another Jewish songwriter, Bob Dylan (born Robert Zimmerman), had combined the musical influences of Woody Guthrie and traditional American folksongs with the literary influences of beat poets and novelists like Allan Ginsberg and Jack Kerouac, thereby redefining what could be accomplished in a song. Cohen was drawn to that creative challenge and it was as a singer-songwriter that Cohen would attain his most enduring fame.

In 1966, Cohen met folksinger Judy Collins and sang two of his earliest songs for her: "Suzanne," filled with images evoking Old Montreal, probably the great Montreal song; and the harrowing, Brecht-like, "Dress Rehearsal Rag." Collins quickly recorded both songs for her album "In My Life," and Cohen's career as a major songwriter was launched. In late-1967, his own first LP, "Songs of Leonard Cohen," was released to critical acclaim.

Jewish and Jewish-influenced themes were evident in many of Cohen's songs. One of the key songs on his first album was "The Stranger Song." Although Cohen voiced the song as an observer singing in the third person, the listener is left with the impression that Cohen himself is, indeed, the stranger. Cohen's imagery of the stranger in this song is highly

See Editor on page 24

IDEAS AND IMPRESSIONS



JASON MOSCOVITZ

Volcanic repercussions often follow police actions during election campaigns

in Canada. Paul Martin was trying to win his second election campaign when the RCMP announced it was investigating Ralph Goodale, the finance minister, in an alleged insider trading case.

The news broke during a seven-day Christmas holiday hiatus from campaigning. In a news-starved week, the premise of Liberal corruption prevailed in the media. The story was repeated non-stop, and, like Clinton, the Liberals faced a number of other scandal-like issues, making the RCMP announcement so much more believable.

Before the RCMP's involvement, the Liberals had a six-point lead in the polls. But that lead dissipated and led to the defeat of the Liberal government in the election of January 23, 2006. Stephen Harper became prime minister and, while Goodale was subsequently exonerated of all suspicion, it was far too late to save Paul Martin and his government.

In Clinton's case, even with her many liabilities, she was cruising to victory until that late-breaking bombshell – but, like the Liberals in 2006, she just couldn't overcome the stigma of one more scent of

controversy, or, as Donald Trump gleefully called it, "corruption." That one last thing pushed so many voters away from her.

The FBI has been there before. One of the most interesting stories of FBI involvement in U.S. presidential politics is the story about Watergate, Deep Throat and president Richard Nixon.

The famous break-in at Democratic headquarters occurred on June 17, 1972, almost five months before the election, and yet Richard Nixon was re-elected, sweeping the country in a smashing victory. The Watergate break-in was known and reported upon before the election, but hardly anyone took it seriously.

In those days, it was inconceivable to think a president and his men could be that corrupt. Early on, the media shied away from going full tilt on Watergate because it just didn't make sense. Nixon was given a pass – or the benefit of the doubt – and he was allowed to win the 1973 election unscathed. By contrast, in today's world, even the pope wouldn't get that same benefit of the doubt.

Political justice, of course, caught up

with Nixon shortly after his victory, and that is where the FBI once again came in. For more than 30 years, history buffs, journalists and politicians wondered who Deep Throat, the person most instrumental in the Watergate scandal breaking wide open, was.

In 2005, 31 years after Nixon's resignation, Mark Felt, a former assistant director of the FBI, came forward before his death and acknowledged he was Deep Throat. From the highest echelons of the FBI, Washington Post reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein were enabled to go the distance to bring Richard Nixon down.

In political life, people who enable reporters get big stories usually have motives – often selfish ones. Felt was passed over by Nixon to head the FBI and it could be that is what made him so helpful.

But the most fascinating part of the Deep Throat story is that, while three decades went by with most people wondering and guessing who could it be, the answer was readily available from almost day one.

The U.S. Supreme Court forced Nixon to hand over his secret Oval Office audio recordings and, when they were made public, there was an unmistakable recording of Nixon and his advisers talking about who they thought was leaking material to the Washington Post.

As clear as day, Nixon thundered, "It's that Jew at the FBI."

Of the many astonishing things that happened during the U.S. election, one stands out and may have had more to do with Hillary Clinton's defeat than anything else.

The FBI's clumsy re-entry into the campaign with barely two weeks to go had a huge impact. Without any substance, without any facts, the FBI's announcement that it was looking at more Hillary Clinton emails cast a heavy, long veil of wrongdoing on Clinton. It killed her momentum. It killed her campaign. The announcement, with two days to go that no wrongdoing was found, landed with no one still listening.

The role of federal police forces in national election campaigns is not new, and the record shows volcanic-like repercussions often follow.

There was a case like that a decade ago



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See page 27 for Publication/Deadline dates and Candlelighting times.

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ARI SHAVIT

The column about sexual assault and subsequent public apology by a prominent Israeli journalist, Ari Shavit ("From the Editor," November 14), brings forth several further questions. Since this was written with Donald Trump in mind, the question arises as to whether we would alter our perceptions of him if he had apologized, too.

Shavit's public repentance and apology, as well as resignation [from Haaretz and Channel 10 in Israel] speak volumes, but it would be a lot to expect of a presidential candidate, given the behaviour of others who preceded him. And we know from our day-to-day experience that most people are very reluctant to admit to and apologize for serious offences, or even lesser ones, that have nonetheless affected the lives of others.

Women who dare to explore new ground are subject to this, too. The natural competitiveness of human beings often leads to less than admirable behaviour in many spheres, including religious settings. Unfortunately, misogyny is lumped in there with this, and people in power will often use it needlessly to bolster the child within. The more power a person has, the more care should be taken that it not be abused. But this requires a great deal of insight, self-control and humility, attributes which may be inadequate as a person advances in a career path. Only truly great people possess this when power is achieved. The vast majority are content to deny it, pretend it never

occurred, or claim they were just doing their job.

Most people fall very short of understanding how to use power effectively. They may be described as "legends" by their admirers, but are often simply lucky to have been in the right place at the right time. Shavit's arrogance and misogyny was exposed, but it also took institutional willingness to stop turning a blind eye to the behaviour to render the result. This is a much more recent trend. It remains to be seen whether other institutions will be able to deal ethically and fairly with similar accounts.

Barbara Okun

LETTERS WELCOME

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

Send your letters to:
bulletin@ottawajewishbulletin.com

Panel discussion at Temple Israel will address Jewish perspectives on climate change

BY FRAN KLODAWSKY
FOR TEMPLE ISRAEL

Temple Israel will host a panel discussion, "Jewish Perspectives on Climate Change," on Monday, December 12, 7 pm.

The discussion is part of the series, "Thinking Social Action/Justice: The Next 50 Years," that is part of Temple Israel's 50th Anniversary celebrations and everyone is welcome to attend. A lively question-and-answer session is expected to follow the panelists' presentations and refreshments will be served.

So, what is Jewish about climate change?

According to Hava Tirosh-Samuleson, a professor of history and director of the Center for Jewish Studies at Arizona State University, Judaism's origin as an agricultural society means there is a direct link to nature and the environment. There is a "notion of responsibility, that the human is responsible for the well-being of the Earth."

That argument suggests Jews are open to hearing more about the evidence that climate change is underway and that human interventions have exacerbated natural fluctuations to a dangerous extent. An award-winning climate scientist, Derek Mueller of Carleton University, whose research focuses on environmental change in the Arctic, will share a slide show demonstrating the effects of recent climate change in

the region.

David Brooks will reflect on what Judaism has to say about climate change issues. Brooks is a natural resource economist whose main interests lie in the linkages between environmental protection and the use of minerals, energy and water. He was founding director of the Canadian Office of Energy Conservation from 1973 to 1977 and subsequently worked with two Canadian environmental groups, Energy Probe, and Friends of the Earth Canada. Between 1988 and 2003, Brooks worked with Canada's International Development Research Centre. He currently works with the International Institute for Sustainable Development and the POLIS Project on Ecological Governance at the University of Victoria.

In the spirit of *l'dor v'dor* (from generation to generation), we will also hear from Emma Khazzam, a member of Temple Israel and a food science student at Carleton University, and from Sara Holzman, a climate change specialist currently working in Nunavut who grew up at Temple Israel. Khazzam and Holzman will reflect on how Judaism has influenced their choice to pursue environmental concerns in their studies and professional lives.

Contact Fran Klodawsky at fran_klodawsky@carleton.ca for further information on this climate change event at Temple Israel.

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Canada reinstates funding to UN agency for Palestinian refugees

(JTA) – The federal government has reinstated funding to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA).

The Liberal government announced November 16 that it was providing \$20 million to UNRWA to support education, health and social services “for millions of vulnerable Palestinian refugees.” Also, it committed \$5 million to the agency’s emergency appeal for Palestinian refugees affected by the crisis in Syria and surrounding areas, according to a statement from Marie-Claude Bibeau, minister of international development.

The previous Conservative government cut funding to UNRWA gradually. By 2013 and 2014, Canada’s allocation was zero. Canada became the only donor nation ever to withdraw funding completely.

Leading Jewish organizations applauded the cuts at the time.

The reinstated funding “will help approximately 5.5 million Palestinian refugees – particularly women and

children – receive the assistance they need, including access to health care and the opportunity to go to school,” according to Bibeau.

“We want to see Palestinian refugee children in classrooms where they can learn universal values of tolerance and respect,” Bibeau said. “Vulnerable Palestinians deserve all the opportunities they can to contribute positively to their communities.”

The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA) continues to have “serious reservations about UNRWA, an organization that is implicated with assisting terrorist groups such as Hamas,” which is “notorious for diverting funds and materials provided by the international community intended for humanitarian aid to terrorist purposes,” said CIJA Chair David J. Cape.

Donors “have a responsibility to ensure that aid is used for the purpose for which it is given, and we are pleased Canada has taken the lead in establishing a robust accountability protocol,” Cape said.

ADL leader says U.S. anti-Semitism worse than at any time since 1930s

(JTA) – At the opening of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL)’s conference on anti-Semitism, the organization’s director said anti-Jewish hatred in America is worse than at any point since the 1930s.

Jonathan Greenblatt, speaking November 17 at the opening of the ADL’s “Never Is Now” summit in New York, said currents on both the far right and far left has led to a resurgence of anti-Semitism.

Greenblatt also detailed the anti-Semitic attacks that rose during the 2016 presidential campaign, mentioning the appointment of Stephen Bannon as the chief strategist to President-elect Donald Trump. Bannon was the chair of Breitbart News, a website Bannon called the “platform for the alt-right,” a loose movement of the far right whose followers traffic variously in white nationalism, anti-immigration sentiment, anti-Semitism and a disdain for “political correctness.”

“The American Jewish community, our community, has not seen this level of anti-Semitism in mainstream political and public discourse since the 1930s,” Greenblatt said. “Sadly, it is only being matched with escalating levels of hate toward other minorities today.”

Addressing reports that Trump’s transition team is considering creating a registry of Muslims in the United

States, Greenblatt pledged that he would sign up as a Muslim. He referred to the apocryphal story about the king of Denmark promising to wear a yellow star if it would be required of the Scandinavian country’s Jews.

“As Jews, we know what it means to be registered, or targeted, held out as different from our fellow citizens,” Greenblatt said. “We as Jews know the right and just response. I pledge to you right here and now, because I’m committed to the fight against anti-Semitism, if one day American Muslims will be forced to register their identity, that is the day this proud Jew will register as a Muslim.”

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Sharon and David Appotive Congratulations to you and the family on the addition of Brayden by Ruth Elias and Shlomo Litwin and family

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David Shore by the staff of the Lodge and LTC Foundation and Stephen and Debra Schneiderman
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Netanyahu hopes Obama will not make peace process moves in final weeks of term

WASHINGTON (JTA) – Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel said he hoped U.S. President Barack Obama would not back any new UN initiatives on Palestinian-Israeli peace in the final weeks of his term.

“I very much hope President Obama will continue the policy he enunciated,” Netanyahu said November 15 in a video address ending the annual Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA) General Assembly, which this year was held in Washington, D.C.

Richard Sandler, chair of the JFNA board of trustees, had asked Netanyahu to comment on the prospects of Israeli-Palestinian peace. The Israeli leader had read to Sandler a 2011 statement by Obama saying the resolution of the conflict was best left to the parties and not to outside actors.

In Israel and among some pro-Israel groups, there is concern that Obama in his final weeks will back a UN push to recognize Palestinian statehood or lay down the parameters of a final-status agreement between the Israelis and Palestinians. Obama has not indicated plans to do any such thing.

Netanyahu said the setting of parameters “will harden the Palestinian positions, it will push peace back, push peace back decades.”

Sandler’s first question was about the status of an agreement in Israel to allow fuller access for egalitarian services, where men and women pray together, at the Western Wall. The question – and Sandler’s praise of Netanyahu for his attempts to advance egalitarian prayer – earned applause from the 3,000 or so Jewish communal professionals and lay leaders from the United States and Canada in attendance.

The JFNA board sent Netanyahu a letter expressing a “growing sense of urgency” among North American Jews as a tentative solution is being blocked in the courts by Orthodox interests in Israel.

Netanyahu said the situation was “complicated” and appealed for an end to public pressure on him from North American Jews.

“Sometimes you need quiet diplomacy between Jews and Arabs,” he said. “This is one instance where we need quiet diplomacy between Jews and Jews. That’s a lot more likely to get the unity we seek.”



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, on screen, being interviewed by Richard Sandler at the Jewish Federations of North America’s General Assembly, Nov. 15, 2016.

Netanyahu also said he looked forward to working with U.S. President-elect Donald Trump.

Speaking before Netanyahu, in person, was Chemi Peres, a son of Shimon Peres, the former president and prime minister of Israel who died in September.

Peres earned cheers from the crowd when he praised Obama and Hillary Clinton, the Democratic nominee who lost the November 8 U.S. presidential election to Trump, but there was a wave of laughter when he wished Trump good luck as president.

Peres, in wishing the best to Trump, hinted at concerns his father had expressed before he died that Trump’s insularity – his calls during the campaign for a rollback of American influence – would be bad for the world and for Israel.

“This partnership between us – between Israel and the United States – was always of the highest importance to my father,” he said. “He, who worked with 11 presidents, saw America as a nation who rose to greatness by giving and not by taking, and whose support of Israel is unparalleled.”

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If Trump wants to scrap the Iran nuclear deal, here's how he does it

BY RON KAMPEAS

WASHINGTON (JTA) – Enforce the Iran nuclear deal. Violate the deal. Leave it to the U.S. Congress. Do nothing.

U.S. President-elect Donald Trump has an array of options before him when he assumes the presidency on January 21, according to supporters and opponents of the deal. Reached last year between Iran and six major powers led by the United States, the agreement rolled back Iran's nuclear program in exchange for sanctions relief.

The open question – as are so many questions about Trump's intentions – is what does the next leader of the free world want to do?

His peregrinations were evident when Trump spoke in March to the American Israel Public Affairs Committee's policy conference and claimed – literally minutes apart – that he both planned to enforce the deal and to scrap it.

“My No. 1 priority is to dismantle the disastrous deal with Iran,” Trump said at the time. Then a few moments later: “We will enforce it like you’ve never seen a contract enforced before, folks, believe me.”

More recently, Trump appears to be leaning more in the direction of enforcement over scrapping.

In the last days of the campaign, his two top advisers on Israel, David Friedman and Jason Greenblatt, released an Israel position paper with provisions meant to lighten the collective heart of the right-wing pro-Israel community – on Jerusalem, Palestinian statehood and settlements. But it was notably circumspect on the Iran deal.

“The U.S. must counteract Iran's ongoing violations of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action regarding Iran's quest for nuclear weapons and their noncompliance with past and present sanctions, as well as the agreements they signed, and implement tough, new sanctions when needed to protect the world and Iran's neighbours from its continuing nuclear and non-nuclear threats,” said the position paper from the advisers, two longtime lawyers



President-elect Donald Trump delivers his acceptance speech at the New York Hilton Midtown in Manhattan, Nov. 9, 2016.

for Trump.

That reluctance to directly confront Iran – “counteract,” not cancel; “when needed,” as opposed to “right now” – could stem from Trump's professed warmth toward Russia, which is allied with Iran in its bid to crush rebels in Syria, or a realistic desire to keep his options open.

Here are some of the president-elect's options on Iran.

SILENCE

The deal essentially is done. Sanctions are lifted and Iran has rolled back its nuclear program. Trump never took much advice during his campaign; he may be less inclined to do so as commander-in-chief. If he doesn't want a headache, this is one way to go.

Drawbacks: A number of his formal rivals for the Republican presidential nomination are back in their Senate seats, including Ted Cruz of Texas and Marco Rubio of Florida. They hate the deal, they want to be president in 2021 and they're itching to distinguish themselves from Trump. If they can do it from the right, that's just the cherry on top. Trump's silence on Iran would hand them a huge opening for political disruption.

DECLARE IT DEAD, MOVE ON

Does Trump want to shut up Rubio and Cruz? Just declare the deal dead and do nothing. He ran a campaign

See Trump on page 21

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Duo Pianistico to debut at Temple Israel

BY ROBERT DVORKIN
DUO PIANISTICO

Duo Pianistico – pianists Dina Namer and Robert Dvorkin – will make our debut appearance on Sunday, December 4, 2 pm, at Temple Israel as part of Temple’s Nancy Bercovitch Concert Series.

Dina Namer, a long-time Ottawa resident, teaches piano performance and chamber music at Queen’s University in Kingston, and at a private teaching studio in Ottawa. She frequently appears at the Music and Beyond Festival, the Ottawa International Chamber Music

Festival, and the Minnesota Festival of the Lakes.

I am a more recent arrival to Ottawa, having lived in New York City for many years, where I performed and taught. I teach privately at my Ottawa studio and am an active solo recitalist with recent performances in Ottawa, Kitchener, Montreal and New York.

Dina and I met en route to Adamant, Vermont, in the summer of 2015, where we attended masterclasses led by Menahem Pressler. Our friendship led us to explore the possibility of performing as a piano duo, the fruition of which is this debut recital.

On the program are four of the most beloved works in the two-piano canon: “Petite Suite” is an early work of the French composer Claude Debussy, and contains some of his most delicate and charming music. Mozart’s “Sonata for Two Pianos K. 448,” written when the composer was 25, is a sparkling piece with very clever dialogue going back and forth between the two players. Not incidentally, it is the piece to which the “Mozart Effect” is attributed, said to increase one’s powers of cognition simply upon hearing. That alone should be worth the price of admission.

The second half of the program will begin with Brahms’ “Variations on a Theme of Haydn,” most often heard in its orchestral arrangement, but here presented in the original version for two pianos. Brahms was a master of the variation form and does not disappoint here: the simple chorale theme goes through an astounding series of metamorphoses, ending with a transcendent finale.

The concert ends with a performance of “Scaramouche” by the French Jewish composer Darius Milhaud. Composed in 1937, it remains one of Milhaud’s



Dina Namer teaches piano performance and chamber music at Queen’s University in Kingston.

most popular works, ending with a delicious samba movement. (Please, no conga lines during the performance.)

The concert series at Temple Israel was founded by the late Nancy Bercovitch and her husband Mort. Nancy’s vision for the series was to bring music of many different genres to Temple Israel and the series is now named in her memory.

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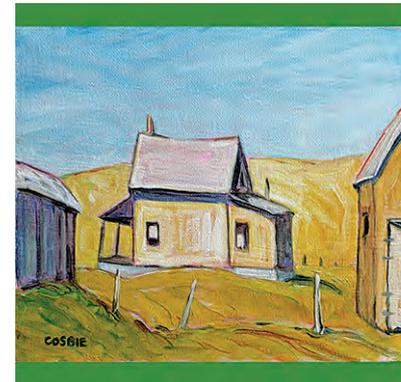
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Nov18-Dec 31



Ottawa partnership funds music room in Upper Galilee: Barbara Crook, chair of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa's Partnership 2Gether (P2G) Committee, is seen at the dedication of a new state-of-the-art music room, equipped with musical instruments, at the Yesod Hama'ala Community Centre, November 6.

Yesod Hama'ala is a small community in the Upper Galilee, Ottawa's P2G partnership region. The music room was built and equipped with funding from the Jewish Federations of Ottawa and Edmonton. The Ottawa funding was from a donor-directed gift. The dedication took place while Canadian and Israeli community leaders gathered in the Upper Galilee for P2G Joint Steering Committee meetings.

In commemoration of nearly a million **Jews who were persecuted and forced to flee their homes** in North Africa and the Middle East in the years following the establishment of the modern state of Israel, **please join us for:**

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Dr. Zafra Lerman is a chemist, an educator, a humanitarian who, through the Malta Conferences Foundation, brings together scientists from 15 Middle East and North African countries to develop collaborations, friendships and tolerance.

Dr. Lerman has received over 40 international awards for her work in education, human rights, peace and science diplomacy. Her work has been featured on many international television and media outlets.

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November 30, 2016 Soloway JCC Ottawa

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This event is part of series held annually on November 30th worldwide to commemorate Jewish refugees from North Africa and the Middle East.

**For further information,
contact info@sephardiottawa.ca**





Members of the Auxiliary of Hillel Lodge gather during the Hillel Lodge Tea and Fashion Show, October 30. Proceeds from the event will be used to purchase lifts to help residents move between their beds and wheelchairs. ISSIE SCAROWSKY

Auxiliary of Hillel Lodge holds successful tea and fashion show

BY FRAN ROSS
AUXILIARY OF HILLEL LODGE

Under the leadership of Ruth Tal, president of the Auxiliary of Hillel Lodge, the Hillel Lodge Tea and Fashion Show was held October 30. Co-Chaired by Fran Ross and Corinne

Taylor, the theme of this year's Tea campaign was "Give our Residents a Lift." The bulk of the proceeds will be used to purchase lifts, which assist in transferring residents between their beds and wheelchairs, eliminating the stress of being moved by hand. The Auxiliary is very happy with the outpouring of support for residents by the community.

The Tea was beautifully set out with party sandwiches, small squares, tarts, fruit, tea and coffee. The tablecloths, napkins and balloons were pink, white and purple with a floral centrepiece that brought all the colours together. With more than 40 Hillel Lodge residents and 225 guests in attendance, the Tea was a sold-out event.

The Auxiliary of Hillel Lodge is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for Lodge residents. This is done through a variety of in-house programs, including flowers at each table on Fridays, special foods, such as pancake-and-strawberry breakfasts for special days such as Mother's Day and Father's Day, along with entertainment for many special days.

Auxiliary Members give of our time and energy and we are at the Lodge to serve festive meals and to make

holidays and birthdays more *freilach* (happy), encouraging the residents to sing and dance, even if sitting in their chairs!

Photos taken during the Hillel Lodge Tea and Fashion Show by Issie Scarowsky are available to be viewed in the lobby of Hillel Lodge.

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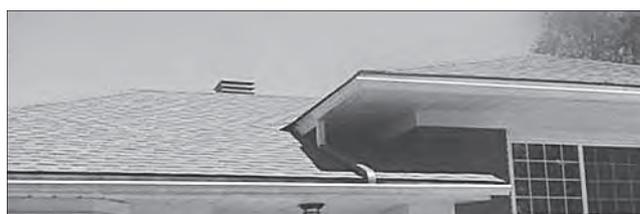
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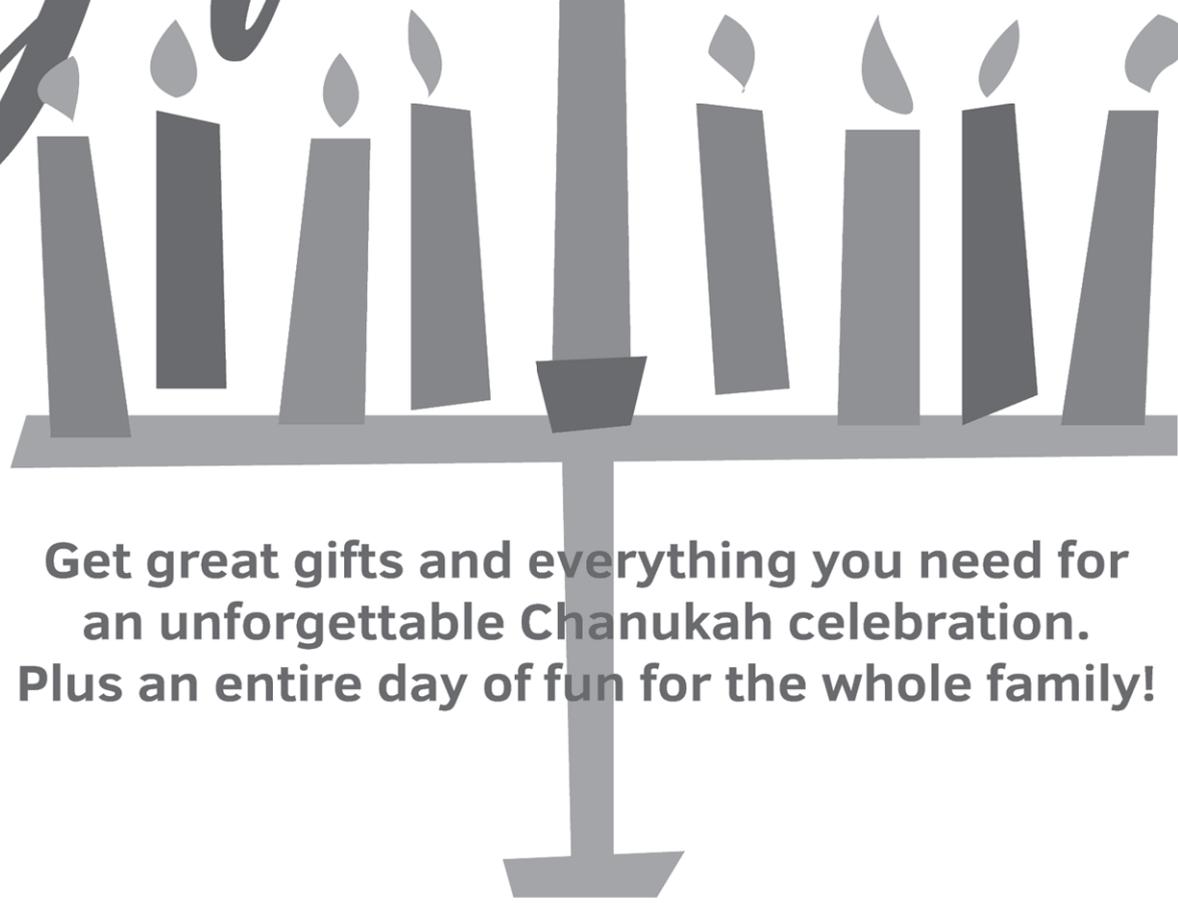


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Trump has said he will scrap Iran deal – and enforce it

Continued from page 13

successfully navigating the tensions between contradictory declarations and actions – why shouldn't he get away with the same as president?

Drawbacks: The Iranians can point to a declaration of intent to withdraw in order to drop out of the program themselves and then start enriching uranium to weapons-grade levels.

"The Iranians might present themselves as a victim and begin to start restoring their centrifuges," said Dennis Ross, a former top Iran adviser to President Barack Obama, speaking at a session on Trump's possible foreign policy changes at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, where Ross is now a fellow.

SCRAP THE DEAL

Trump has a number of mechanisms at his disposal that would immediately pull the United States out of the deal. All of them involve restoring an array of sanctions that targeted third parties that deal with Iran. (Direct dealings with Iran, with several exceptions, are still banned for U.S. entities.)

He could simply stop waiving the sanctions already in place according to existing law. Trump could, as president Bill Clinton did in 1995 not long after pro-Israel lobbying shifted to focusing on Iran's nuclear program, issue an executive order advancing new sanctions. Or he could invoke the International Emergency Economic Powers Act of 1977, which gives the president broad sanctioning power.

Drawbacks: Any pullback from the Iran deal will raise the question of who is at fault for its collapse. The more proactive the United States is in killing the deal, the likelier the international partners whose sanctions brought Iran to the table will blame the U.S. and continue trading with Iran, threats be damned.

Moreover, Trump may not have the ability to waive existing sanctions – the most passive option described above. That's because the Iran Sanctions Act, which authorizes the sanctions, is set to lapse on December 31. Congress broadly agreed that it needs to be reenacted, but there is precious little time to do so. Moreover, Democrats want a clean reenactment of the original law, no additions, while Republicans want to insert language making it harder for any president to waive the bill's provisions. They have yet to settle on a compromise. Without renewal, the president would have to use executive action to impose penalties on Iran.

ENFORCEMENT

Worried that the world will turn away from the United States should it pull out? Then make it clear that the Iranians are at

fault, say conservatives who oppose the deal.

"He has to start first enforcing it, second doing a bunch of stuff that's allowed that the [Obama administration] hasn't been doing," said Omri Ceren of The Israel Project. "In other words, taking the deal seriously."

Ceren accuses Obama of ignoring violations by Iran and Secretary of State John Kerry of too eagerly seeking to make clear to third parties still inhibited by existing American sanctions that it was OK to deal with Iran. (The Obama administration feared that, if Iran's economy did not benefit from the deal, hardliners there would persuade the regime to scrap it.)

"All that needs to happen for the deal to fall apart is for the Trump White House to do what the Obama administration has refused to do – enforce its provisions," wrote Lee Smith, advancing a similar argument to Ceren's in The Weekly Standard.

Drawbacks: Selling the notion to America's partners that Iran is in violation might be hard. Case in point: Smith noted that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the UN nuclear watchdog, had reported recently that Iran was exceeding its allowed limits for the heavy water used to make weapons-grade plutonium.

However, what the IAEA reported, according to The Associated Press, which obtained the agency's internal document, was that Iran had exceeded its allotment "only slightly" and would resolve the issue by exporting the overage and then some. To an American partner, Iran's actions could, described in those terms, look like it was going out of its way to make up for a mistake.

LET CONGRESS DO IT

If Congress fails to reauthorize Iran sanctions before it concludes its business, there are any number of Republican senators ready to write new ones. That way, Trump doesn't get blamed for walking away from the deal.

Drawbacks: Democrats will likely filibuster any new legislation. An array of groups that backed the deal, including J Street, the liberal Middle East policy group, has pledged to hold the party's feet to the fire.

"There will be fights, and these will be fights J Street and other supporters of the deal will engage in with everything we've got," said Dylan Williams, J Street's vice-president of government affairs.

And perhaps, from Trump's perspective, that's not a drawback: He satisfies hardliners by encouraging them to come up with the toughest anti-deal legislation possible – and then watches it wither on the vine.

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Celebrating 50 Years

We need women's leadership more now than ever

In the heat of the U.S. election campaign, an Ottawa butcher shop put up a sign that stopped me in my tracks.

It advertised a Clinton special with small turkey breasts and big thighs, and a Trump special called the "grab a rump package."

Over the next few weeks, the sign came up in conversations with neighbours and friends about the American election. All politics is local, after all.

I was offended by it. To use a woman's body to advertise meat, to make light of another man's derogatory comments about women's bodies – to me, that's not OK at any time, but there was something about this time that made it worse.

Turns out, though, I seemed to be in the minority among people I know. Responses ranged from it being a good way to lighten a sombre election mood, or that the shopkeeper was known for jokes, and, while this one might not have been the best, so what. If you didn't find it funny, one person said to me, you didn't have to laugh.

There was a time where that's exactly what I would have done: just not laughed.

Taking the time to go into the store and express my displeasure, to write the owner – that's not something I've ever done before.

But this time I did.

Why now? It's because of the other women in my life.

They didn't encourage me to go into that store. They didn't know about the sign until later. An effect of the Clinton versus Trump campaign, however, had been that a lot of us had been talking a lot more about what being a woman means today.



STEPHANIE SHEFRIN
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*It takes women talking to women
to give us all the strength
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*[Are] we, as women, trying our best:
to build communities
where we are proud to raise our children,
to stand up for ourselves?*

When you start realizing that all your female friends have a story – a boss who only hands choice projects to men, a male colleague who dismisses an idea you suggest, but goes on to use it himself – you begin to realize that experiences you thought were yours alone are not.

And you also begin to see that behaviour you brushed off, or thought was because of something you did, might have nothing to do with you personally but your gender.

The butcher shop owner later said that what he was trying to do was be funny, not offensive. It didn't occur to him that's how the "jokes" might or could be understood.

And that's one reason I walked into that shop.

Because the conversations about how those jokes aren't funny can no longer be had just among women.

In my circle of Jewish friends, the election-related conversation sometimes careened off into a conversation about Jewish life, the separation of genders everywhere from religious institutions to such seemingly secular areas like fundraising, like the Jewish Federation of Ottawa's "women's campaign."

A part of me thinks it's well past time to retire the idea of a "women's campaign."

There's no de facto "men's campaign." Canvass all of us as individuals or family units, according to our interests or needs, not our genders.

Yet, each year at Choices, the annual Federation women's fundraiser, I see women I never see at any other community event. I meet new ones who've never been to a community event at all, but they are at this one because another woman invited them.

It takes women talking to women to give us all the strength to build the community we want to live in.

When I told my daughter that Clinton had lost, she responded in typical toddler Talmudic fashion with a question: "Did she try her best?"

I don't know the answer to that.

But the broader answer to my daughter's question is whether we, as women, are trying our best: to build communities where we are proud to raise our children, to stand up for ourselves. I walked into that butcher shop to do all those things.

And to people who told me to lighten up, including women, who said that sign was just a joke; to them I say, what if it wasn't Clinton's body being made fun of but your own, or your daughter's?

It's no longer enough just not to laugh.

Tips for staying fit and active throughout winter

'Easy to assemble.' Where have I heard those words before? After my impulse purchase of a cycling trainer – a device that converts a bicycle into a stationary bicycle for indoor use – my husband spent an entire evening assembling the darn thing.

"This is cool! We can get in more cardio exercise while we watch TV," I cooed.

It was November 5. That night, we turned our clocks back one hour. The sun would be setting earlier, making the evenings dreadfully dark for the next few months. It was also getting colder – the time to start planning winter fitness activities.

One of my key strategies for success – with respect to fitness or just about anything else – is planning. Don't wait until winter is in full swing before you start thinking about how to overcome the challenges of the season. Invest a bit of time to create a realistic exercise plan for yourself.

If you want to stay fit throughout winter and you're not sure how, a good mnemonic device is the marriage rhyme: "Something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue."

Tip #1: Think of an old familiar activity, perhaps something you currently do or have done in the past that you enjoy. Continue doing it throughout winter, even if you have to adapt to the environment. For example, I run outdoors year-round, but I wear weather-appropriate clothing and safety gear suited to winter conditions. I also do strength training in the gym, which doesn't require winter modifications.

Think of a physical activity you can commit to for the winter. If it's done outdoors, what changes will you need



GLORIA SCHWARTZ
**FOCUS ON
FITNESS**

*Make a plan,
keep your promises to yourself
throughout winter and expect
to enjoy the positive results
of your efforts*

to make? Will you need to go out earlier before it gets dark? Will you need to find a different route where the sidewalks are cleared of snow? Will you need to get some warmer layers that you can peel off as you sweat?

Tip #2: Think of something new. Is there an activity you've always wanted to try or something you recently heard about that piqued your interest? How can you get involved? When I heard that ice dragon boat racing was coming to Ottawa Winterlude 2017, I immediately wanted to be a part of this historic event. I sought the key information, dates and associated costs and used social media to get a team of women together.

Social isolation tends to increase in winter, especially with older adults. Ask your friends what physical activities they engage in. Perhaps you can join in the fun.

Everyone should try something new. Step outside

your comfort zone, push yourself in new ways and test your mettle. What excites you? Give it a try!

Tip #3: Think of something borrowed. By that I mean blending the new and the old or taking the familiar and putting a twist on it. Perhaps you normally play tennis. With the cold and snow on its way, you can take your activity indoors. That's why I got an indoor cycling trainer. Rather than putting my bike away for six months or so, I'll be able to get some use out of it.

You can move your outdoor walking or running to the treadmill if you don't feel secure facing the harsh elements or if you're at an increased risk of falls or fractures. You can also change up your routine just enough to stay motivated and move your muscles in new ways by trying an activity that's a variation of something you're used to. Maybe try a different yoga class instead of your regular one, or personal training instead of working out on your own.

The simple act of changing venues or trying a new flavour of an activity may be enough to maintain your motivation. Change is good. It keeps our minds and our bodies on top of our game.

Tip #4: The marriage poem includes something blue, referring to fidelity. Fidelity can be the promise you make to yourself to stay active and fit throughout winter, so that when spring arrives, you'll feel stronger, happier and healthier than if you spent months in a physical and mental state of hibernation.

The poet Percy Bysshe Shelley wrote, "O, wind, if winter comes, can spring be far behind?"

Make a plan, keep your promises to yourself throughout winter and expect to enjoy the positive results of your efforts.

What will Trump presidency mean for Israel?

If U.S. President-elect Donald Trump's campaign rhetoric is to be believed, his presidency will be bad news for immigrants, minorities, access to abortion and affordable health care, free trade and the environment.

But what will it mean for Israel?

I'm writing this only 48 hours after I woke up in the Upper Galilee to the horrifying news that Trump had defied all odds and all logic to win the election. So my predictions are based more on speculation than on hard evidence – especially since there may be only a handful of people in the world who know what the mercurial Trump really believes about any given issue.

But here goes.

The election of Trump – and the Republican control of both the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate – could mean a shift away from U.S. policy of a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. It could mean scuttling or renegotiating the nuclear deal with Iran. It could be very good for Israel's national security. And it could finally put real pressure on the Palestinian Authority (PA) to stop inciting terror and glorifying terrorists.

It could also, however, encourage and reward the Netanyahu government's most hardline policies. While that will make many people here in Israel happy, it can only deepen the political and ideological rifts within Israeli society.

Trump's apparent fascination with Russian President Vladimir Putin could mean more U.S. involvement in the greater Middle East, particularly in Syria and the battle with ISIS. What form that involvement takes remains a serious question mark.

Let's start with the easy stuff. It's a given that Trump will have a much closer relationship with Israeli Prime



Minister Benjamin Netanyahu than did President Barack Obama, who never really “got” Israel or truly appreciated Israel's security concerns.

There has been speculation that Obama would take some kind of action on the Middle East before he leaves office. This could mean laying down the parameters of an eventual Israeli-Palestinian peace deal, supporting a new UN Security Council resolution, not vetoing Palestinian attempts to be recognized by the UN as a state, or even supporting a UN anti-settlement resolution.

According to Herb Keinon of the Jerusalem Post, some observers think this is more likely to happen with Trump as Obama's successor, even though it could tie the hands of the next administration and goes against Obama's pledge for an orderly transition of power.

One of Trump's top advisers on Israel, Jason Dov Greenblatt, told the Times of Israel that Trump will try to broker a solution to the conflict, but will not impose a deal.

Another Trump adviser, David Friedman, told the newspaper that Trump is not wedded to the idea of a two-state solution, and sees it as only one possible option.

Vice President-elect Mike Pence is an evangelical Christian with a strong record of supporting Israel. He said two weeks before the election that Jerusalem is the

“eternal undivided capital of the Jewish people and the Jewish state.”

Although most of the focus since the election has been on Trump, the fact that the Republicans have a majority in both the U.S. House and Senate could be a huge benefit to Israel.

This could mean not only more pro-Israel legislation, but enforcement of current legislation, including clauses in the Foreign Operations Bill since 2005 that call for the U.S. to restrict funding to the PA if it supports terror and terrorists.

The Senate Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs approved a proposal in June to further amend the Foreign Operations Bill to reduce aid to the PA if it continues to pay salaries to terrorists and their families.

Obama has consistently used his power of veto to lift previous Congressional freezes on aid to the PA, at least partly from fear of destabilizing the Mahmoud Abbas regime.

Trump may have no such compunction. But, with even less foreign policy experience than Obama, he may yield to advisers and adopt a more restrained reaction, at least initially.

The future U.S. role in the broader Middle East is unclear. During his two terms, Obama intentionally adopted a much more hands-off policy in the region, leaving Russia to take a major role, especially in Syria. If indeed Trump cozies up to Putin, this may change.

The possibility that Trump's presidency could be good for Israel should not offset the fact that the U.S. has elected the most seriously flawed, morally repugnant and least qualified candidate in modern history.

The world will be a scarier place with Trump as president.

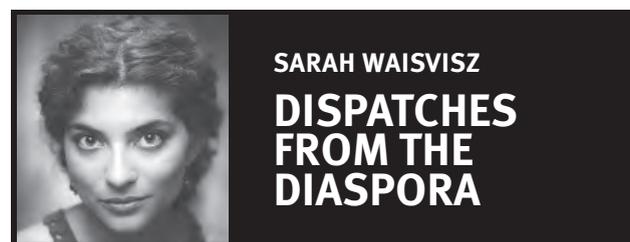
Abuse against women happens in our community too

In 1939, German playwright, poet and visionary theatre director Bertolt Brecht penned, as the “motto” or preface to the “Svendborg Poems,” this imagined dialogue: “In the dark times/Will there also be singing?/Yes, there will also be singing/About the dark times.”

These are the words that I thought of when I awoke on the morning of November 9 to a world that felt a little different than the one I knew the day before. Brecht wrote his words in 1939, in the midst of an already-transforming Europe on the eve of catastrophe. His words, although inspired by deep grief and worry, are a potent call to arms to keep fighting, to keep making art, and to keep living. But I am struggling with how we are to keep singing, and what to sing about, as we move forward into an uncertain future, where, it seems, bigotry continues to be rewarded and institutionalized.

Indeed, we have seen before what can happen when a narcissistic, isolationist, xenophobic, racist, ableist, sexist, homophobic, nationalistic megalomaniac rises to power on a wave of fear-mongering, scapegoating and paranoia. I have no answers. I can only offer more questions.

Yet, I know that I need to respond with concrete actions. I need to channel my rage and fear. Even in our grief, worry, rage, despair, horror, I beg of us to do what we can to stand up for those more vulnerable than we are, those whose lives are more precarious and even more negatively impacted than our own by a Trump victory. We need to nurture the seed of revolution and protect those who are most in harm's way, even as we do it through our tears.



But what *can* we do, especially since it seems the whole society has gone crazy? To put it mildly, Trump's campaign revealed the currency of anti-woman and white supremacist beliefs in America. I do not feel up to writing about racism today, but I do want to write about the misogyny that Trump's campaign has brought to the surface. Over the past few months, women in North America have begun to speak about feeling threatened and even re-traumatized during an election campaign where a man guilty of sexual harassment and accused of rape can make a bid for, and ultimately win, the highest office in the United States.

Our faith puts a priority on kindness, social justice, welcoming the stranger and privileging peace. A few weeks ago, when I visited our community mikvah, I noticed some pamphlets for survivors of sexual abuse. Of course, this was a good place to provide such information as the mikvah is mostly used by women, and one in four Canadian women will suffer sexual or physical abuse.

Seeing these pamphlets also made me sad, since it reminded me that abuse against women happens in our community too, even as our tradition upholds the value

of *shalom bayit* (peace in the home).

Shalom Bayit is also the name of a program at Jewish Family Services of Ottawa that offers confidential support for women in the Jewish community who experience domestic violence and who want to access resources. www.jfsottawa.com

In the general community, the Ottawa Coalition to End Violence Against Women runs many programs that aim to bring community awareness to violence against women and girls. www.octevaw-cocvff.ca

The festival of Sukkot is traditionally the time to offer prayer for peaceful dwellings, and in the Hashkiveinu prayer that we can say every evening, as well as traditionally during the Days of Awe, we ask God to protect us in a sukkah of peace: “*Ufros Aleinu Sukkat Shlomecha* (Spread over us Your shelter of peace).” But I believe we need to work harder to ensure that the members of our communities have safe shelter *every day*. Not all of us are safe, and some of us live precariously.

Ufros Aleinu Sukkat Shlomecha. This, too, is a call for action as well as a prayer for all of us and for our planet. How can we be that shelter of peace for others whose dwellings and lives are even more fragile than our own?

If you or someone you know is experiencing or has experienced sexual violence, please reach out:

- **Shalom Bayit** – Contact Sarah Caspi at Jewish Family Services at 613-722-2225, ext. 246, or 613-769-3597 (cell), or at scaspi@jfsottawa.com.
- **Ottawa Rape Crisis Centre** – 24-hour distress line at 613-562-2333.
- **Ontario Assaulted Women** – toll-free helpline at 1-866-863-0511.

Editor: Jewish themes evident in many of Leonard Cohen's songs

Continued from page 7

influenced by the thesis of Jewish philosopher Franz Rosenzweig that the Jewish people are, by definition, strangers in the Diaspora countries in which they live.

Another early example of Jewish themes in Cohen's songwriting can be found in "Story of Isaac," based on the biblical story of Abraham preparing to sacrifice his son, from his second album, "Songs from a Room." Here Cohen sang in the first person, from Isaac's perspective, of being led to the sacrifice. Ultimately, Cohen turned the song into a rabbinic-style morality lesson on the ethics of one generation sacrificing the lives of the next – and on the choices that both sides in a conflict must make. (For more on this song, see my "From the Editor" column in the September 22, 2014 issue.)

Cohen's song "Who By Fire," from the 1974 album, "New Skin for the Old Ceremony," was based on "Unetaneh Tokef," a prayer from the Yom Kippur liturgy; and his most famous song, "Hallelujah," which he first recorded in 1984 on "Various Positions," and which, ultimately, became his most-covered song by other artists, invokes images of King David composing his own "Hallelujah" and praising God just as he's tempted by Bathsheba, and of Samson and Delilah.

Cohen was in Greece when the Yom Kippur War broke out in 1973. Immediately, he flew to Israel with his guitar and performed concerts for the soldiers at the front lines, an episode that he would invoke many years later when his commitment to Judaism was called into question.

In 1994, Cohen withdrew from public life and moved to the Mount Baldy Zen Center in California. Zen is a branch of Buddhism that stresses meditation and offers no discussion of God. In 1996, he became a Zen monk. According to Cohen, his practice of Zen was not contradictory to being Jewish. In "Not a Jew," a 1997 poem, Cohen wrote:

"Anyone who says
I'm not a Jew
is not a Jew
I'm very sorry
but this is final
So says:
Eliezar, son of Nissan,
priest of Israel;



Leonard Cohen (centre) performing with guitarist Matti Caspi for Ariel Sharon and other Israeli troops in the Sinai in 1973.

a.k.a.
Nightingale of the Sinai,
Yom Kippur 1973;
a.k.a.
Jikan the Unconvincing
Zen monk,
a.k.a.
Leonard Cohen..."

In 1999, Cohen left Mount Baldy and returned to his home in Los Angeles. In 2002, he told an interviewer that the years he spent at the Zen centre had strengthened his commitment to Judaism. "You just enter into that 4,000-year-old conversation with God and the sages," he said.

Cohen continued to pursue Jewish themes in later songs.

One of the most striking songs on the 2001 album, "Ten New Songs," was "By the Rivers Dark," a song inspired by Psalm 137, attributed to the prophet Jeremiah, which laments the destruction of the first Temple and the exile of the Jews to Babylon.

On "Dear Heather," released in 2004, Cohen used three songs to recall his roots in the Montreal literary scene and to pay tribute to Frank Scott, Irving Layton and A.M. Klein, three of his poetry mentors. "To A Teacher," dedicated to Klein, is a musical setting of a poem with

several Judaic references that was written while the older poet was battling mental illness. The poem was first published in Cohen's 1961 book, *The Spice-Box of Earth*.

In 2004, Cohen discovered that most of his life savings had been embezzled by his manager and, in 2008 – unable to recover the funds despite prevailing in a lawsuit against the former manager – he embarked on the first of a series of concert tours over the next five years. With an ensemble of world class musicians and back-up singers, Cohen performed hundreds of masterful, meticulously planned and long concerts of songs drawn from across his career. The energy,



Leonard Cohen performs in Ramat Gan, Israel, Sept. 24, 2009.

stamina and commitment to the material, and to the audience, Cohen displayed on stage, despite being in his 70s, was remarkable.

Cohen released several live albums and DVDs from those tours and continued to write new songs.

"Amen" from the 2012 album, "Old Ideas," is a long, prayer-like song, perhaps a conversation with God. Part of the song is inspired by the Tashlich ceremony of the Jewish New Year, when the sins of the past year are symbolically cast into the water, but many of the images suggest the song is a deep rumination on the Holocaust; perhaps an attempt to address the most difficult question of modern Jewish philosophy: How could God have allowed the Holocaust to occur?

"Born in Chains," from the 2014 album, "Popular Problems," is a prayer-like meditation on the biblical legend of the Jewish Exodus from slavery in Egypt, and on faith lost and then found again. It is a song Cohen said he worked on for 40 years – a statement that may have been an allusion to the 40 years the Children of Israel spent wandering in the desert following the Exodus.

"You Want It Darker," the title song from Cohen's new album, released just last month, is another song Cohen seemed to sing directly to God. "Hineni, hineni, I'm ready my lord," he sang in the chorus, echoing the words of the biblical patriarch Abraham as he prepared for the near-sacrifice of his son Isaac. But, while Abraham was preparing to face the death of his son, Cohen seemed to be confronting his own mortality. Cohen was joined on the song by Cantor Gideon Zelermyer of Congregation Shaar Hashomayim – the Montreal synagogue Cohen grew up attending – and the Shaar choir. The choir's haunting harmonies are heard from the beginning of the song, Cohen himself sounds like he's singing from the depths of his soul, and the final minute of the song is devoted to Zelermyer repeatedly, and seemingly distantly, singing the word "hineni"; a stunning performance from Cohen, the choir and the cantor.

Cohen also had a connection to one of this community's most enduring institutions, having spent the summer of 1956 as a counsellor at Camp B'nai Brith of Ottawa.

I met Cohen several times over the years in Montreal, and he was always very gracious. In 2004, I heard from his older sister, Esther Cohen, who died in 2014, that he appreciated an article I'd written about him for the Canadian Jewish News to mark his 70th birthday.

Cohen is survived by his son, Adam, also a singer-songwriter, his daughter, Lorca, and two grandchildren. He was laid to rest with a private graveside service at the Congregation Shaar Hashomayim Cemetery in Montreal on November 10 attended by immediate family and a few close friends.

Note: Parts of this article are taken from, or based on, earlier articles and reviews I've written over the years for the Canadian Jewish News, the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin, and the Folk Roots/Folk Branches blog (<https://frfb.blogspot.ca>).

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OTTAWA JEWISH
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

WHAT'S GOING ON | November 28 to December 11, 2016

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Jewish Federation of Ottawa Members' Meeting:

Open to the public. All are welcome, 7 pm.
Info: Alecia Laliberte, 613-798-4696, ext. 236,
alaliberte@jewishottawa.com

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Seniors' Conference on Financial Management:

Talks on retirement planning, financial planning for health care, and wills and estate planning.
Congregation Machizikei Hadas, 2310 Virginia Dr., 9 am.
Info: Devorah Caytak, 613-729-7712,
office.jewishyouthlibrary@gmail.com

Jewish Refugees from Arab and Muslim Lands:

A talk by Sima Goel, who lived under two dictatorships, the Shah and the Ayatollah Khomeini. Topic: "How I fought for my freedom and became a refugee from modern day Iran." 7 pm.
Info: Isaac Nahon,
info@sephardiottawa.ca

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

Menorah Building at Home Depot:

A free menorah building workshop open to children of all ages. Space limited. RSVP required.
Home Depot, 1900 Baseline Rd., 10 am.
Info/RSVP: Eliana Mandel-Carsen,
talmudtorahottawa@gmail.com

Pinchas Rutenberg: Revolutionary & Builder of

Israel: Pinchas Rutenberg: From Russian Revolutionary

to Builder of the Jewish State, with Montreal Professor Eugene Orenstein, 10:30 am.

Info: Roslyn Wollock, 613-798-9818, ext. 254,
rwollock@jccottawa.com

Duo Pianistico Concert with Dina Namer

and Robert Dvorkin: Nancy Bercovitch Concert series. Works by Mozart, Debussy, Brahms and Milhaud.
Temple Israel, 1301 Prince of Wales Dr., 2 pm.
Info: Patsy Royer, 613-233-3099, pmroyer@gmail.com

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

Workshop for volunteers on Financial Literacy for Non-Profit Organizations:

For NPO board members and volunteers to help improve financial literacy. Pre-registration required, 6 pm.
Info/Register: Sarah Beutel, 613-798-4696, ext. 253,
sbeutel@jewishottawa.com

JNF Israel Mission Information Meeting:

Hear about how a JNF Mission is the best and most affordable way to see Israel from JNF Mission attendees Vera Klein and Shelby Levine. Please RSVP. Space is limited.
Home of Vera & Leslie Klein, 7:30 to 9 pm.
Info: Ilana Albert-Novick, 613-798-2411, ottawa@jnf.ca

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

Shabbat Dinner at KBI:

Kehillat Beth Israel, 1400 Coldrey Ave., 6 pm.
Info: Anita Almstedt, 613-728-3501,
anita@kehillatbethisrael.com

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

PJ Library Chanukah Celebration:

With a sing-a-long, story time, latkes, doughnuts, dreidels, and gelt, 10 am.
Info: Ariel Fainer, 613-798-4696, ext. 240,
afainer@jewishottawa.com

Chanukah Gift Fair and Hebrew Books Sale:

Pick up your holiday gifts, decorations, candles and everything else you need for a happy Chanukah, 10 am.
Info: Ella Dagan, 613-798-9818, ext. 243,
edagan@jccottawa.com

Blockbuster Judaism: A Century of Jews in Movies:

Daniel Bernard looks at how films have shaped our understanding of what it is to be Jewish, 1:30 pm.
Info: Roslyn Wollock, 613-798-9818, ext. 254,
rwollock@jccottawa.com

Chocolate Chances Raffle and Silent Auction:

All proceeds go directly towards Torah Day School of Ottawa scholarships for students in need.
Torah Day School of Ottawa, 1119 Lazard St., 7 pm.
Info: Nicole Colman, 613-274-0110,
events@torahacademyofottawa.com

CANDLE LIGHTING BEFORE

DECEMBER 2	3:59 PM	DECEMBER 16	3:59 PM
DECEMBER 9	3:58 PM	DECEMBER 23	4:02 PM

BULLETIN DEADLINES

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4	FOR JANUARY 23
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18	FOR FEBRUARY 6

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ACTIVITIES TAKE PLACE AT THE JOSEPH AND ROSE AGES FAMILY BUILDING, 21 NADOLNY SACHS PRIVATE

CONDOLENCES

Condolences are extended to the families of:

Marvin "Butch" Blauer

Kurt Ekler

Lilyan Philipp

Rosalie "Dare" Shapiro

May their memory be a blessing always.

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



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Did You Know?

- Our Ottawa numbers grew by 13% from 2015 to 2016.
- We were the recent winner, among all Jewish camps in North America, of the Goodman Initiative Prize for Excellence in Israel Education.
- Our camp renovation plan keeps going strong, with lots more planned!
- In 2016, many of our 1st session units sold out by mid-October!
- We are one of the fastest growing camps in Eastern Canada.

For more information, please contact:
Jonathan Pivnick, Director - director@cbbottawa.com

613.244.9210

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