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Gilbert Greenberg Award: Jeffrey Miller, ‘a go-to leader and adviser to leaders for years’

BY BENITA BAKER

In recognition of his passionate and longstanding commitment to Ottawa’s Jewish community, Jeffrey Miller has been selected to receive the 2017 Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award.

The award, which is now presented every second year, is described by the Jewish Federation of Ottawa as “the highest tribute that the Ottawa Jewish community can bestow on an individual, honouring a lifetime of leadership in the Jewish world.”

“It is very flattering,” said Miller. “I am honoured and most appreciative to be recognized for what I do, but that is not why I do it.”

Miller’s impressive list of volunteer work demonstrates why he is being honoured with this award. Whether he was chairing events, fundraising for a variety of organizations, acting as treasurer or chair of community agen-

cies, synagogues and schools, Miller has been a constant leadership presence in Ottawa’s Jewish community for over 30 years.

In her nomination letter on behalf of Miller, Elissa Lieff wrote, “Jeff is a mensch – a true believer in community. He sees others as colleagues, regardless of the diverse positions they may hold on various issues; he strives to work collaboratively in order to build consensus for the greater good.”

Originally from Montreal, Miller was 27 years old when he moved to Ottawa in 1984 with his Ottawa-born wife Rhoda. Theirs was a true love story. Fixed up by Jeff’s sister and Rhoda’s cousin who were neighbours in Montreal, the couple was engaged three months later.

A chartered accountant, Miller joined the accounting firm Ginsberg Gluzman Fage and Levitz (GGFL). One of the firm’s principals, the late Gerry Levitz, an iconic leader and philanthropist in Ottawa’s

Jewish community, encouraged Miller to get involved in the community – and so it began.

From manually adding up cards during campaigns to playing basketball, baseball and bowling on Jewish men’s teams, Miller went on to become treasurer of Congregation Machzikei Hadas, Torah Academy of Ottawa, Jewish Family Services, the Rideauview Golf Club and Hillel Lodge; as well as serve two terms as president of Hillel Academy (now the Ottawa Jewish Community School).

Miller chaired two Millionaires Nights for B’nai Brith of Ottawa and two Desert Classic Golf Tournaments in support of the Soloway Jewish Community Centre and Hillel Academy. He chaired Hillel Lodge’s Capital Campaign, which raised \$5 million for its expansion.

Miller has canvassed for the Jewish Federation of Ottawa Annual Campaign for almost 30 years and co-chaired the



Jeffrey Miller, Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award

HOWARD SANDLER

Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award: Hyman Reichstein ‘gives shem tov a shem tov’

BY BENITA BAKER

Hyman Reichstein, whose steadfast work for the community has touched on some of the foundations of Jewish life – synagogue, education and preserving the past – is the 2017 recipient of the Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award.

The Shem Tov Award, notes the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, “recognizes an outstanding volunteer for a lifetime of service dedicated to the betterment and enrichment of Jewish life in Ottawa.”

“My aim is to help the community,” said Reichstein. “It is an honour to receive the award, but my work has never been about rewards. It’s been about

giving back to the community.”

Seven letters of support accompanied Reichstein’s nomination, each one describing his deep commitment to the community.

“He gives shem tov a *shem tov* [good name],” wrote Rabbi Reuven Bulka, rabbi emeritus of Congregation Machzikei Hadas. “A jewel of a person, with all the

qualities that define what it is to be a mensch, Hymie embodies all the values we yearn to have, and to transmit to our children ... He IS a shem tov. All that is missing is the award.”

A past president of Machzikei Hadas, and one of the shul’s most dedicated volunteers, Reichstein also helped to

See Reichstein on page 2

inside: Israeli Film Festival coming June 8 to 22 > p. 12

Francie Greenspoon and Brenda Van Vliet retire > p. 16, 17

Ottawa celebrates Yom Ha’Atzmaut > p. 22



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Reichstein: Ensuring Jewish education is highest priority

Continued from page 1

raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for Ottawa Torah Institute (OTI), founded the Jewish Genealogical Society of Ottawa, of which he remains president, photographed every Jewish grave stone in Ottawa, created a data base of all graves, and an online map of the Jewish Memorial Gardens.

In their joint nomination letter on behalf of Reichstein, Rabbis Dovid Mandel and Yaakov Moshe Harris of OTI described him as “an indefatigable community servant of the highest order”; that the organizations he works for are “incredibly successful ... largely because of Hymie’s work ethic and contagious enthusiasm.”

They concluded their letter by stating, “The value, energy and vision that Hymie works so hard to contribute to our community are immeasurable and humbly hidden.”

The son of Jewish immigrants from Russia, Reichstein was born and raised in Montreal where he attended Jewish day school and high school. After graduating

from McGill University with an engineering degree, he moved to Ottawa in 1962 to work at the National Research Council.

He and Marlene have been married for 52 years and have three children and six grandchildren, all living in Ottawa.

Although Reichstein’s ‘full-time’ volunteer career began when he retired in 1995, he was already a long-time volunteer in the community.

In 1985, he was chosen as Volunteer of the Year by the Kidney Foundation for the work he did computerizing their general operating systems. He was chair of the United Jewish Appeal Public Service Division and worked extensively on behalf of Hillel Academy.

In 2001, the Jewish Genealogical Society of Ottawa received the Project of the Year Award from the International Association of Jewish Geological Associations for its film about a Jewish cemetery in Ukraine, a project spear-headed by Reichstein.

Reichstein’s heart lies in Jewish education, something he feels is essential to Jewish continuity and the reason why

he is so involved in fundraising for OTI.

“I have always wanted to be involved in Jewish education,” he said. “It is the most important thing to keep a community alive. We need more people to be involved.”

His efforts have been highly successful. In his nomination letter, Rabbi Idan Scher of Congregation Machzikei Hadas noted, “OTI would not exist if not for him and his drive to see it succeed.”

Supporter Bram Bregman, described Reichstein as someone who “volunteers relentlessly ... to benefit the community and never himself.”

In her nomination letter, Orly Aaron, an OTI parent, talked about Reichstein’s dedication and commitment to Jewish education, and called him a role model.

“If there is any award to a person that is long overdue, this is it,” added Rabbi Bulka in his letter.

The Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award will be presented to Reichstein at the Jewish Federation of Ottawa annual general meeting, Wednesday, June 14, 7 pm, at the Soloway JCC.



Hyman Reichstein, Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award

Miller: ‘A mensch – a true believer in community’

Continued from page 1

2015 and 2016 Annual Campaigns.

The Charithon, a softball fundraiser Miller co-founded and chaired, raised more than \$1 million for CHEO over its 15-year existence.

Miller’s community work is also distinguished by his long-term commitment to the organizations he works with. He sat on the board of Hillel Academy for 12 years and the Hillel Lodge board for 10 years.

“As an accountant, I want to add value to the organizations I get involved with,” he said.

“I want to learn about them and understand how they operate. I want to

stay involved for the long term, because I believe in them and the people they are serving.”

In their letter supporting Miller’s nomination, past Annual Campaign co-chairs Sharon Appotive and Michael Polowin describe another of Miller’s distinctive leadership traits.

“The community has known for years that Jeff was always there to give quiet advice and guidance to organizations in which he was not directly involved,” they said. “He has been a go-to leader and adviser to leaders for years.”

Despite the considerable demands on his time, Miller has managed to ensure that his key priorities – family, profession

and community – each receive the attention they deserve.

Miller’s son Howard confirms this in his heartwarming letter endorsing his father’s nomination.

“He never missed a single family event,” wrote Howard. “I do not have a single memory of an important moment where my father wasn’t right there as well ... and, at the end of the day, is that not the single most distinguished service a Jewish man can perform?”

The intrepid volunteer has also excelled professionally. He is a senior partner at GGFL and, in 2016, was awarded the Fellow (FCPA) designation of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario, one of the highest honours the profession can bestow.

Over the years, Miller shared many meetings with his mentor, the late Gerry Levitz (the 2006 recipient of the Gilbert

Greenberg Award), and his friend, the late Arnie Vered (the 2008 recipient). After the meetings adjourned, the three would sit together for hours discussing ideas and issues. That is Miller’s fondest volunteering memory.

Now a grandfather of one, with a second on the way, the affable and concerned Miller is always looking toward the future.

“We have an incredible community, but it is facing some serious challenges,” he said.

There’s always going to be a need, he feels, to encourage young people to step up and become the next generation of leaders.

The Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award will be presented to Miller at the Jewish Federation of Ottawa annual general meeting, Wednesday, June 14, 7 pm, at the Soloway JCC.

Jewish War Veterans of Canada, Ottawa Post, is offering two (2) \$750.00 scholarships to deserving Jewish students who are graduating in 2017 from secondary school and entering university in 2017.

Applicants must be between the ages of 16 and 19 years on or before the 31st of May 2017 and be residents of the National Capital Region.

In the letter of application, candidates will provide evidence of superior qualities of leadership, good citizenship, complete school mark records including the final year, and sportsmanship at school, within the Jewish Community and community-at-large.

All applicants should provide a letter stating why they think they are eligible. Enclose any supporting material that you may think relevant. Must be received **no later than July 14, 2017.**

Send submissions to:

Ruth Aaron
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Students should be reminded of the sacrifices made by all veterans to safeguard our freedom.

See page 31 for Publication and Deadline dates and Candlelighting times.

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Freiman Family Young Leadership Award: 'There is always time for things that are important,' says Gillian Presner

BY BENITA BAKER

Gillian Presner will be the 2017 recipient of the Freiman Family Young Leadership Award. The award, notes the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, "recognizes a young leader who has demonstrated proven leadership to the benefit of Ottawa's Jewish community."

Nominated by Howard Fremeth, the 2015 recipient of the Freiman Family Award, Presner had no idea she was being considered for the award. When her husband Neil asked for a copy of her CV on behalf of Fremeth, she asked, "Are you volunteering me for something?"

"I am surprised and truly honoured to receive this award," said Presner, an emergency medicine pediatrician at CHEO. "I get a lot of satisfaction from volunteer work. I think it is important for me to be a role model to my daughters, to show them that they, too, can be leaders and take responsibility for their community."

A tireless community volunteer, Presner has served on the board of the Soloway Jewish Community Centre; spearheaded a taskforce to boost enrolment at the Ganon Preschool; sat on the Kehillat Beth Israel Rabbi Search Committee; resurrected and co-chaired the Young Women's Leadership Council; helped organize the 2011 openOttawa symposium; actively fundraises for several organizations; and, with her family, co-chaired Federation's 2017 Annual Campaign Kickoff and successfully modified its traditional format to specifically reach out to young families.

How does she find the time?

"Not having time never enters my mind," said Presner, who has three daughters under the age of four. "Not having time is an excuse. There is always time for things that are important."

To say volunteering runs in Presner's family is an understatement. Both her mother, Donna Dolansky, and her father, Bernie Dolansky, have been active community leaders for decades, and both have served as Federation chair.



Gillian Presner, Freiman Family Young Leadership Award

Her parents led by example. Whether it was door-to-door canvassing or walkathons, Presner was always involved in some form of volunteering while growing up.

"They didn't have to tell me to do it,"

she said. "I did it because I knew it was the right thing to do."

In his nomination letter, Fremeth wrote about Presner's "unique mix of intelligence, tenacity and people skills."

He also discussed her ability to inspire others.

"What separates Gillian's leadership contribution from others is not just the impact of her own work, but her ability to bring out leadership skills in others," Fremeth wrote.

In his letter supporting Presner's nomination, Allan Shefrin echoed Fremeth's observation.

"Gillian is a doer," he wrote. "Many in our generation kvetch about how things could be better and how they dislike certain aspects of community life. However, when asked for help, they have no time or energy to commit. Gillian gets involved and changes it."

Much of Presner's volunteer efforts have focused on the emerging generations. She has been actively involved in efforts aimed at increasing preschool and Jewish day school enrolment, getting young families more involved in her synagogue, and bringing more young adults into leadership roles.

In 2009, as she sat with her mother at

Federation's 75th Anniversary Volunteer Awards presentation, Presner was struck by how many of the award recipients were graduates of the defunct Young Women's Leadership Council (YWLC) program.

"Why does this no longer exist?" she asked her mother.

Presner went to work reviving the YWLC program, thereby creating a new cadre of women leaders in Ottawa's Jewish community.

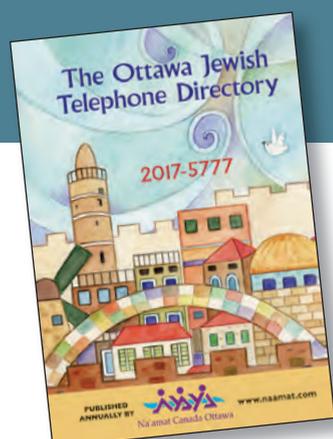
"I can say with confidence that very few other young adults have had such a lasting and broad impact on Ottawa's vibrant Jewish community," wrote Howard Fremeth in his letter.

As recipient of the Freiman Family Young Leadership Award, Presner will also receive the Lawrence Greenberg Young Leadership Development Award, which will sponsor her attendance at the 2017 Jewish Federations of North America General Assembly, scheduled for November 12 to 14 in Los Angeles. There she will be recognized along with other young leaders from Jewish communities in North America.

Presner will receive the awards at the Jewish Federation of Ottawa annual general meeting, Wednesday, June 14, 7 pm, at the Soloway JCC.



Rabbi Kenter installation: Rabbi Eytan Kenter speaks at Shabbat dinner, April 21 preceding the beginning of Shabbat, kicking off a full weekend of events marking his formal installation as spiritual leader of Kehillat Beth Israel.



Purchase your copy of the 2017 Ottawa Jewish Telephone Directory during the advance sale days at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre

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Student Award: Eyal Podolsky ‘truly embodies why this award was created’

BY BENITA BAKER

Eyal Podolsky will receive the Jewish Federation of Ottawa’s Student Award, an honour established in 2016 to recognize “a student pursuing a post-secondary degree who demonstrates leadership and outstanding commitment to the Ottawa Jewish community.”

“I am honoured and humbled to have been chosen,” said Podolsky. “I feel that working for the Jewish community is part of my identity. My parents always said that, when you are a guest in someone’s home, bring your share and a little more. Judaism has given me so much. I feel that my work in the community is giving back my share and a little more.”

Only 20 years old, Podolsky has a long and impressive list of volunteer accomplishments in Ottawa’s Jewish community. He has been BBYO chapter president and regional vice-president; president of the Jewish Culture Club at Sir Robert Borden High School; a Hillel Lodge volunteer; and a participant in the Developing Future Leaders program of the Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies.

As student president of Hillel Ottawa, Podolsky oversees all programs, events

and meetings, provides guidance and assistance to other executive members, and is the voice of Hillel on campus – all this while he pursues a degree in health sciences at the University of Ottawa.

“Eyal’s professionalism, work ethic and commitment to Jewish life on campus are something you rarely see in young adults his age. To be fair, Eyal is a one-of-a-kind Jewish student leader,” wrote Dovi Chein, Hillel Ottawa’s Jewish student life co-ordinator this past academic year (and incoming director), in his letter nominating Podolsky for the award.

Born in Israel, Podolsky moved to Canada with his family when he was four years old. The aspiring pediatrician discovered volunteering as a Grade 4 student at Hillel Academy (now the Ottawa Jewish Community School) when the students would go to Hillel Lodge to spend time with the residents. Podolsky has continued his involvement at the Lodge in the years since.

When he got to high school, he felt that a Jewish component of his life was missing, so he joined BBYO.

“BBYO shaped me as a leader,” he said. “It gave me confidence and showed me that, if I wanted to do it, I could.”

In recognition of his initiative and

outstanding leadership, Podolsky has received the BBYO Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award and the Soloway Jewish Community Centre’s Grossman-Klein Teen Leadership Award.

Rather than curbing his passion for volunteering, university life reinforced it. Podolsky got involved in the Chabad Student Network, taking positions on its executive, and then with Hillel Ottawa, where he rose to student president.

“University is more than academics,” he said. “My passion for Judaism guided my involvement with Hillel Ottawa. It helped me to integrate and to feel like a part of something. I discovered my place in the community and where I fit within it.”

Podolsky also serves on the board of Save-a-Child’s-Heart Student Foundation of Ottawa, and will become its next president. In his letter of support for Podolsky’s nomination for the Student Award, current president Reuben Goldberg wrote, “I believe that he is ... a young man that will go on to accomplish great things as a leader, both at the student level and in the Jewish community-at-large.”

Podolsky described his parents, Dekel and Rony Podolsky, as “beautiful role models” who inspire and motivate him.



Eyal Podolsky, Student Award

“Everything I do stems from admiration for my parents,” he said.

“To say Eyal Podolsky deserves this award is an understatement,” wrote Chein in his nomination letter. “He truly embodies why this award was created.”

Podolsky will receive the Student Award in absentia during the Jewish Federation of Ottawa annual general meeting, Wednesday, June 14, 7 pm, at the Soloway JCC. Podolsky can’t be there to accept the award in person because he will be in France taking part in a genetic research project.



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Celebrating Canadian Jews of the last 150 years



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

David Lewis 1909 - 1981

Only Jewish leader of a federal political party

By Brenna Mackay

David Lewis was a Jewish-Canadian politician, lawyer, author and university professor.

Born and raised in Russia, David Losz's childhood was marked by the German invasion of Russia during the First World War and the Russian Revolution.

After witnessing these world-changing events, the Losz family moved to Canada in 1921, arriving in Halifax by boat, then travelling to their new home in Montreal by train. Upon arrival in Canada, the Losz family name was anglicized to Lewis.

Yiddish was Lewis' *mame loshen* (mother tongue), but he quickly learned English. From 1927 to 1932, he attended McGill University, where he studied arts and law, and was active in municipal socialist politics. He was awarded a Rhodes scholarship to attend Oxford,

where he became active in the British Labour Party.

Returning to Canada in 1935, Lewis married Sophie Carson and began to practise law in Ottawa. In 1936, he began working as a national secretary for the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) and became a key theorist and member of the League for Social Reconstruction.

He co-authored *Make This Your Canada* with F.R. Scott and ran unsuccessfully as a CCF candidate for Parliament in 1940, 1943, 1945 and 1949.

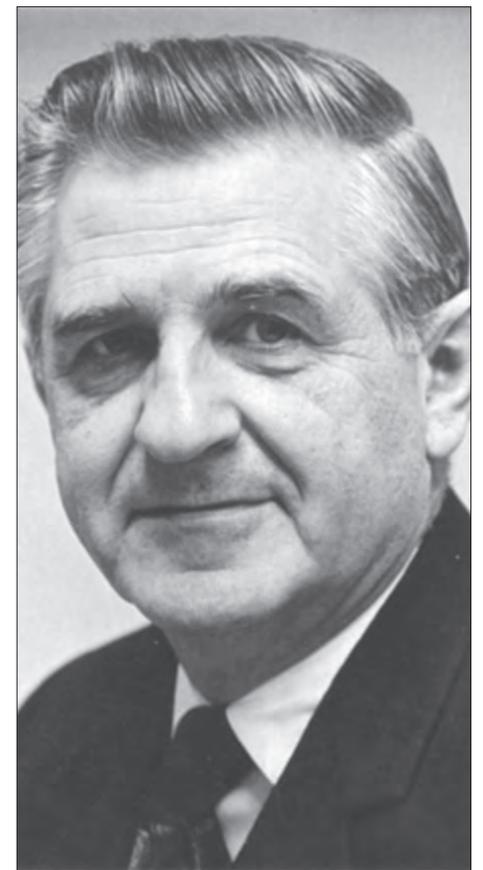
After 1950, Lewis continued his involvement in the CCF while practising labour law. In 1961, Lewis' involvement was significant in the formation of the New Democratic Party (NDP). In effect, the CCF transformed from a western, farm-based organization into a more urban, competitive NDP.

Lewis won his first election to Parliament in the Toronto riding of York South in 1962. He lost the seat in 1963, but was re-elected in 1965, 1968 and 1972 before losing the seat again in 1974.

In Parliament, Lewis was an impressive debater and, in 1971, he succeeded Tommy Douglas as NDP leader. He became the first – and, to date, only – Jewish leader of a federal political party in Canada. From 1972 to 1974, with Pierre Trudeau leading a Liberal minority government, Lewis' NDP held the balance of power.

Lewis stepped down from his position as NDP leader in 1975 following his federal election defeat and became a professor of Canadian studies at Carleton University in Ottawa.

Lewis also devoted himself to writing. On assignment for the Toronto Star in 1978, Lewis visited his hometown of Svisloch, and wrote that the Holocaust had entirely wiped out the Jewish community there, including his extended family.



Lewis also completed work on *The Good Fight: Political Memoirs 1909-1958*, the first book in what was planned to be a two-volume autobiography. Lewis passed away in Ottawa on May 23, 1981 shortly after *The Good Fight* was published.

Though at times a controversial political figure, Lewis was respected by his colleagues and opponents for his intellect, dedication and sacrifices to his work.



Next in the series

Irving Layton 1912 –2006

Irving Layton, one of Canada's most significant and influential poets, was born Israel Pincu Lazarovitch in Romania and came to Canada as an infant in 1913.



Submit an essay

To help mark Canada's 150th, we are welcoming personal essays from readers. Please share with us! What does it mean to you to be Jewish in Canada? As a Canadian Jew, what do you hope for our future? Is there anything special in our Canadian history that has impacted you as Jew?

Please note, submission should be about 300 words and will be edited for style. Send submissions to: mregenstreif@ottawajewishbulletin.com

FEDERATION
REPORT



DANYA VERED
EMERGING GENERATION

The kids are all right. I promise. The kids – formally known around town as the Emerging Generation or EG – are happy, healthy and genuinely care about building our community. I know this first-hand through countless conversations and impressive data over the past two years co-chairing the Jewish Federation of Ottawa’s Annual

Emerging Generation: ‘Punching above our weight’

Campaign for the EG division.

The kids give. And we are giving more. During the 2016 Annual Campaign, 196 Emerging Generation donors came together to raise \$38,631. That was almost 10 per cent of the Campaign’s total donors, and a \$10,593 increase over the 2015 Campaign. Just as impressive, the EG division increased, card over card, by 37 per cent. On percentages and totals, we are punching above our weight, and our numbers continue to grow.

Our successes building the EG Annual Campaign over the past few years have been based on a simple principle: start with a conversation. Every member of the community, whether EG or beyond, is different, and every one of them has his or her own view of what the community means. As we encourage our EG peers to consider a philanthropic donation, we are

*We are more than
the next generation of leaders.
We are today’s leaders,
and we are making sure
our voices are being heard
through our words,
deeds and donations.*

also working to understand how they want to engage with our community and how the community can respond to those needs. Only then can we create the positive conditions for their involvement in our community today and for the long-term.

Our approach has been to recognize the differences among our peers as strengths, and address them as such. While large-scale change may take time, we are

working to ensure that every EG member sees themselves in the wide range of our outreach and activities by demonstrating the value of community. These conversations have fuelled shifts in our strategy to formalize event-based engagement as a key outreach tool for our cohort, and to expand the number of casual networking events for an even more targeted segment.

This strategy is keeping us on target for the ambitious goals that Federation outlined in its Strategic Plan for 2014-2019, including a 30 per cent increase in dollars to be raised each year, with a doubling of the donor base during this timeframe.

Within EG, we want to provide opportunities for as many people as possible to voice their perspectives, whether it is during a formal community survey, during coffee with a friend who volunteers, or during a “you-don’t-know-me-but-we-are-going-to-have-a-famously-awkward-but-meaningful-conversation” cold call (my personal favourite). We need to keep talking and listening, and find ways together to translate these conversations into meaningful action.

We are more than the next generation of leaders. We are today’s leaders, and we are making sure our voices are being heard through our words, deeds and donations.

We still have lots of work to do. But, like I said, the kids are all right.

FROM THE
PULPIT



RABBI ELIZABETH BOLTON
OR HANESHAMAH

It was called the community centre, but it would be hard for you to identify it as such, if you simply saw a photograph of the structure. It’s more akin to the open shelters at a public campground than to our local Soloway Jewish Community Centre.

It was built with the labour of lay volunteers through American Jewish World Service (AJWS), working alongside local workers and their contractor, hired by the NGO that operated the school known as Challenging Heights, in Winneba on the coast of Ghana.

We were with the second AJWS Young Rabbis’ Delegation, spending 11 days in Ghana in the summer of 2011, learning first-hand about global poverty and wealth, grassroots initiatives and related issues like foreign aid and advocacy.

The “young” moniker had many of us laughing and wondering, some days, as we got to know each other, and as we learned the ages of the locals whose energy and skill level at the tasks at hand far outstripped ours.

Building a mishkan of meaning

It was in the community centre where we ate our meals, held our prayers services, studied from our curriculum, met with the school’s local teachers and with the founder of the NGO – and, at one memorable meal, learned something profound and unexpected from one of the construction workers.

Daniel had had a fall earlier in the day, so the morning labour ended a little early. We all sat together for the first time.

Otherwise, we were in constant motion, trying to keep up on the work-site, with wheelbarrows and sand and water and trowels, heeding their calls for “mortar” and for the rocks we were instructed to carry in pans on our heads, or the heavy bricks we passed in a line that they placed carefully, evenly, along the line of mortar.

After lunch, Richard the contractor told us that Daniel would teach us a song. We learned it was a song of thanks, much like the text from Psalm 118 – “We give thanks to God, who is good to us.” Daniel, Richard, Freddie and most of the Ghanaians we met were devout Christians. And there we were, an earnest group of rabbis, haltingly singing their well-known hymn in their local language, Fante.

So when Daniel paused after our effort, and said, “OK, and now, eh...” we (mis-)interpreted the pause as an invitation to reciprocate, and began quickly to think of the simple Jewish counterparts we might teach them in

return. But Daniel, in his halting English, was telling us, “Now, you ... sing,” meaning, that now we were to sing their hymn back to them.

A few days before our departure, we had had another guest during our meal. The caretaker, Isaac, who must have heard about the singing, asked us to sing something for him.

That time, no one leaned forward, ready to jump in. We were thinking – at least I was – about how to best respond in light of our lunch-time experience.

Eventually, I began a song I thought might be familiar to him, drawing from a verse in Exodus 25, and others who knew it joined in: “O Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true, and with thanksgiving I’ll be a living sanctuary for you.” Isaac’s smile deepened in recognition, and he enthusiastically joined in, rejoicing in the hymn’s holy message.

In an open-sided space with a cement floor in the coastal region of Ghana, I learned many lessons of deep and abiding importance. Isaac, Richard, Freddie and the children and adults, who use the community centre at Challenging Heights, are sustaining a rich and robust culture, imbued with deep faith.

On our very brief visit, we were invited to bring only what was asked for, not more. Their *mishkan*, their sanctuary of meaning, required nothing from us but respect.

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Eddie Peltzman

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

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FROM THE EDITOR



MICHAEL REGENSTREIF

Thank you, Brenda, for everything you've done for the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin

that everything fits on the page the way it is supposed to.

She has taken the stories, photos and columns sent to her by the editor and prepared them for publication – always checking copy for any errors that may have slipped by. She has printed long-sheets of every page for proofreading and constantly updated mini versions of the newspaper that are continually referenced, and she's uploaded the page files to Performance, the company in Smiths Falls that prints the Bulletin, always keeping in contact with the printers to ensure there are no technical errors in the files.

Some of the steps I've described are complicated processes. You can't, for example, just throw a photograph on the page – they have to be converted to the right formatting for newsprint reproduction. And sometimes – particularly when we're dealing with developing stories – changes and corrections have to be made to stories or columns right up until the last minute.

Brenda has done all of this, and much

more, through 427 editions – and several design changes – of the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin, with constant grace and true devotion to the newspaper and to her colleagues.

As reporter Benita Baker notes in her profile of Brenda on page 17, I'm the third Bulletin editor with whom she has worked. She was hired by editor Myra Aronson in 1995 and continued with the late Barry Fishman and then myself.

On my first day on the job, almost 10 years ago, Barry told me how important Brenda had been to his own success as editor. And, from that day, I have relied on Brenda's expertise, assistance, "corporate memory" and genuine friendship.

Thank you, Brenda, for everything you've done for the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin. Have a great retirement! Working with you has been a very special experience. We're going to miss you.

AND, THANK YOU, FRANCIÉ

I'm also going to miss working with Francie Greenspoon, the senior director

of communications and community relations at the Jewish Federation of Ottawa since 2004, who is also retiring at the same time as Brenda.

Francie's office was right next to mine and we often worked closely together over the years in making sure that important stories got told in the pages of our Jewish community newspaper.

Francie was of invaluable assistance to me when I arrived from Montreal in 2007 to work at the Bulletin – in guiding me through learning about Ottawa's Jewish community and about the organizations, agencies, schools, congregations and people who make the community what it is.

From helping me identify someone in a photograph I didn't recognize, to letting me know about important stories that should be covered, to being someone to bounce ideas off and discuss the issues of the day in the news, to being an advocate for the paper within Federation and the community, Francie has been a great colleague to work with.

And all I've mentioned here is Francie's interaction with the Bulletin. Her work with Federation is a much bigger story.

For more, see Benita Baker's profile of Francie on page 16.

Thank you, too, Francie, for so much. You will be missed. Best wishes for a great retirement!

There are unsung heroes in almost any organization or workplace – people who work behind the scenes, outside of the spotlight, and whose effectiveness is vital to the success of the operation.

The week this issue of the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin goes to press has been an emotional one for us at the Bulletin as this is the final edition of the paper that has been laid out by our own unsung hero: Brenda Van Vliet, our production manager since January 1995.

Brenda has been on the job at the Bulletin for more than 22 years. For every issue, she has created the pages, laid out the ads on the pages (and, often, created the ads), and laid out the columns and articles – always making sure, somehow,

IDEAS AND IMPRESSIONS



JASON MOSCOVITZ

Recalling a truly remarkable Canadian accomplishment

And that was the thing about Expo 67. It was futuristic in almost every other regard. It was about celebrating Canada's centennial year with an eye to the future. Expo was a prelude to boundless change and progress.

On the expansive fair grounds there was a minirail that stood high above the ground. It was breathtakingly beautiful as the quiet electric train brought you from island to island in the St. Lawrence River. The Montreal skyline was the backdrop.

The islands where the pavilions stood were a story in themselves. St. Helen's Island was expanded while Île Notre-Dame was built from scratch. People laughed at mayor Jean Drapeau when he announced Montreal would build an island in the river.

The mayor laughed right back. Île Notre-Dame was successfully built with earth and rocks that were excavated while building Montreal's subway. Today, the Montreal Casino and the Grand Prix race track are located on Île Notre-Dame.

Dignitaries, celebrities and world leaders came to Expo in great numbers. From the end of April through to the end of October 1967, the national holidays of

various countries were celebrated at an open-air amphitheatre called Place des Nations.

Historically, the most memorable foreign leader to come and quickly leave was French president Charles de Gaulle. The old man was said to have gotten carried away with himself when he cried out from the steps of Montreal City Hall, "Vivre le Québec libre!"

His remarks fuelled Quebec separatists, and Lester Pearson, the prime minister during our centennial year, said no Canadian needed to be liberated from anything. He asked de Gaulle to leave the country. It took less than 24 hours for the French president to leave in a huff with no apology. The FLQ crisis followed three years later.

In the category of how some things don't change in 50 years, it is worth noting that from June 1967 there were suddenly many closed pavilions. Most majority-Muslim countries left after Israel's decisive victory in the Six-Day War. They left because of Canada's support of Israel.

But, other than those two significant exceptions, Expo 67 remained free of controversy. It was a time when most

Canadians felt good about the country's 100th-year birthday party as they set their sights on building a Canada for the next century.

Centennial year was a time when the roots of official bilingualism and biculturalism were planted. It was a time when justice minister Pierre Trudeau began talking about the "the state having no place in the bedrooms of the nation."

It was a time of buzz and excitement. Montrealers were so proud to show their city to the world – and the world came. Fifty million people passed through the Expo 67 turnstiles in six months. It truly was a time to realize dreams big and small.

My maternal grandfather was a retailer in the heart of French Montreal. He was a character, a man about town who always had a flower on his lapel. In 1966, he thought he needed a myna bird and in the excitement of the times he called the bird "Expo." He patiently taught Expo how to talk. The bird's main refrain was saying, "Hello Expo."

Just before Expo 67 opened, my Grandpa Bob fell ill, and his dream of visiting those magical islands in the river seemed doubtful. In late October, just before Expo closed, my mother wrapped Bob in a blanket and, from a wheelchair, he realized his dream. He died five weeks later.

For me, the beauty of Expo 67 will always be about how important it was to appreciate a truly remarkable Canadian accomplishment.

For Montrealers and Canadians of a half-century ago, Expo 67 was a magical time in Canadian history. It was a time when everything seemed possible.

On opening day, the international exhibition housed pavilions from 120 countries. Long before anyone dreamed about the Internet, the exhibits opened doors to instant knowledge about the world. The theme of Expo 67 was "Man and his World."

Where the women were is a good question that no one asked 50 years ago. We can now stand proud that Canada is among the leaders in striving for gender equality and, if nothing else, the insensitive branding of Expo 67 reminds us of just how long ago 1967 is.

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In search of peace

The Jewish people long for peace. Yet, it has been elusive since Israel's independence in 1948, when the Arab nations rejected the United Nations partition plan and went to war against the newly established Jewish state. Still, the Jewish people longed for a peaceful resolution with its neighbours and then later with the Palestinian people.

In 1979, Israel and Egypt signed a peace treaty, which has endured to this day for the benefit of both peoples. This was followed by the Oslo Accords between Israel and the Palestinians in 1993 and then a peace treaty between Israel and Jordan in 1994.

These peace agreements and talk of others to come heralded a new era of hope and prosperity for all people in the region. Israelis, supported by Jewish communities worldwide, have always been optimistic about establishing an enduring peace with the Palestinians and with Israel's neighbours. Even while hope and optimism is a Jewish virtue, the campaign to delegitimize Israel and the Jewish right to the land makes our search for peace challenging, but never impossible.

A few weeks ago, as we concluded Yom Hazikaron and lifted our heads to proudly celebrate the modern State of Israel's 69th anniversary with flag raising events across the country and Yom Ha'Atzmaut parties, we did so under a dark shadow. It could not have been coincidental that three developments that week impacted the celebrations, but certainly failed to dampen them.

The first was a UNESCO resolution sponsored by an Arab group of nations, including Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Qatar and Sudan. Aimed at Israel, even while admitting the "importance of the Old City of Jerusalem and its Walls for the three monotheistic religions," the resolution denies and nullifies legal, historical and political connection between the Jewish people and Israel with their holiest place.

Most disconcerting is the resolution's assertion that Israel's "basic law," which states that "Jerusalem, complete and united, is the capital of Israel" is deemed "null and void." In other words, UNESCO claims that Israel and, in effect, the Jewish people, have no claim to their holiest of holy places. To add insult to injury, the resolution throws in condemnation of Israel for its effort to protect itself against terrorism from Gaza and surrounding areas. Is this effort to delegitimize Israel and the Jewish faith productive for peace?

The second Palestinian inspired event on the week of



AVI BENLOLO
GUEST COLUMN

Israel's 69th anniversary was the release of Hamas' new "Document of General Principles and Policies." While some commentators in the secular media claimed this to be a warmer, if not friendlier mandate from the internationally recognized terror organization, a light read of its principles shows otherwise. Hamas states that the "resistance" shall continue "until the return is fulfilled and until a fully sovereign state is established with Jerusalem as its capital." It further refers to Israel as a "racist, anti-human and colonial Zionist project" even while claiming that it would now agree to a Palestinian state within the 1967 lines – but "without compromising its rejection of the Zionist entity." Is this language and pledge to destroy Israel conducive to peace making?

And, finally, the third development was a meeting at the White House between U.S. President Donald Trump and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas. Trump promised to try to facilitate a peace agreement, but not impose one. He also implored Abbas to stop paying blood money to Palestinian terrorists and their families who murder or injure Israelis. Speaking in Arabic at the press conference, for his part, Abbas called on Israel to "end the occupation" while failing to state that he turned down peace offers from consecutive Israeli prime ministers, including Ehud Barak in 2000 and Ehud Olmert in 2008. Is he ready to make peace with Israel? I hope so.

As Israel heads into its 70th year since its founding in 1948, it is stronger than ever. Israelis are resolute, patriotic and celebrate Zionism with great pride and achievement. The country is strong economically, culturally, scientifically and militarily. Still, we search for peace and a shared capacity to exist in friendship and harmony. Our spirit of hope cannot be diminished by these challenges – in an era when hate must be illuminated by hope.

Avi Benlolo is president and CEO of Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies.

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JEWISH NATIONAL FUND

Welcome Lance Davis, JNF Canada's new CEO

On behalf of JNF Ottawa, we are delighted to welcome our new JNF Canada CEO Lance Davis. Jerry Werger, President of JNF Canada, who headed the search committee said, "We agreed that Lance's work ethic, education, experience, and demonstrated passion for our mission made him the right choice to lead our organization going forward."

Lance has held numerous positions of increasing responsibility during his 20-year career in Jewish communal service. His experience working with large and small Jewish communities, at both local and national levels, will have great practical application in his work as the CEO of JNF Canada. Lance has served as the Director of Leadership Development for UIA Federations Canada as well as the Director for the National Committee for Jewish Campus Life. During his tenure as Executive Director of the Calgary Jewish Federation, in partnership with dedicated lay leadership, Lance introduced a number of transformative new initiatives resulting in the growth of the UJA campaign.

"Lance ... is a dedicated and devoted professional who understands how to achieve results ... He has experience working in larger and smaller cities and appreciates the diversity of Jewish communities across Canada," said Beth Price, Vice-President - JNF Canada (Calgary).

Lance has been serving as the Toronto Executive Director for JNF since 2012. During his term, the Toronto organization had set numerous fundraising records and significantly increased its presence in the community as well as its impact in Israel.

"This is a dream job for me. Every day I will have the opportunity to connect Canadians across the country with Israel. JNF was one of the pillars upon which the State of Israel was founded, and it is an honour to be a part of this organization. Everywhere you turn in Israel, you can see the real and tangible impact of our work. Together, we can address genuine issues and needs in the country in order to enhance and enrich the lives of Israel's citizens," said Lance. "We have a great culture, highly professional and capable staff, dedicated volunteers, and generous donors who have helped us [Toronto] grow quickly over the past four years. Together, we will build upon JNF's solid foundation and momentum to bring the organization to the next level."

We are looking forward to introducing our community to Lance in the very near future.

Inscriptions in JNF books in Jerusalem

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Anya Sachs, by her parents, Olga Streltchenko and Joel Sachs.

Julia Kingstone, by her parents Brian & Dena Kingstone.

Sefer Bar Mitzvah

Josh Zeldin, by his parents, Pavel and Marina Zeldin.

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Meet Rotem Ravi, Miss Israel 2017, a social media savvy beauty queen

BY ANDREW TOBIN

TEL AVIV (JTA) - To become the Jewish state's reigning beauty queen, Rotem Rabi first had to conquer the Internet.

The 21-year-old Jerusalem-based model won the coveted Miss Israel crown and sash, May 9, with the help of an army of online supporters.

"I want to thank all of you for the kindness and support I received from you," Rabi wrote on Facebook and Instagram.

"Appreciate it and love you very much!"

Her social media savvy helped Rabi beat 15 other contestants. This was the first year online voting was combined with judges' votes to pick Miss Israel, and social media was central to the contest. Each contestant was given profile pages on the contest's website, complete with bios, photos and Instagram-inspired modeling videos.

While her competitors waged similar get-out-the-vote efforts on social media, they could not compete with Rabi's reach. Her Instagram following alone topped 14,000 - more than double that of any of the other women who made the final four.

Beauty contests have been a part of Zionist culture since well before "selfie" was a word. In the late 1920s, Tel Aviv hosted the Queen Esther Beauty Pageant centred on the holiday of Purim. Part of a budding Jewish folk culture, it brought together Ashkenazi and Mizrahi contestants and helped officials select an unofficial representative of the Yishuv, or pre-state Jewish community.

The Miss Israel pageant has been around since 1950, and has launched some its winners' careers. Gal Gadot, the Israeli actress who brought Wonder Woman to the big screen, won the crown in 2004.

According to Rabi's bio, she served as a medic in the Israeli Air Force and has worked as a model while starting the process to join the Israel Police's investigative division. She dropped out of the Miss Israel contest last year to accept a modelling contract in Milan.

As customary, Rabi will represent Israel in the Miss World pageant, which will be held in December in China. She will try to add to Israel's single win, in 1998.

The Miss Israel pageant has been criticized in recent years for its focus on women's appearances and allegedly superficial standards - for example, contestants must be 5-foot-6 or taller and never have been married or had children.



Rotem Rabi brought in a bevy of online backers on her way to the Miss Israel crown.

Rabi took to social media after her victory.

"I write this post with tears of excitement," she wrote. "For, after a long journey and an amazing experience, today came the big moment."

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Ron Wolfson to lead workshop on creating successful relationships in Jewish organizations

BY LOUISE RACHLIS

If you're involved in a Jewish organization, Ron Wolfson wants you to know that "programs are not enough."

"Don't depend on programs to engage people," said Wolfson, who will be in Ottawa, May 30, to lead a morning workshop – "Transforming the Jewish Community through the Power of Relationships" – sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Ottawa for staff and volunteers of Jewish community agencies.

"Programs are good, but, if that's all we're doing, we're not building relationships. We do a pretty good job when people show up and build a relationship with the Jewish experience, but successful organizations are moving from a transactional model to a relational model. Transactional is being engaged for a particular purpose and when I'm done using you, I'm out of there ... Relational is building communities. We Jews have always been a relational people, and a relational community. It's all about relationships," he told the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin from his home in Los Angeles.

"In my book, *Relational Judaism*, I lay out the challenges we face in the 21st century, where we have been using 20th century solutions, particularly in institutional life," said Wolfson, the Fingerhut professor of education at American Jewish University in Los Angeles.

"I'm not worried about the future of the Jewish people," he said, "I am worried about the Jewish institutions. If we don't find the way forward, we'll see an eroding of commitment to membership organizations."

The millennial generation, he said, has a healthy scepticism about institutions generally and "they are not joining like my parents did."

Wolfson will share best practices from other communities.

"Luckily, we're seeing some real success stories," he said. "I have six case studies in my book of organizations that do a good job ... and the book has 12 principles of relational engagement."

"We'll also look at the very first step in building a relationship in your organization – a warm welcome. Every institution believes it's a welcoming place. But, while



Professor Ron Wolfson of American Jewish University in Los Angeles presents his workshop, "Transforming the Jewish Community through the Power of Relationships," in Ottawa on May 30.

it is for the regulars, it can be intimidating for newcomers. If they don't feel welcome, you don't have a chance of building a relationship."

And, after they are warmly welcomed, "it's building a loyalty, getting to know people, knowing their preferences," he said.

Wolfson said he's looking forward to the workshop in Ottawa.

"We'll have a lot of laughs, a lot of learning and a lot of good ideas to immediately implement," he said.

"I don't lecture. This will be an interactive workshop with a lot of opportunity to meet each other, to model relational Judaism, and to think about what it means moving forward. I like to tell stories. It's a lot of fun to do. I find Canadian communities are great fun to be with."

The workshop takes place on Tuesday, May 30, 8:30 to 10:30 am at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre. It will be preceded by refreshments at 8:15.

Space is limited. To attend, please contact Sarah Beutel via email at sbeutel@jewishottawa.com.

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Israeli Film Festival to screen four recently acclaimed films

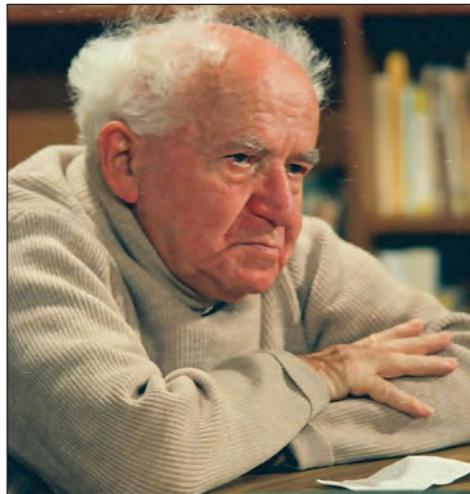
BY MAXINE MISKA

SOLOWAY JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE

The 14th annual Israeli Film Festival presents four films illuminating the pull of tradition in Israel, where culture and history have the tenacity to stretch and even fray lives.

The festival opens on Thursday, June 8 with **"Past Life."** Director Avi Nesher's film intricately explores the effect of the Holocaust on survivors and their children. In 1977, Sephi, a talented musician, travels with an Israeli choir to Berlin. After the performance, a Polish woman accosts her and calls her father a murderer. With the aid of the woman's son, a German-Polish composer, Sephi investigates what really happened when her father was hidden during the war, drawing both generations into a fugue of recrimination and forgiveness. The film is based on real events: Israeli composer Ella Milch-Sheriff wrote the opera **"Baruch's Silence,"** based on her father's wartime diary.

In director Maysaloun Hamoud's remarkable feature debut, **"In Between (Bar Bahar),"** to be screened on Sunday, June 11, three Arab-Israeli women roommates in Tel Aviv pursue modern Israeli lives while inexorably alienating themselves from their families and villages, just a few hours, but a world away. Lalia, a criminal lawyer, loves to party hard and go



Former Israeli prime minister David Ben-Gurion in a scene from **"Ben-Gurion: Epilogue,"** to be screened June 15.

clubbing. Salma, a lesbian Arab Christian, is a DJ and bartender. Conservative Muslim Nur, who studies computer science, is engaged to a devout man who objects to the bad influences of Tel Aviv life and wants her to move to Jaffa. Ensuing ruptures in the three women's relationships bring them bitter enlightenment leavened with strength.

Director Yariv Mozar discovered six hours of a 1968 interview with David Ben-Gurion in the Steven Spielberg Jewish Film Archive, added additional historical footage and created **"Ben-Gurion:**



Sisters Sephi (Joy Rieger) and Nana (Nelly Tagar) in a scene from **"Past Life,"** to be screened June 8.

Epilogue," the ruminations of the 82-year-old lion in the last years of his life. The documentary, to be screened on Thursday, June 15, captures Ben-Gurion's reflections on shepherding an agrarian, socialist State of Israel into a modern military power, and on his retirement to a kibbutz in the Negev. Through home movies and news reels, the portrait is both intimate and historic.

The festival closes on Thursday, June 22 with Emil Ben Shimon's warm and spicy **"The Women's Balcony (Ismach Hatani)." When the women's balcony at a small Mizrahi synagogue collapses during a bar mitzvah, the congregation is in crisis – the rabbi's wife in a coma, the rabbi in shock, no one to lead them or find enough men for a minyan. Into the breach steps a young haredi rabbi whose joyless version of Jewish practice ruffles relations in the tight-knit community. The men, who are small shop keepers, defer to the rabbi's erudition, while the women are exiled**

from their beloved space in the synagogue: hidden away in the name of modesty. The women join forces straining shalom bayit to rebuild what has been lost. Ultimately, love and marriage triumph.

All films begin at 7 pm, have English subtitles and take place at the Richcraft Hall (formerly River Building) Theatre, 43 Campus Avenue, Carleton University.

Tickets are \$13 (general public) and \$9 (SJCC members, Canadian Film Institute members, seniors, and students). Tickets are available at the door, cash only.

The Israeli Film Festival is sponsored by the Canadian Film Institute and the Israel Cultural Forum (Soloway JCC, Vered Israel Cultural and Educational Program, Embassy of Israel, Jewish Federation of Ottawa, and the Canada-Israel Cultural Foundation).

For information, contact Ella Dagan, Vered Israel Cultural and Educational Program manager, at 613-798-9818, ext. 243, or edagan@jccottawa.com.

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Community remembers Israel's fallen soldiers and victims of terror on Yom Hazikaron

BY MICHAEL AARENAU

We are gathered here with heavy hearts to remember the fallen, those who gave their lives so that the State of Israel could exist,' said Israel Defense Forces (IDF) veteran Jonathan Ben-Choreen Freedman, master of ceremonies at the Yom Hazikaron ceremony, April 30, at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre (SJCC).

Yom Hazikaron is Israel's day of remembrance for its fallen soldiers and for those who have died in terror attacks.

"A nation that remembers its fallen is a strong nation," said Freedman.

The sentiment of remembrance would be felt throughout the evening, beginning with the lowering of the Israeli flag to half-mast followed by the sounding of the siren and a moment of silence.

Orit and Daniel Tor, the community ambassadors in Ottawa for Canadian Friends of Hebrew University lit memorial candles and spoke about people they knew who had given their lives in defence of Israel. Gady Sirota, a sergeant in the IDF reserves, and Freedman also lit memorial candles.

"Unfortunately, our soldiers and civilians are still at risk and sadness and



The memorial for members of Ottawa's Jewish community lost while serving in the First and Second World Wars, in Israel's 1948 War on Independence, and while on active duty in the Israel Defense Forces, was photographed at Jewish Memorial Gardens (Bank Street Cemetery) on Yom Hazikaron, May 1.

tragedy are still upon us," said Freedman.

A video, highlighting the work of One Family Fund, an organization that

provides financial, medical, emotional and psychological support to those who have lost family as a result of war or

terrorism in Israel, was shown. Since 2001, One Family Fund has helped more than 12,000 people, with the number only growing as time goes on.

Israeli Ambassador Nimrod Barkan spoke about both his and his father's service in the IDF and read a poem by Nathan Alterman on the founding of the State of Israel.

Jewish Federation of Ottawa Chair Linda Kerzner recalled following the events of the Six-Day War as a young girl in Ottawa and of the mixed feelings of exuberance and mourning that her parents and the community felt as Israel won the war while losing so many in battle.

The IDF Order of the Day was read by Adam Dodek and the SJCC Zemer Ottawa Chorus sang "HaMilchama Ha'acharona" and "Be'arvot HaNegev."

Ottawa Jewish Community School Grade 8 students sang a Hebrew song with an interpretive dance and Rabbi Eytan Kenter of Kehillat Beth Israel read the Yizkor Prayer, the Prayer for the Well-Being of the IDF, and recited the Mourner's Kaddish.

The ceremony concluded with Chazzan Evan Green singing "Kel Maleh Rachamim" followed by "Hatikvah" and "O Canada."

The Chair and Board of Directors of the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation cordially invite all fund holders and members of the Community to attend the

OJCF Annual General Meeting Wednesday, June 7th, 2017

Call to Order: 7:00 pm
with Desserts and Light Refreshments

Zelikovitz Family Social Hall of The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building
21 Nadolny Sachs Private

Any two members of the Corporation may nominate additional directors at any time up to seven days prior (May 31st, 2017) to the meeting so long as such nominations are made in writing and deposited with the Secretary of the Foundation (info@ojcf.ca).

Successful candidates will serve a three-year term from June 2017 to June 2020. Nominations will not be accepted from the floor at the Annual General Meeting.

~~~~~

Members shall have the right to exercise one vote each. Any member may, by means of a written proxy, appoint a proxy holder to attend and act in the manner and to the extent authorized by the proxy. A proxy holder need not be a member.

~~~~~

RSVP prior to May 30th, 2017 to
Shelaine Chapple at 613-798-4696 ext. 252, or at schapple@ojcf.ca

A copy of the meeting materials will be available on our website prior to the AGM.



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A Jewish Federation of Ottawa sign on the grounds of Congregation Machzikei Hadas defaced with a swastika during a wave of anti-Semitic graffiti attacks in Ottawa in November 2016.

Anti-Semitic incidents in Canada set record in 2016, audit finds

(JTA) – The number of anti-Semitic incidents in Canada set a record in 2016, rising by 26 per cent over the previous year, according to an annual audit.

In total, B'nai Brith Canada recorded 1,728 incidents nationwide last year, according to its annual Audit of Anti-Semitic Incidents released May 9, compared to 1,277 incidents in 2015. The previous record was 1,627 in 2014.

The increase did not appear to have been affected by the election of Donald Trump as U.S. president, B'nai Brith Canada said.

Possible reasons for the increase, the audit reported, included Holocaust denial on social media, university campus anti-Zionism and anti-Israel sentiment found in some Arabic newspapers.

The year 2016 saw a dramatic rise in incidents involving Holocaust denial, to 20 per cent from five per cent in 2015. In

addition, according to B'nai Brith Canada, a new trend in Canadian anti-Semitism was found to be incitement against Jews in the mass media, especially in Arabic-language publications.

“The findings of this year’s audit – that anti-Semitism has reached a record high in Canada – demonstrate the need for real, immediate and strong action,” B'nai Brith Canada CEO Michael Mostyn said. “It is time to stop hoping that this problem will go away or take care of itself. It is time to deal real consequences to the purveyors of anti-Semitism, and to fight back.”

Quebec was the only province where incidents fell – to 249 in 2016 from 265 the preceding year.

According to the audit, anti-Semitism has been on the rise in Canada for the past decade, with only two years logging lower figures than the year before.

Machzikei Hadas to hold social event for Jewish singles 45+

BY PEGGY KLEINPLATZ AND LISA GARMAN
FOR CONGREGATION MACHZIKEI HADAS

While Ottawa’s Jewish community has many programs for families, children and adults, it can be harder for middle-aged and older Jews who are single, widowed, divorced, or separated to find each other. There is much emphasis in Judaism on families, and those who are not part of a couple may feel left out. For those wishing to begin anew, targeted programming is required. Otherwise, the process of meeting new people can feel daunting, if not outright isolating.

To this end, Congregation Machzikei Hadas will host a social event on Sunday,

May 28, 8 pm, for Jewish singles aged 45 and older. The event will feature hors d’oeuvres and a wine bar and will be held at a private home in the west end. Those who RSVP will receive the address.

This is the second in our series of events for singles in this demographic. There was a successful wine-tasting experience in March, and participants at the event schmoozed for hours into the night.

To register for the event, contact Alex Griller at alex@qccareerschool.com or 613-859-6979.

You’ll be able to mix and mingle in a comfortable atmosphere over a glass of wine, delicious hors d’oeuvres, and in the company of new friends.

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Thursday, June 8 • 7:00 pm *Past Life*

Director: Avi Nesher • Drama 2016 • 109 min

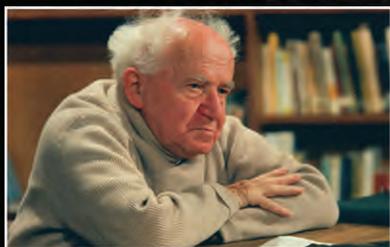
Past Life tracks the daring late 1970s odyssey of two sisters - an introverted classical musician and a rambunctious scandal sheet journalist - as they unravel a shocking wartime mystery that has cast a dark shadow on their entire lives.



Sunday, June 11 • 7:00 pm *In Between*

Director: Maysaloun Hamoud • Drama 2016 • 102 min

Three Arab women sharing an apartment in the vibrant heart of Tel Aviv find themselves doing the same balancing act between tradition and modernity, citizenship and culture, loyalty and freedom. Arab Israeli women live in a country that considers them not quite Israeli enough, and are part of a culture that views them as not quite Palestinian enough. Layered onto their citizenship conundrum are the inevitable gendered tensions between contemporary and traditional family life.



Thursday, June 15 • 7:00 pm *Ben Gurion: Epilogue*

Director: Yariv Mozer • Documentary 2016 • 61 min

Based on archival material, the film reveals the final years of Israel's founder, David Ben-Gurion and includes never before seen footage from a six-hour interview with the Israeli leader from his home in the Negev Desert. Excluded from leadership, Ben-Gurion allowed himself a retrospective on the Zionist enterprise.



Thursday, June 22 • 7:00 pm *The Women's Balcony*

Director: Emil Ben Shimon • Comedy/Drama 2016 • 96 min

The women in an Orthodox Jerusalem Jewish community are appalled when their synagogue gets a strict new rabbi who preaches rigid gender roles. The ladies decide to fight back against his ultra-traditionalist beliefs, while raising money to repair the synagogue's women's balcony.

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For more information please contact Ella Dagan at 613-798-9818 ext. 243 or edagan@jccottawa.com

Francie Greenspoon: Communications director transformed how the Jewish community interacted with the greater Ottawa community

As communications director of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa since 2004, **Francie Greenspoon** was responsible for communicating Federation initiatives within the community – and to the broader general community. Greenspoon retired on May 16. **Benita Baker** reports.

Francie Greenspoon, a well-known figure in Ottawa’s Jewish community, has retired following an accomplished and rewarding career as senior director of communications and community relations for the Jewish Federation of Ottawa.

For more than a dozen years, Greenspoon was the voice of Federation, informing the community about events and milestones, liaising with the media, strengthening advocacy efforts on local university campuses, as well as co-ordinating efforts to strengthen the Canada-Israel relationship.

“When I came into the job, I didn’t know how Federation was perceived,” she said. “I learned a tremendous amount about the Ottawa Jewish community, about what goes into building and maintaining a strong community. I worked with incredible volunteers who give their time and energy, many of whom do it quietly not wanting recognition. I learned what it means to be Jewish and part of a community.”

Originally from Toronto, where she worked for eight years as a publicist for the CBC, Greenspoon married Norman Lieff and moved to Ottawa in 1989. Her introduction to the inner workings of the Ottawa Jewish community began when she joined the Young Women’s Leadership Council (YWLC). As part of the program, she sat as an observer on the JCC board.

After graduating from YWLC, Greenspoon continued as a member of the JCC board and also sat on the communications committee of the capital campaign, which raised the funds to build the new Soloway JCC on the Jewish Community Campus.

Later, Greenspoon took her first staff job in the Jewish community working for almost two years as the Soloway JCC’s marketing manager.

Mitchell Bellman, then executive director of the Jewish Community Council of Ottawa/Vaad Ha’Ir, was struck by Greenspoon’s positive attitude, skill and professionalism. Sometime after she

left her position at the Soloway JCC, Bellman offered her a job.

“I had to beg her to join,” said Bellman. “I asked her three times before she finally agreed.”

In 2004, Greenspoon joined the Vaad as communications director.

This was a time Bellman describes as a “turning point” for Ottawa’s Jewish community. Until then, the Vaad – which became the Jewish Federation of Ottawa in 2005 – had an insular approach, never reaching out to the greater Ottawa community for marketing and communications.

Working with Bellman and the communications committee, Greenspoon launched a concerted effort to reach out to the secular community, publicizing the existence, the benefits and the inclusiveness of Ottawa’s Jewish agencies and organizations.

Bellman believes it wouldn’t have happened without Greenspoon.

“I credit Francie with making it happen,” he said. “She led the transformation.”

Greenspoon’s position immersed her in the community and saw her working with Jewish community staff members and volunteers. This is what she will miss the most in retirement.

“The people were always changing and you were constantly building new relationships,” she said.

“New chairs, new staff, new volunteers, new ideas – change is all about people and ideas. It changes the dynamic of how you work.”



HOWARD SANDLER
“I learned ... about what goes into building and maintaining a strong community,” said Francie Greenspoon as she retires as senior director of communications at the Jewish Federation of Ottawa.

“There are lots of people I will miss. I loved the work and working with a team. If you have good team, there is spirit and laughter and fun. That’s what I will miss.”

It’s no surprise that the fondest memories of her years with Federation do not centre on events or milestones, but rather on individuals, particularly her co-workers.

“I have tremendous respect for donors and volunteers, but I have an inordinate amount of respect for staff,” she said. “Nobody knows how hard they work. Campaign after campaign, they work 12 to 15 hour days. They are the unsung heroes of the community.”

Greenspoon leaves confident that her position is in good hands. For the past four years, she has been job sharing her position with Pauline Colwin, who is now working full-time in the position. She and Colwin worked seamlessly together, so the transition will be smooth.

“We are grateful to Francie for her many and varied contributions to the community and will miss her can-do attitude and tremendous talents at messaging the complex work of Federation,” said Federation President and CEO Andrea Freedman.

“The nature of Francie’s work and the fact that community issues don’t always present themselves between 9 and 5 meant that she frequently made herself available to handle challenging tasks in the evening and on weekends. She handled herself with the utmost grace and professionalism.”



SJCC Basketball: Team Black wins the SJCC Men’s Basketball League championship. (From left) Jonny Perrier, Josh Brantz, Brad Ellison, Ashley Potter, Haydon Cantor and Jesse Dean. Missing from photo: Jeffrey Pleet, Brian Boucher and Colin Arsenault.

Brenda Van Vliet: Bulletin says goodbye to long-time production manager after 22 years

There have been many changes at the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin over the years since production manager **Brenda Van Vliet** came on board in 1995. Van Vliet retired just after this issue of the paper went to press. **Benita Baker** reports.

In 1995, when Brenda Van Vliet applied for the job of layout person at the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin, the globetrotting military daughter and spouse didn't suspect she'd spend 22 years in the position.

Fresh from a 12-year stint as managing editor and editor-in-chief of *Der Kanadier*, the newspaper of the Canadian Forces in Europe, based in Lahr, Germany, Van Vliet became the Bulletin's first in-house production manager. She retired from the position on May 15.

Hired by then-Bulletin editor Myra Aronson, Van Vliet arrived on the scene when manual cut and paste layout of the newspaper was being replaced by computerized layout and ad design. The technology was so new that Van Vliet was told to "buy whatever you need." She even bought her own desk.

"We were a good team," said Aronson. "It was Alyce Baker as business manager, Brenda and me. Brenda was patient, knowledgeable, hard-working, diligent and even-tempered."

The Bulletin offices were located in the Jewish Community Centre (JCC) on Chapel Street. Waiting for her equipment and furniture to arrive, Van Vliet worked from home and had to rent a fax machine in order to communicate with Aronson about layout and design.

Finally, the state-of-the-art technology arrived and Van Vliet began working in the Bulletin office. She put the first in-house production of the paper to bed on a Friday afternoon only to return on Monday to discover that most of the equipment had been stolen over the weekend.

"It seems like just yesterday that I started in this job," said Van Vliet, who applied for the position because she liked the idea of working for a community newspaper. The fact that she was a non-Jew working for a Jewish organization was not at all daunting.

Aronson and Baker would explain the holidays and the workings of the community to her and patiently answer her questions. They even brought her lunch on Passover.

Van Vliet has seen a lot of changes in her tenure at the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin.

She has worked with three editors – Aronson, the late Barry Fishman and,

for almost a decade, current editor Michael Regenstreif. There have been numerous design and personnel changes as well as the move to the new Soloway JCC building in 1998, which had a pivotal effect on her work environment because she finally got her own phone and email address.

The Chapel Street offices had limitations. Van Vliet did not have her own phone. For almost three years, when she got a phone call, the receptionist would announce over the PA system, "Brenda, there's a phone call for you," and she would have to go to someone's office to take the call.

The Jewish community, said Van Vliet, embraced her and left a lasting impression.

"I learned about the true meaning of community here," she said. "Here in the Jewish community, you can see the feeling, the caring, the cohesiveness. You know you belong and are made to feel welcome."



"It seems like just yesterday that I started in this job," said Brenda Van Vliet as she retires after 22 years with the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin.

This became especially clear to her last year when her mother passed away. Much to her surprise, several community members came to the funeral.

"It so touched me," she said. "I felt I was part of this community. People cared."

Regenstreif said he learned to rely on Van Vliet from his first day in the office in 2007 – and not just for her layout skills.

"I've relied on Brenda as a second set of eyes on everything that went into the paper, to edit my own columns – and for her incredible 'corporate memory' of everything about the Bulletin for the 12 years she was here before I arrived," said Regenstreif.

"Brenda has been my strong right arm for almost 10 years. We went through many changes at the Bulletin together, including the print redesign and the renewal of our website, but the biggest change in all those years will come when Brenda is no longer in the office. I hope she enjoys her next chapter – but she'll be greatly missed."

Van Vliet and her husband, Mike Hewes, live next to a lake in Chelsea, Quebec, and they're looking forward to spending more time together in that idyllic setting.

"The eventual plan is to travel more, either to places Mike and I have never been, or back to places we love. We have friends and family all across Canada and in Europe and the U.K. We hope to be able to catch up with as many of them as possible," Van Vliet said.

"For the time being, though, we will relax at home, by the lake, with our dog, while overseeing a few renovations to our home."

Aronson succinctly summed up Van Vliet's long and accomplished tenure at the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin: "All my decisions should turn out so well," she said.



SJCC Hockey: Team Goldberg wins the SJCC Men's Hockey League championship. (Kneeling, from left) Jacob Polowin, Ryan Goldberg, P.J. Rothman, Marshall Rothman, Josh Kardish, (standing) Jeff Sherman, Ivan Mitar, Alex Hoerd, Jonah Shinder, Matt Mullin, Josh Garellek, Ryan Bodnoff and Steven Rich. Missing from photo: Jonathan Katz and Brayden Girard.

‘We must learn from this story and its lessons’

BY BENITA BAKER

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said Canada must always acknowledge the country’s lamentable policy during the Second World War, which prevented Jewish refugees fleeing the Holocaust from coming here.

Trudeau was speaking to a large assembly – including Holocaust survivors, parliamentarians, dignitaries, students and members of the public – gathered, May 8, at the Canadian War Museum for the National Holocaust Remembrance Day Ceremony.

“We cannot, we must not turn away from this uncomfortable truth and Canada’s part in it,” said Trudeau. “We must learn from this story, and its lessons must guide our actions today and the days to come because, as stories like these remind us, cruelty, indifference and the hatred that made the Holocaust possible are still possible today, even here in Canada.”

The emotionally moving and poignant tribute to Holocaust victims and survivors has been an annual event organized by the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem since Parliament passed a bill establishing Holocaust Memorial Day in 2003. Although Yom HaShoah was on April 24, the ceremony was held later because Parliament was not in session then.



(From left) Canadian Society for Yad Vashem (CSYV) board members Bruce Kent and Lou Greenbaum, CSYV National Chair Fran Sonshine, Kyle Goldenberg (Greenbaum’s grandson and fourth generation Holocaust survivor), Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and CSYV National Executive Director Ester Driham stand for a moment after lighting the first of six memorial candles at the National Holocaust Remembrance Day Ceremony, May at the Canadian War Museum.

The theme of the 2017 National Holocaust Remembrance Day Ceremony was “Survivors’ Testimonies”: The Fate of the Individual during the Holocaust.”

Leslie Vertes, a 93-year-old survivor from Hungary, described his experience

in both Nazi and Soviet forced labour camps. He now regularly talks to groups of students because he wants to inspire them to action.

“I tell them freedom is not free,” said Vertes. “My message is simple. Silence is not an option ... I want to show them that they need to speak up to eliminate discrimination, fight anti-Semitism and all other forms of prejudice.”

In a video testimony, survivor Felix Opatowski, now deceased, described in stark and heartbreaking detail his life in the Polish Lodz Ghetto and, in Auschwitz, where he witnessed the children of Drancy, France being marched to the gas chamber.

Other speakers included Israeli Ambassador Nimrod Barkan, Opposition Leader Rona Ambrose and NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair.

Students from Hebrew Foundation School in Montreal led the singing of “O

Canada” and “Hatikvah,” and also sang “Eli, Eli,” a song based on a poem by Hannah Senesh.

Six memorial candles were lit on the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem menorah by groups of dignitaries and Holocaust survivors in memory of the six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust, and to pay homage to survivors and freedom fighters, as well as honouring future generations.

In a moving D’var Torah, Rabbi Reuven Bulka said, “The only way that we can fight evil is by being good. The only way to fight intolerance is not by being tolerant, but by being welcoming, by being embracing, by being loving and by appreciating others.”

The sombre ceremony concluded with a moving rendition of “Kel Maleh Rachamim” and the Mourner’s Kaddish by Cantor Pinchas Levinson, and blowing of the shofar by Rabbi Bulka.



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Ottawa celebrates Yom Ha'Atzmaut

BY MICHAEL AARENAU

An estimated 900 people – from infants to seniors – gathered, May 2, at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre (SJCC) to celebrate the 69th Yom Ha'Atzmaut – Israel's Independence Day.

Ella Dagan, program director of the Vered Israel Cultural and Educational Program, Ella Dagan, had been planning the Yom Ha'Atzmaut celebration since January and said that the event had something for everyone – and she was right.

In the downstairs gym, there was children's programming including bouncy castles, an interactive circus school, sports stations, arts and crafts, face painting and more. Upstairs, the adults were just as content with a full spread of Israeli cuisine catered by Babi's Restaurant and music and dancing with Israeli singer Yaakov Sassi and DJ Lahit Barosh.

Dagan said the event took place from 5 to 9 pm so that everyone could attend – from children finishing school for the day to community members coming to the SJCC after work. Indeed, a large and diverse crowd showed up to celebrate.

"Yom Ha'Atzmaut is a powerful reminder that we will no longer be exiled from nations around the world. I like to think of the holiday as a day of gratitude and I appreciate the SJCC bringing the community together for events like this," said Alex Sarna, a young professional.

Another community member with a special connection to Yom Ha'Atzmaut was Tobin Kaiman.

"Celebrating Israel's independence the moment after a nation pauses to remember its heroes [on Yom Hazikaron] gives extra significance to celebrating Israel's sovereignty, said Kaiman, an Ottawa who served as a lone soldier in the Israel Defense Forces. "The celebrations at the SJCC create a strong sense of community



The flag of Israel flies above Ottawa City Hall on Yom Ha'Atzmaut, May 2.



Ottawa Jewish Community School and Torah Day School of Ottawa students join Cantor Daniel Benlolo in leading "Hatikvah" and "O Canada" as the Israeli flag was raised at Ottawa City Hall.

with a common passion, attachment, and love for the State of Israel."

Rabbi Idan Scher of Congregation Machzikei Hadas was happy to see so many people celebrating.

"We talk so much about creating unity, and that's exactly what we had tonight. The entire community was out here celebrating something that we hold so dear: the State of Israel," he said. "I also appreciated all of the family-friendly activities. My kids never wanted to leave! We're already looking forward to next year's festivities."

Earlier in the day, about 200 people – including students from the Ottawa Jewish Community School and Torah Day School of Ottawa – joined dignitaries including Mayor Jim Watson, Israeli Ambassador Nimrod Barkan, several MPs and city councillors, and Jewish community leaders to see Israel's flag raised in a ceremony organized by the Jewish Federation of Ottawa on the plaza at Ottawa City Hall.



Israeli singer Yaakov Sassi entertains the large crowd celebrating Yom Ha'Atzmaut at the SJCC.



One of many circles of dancers celebrates Yom Ha'Atzmaut at the SJCC.



Yom Ha'Atzmaut celebrants eagerly line up for Israeli cuisine prepared by Babi's Restaurant.



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Sherril Horwich Mazel Tov on your milestone Birthday by Julia Gluck and Ted and Jess Overton

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Ethel Rosenblatt by Carol and Stuart Levine, Annette Albert, Irvin Hoffman, Shirley Kriger, the residents, staff and Boards of the Lodge and LTC Foundation, Beverley and Abe Feinstein, Len and Barbara Farber and Libby Katz
Ruth Rosen by Ann and Terry Smutylo
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Ellen Asherman and the Zemer Lach Choral Group Mazel Tov on your well-deserved honour by Ingrid Levitz
Stephen Saslove Mazel Tov on your well-deserved honour by Ingrid Levitz and Cathy and Dan Sigler
Jeff Miller Mazel Tov on receiving the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award by the staff and Boards of the Lodge and LTC Foundation
Margo and Norman Viner Happy 60th Birthdays by Mark and Marla Spergel
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Two upcoming events on Jewish genealogy at Soloway JCC

BY JOHN DIENER
JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF OTTAWA

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Ottawa and the Soloway Jewish Community Centre (SJCC) are co-sponsoring two upcoming events at the SJCC.

On Sunday, May 28, 10 am to noon, in partnership with the Ottawa Jewish Historical Society, local Jewish genealogists Hymie Reichstein and John Diener will present an introductory session on doing family tree research.

Topics to be discussed include how to begin your research, interviewing techniques, using family tree software, searching social media and using the hundreds of databases that now exist and may contain information about your ancestors. There will be a question and answer session, and they'll demonstrate some of the databases.

On Thursday, June 15, 7 pm, Andrew Zalewski will present a lecture entitled "Jewish Galicia (1772-1918): Vibrant Past Rediscovered."

Zalewski's talk brings to life the community of Galicia, the former province of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, intertwining his personal genealogical discoveries with the larger historical context from within and outside the Jewish community of Galicia.

In Zalewski's narrative, the community comes alive: professionals, pious traditionalists and self-assured reformers, dwellers of shtetls and cities. The story of Galician Jews is the story of many contrasts: poverty mixes with opportunities, separateness with acculturation: the sounds of Yiddish and Hebrew fill the cheders while German and Polish are spoken in public schools.

Zalewski is a physician and former professor of Medicine at Jefferson University in Philadelphia. He is passionate about bringing to light the story of Galicia. Several generations of his Jewish and Christian ancestors traced their roots to this former province of the Austrian and Austro-Hungarian Empire. He is the author of two books, *Galician Trails: The Forgotten Story of One Family* and *Galician Portraits: In Search of Jewish Roots*, and is a frequent speaker at meetings of Jewish genealogical societies and cultural institutions.

Zalewski serves on the board of directors of Geshet Galicia, a non-profit organization with a global membership dedicated to researching Jewish genealogy in the former Galicia. He is also executive editor of the *Galitzianer*, the organization's quarterly research journal.

For further information on these sessions, or on Jewish genealogy in general, contact the Jewish Genealogical Society of Ottawa at jgsottawa@gmail.com.



Researcher Andrew Zalewski will speak about the history of Jewish Galicia, June 15, at the SJCC.

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AJA 50+ to hold fourth annual Trivia Night, May 28

BY MAUREEN KATZ
FOR AJA 50+

One of the many glowing success stories of AJA (Active Jewish Adults) 50+ programs is the annual Trivia Night, which draws Jeopardy-minded participants of all levels. This year, Trivia Night will take place on Sunday, May 28, 7 to 10:00 pm at Temple Israel, 1301 Prince of Wales Drive.

This widely anticipated evening is open to members of AJA 50+ and non-members in our community. The event will include a silent auction and a delightful dessert and refreshment buffet. The cost is again \$25 and Rabbi Steven Garten will again be our MC and quizmaster. This is a major fundraiser for AJA 50+, and your participation in this fun-filled evening is very much appreciated.

You are invited to register your own team of up to 10 persons per table, or come as you are or with a friend

and be placed on a team.

Space is limited, so hop on the Trivia Night bandwagon and reserve your table and/or register with Flo Morgan at 613-224-8286.

AJA 50+ has an active membership of 400 members with a dedicated team of volunteer directors and members. AJA 50+ welcomes you to join our wide-ranging cultural, health, educational, social and recreational programs – especially Trivia Night.

Visit www.aja50plus.ca for more information about AJA 50+.

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'There is no better way to connect people than through music'

JERUSALEM – Laurent Lévy believes that to understand Jerusalem is to understand the whole world. But it's not an easy task. "For many people, it is hard to enter into this world, to understand the history. Haredim, religious Zionists, Muslims, Christians, rich, poor, Ashkenazim, Sephardim ..." said the entrepreneur and philanthropist.

"How can you do something to bring the people together? It's the same God for everyone."

The 50ish Lévy, who made his fortune at a young age with a chain of optical stores that will number 700 by 2020, became religiously observant in his 20s and made aliyah from Paris with his family in 2005.

He opened his first Israeli optical and hearing aid store in Jerusalem's Zion Square in 2015, and immediately donated 20,000 pairs of glasses to the needy.

Lévy started thinking about ways to enter the human soul and celebrate his beloved Jerusalem that were not restricted by nationality, religion, income or language. The answer for him was music.

"Music connects you to the soul," he said. "You listen to music and, suddenly, you're in another world. And you never meet someone who doesn't like music."

In 2012, Lévy decided to create a place where people from all backgrounds could listen to music, learn about the history of music – especially Jewish music – enjoy good food and drink and find a connection with others.

The following year, he started building Kikar HaMusica (Music Square), a complex in the Nachalat Shiv'a neighborhood of Jerusalem that includes bars and restaurants surrounding an outdoor stage and performance area. It opened a year ago.

At its heart is the Hebrew Music Museum, a fascinating, interactive and technically dazzling collection of 260



musical instruments from seven lands where Jews have lived in the Diaspora.

Musician and composer Eldad Levy (no relation) spent years looking around the world for the instruments, which include originals and reproductions.

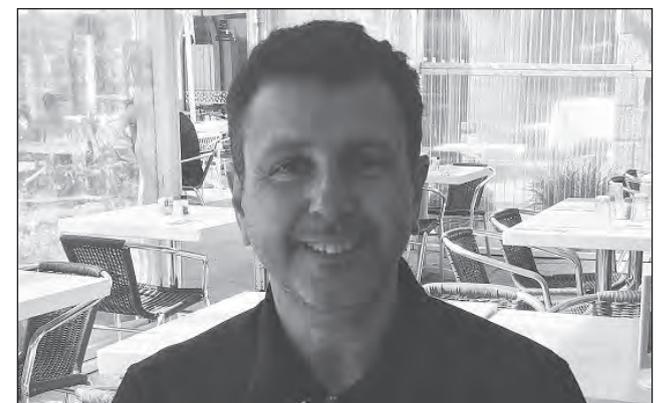
Each room is decorated in the mode of the country it represents – Yemen, Morocco, Central Asia, etc. – and shows how Jews have adopted and adapted the local instruments and music of each region to create a distinct Jewish style.

Upon entering, each visitor receives headphones and a tablet with a camera that accesses oral or written descriptions – in Hebrew, English, French, Spanish or Russian – of a particular period of musical history or a particular type of instrument.

Based on the English and French versions I sampled, the translations are excellent, unlike those in many Israeli museums.

But that's just the beginning. By clicking on images of the musical instruments, you can hear a high-quality recording of each instrument being played. And two areas are literally "hands on," where you can put on a different set of headphones and drum along with a soundtrack.

The visit ends with a breathtaking virtual reality tour of the Second Temple, which stood for 420 years before it



"Music connects you to the soul," says Laurent Lévy, founder of Kikar HaMusica in Jerusalem.

was destroyed by the Romans in 70 CE. Without moving from your seat, you climb the stairs, enter the temple and feel as if you are part of the world of the priests, their rituals and their sacrifices.

The animation and graphics are so vivid that you could swear you were actually moving up and down – which means it's definitely not for those with motion sickness.

The multimillion dollar project will eventually include an auditorium, a music-themed hotel and an academy of dance, music and theatre.

"My dream is for people to see the real Jerusalem – not what they see on TV – a place that is open to everyone, where there are things you don't have to pay for," said Lévy, who credits his business success to his religious faith and the support of his wife, Rachel.

"People come here at the end of the day. They don't know each other, but they connect through the music."

"There is no better way to connect people than through music."

The Ten Lost Tribes of Israel

Iam fascinated by origin stories and why these myths and narratives matter. Many of us hold tightly to stories about where our families come from, or where our roots and origins lie, just as we recount stories of the patriarchs and matriarchs whose actions helped determine how our families came to be.

Recently, a dinner companion dismissed the idea that there were Ten Lost Tribes of Israel who were deported after the destruction of the First Temple.

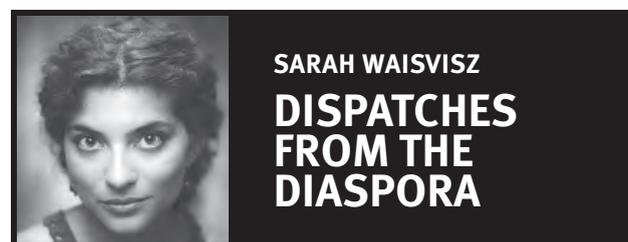
I found myself quite defensive.

"Of course there were tribes that travelled far and were 'lost'. This is why there are ancient communities of Jews in China and India and sub-Saharan Africa! This is part of why we talk about Diaspora!"

But I was clinging to straws. I realized my sense of what was real was, in some part at least, myth. And my interest in how those communities came to be so wildly dispersed masked a more keen interest in how they came to survive at all.

I have had the privilege of helping a friend and colleague create a dance-theatre piece entitled "UKnadian" about her British grandmother and her Ukrainian grandmother. "UKnadian" features Amelia Griffin as the solo performer dancing to her own original choreography, and Amelia's mother's poetry about the grandmothers serves as the spine of the story and most of the spoken text.

We chose to highlight braiding as a key theme, theatrical image, and structural device. The piece refers to the braiding of hair, the braiding of dough for bread and the braiding of different strands of story, culture and



people that make up a family. "UKnadian" is about mothers, daughters, grandmothers, and granddaughters. During the talkback following the performance, spectators noted that mothers often are the keepers and teachers of culture in a society, and that this piece expressed that fact.

But what happens when we ourselves are not parents? Although we have all been children, not all of us will become parents. What then becomes our role in a cultural community? What do we do if we do not have children to whom we can pass along our traditions? If we are not parents, how do we as Jewish adults fulfil the mitzvah of procreation and rearing children? In what other ways can we model, share, work to protect our culture, and help it to thrive?

No matter our particular ethnic or racial origin, as Jews, we belong to a religion and culture that values family, and very much values education. Many of our holidays and festivals are ingrained with teaching opportunities. Take, for example, the core of what happens at Chanukah and Passover: we recount the struggle and victory of the Maccabees and we recount

the Exodus from Egypt. Our communities also seem to value Jewish education, and Ottawa families seek out Jewish educational opportunities for their children, ranging from bar mitzvah prep to Shabbat Camp to supplementary school to day school.

Since that dinner conversation, I have had to admit I look to the mythology of the Ten Lost Tribes as an example of resilience. No matter their origins or whether DNA will ever prove genetic links to ancient Israelites, I am curious about how tiny minority communities managed to practise Jewish customs and live Jewish lives in Nigeria, South Africa, India, the rugged hills of the Pashtun region of Afghanistan, Burma and even Japan. It's not genetic proof that fascinates me, but rather the power of resilience.

Despite this isolation, oppression and cultural marginalization by majority cultures, Jewish communities have not only survived, but also thrived all over the world in minority situations. Healthy demographics are not the only markers of a community's health; so too are markers of cultural health such as community pride, cultural literacy and religious knowledge. A healthy culture is also a sign of healthy Jewish continuity. In those minority communities of the lost tribes, who held up the culture for the children? Who made sure it was valued and protected? Who encouraged it to evolve when necessary? Who taught the children what mattered most? There is a teaching in the Talmud that states that, if one teaches a child, it is as if that person has given birth to the child.

I wonder how healthy our own local community is, and how healthy it could be. If each of us took up the mantle of cultural keeper, whether we are parents or not, and took up the role of teacher, how strong and resilient could our children be? Who among us could be found?

You can't finish what you don't start

Don't start what you can't finish,' goes the expression. I think that's a flawed perspective because it dissuades people from challenging themselves. The inability to complete something shouldn't be equated with failure. The truth is that you can't finish what you don't start.

How many times has your fear of failure discouraged you from trying something? If you don't try, you won't know. Whether it's a small step in the right direction or setting a monumental goal, your decision to test uncharted waters should take into account more than your desired final result. Yes, it's important to have a clear vision, if you want to achieve a goal, but don't overlook the smaller rewards, milestones and outcomes that are part of the process.

Even once you've made a conscious choice to sign up for a class or a team sport, your success isn't guaranteed. Many factors play a role, including your own level of commitment. Injuries are always a possibility when you're involved in physical activities, especially if you're pushing your limits.

There may come a time when you have to drop out of a class or temporarily stop an activity you've been enjoying because your body is telling you it needs to rest and heal. That doesn't mean you've failed in any way. Having the courage and motivation to try in the first place is, in fact, an often overlooked measure of success.

We all want to achieve the goals we set. We all want to win in some way. I believe the concept of winning is overdue for a paradigm shift. But maybe that's because those of us who are not super athletic prefer to redefine winning.

What differentiates "winners" from the rest of the pack isn't as simple as who lifts the most weight, jumps



GLORIA SCHWARTZ
FOCUS ON FITNESS

Unless you want to become a high-calibre athlete, it doesn't matter if you start and don't follow through with a program. The key is to learn and grow, to find what you like and to figure out how to overcome whatever is getting between you and a healthier, fitter body.

the highest or runs the fastest; winners don't quit when the novelty wears off. The surge of enthusiasm that courses through your veins when you start something new and exciting can't last forever.

Have you ever been gung-ho about taking up a new fitness activity? You tell your friends about it, maybe even ask them to join in. You buy some new exercise gear. You make sure your schedule is cleared so nothing interferes with the days and times of the activity.

You get started. You love it. Then times passes, and soon you start skipping a class or a practice here or there. Other things come up, and suddenly that activity doesn't seem like a high priority. What's changed? Your

perception has changed. Just like when you fall in love, you're drawn to the object of your affection and you can't stand to be apart.

Fast forward months and then years, and the picture becomes more realistic. Some habits and imperfections that you once found attractive now seem irritating. Do you abandon that person or pursuit, or do you modify your expectations?

Some people are able to stick with their sport or exercise program, adapting and making adjustments along the way so they don't lose interest. This persistence allows them to improve their skills – whether it's swimming, martial arts or anything else. Those who get easily bored may drop out sooner, and that's OK, too. Think about why you dropped out and what you can do differently next time. Maybe better planning is in order. Perhaps you jumped on the band wagon with the latest fitness trend and tried something you ended up not liking. It's through trial and error that you'll eventually discover what you find engaging and fulfilling.

Unless you want to become a high-calibre athlete, it doesn't matter if you start and don't follow through with a program. The key is to learn and grow, to find what you like and to figure out how to overcome whatever is getting between you and a healthier, fitter body. People who are both committed and adaptable are most able to stick to a program or figure out a more suitable alternative.

Do you have a history of signing up for fitness classes, sports teams or personal training, then dropping out? Do you buy exercise equipment that ends up gathering dust? Think about what you really like to do. Think about why you want to do it. Getting into shape and staying fit is a journey of self-love, self-discovery and personal development that lasts a lifetime. Change along the way is inevitable. Make a plan, get started and don't overthink how you'll finish.

Florence Melton School Graduation: A Celebration of Learning

Thursday, June 22 - Sivan 28, 5777

7:30 PM – Soloway JCC Social Hall

The community is invited to celebrate with the 2017 graduates of the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning. This ceremony acknowledges the culmination of a remarkable two year Jewish education journey.

Director of the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning – Rabbi Steven Garten

Faculty – Rabbi Steven Garten, Rabbi Idan Scher, Rabbi Elizabeth Bolton

Reception to Follow

2017 Melton Graduates

Leila Ages
Iris Arnon
Michael Aronson
Norman Barwin
Sherill Besser

Minda Chaikin
John Cox
Barbara Goldrosen
Julie Kanter

Sidney Kardash
Fran Klodawsky
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John and Dayra Diener on Brian's marriage to Wendy by Diane Koven.

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MAZEL TOV TO:
Bernard and Donna Dolansky on Gillian

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Gillian Presner on receiving the Freiman Family Young Leadership Award by Ingrid Levitz.

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Cornelia Engel, a dear sister, by Magda Robicsek.
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Mark and Cindi Resnick and Family on the birth of their grandson Kyle Aiden Resnick by Susan and Sam, Lindsay, Jessica and Daniel Firestone.

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Michally Iny and Ron Kellner on Emily's Bat Mitzvah by Roslyn and Arnie Kimmel.

MORRIS AND LILLIAN KIMMEL MEMORIAL FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:
Steven and Linda Kerzner on their daughter Jessica's engagement to

Myles Kraut by Shelli and Steven Kimmel.

HILDY AND STEVEN LESH ENDOWMENT FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:
Hyman Reichstein on receiving the Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award by Hildy and Steven Lesh and family.
Jeff Miller on receiving the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Leadership Award by Hildy and Steven Lesh.

NORMAN AND ISABEL LESH ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Charles Balko by Isabel Lesh.

MAZEL TOV TO:
Shirley Kriger on becoming a great grandmother by Isabel Lesh.

IRVING AND ELLEN LITHWICK ENDOWMENT FUND

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Norton Lithwick by Marilyn and Daniel Kimmel.

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IN MEMORY OF:
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MAZEL TOV TO:
Roslyn and Arnie Kimmel on Sam's Bar Mitzvah by Bernard and Donna Dolansky.
Adam White and Lisa Kimmel on Sam's Bar Mitzvah by Bernard and Donna Dolansky.

RHODA AND JEFFREY MILLER FAMILY FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:
Jeffrey Miller on receiving the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award by Lynne Oreck-Wener and Bob Wener; and by Ingrid Levitz and family.

HARRY AND BERTHA PLEET MEMORIAL FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
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Dr. Irving Soloway by Sheldon and Corinne Taylor.
Edgar Saslove by Sheldon and Corinne Taylor.

SHMELZER-HOROVITCH ENDOWMENT FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:
Dr. Elaine Donnelly on receiving her PhD from the University of Massachusetts and for the significant contribution her doctoral thesis made to the field of education by Sol and Anne Shmelzer.

- Building Trust
- Serving the Community
- Growing Our Collective Legacy

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

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

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



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



FOUNDATION DONATIONS | Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation

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IN MEMORY OF:

Jay Dover by Debbie, Norm and Vicky Ferkin.

Ruth Berger by Debbie, Norm and Vicky Ferkin.

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MAZEL TOV TO:

Carol Ortenberg and Terry Lozoff on their engagement by Susan Weisman and Jeff Taylor and family.

MOSES, CHENYA AND HENRY TORONTOW MEMORIAL FUND

IN OBSERVANCE OF THE YAHRZEIT OF:

Ralph Torontow, a beloved daddy, by Tammy Torontow.

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IN MEMORY OF:

Ethel Rosenblatt by Stephen and Gail Victor.

RUTH AND JOSEPH VINER ENDOWMENT FUND

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

Margo and Norman Viner by Elissa Lieff.

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Steve Senman by Rick and Helen Zipes. Daniel Wolfish by Rick and Helen Zipes.

THE WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE PHILANTHROPY PROGRAM

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

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MOTHER'S DAY WISHES TO:

Shirley Melnick by Eileen Melnick-McCarthy and family.

Taryn Wener by Lynne Oreck-Wener and Bob Wener.

Zoe Oreck by Lynne Oreck-Wener and Bob Wener.

Evelyn Wener by Lynne Oreck-Wener and Bob Wener.

Marcia Koven by Diane Koven.

MAZEL TOV TO:

Gillian Presner on receiving the Freiman Family Young Leadership Award by Lynne Oreck-Wener and Bob Wener.

THE SAUL AND EDNA GOLDFARB B'NAI MITZVAH PROGRAM

RACHELI MANDELKER B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Eyal Podolsky on receiving the Jewish Community Service Student Award by Barry Mandelker and family.

JORDAN H. MORGAN B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Ruth Berger by Sarah Beutel and Steven Morgan and family.

MAZEL TOV TO:

Gillian Presner on receiving the Freiman Family Young Leadership Award by Sarah Beutel and Steven Morgan and family. Eyal Podolsky on receiving the Jewish Community Service Student Award by Sarah Beutel and Steven Morgan and family.

Hyman Reichstein on receiving the Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award by Sarah Beutel and Steven Morgan and family.

Jeffrey Miller on receiving the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award by Sarah Beutel and Steven Morgan and family.

JOSH TAYLOR MITZVAH FUND

MOTHER'S DAY WISHES TO:

Freda Weisman by Susan Weisman and family.

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

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All donations are acknowledged with a charitable receipt.

Foundation FACTS



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

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



Foundation FACTS



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

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

Alyce's recipes for Shavuot

Shavuot is the holiday that celebrates the Israelites receiving the Ten Commandments. The Bible tells that the Israelites, on returning to their tents after receiving the Commandments, had no time to slaughter cattle or kosher their utensils on Shabbat, so they ate dairy.

Today, many people are trying to reduce their intake of meat for health reasons. My eight-year-old granddaughter came home from camp and declared she was now a vegetarian.

This former steak-loving child has held to her decision easily and eagerly, with support from the rest

of the family. It has prompted me to find new ways of presenting dinner. Obviously, dairy meals are an easy solution. In fact, we sometimes have "breakfast for dinner," which appears to be a big hit with everyone.

So, with the upcoming Shavuot holiday, where dairy meals are the custom, I don't have to come up with something as an alternative to a festive meat meal.

The recent rage of sheet pan cooking has me hooked. For those of you unaware, line one cookie sheet with cut veggies and bake for a few minutes. Then add the protein (chicken or fish) and bake a few more minutes and you're done.



ALYCE BAKER
HOLIDAY COOKER AND BAKER

SALMON OR TROUT BOUQUETTIERE

Line a large jelly roll pan with parchment paper. Slice 3 zucchini in rounds. Slice 10 fingerling potatoes in small pieces. Slice 10 baby mini carrots in half. Chop 1 parsnip. Place all the veggies in the pan. Add 1 pint grape tomatoes. Season with salt, pepper and fresh chopped parsley. Sprinkle 2 teaspoons olive oil and mix through veggies. Bake at 450 F for 15 minutes. Add 2 large pieces of salmon or trout and spread vegetables around. Sprinkle the fish with lemon juice, salt, pepper, and tarragon. Bake 8 minutes more. A complete meal in one pan under 30 minutes!

Serves 4

FRENCH TOAST MUFFINS

8 cups cubed cinnamon raisin bread
2 apples peeled and coarsest chopped
5 eggs
1 cup milk
1 cup maple syrup

In large bowl, combine bread cubes and chopped apples. Set aside. In medium bowl whisk eggs, milk and 1/4 cup maple syrup. Pour egg mixture over the bread and gently combine.

Grease a 12 cup muffin pan. Spoon 1/2 cup of the bread mixture into each muffin compartment. Bake at 350 F for 25 minutes or until a knife inserted in the centre comes out clean. Let cool in pan. Turn muffins out and place on a serving platter. Spoon remaining maple syrup over muffins.

These freeze well and may be reheated in the microwave.

Makes 12

BAKED LEMON SPONGE PUDDING

I am sure each one of us has a recipe or two that evokes wonderful memories of our mothers.

This particular dessert does it for me. It is comforting, refreshing and simple to prepare.

1 cup sugar
1/3 cup flour
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 1/2 tablespoons lemon rind
1/3 cup lemon juice
3 egg yolks
1 can evaporated milk
3 egg whites

Combine sugar, flour and salt. Stir in lemon rind, juice, egg yolks and evaporated milk.

Beat egg whites stiff and fold into lemon mixture.

Pour into a greased 8-cup dish and place dish in a larger pan filled with hot water (bain-marie).

Bake at 350 F for 45 minutes.

May be served hot or cold, and you can spoon raspberry sauce over the pudding.

Serves 6-8



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Sunday, May 28
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\$85

For more information contact Gail Lieff
613-798-9818 x303 • glieff@jccottawa.com



Two novels that capture time spent in Israel

The Extra

By A.B. Yehoshua

Translated by Stuart Schoffman

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

256 pages

It is family concerns that bring 42-year-old Naga back to Israel. Now that their father has passed away, her brother Honi wants to convince their mother to leave her apartment in Jerusalem and move to an assisted living facility not far from his home in Tel Aviv. She agrees to try assisted living for three months, but can't leave her Jerusalem apartment empty for that long a period.

In *The Extra* by A. B. Yehoshua, Naga takes a leave of absence from her job as a harpist with an orchestra in the Netherlands to spend those three months in her childhood home in Jerusalem.

Naga refuses to accept money from her brother for the income she's losing, so Honi arranges for her to work as an extra in the entertainment industry – acting in films, TV and an opera being performed on Masada. As she travels to these jobs, Naga meets a variety of men who also perform as extras, some of whom form a personal interest in her, although that interest is not always shared.

At one point, Naga is forced to confront her past in the form of her ex-husband, who divorced her when she refused to have children. At times, she feels like an extra in her own life, but her determination to play a particular piece of music when her orchestra goes on tour gives her some direction.

Yehoshua writes beautiful prose, although, at times, it's difficult to decide how he wants readers to understand a character's behaviour. However, it's easy to just go with the

RABBI RACHEL ESSERMAN THE REPORTER, VESTAL, N.Y. BOOK REVIEW

flow – enjoying the writing and not worrying about any additional meaning.

There are some surprises, which add tension and interest, but the ending is puzzling. Is it supposed to be happy or sad? That may depend on the reader's own personal point of view.

Questioning Return: A Novel

By Beth Kissileff

Mandel Villar Press

374 pages

What happens when secular American Jews become religious and move to Israel?

That question fascinates Wendy Goldberg, the central character in *Questioning Return*, Beth Kissileff's absorbing novel.

Wendy is a graduate student in American religious studies, who, in 1996, receives a grant to live in Israel for a year in order to ask *baalat teshuvah* (newly religious Jews) about their lives. Are they happier than they were before? Have their personalities and basic desires changed or have they retained parts of their previous lives?

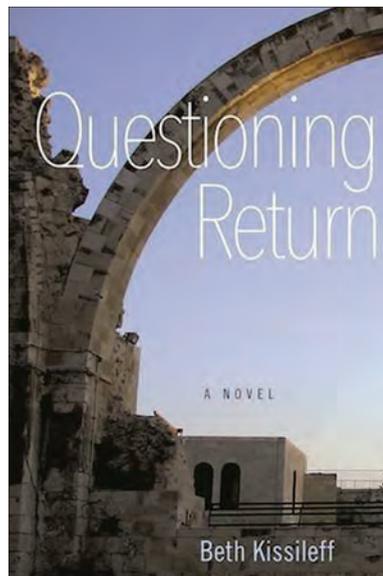
In addition to her academic questioning, Wendy is searching for answers to her own life. Will she have a successful career – receiving her PhD and finding employment at a university? How much of her determination for a life in academia is based on rebellion against her parents? Will she ever find a partner who treats her as an equal, or will she spend her life alone?

Although Wendy didn't expect living in Israel to affect her secular attachment to Judaism, she does find herself enjoying Shabbat – how the rhythm of life changes and the way people gather for dinners. However, the question of religion continually arises, whether from those who find themselves becoming more ritually observant or others who have an active dislike of all religious practice. When tragedy strikes, Wendy is upset and fearful that her research played a role.

Recovering her equilibrium in both her academic work and her personal life is not easy. The results are Wendy's greater understanding of her impulses and desires.

Kissileff does an excellent job capturing Wendy's fears about her

personal life and her work. The many discussions about Torah and religion combine intellectual and sensual elements. The inclusion of a wide variety of voices – from a Reconstructionist rabbinical student to Modern Orthodox Jews to *baalat teshuvah* – make the discussions fascinating, as all struggle to discover a religious path that speaks to their spiritual needs.



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**NEXT EDITION DEADLINE:
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 2017**

**Readers and advertisers are advised
the next edition of the
Ottawa Jewish Bulletin will be
published on Monday, June 26, 2017.**

WHAT'S GOING ON | May 22 to June 25, 2017
FOR MORE CALENDAR LISTINGS, VISIT WWW.JEWISHOTTAWA.COM/COMMUNITY-CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24

Yom Yerushalayim Musical Hallel and Celebration:
Congregation Machzikei Hadas, 2310 Virginia Dr., 5 pm.
Info: CMH, 613-521-9700, office@cmhottawa.com

Hillel Lodge, Ottawa Jewish Home for the Aged, AGM:
10 Nadolny Sachs Pvt., 7 pm.
Info: Cindy Cherry, 613-728-3900, cindyc@hillel-ltc.com

Women's Torah Study with Rabbi Deborah Zuker:
Join Rabbi Zuker in her home, 7 pm.
Info/RSVP: Rabbi Zuker, rabbizuker@kehillatbethisrael.com

SATURDAY, MAY 27

The Commentary: A Shabbat Alternative:
With Rabbi Deborah Zuker for an alternative Shabbat morning.
Kehillat Beth Israel, 1400 Coldrey Ave., 11:30 am.
Info: Miriam Lerson, 613-728-3501, miriam@kehillatbethisrael.com

SUNDAY, MAY 28

AJA 50+ Trivia Night:
Info/Register: Annette, aja50plus@sympatico.ca
or Flo 613-224-8286.

TUESDAY, MAY 30

Transforming the Jewish Community through the Power of Relationships: With Ron Wolfson, a visionary educator and inspiring speaker. Pre-registration required, 8:15 to 10:30 am.
Info: Sarah Beutel, 613-798-4696, sbeutel@jewishottawa.com

SUNDAY, JUNE 4

Am Echad Walkathon for Jewish Education:
Funds raised go to Jewish educational institutions.
OJCS, 31 Nadolny Sachs Pvt., 3 to 6 pm.
Info: Jennifer Greenberg, 613-722-0020, jgreenberg@theojs.ca
The Aging Rebel: Retaining Our Power Mini-Conference:
Temple Israel Ottawa, 1301 Prince of Wales Dr., 9:30 am.
Info: Fran Klodawsky, 613-224-1802, Fran.Klodawsky@carleton.ca

CHW Ottawa Tea in honour of Naomi Lipsky Cracower:
Home of Elissa Iny, 3301-38 Metropole Pvt., 2 pm.
Info: Gina Grant, 613-701-2487

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

Foundation AGM: Annual General Meeting of the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation, 7 pm.
Info: Shelaine Chapple, 613-798-4696, schapple@ojcf.ca

SUNDAY, JUNE 11

16th Annual Sports Breakfast of Champions:
Celebrate the community's athletic heroes, 11 am.
Info: Jon Braun, 613-798-9818, jbrown@jccottawa.com

PJ Library in the Park 3.0: Join PJ Library for a fun-filled afternoon at Centrepointe Park.
Centrepointe Park, 114 Centrepointe Dr., 3 pm.
Info: Ariel Fainer, 613-798-4696, afainer@jewishottawa.com

A Concert for Life with Chazzan Daniel Benlolo and the Tamir Neshama Choir:
In celebration of Canadian Magen David Adom's 40th anniversary.
Kehillat Beth Israel, 1400 Coldrey Ave., 6 pm.
Info: Miriam Lerson, 613-728-3501, miriam@kehillatbethisrael.com

MONDAY, JUNE 12

March of the Living Info Session: For students interested in joining the April 2018 trip, and who will be in grades 10, 11 & 12 during the 2017-2018 school year, 7 pm.
Info: Natalie Abenhaim, 613-798-4696, nabenhaim@jewishottawa.com

TUESDAY, JUNE 13

Malca Pass Library Book Group Meeting: "Carry Me" by Peter Behrens will be reviewed by Kinneret Globerman.
Kehillat Beth Israel, 1400 Coldrey Ave., 7:30 pm.
Info: Maureen Kaell, 613-224-8649, mkaell@rogers.com

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

Federation AGM: Annual General Meeting of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, 7 pm.
Info: Rachel Abenhaim, 613-798-4696, rabenhaim@jewishottawa.com

THURSDAY, JUNE 15

Jewish Galicia: Vibrant Past Rediscovered:
With Andrew Zalewski, 7 pm.
Info: Roslyn Wollock, 613-798-9818, rwollock@jccottawa.com

FRIDAY, JUNE 16

Community Shabbat Dinner with Izzy Ezagui:
Ottawa Torah Centre Chabad, 111 Lamplighters Dr., 7:15 to 10 pm.
Info: Rabbi Menachem Blum, 613-843-7770, rabbim@theotc.org

SUNDAY, JUNE 18

Kosher Day at the Ballpark on Father's Day:
featuring the Ottawa Champions vs. the Cuban National Team.
RCGT Park, 300 Coventry Rd., 12 to 4 pm.
Info: Staci Zemlak-Kenter, 613-792-4827, staci.zemlak@gmail.com

CANDLE LIGHTING BEFORE

MAY 26	8:18 PM	JUNE 2	8:26 PM
FIRST DAY OF SHAVUOT		JUNE 9	8:29 PM
MAY 30	8:23 PM	JUNE 16	8:33 PM
SECOND DAY OF SHAVUOT		JUNE 23	8:34 PM
MAY 31	AFTER 9:26 PM	JUNE 30	8:34 PM

BULLETIN DEADLINES

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7	FOR JUNE 26
WEDNESDAY, JULY 5	FOR JULY 24
TUESDAY, AUGUST 1 **	FOR AUGUST 21

* Early deadline: Community-wide Issue ** Early deadline: holiday closures

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:

Elaine Kurtzman

Norton Lithwick

Rabbi Menachem Rodal

Los Angeles, CA

(brother of Berel Rodal)

Frank Wolff

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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