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A messenger who opened eyes, touched hearts, and inspired action

Teacher **Patrick Mascoe**, who founded the Day of Cultural Understanding, remembers his friend and Holocaust survivor **David Shentow**.

David Shentow passed away in Toronto, June 12, in the company of his loving wife Rose and their daughters, Lorie and Renée.

I had the honour of getting to know David starting in 2004, after inviting him to Charles H. Hulse Public School to speak to my Grade 6 students about racism and discrimination. He came back every year and we became friends. I visited him in Toronto just two days before he died and he was humble, as he always was, asking about my wife, my students, and my health; typical David, it was never about him.

David lived two very distinct lives. He arrived in Canada on March 27, 1949, and settled in Toronto because he had an uncle living in the city. His uncle helped him find his first job, sewing linings for women's clothing. That year, David met his future wife, Rose Feldberg of Ottawa. A few months later, Rose invited David to Ottawa for Chanukah and he never left.

Newly married, David began working in his father-in-law's clothing store. He encouraged Rose to go to university to become a high school teacher. After the birth of their two daughters, David became a buyer for the A.J. Frieman Company, which was eventually bought by the Hudson's Bay Company.

Much of David's success was attributed to his friendly disposition and his ability to speak five languages. But there was one topic he never spoke about until many years later: his life before 1949.

David was born April 29, 1925 in Warsaw, Poland. When he was six weeks old, his parents moved from Poland to Antwerp, Belgium. At the beginning of the Second World War, his father tried to find a way out of Europe, but they were trapped. Gradually life in Antwerp changed – daily decrees were issued to dehumanize Jews. David and his sisters were forbidden from attending schools, cinemas, theatres, and even from sitting on park benches.

One day when he was 17, a letter arrived from the Gestapo. David and his father were ordered to report to the railway station in Antwerp. They boarded the train on August 10, 1942. It was the last time he saw his mother and sisters alive. The train eventually arrived at Dannes-Camiers, and the prisoners were forced inside a work camp. Eventually, the work camp was closed and the forced labourers were to be sent back to Belgium. Each man was given a loaf of bread and loaded onto a train. But when the train finally stopped, they knew they

See Shentow on page 16



David Shentow and his wife Rose travelled alongside March of the Living students four times because David felt an immense responsibility to share his story and to instil in others the importance of remembering the Holocaust.

Community's duty to a great man: teach the lessons of the Holocaust

BY KAREN PALAYEW

The Ottawa Jewish community, the community at large, and humanity itself, has lost a beautiful soul.

David Shentow, who passed away June 12, will be remembered as an intelligent, engaging, and kind human being. He had a brilliant sense of humour. He was strong, resilient, and righteous. He adored his wife Rose and

his family, and he loved and appreciated the beauty of life.

David was a Holocaust survivor – a survivor who courageously dedicated himself to openly and honestly sharing his personal story of loss and survival. Like many survivors, he did not speak about his experiences until the early 1980s, when Holocaust deniers began to

See Lessons on page 16

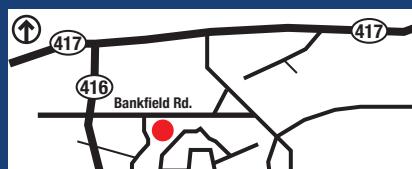
inside: Foundation, Federation annual general meetings > p. 2, 3

Top-ranked gymnast heading to Maccabiah Games > p. 9

Am Echad Walk/Run for Jewish Education > p. 10



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Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation founders honoured

BY NORAH MOR

Founders were honoured, awards were presented, and the leadership torch was passed, June 7, when the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation held its annual general meeting at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre.

As Lawrence Soloway, the son of Hy Soloway, one of the Foundation's founders explained, the Foundation was launched in 1971 with a gift of \$100,000. By March of this year, the Foundation's assets had reached \$61 million.

Soloway conducted a short interview with the Foundation's two surviving founders, Bernard Shinder and Norman Zagerman, who explained the idea behind the Foundation was to go beyond the Jewish Federation of Ottawa's Annual Campaign – then known as the UJA Campaign – to create mechanisms to ensure the long-term future of Ottawa's Jewish community.

Shinder noted that Ottawa was the first Jewish community in Canada to establish a foundation. "Then we went and taught other communities how to do it."

"None of the Foundation's successes would have been possible if it wasn't for the group of innovative and discerning people," said Soloway. "It was these community members who understood the Talmudic precept: 'As my ancestors planted for me, so do I plant for those who will come after me.'"

Plaques were presented to Shinder and Zagerman, and to family members of Foundation founders Alex Betcherman, Hy Bessin, Gilbert Greenberg, Hy Harris, Hy Hochberg, David Loeb, Abe Palmer, Casey Swedlove, Samuel Taller, Harold Shenkman and Hy Soloway.

In her remarks, Foundation President and CEO Andrea Freedman noted the vision of the Foundation founders and said each of us the power to further that vision through philanthropy and to inspire others to do so.

The Ilana and Steven Rubin Scholarship Award was presented for the first time to two students graduating from high school and going on to university. The award fund was launched by Steven Rubin in honour of his late wife, Ilana, a beloved Jewish studies teacher



Norman Zagerman (left) and Bernard Shinder (right) discuss the founding of the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation with Lawrence Soloway.

in Ottawa and Florida. Recipients Yaffa Segal, who plans to become a teacher, and Olivia Vale, who plans to become a biopharmaceutical researcher, each received scholarships in the amount of \$1,800, "100 times chai," to help further their educations.

The Norman Lesh Philanthropy Award was presented to Tamir for the creation of "Stepping Out in Style," an annual fundraising fashion show.

The \$3,500 award was presented by Paul Finn, the late Norman Lesh's son-in-law, who noted the event "will showcase beauty on its many shapes and forms; body types, ages and levels of ability." The award was accepted by Bob Thompson, president of the Tamir Board, and Krystal Valencia, director of development and communication.

Lynne Oreck-Wener presented two grants on behalf of the Women's Collective Philanthropy Program. Miriam Friedman-Tanger received \$1,907 for her initiative to create a new organization in support of single and divorced mothers and their children in Ottawa's Jewish community; and the Ottawa K kosher Food Bank received \$1,000 for its new holiday bas-

See Foundation AGM on page 23



Outgoing Chair Michael Landau (left) and incoming Chair Gillie Landau at the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation annual general meeting.



Paul Finn (left) presents the Norman Lesh Philanthropy Award was presented to Tamir representatives Krystal Valencia and Bob Thompson.



Steven Rubin presents an Ilana and Steven Rubin Scholarship Award to Olivia Vale.



Steven Rubin presents an Ilana and Steven Rubin Scholarship Award to Yaffa Segal.



Lynne Oreck-Wener (left) presents a Women's Collective Philanthropy Program grant to Donna Strauss of the Ottawa K kosher Food Bank.



Lynne Oreck-Wener (left) presents a Women's Collective Philanthropy Program grant to Miriam Friedman-Tanger for her initiative to create a new organization in support of single and divorced mothers and their children.



Paul Finn presents the George Joseph Cooper Scholarship to Anna Frenkel.

Jewish education to be top priority, says new Federation chair

Expects new Tamir living centre to be built on Jewish Community Campus

BY NORAH MOR

Ensuring the future of Jewish education in Ottawa will be his top priority, said Jewish Federation of Ottawa Chair Hartley Stern in his inaugural address at the Federation's annual general meeting, June 14.

Stern succeeded outgoing Chair Linda Kerzner who completed her two-year term during the meeting.

"We need to find ways to ensure the survival of a high quality and affordable Jewish Education in Ottawa," he said.

Stern pointed to the hiring of Jon Mitzmacher to be head of school at the Ottawa Jewish Community School (OJCS) and the restructuring of the school's board with Michael Polowin as chair, as key elements which will help ensure the day school's future.

The viability of Ottawa's Orthodox schools, and the supplementary schools, are also essential, said Stern.

Giving to the Annual Campaign, Stern estimated, will need to increase by 30 per cent in order to provide the necessary funding to ensure the long-term viability of Ottawa's Jewish schools.

Stern also announced that he expects ground to be broken within the next year for a \$10 million integrated, assisted living centre for Tamir residents on the Jewish Community Campus.

"It's not quite a done deal, yet," said Stern, but he expects all of the financing, much of it coming from government and other sources outside Ottawa's Jewish community.

Tamir is the Ottawa Jewish community agency which serves people with developmental disabilities, helping them realize their potential through residences and programs offered in a supportive Jewish environment.

Stern has been working behind the scenes for several years with Tamir and the Federation Board to bring the project to fruition.

In her address, outgoing Federation Chair Linda Kerzner thanked the community for the opportunity to serve as chair over the past two years and pointed to the dedication of fellow board members and Federation staff – as well as to the boards and staffs of Ottawa's various Jewish agencies and organizations.

Federation President and CEO Andrea Freedman talked about recently running her first 10K race and drew parallels between training for the race and Federation's ongoing community work.

Commonalities, she said, include having a vision, setting milestones with transparent reporting, having cheerleaders (and being a cheerleader), taking the first steps (and helping others

See Federation AGM on page 23



Outgoing Chair Linda Kerzner and incoming Chair Hartley Stern at the Jewish Federation of Ottawa annual general meeting.



Gillian Presner receives the Freiman Family Young Leadership Award from A.J. Freiman.



Jeffrey Miller (left) receives the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award from Robert Greenberg.



Tommy Podolsky (right) receives the Student Award on behalf of his brother, Eyal Podolsky, from Steven Kimmel.



Hyman Reichstein (right) receives the Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award from Steven Kimmel.



2018 Annual Campaign Chair Sharon Appotive and 2018 Women's Campaign Chair Aviva Ben-Choreen at the Jewish Federation of Ottawa annual general meeting.



Chair Hartley Stern and President and CEO Andrea Freedman at the Jewish Federation of Ottawa annual general meeting.



Linda Kerzner presents a gift to 2017 Annual Campaign Chair Michael Polowin.

Moscovitch's story of Jewish immigration to Canada coming to NAC

BY NORAH MOR

“I think that’s something that both new and existing and old-stock Canadians can agree with,” said then-prime minister Stephen Harper during a federal election campaign leaders’ debate on September 17, 2015.

That reference, along with the more recent arrivals of thousands of Syrian refugees in Canada, led to the creation of “Old Stock: a refugee love story” by playwright Hannah Moscovitch, singer-songwriter Ben Caplan and theatre director Christian Barry.

“Old Stock” will be presented at the National Arts Centre in the Azrieli Studio, for four performances from July 13 to 15, as part of the Canada Scene Festival.

The play tells the story of Chaim and Chaya, inspired by Moscovitch’s great-grandparents, Jewish-Romanian refugees who met at Pier 21 in Halifax, a main entry point for immigrants to Canada early in the 20th century. The Canadian Museum of Immigration is now located at Pier 21 and a visit to the museum led Moscovitch to look into her family history.

Chaim and Chaya left their homes and families behind and fled to a strange place in hope of finding and a better future.

“Although it’s a very Jewish story



Playwright Hannah Moscovitch based the characters in “Old Stock” on her great-grandparents.

[encompassing] exodus, love, despair and hope, even non-Jews will understand it,” said Moscovitch.

Caplan, who is the play’s narrator and wrote the music, said it is about “seeing the universal in the specific, and the specific in the universal.”

Caplan’s music – which is central to the play – combines traditional East European klezmer influences with contemporary styles, and there are moments when the audience joins in with hand clapping and foot stomping. Reviews from the Halifax run suggest Moscovitch’s writing holds many funny and joyous moments.

Audience responses, said Caplan and



Ben Caplan stars in “Old Stock: a refugee love story” at the NAC, July 13-15.

Moscovitch, have been warm and passionate.

“We get effusive feedback from Jewish communities saying that they’ve never seen such an honest display of the Jewish community portrayed on stage before,” said Caplan.

“Not so long ago, people who are now

seen as ‘old stock’ Canadians, were children of immigrants, and the immigrants of 1908 were not so different from those of 2017,” he added.

Tickets are available at the NAC box office (across the street from the NAC at 54 Elgin Street) or by phone at 1-888-991-2787.

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This is a part-time position, working 24 hours per week, with the possibility of additional hours in the future. The position provides a competitive wage and benefits package.

Qualifications:

- Comprehensive knowledge of and passion for Jewish life; i.e., Shabbat, Jewish life cycles, holidays, Kashruth, other practices and observance;
- Experience developing and facilitating group programming;
- Strong ability to work collaboratively and interact with diverse groups;
- Previous involvement working with people with developmental disabilities or other human service populations;
- Formal education and training or related experience in Judaic Studies, Jewish community programming and group facilitation.

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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.

Irving Layton 1912 - 2006
One of Canada's most influential poets

By Brenna Mackay

Born Israel Pincu Lazarovitch in Romania on March 12, 1912, Irving Peter Layton was one of Canada's most influential and widely recognized poets.

Layton was an infant when his family immigrated to Canada in 1913 and settled on St. Urbain Street in what was then Montreal's Jewish immigrant neighbourhood. Growing up, his family faced many struggles at a time when anti-Semitism was rampant in Quebec society.

Layton attended Baron Byng High School where he became enraptured by literature and the works of the great poets, novelists and essayists.

In 1930, Layton met poet and novelist

A.M. Klein, and the two met weekly to read poetry together. Klein published Layton's first poems in *The McGilliad*, a literary journal at McGill University.

Layton earned his bachelor of science degree at Macdonald College, McGill University's agricultural school. During this time, he became involved in artistic circles and was following a career as a poet. He befriended many fellow Canadian poets and they created a new Canadian movement in poetry, independent of British influences.

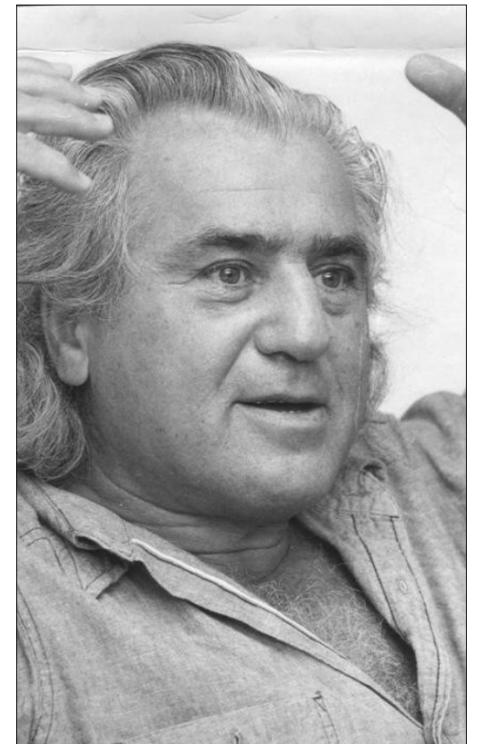
Layton served in the Canadian Army during the Second World War and afterward returned to Montreal where he became involved in several literary magazines. In 1946, Layton earned an MA in economics and polit-

ical science from McGill.

In addition to establishing his reputation as poet and as a mentor to younger poets such as Leonard Cohen, Layton developed a reputation as a debater and appeared frequently during the 1950s on the CBC-TV debate show, "Fighting Words."

During the 1950s, he also became an English and history teacher at Herzliah High School – a Jewish community high school in Montreal. Many of his students at Herzliah – including future television magnate Moses Znaimer and future justice minister Irwin Cotler – have spoken of being inspired by Layton's teaching. He would later become a professor of poetry at Sir George Williams University (now part of Concordia University) in Montreal and at York University in Toronto. Layton received an honorary doctorate from Concordia in 1976.

More than 40 volumes of Layton's poetry were published between 1945 and 1992 and he was a nominee for the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1981. Layton



received the Governor-General's Award for Poetry in 1959 and was named an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1976.

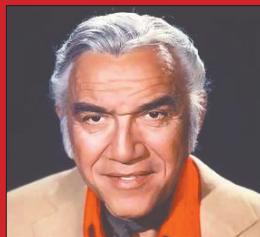
Late in life, Layton suffered from Alzheimer's disease and died at age 93 at the Maimonides Geriatric Centre in Montreal in 2006.



Next in the series

Lorne Greene 1915 – 1987

Lorne Greene was an Ottawa-born broadcaster who anchored the National News on CBC Radio during the Second World War. He later became an actor and achieved fame as the star of "Bonanza."



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

Members of the Provincial Government's **Ottawa Caucus** wish you a **Happy Canada Day! Celebrating 150 years**



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FEDERATION
REPORT



HARTLEY STERN
FEDERATION CHAIR

We face no issues or threats which cannot be overcome

more than \$35 million annually.

Secondly, he negotiated the purchase of land adjacent to the hospital, at the time a convent, from the Catholic Church for a significant reduction in price. Significantly, this purchase was based on an agreement to respect the dignity of the property and to preserve the chapel.

These two changes permitted the hospital to grow into one of the leading academic health centres in the country. Jonathan was able to do this largely because he enjoyed the trust of the Jewish community and the Quebec government. He inspired people through his vision, his grasp of good governance and good management, and his holistic commitment to his community which, in addition to his contributions to the JGH, have included sponsoring mega missions to Israel and serving as chancellor of Concordia University.

Jonathan became my mentor, friend

and, as I reflect on why I accepted the position of chair of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa, my role model. There are many other examples of exemplary contributors to Jewish community life and citizenry in Ottawa and elsewhere. It is simply that Jonathan stands tall amongst them and it is he who inspired me.

I have learned, and believe passionately, that there are no issues or threats that the Ottawa Jewish community faces which cannot be overcome with a clear vision, inspiration, trust, leadership, and a sound plan. I further believe that we are blessed with a strong management team and Board at Federation. The strategic plan developed under the leadership of Linda Kerzner, my predecessor, and Andrea Freedman, is excellent.

What I see as obstacles are not simple, but are unequivocally fixable. The first hurdle is the sustainability of the Ottawa Jewish Community School

(OJCS) and the future of Jewish education in general in Ottawa. The second is the flattening of overall philanthropy in the Jewish community. I believe that the inspired recruitment of Jon Mitzmacher as the new head of school at OJCS, combined with a restructured board, is fundamental to the plan of sustainable, affordable, high quality Jewish education in Ottawa. But it is not sufficient.

Secondly, we, as a community, must share a vision of what we collectively believe is the right plan for all Jewish educational needs, and then act in concert to leverage all the human and other resources to make it happen. No matter how well we come together on this issue, we will inevitably face the reality of declining community engagement, most tangibly, but not exclusively, represented in money raised. Quite simply, we will need a substantial increase in annual giving to meet all of the community needs, in particular those of Jewish education.

I hope to do what Jonathan Wener taught me. I expect to listen carefully to all of you, gain your trust, and with the help of our strong team at Federation, OJCS, and all of our other agencies, obtain your support in re-engaging you in our exciting plans for our wonderful community.

Approximately 15 years ago in Montreal, about five years before my arrival there, Jonathan Wener, as chair of the board of the Jewish General Hospital (JGH), orchestrated two events that forever enhanced the contributions of the JGH to the delivery of health care in Quebec.

Firstly, he facilitated the hiring of Myer Bick as CEO of the JGH Foundation. Myer transformed the foundation from a \$6 million per year campaign to

FROM THE
PULPIT



RABBI EYTAN KENTER
KEHILLAT BETH ISRAEL

Wearing a kippah has inspired me to be better

difference between our two groups on that front because she would always be identifiable as a black woman, while Jews are not instantly identifiable as Jews by appearance alone. When we walk down the street, no one necessarily knows that we are Jews.

I interjected, suggesting that by wearing a kippah, people always know that I am a Jew. The group reminded me that I can always take my kippah off, while for them, their skin cannot be cast aside so easily.

That reality shook me. I began to think more consciously about how few Jews wear a kippah in public. Many Jews who are reasonably observant do not wear a kippah to work or on the street. Jews, who proudly serve on boards of Jewish organizations and wear their Judaism on their sleeves, do not wear it on their heads. People will wear a kippah in the synagogue as they are in the presence of the divine, but would never consider wearing one at other times and places when God is equally present.

So, for me, that day changed my life. While I have worn a kippah since childhood, from that point it meant something more. That day I recommitted myself to wearing a kippah everywhere I go. Before that moment, I wore a kippah because it is a Jewish tradition. But, from then on, I wore it so that my Juda-

ism would always be known. I would never hide who I was nor try to pass as someone other than who I am.

I must admit that wearing a kippah all the time has had consequences. When I am out, there are Christians who come up to me and want to talk about Judaism. There are people in the supermarket who check my cart or ask where certain foods are. And there are moments when I am inclined to act differently because everyone knows that I am a Jew. I am less likely to cut someone off in traffic because they will know it is a Jew doing it. I am more likely to give to panhandlers on the street because it is not simply an individual choosing to give or not give, but a Jewish person making that choice. Wearing a kippah has inspired me to be a better person and Jew because I know that by wearing it proudly, my actions are not only my own, but representative of a larger peoplehood. The kippah serves as a constant reminder to be the best person and Jew that I can be.

For me, wearing a kippah is a critical piece of who I am, and I am proud for everyone to know that I am a Jew. I hope many more people will choose this path and wear a kippah or another identifiable Jewish symbol. Then we will be encouraged to be our best selves not only for our own sakes, but for the Jewish people's as well.

Our son just turned three. As he reached this milestone, we decided it was time for him to start wearing a kippah on a regular basis. As we have begun his education on this front, it has inspired me to think about my journey regarding kippah-wearing as well.

My relationship with wearing a kippah changed forever when I was at university. In my first year at Columbia, I was part of a black/Jewish dialogue group. As the year began, we discussed all that our respective communities shared in common and how we have traditionally supported each other. One aspect of our lives presented was that we are both part of minorities that can feel persecuted by part of the larger society.

One of the African-American members of the group acknowledged that fact, but added there will always be a

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FROM THE EDITOR



MICHAEL REGENSTREIF

My bar mitzvah year was historic

ly inevitable as Egypt closed the Straits of Tiran to Israeli shipping, expelled the United Nations peacekeeping forces from Sinai and Gaza, and massed its troops near the Israeli border.

About six weeks after my bar mitzvah, on June 5, 1967, the war broke out. We feared for the very survival of the tiny country, the world's only Jewish state. But, what would soon come to be known as the Six-Day War was over on June 10.

Israel had defeated the military forces of the surrounding Arab countries while capturing the Sinai Peninsula and Gaza from Egypt, the Golan Heights from Syria, and the West Bank and east Jerusalem from Jordan. Israel had secured its greatest ever military victory in its shortest ever war.

Israel and the Jewish Diaspora rejoiced particularly in the reunification of Jerusalem. The capital city had been divided since 1948 when the War of Independence ended with Israel in control of western Jerusalem and Jordan in control of eastern Jerusalem.

Eastern Jerusalem includes the Old City where sites like the Western Wall – a place holy to Jews for millennia – are located; a place which became forbid-

den to Jews. The Western Wall, or Kotel, was in the same city as the Knesset, Israel's parliament, but Jews were forbidden to go there for the first 19 years of modern statehood.

As mentioned, we rejoiced in Israel's victory in the Six-Day War and, particularly, in the reunification of Jerusalem. If ever there was an underdog of a country, surely it was Israel – surrounded by hostile Arab countries with massively larger territories, populations and militaries. That Israel prevailed in the war seemed like a miracle.

By 1967, David Ben-Gurion, Israel's founding prime minister, was four years into his retirement and widely regarded as the country's elder statesman. Ben-Gurion, too, rejoiced in the reunification of Jerusalem, and felt Israel should retain the Golan Heights for strategic reasons, but said the rest of the captured territories should be given back. He understood there would be unintended consequences to the military victory.

"If I could choose between peace and all the territories which we conquered last year, I would prefer peace," Ben-Gurion said in a 1968 interview (footage from which is included in the docu-

mentary film, "Ben-Gurion: Epilogue," which was screened this month in Ottawa during the Israeli Film Festival).

Israel eventually signed peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan and returned the Sinai to Egypt. But, by the time of those treaties, Egypt had relinquished any claim to Gaza and Jordan had relinquished any claims to the West Bank and eastern Jerusalem – leaving those areas to be settled in negotiations with the Palestinians.

Fifty years after the Six-Day War, Israel and the Palestinians have yet to reach the agreement they need to end the conflict with a two-state solution that ensures Israel the Jewish and democratic future it needs and ensures the Palestinians will be able to meet their own national aspirations.

While hopes of peace with the Palestinians have been raised and have fallen many times, recently, Israeli Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman – who, as foreign minister when I met him a few years ago in Ottawa, was an uncompromising hardliner – recently said an agreement with the Palestinians is "far closer" than it has ever been before.

Asked why, Liberman credited the arrival of U.S. President Donald Trump on the scene and the realization by Arab countries "that their problem is not Israel. Israel can be a solution to the problem."

Can Liberman be right? We'll see.

I celebrated my bar mitzvah on April 22, 1967 on Shabbat HaGadol, the Shabbat just before Passover. It's hard to believe that a half-century has passed since I became a 13-year-old Jewish man.

My bar mitzvah year was historic. Every community, every school and every organization, it seemed, was in the midst of some significant project to mark Canada's centennial. Expo 67, the biggest centennial project of them all, began its six-month run just a few days after my bar mitzvah.

As a Jewish community, we were happy to celebrate Canada's milestone, and to virtually see the world at Expo. But our eyes were also on Israel, then just 19 years past its War of Independence. Another war seemed increasing-

IDEAS AND IMPRESSIONS



JASON MOSCOVITZ

The consequences of overcrowding

the afternoon, another Grade 2 class of equal size used the same classroom.

Large classes brought on all kinds of issues. Like, how about having five Roberts in the same classroom? I still recall the day the teacher had to figure that out. The five Roberts figured it out themselves.

As the teacher went up and down the long rows asking students to call out their names, the second Robert announced she could call him "Robbie." The third said he would go with "Bobby." The fourth said "Bob" and when she came to the fifth Robert, he said everyone could call him "Bucky."

Only at Wagar High School in Montreal, a nominally Protestant school with an enrolment that was probably 98 per cent Jewish, could there be more than one student in the same class named David Cohen.

As for the quality of education, you would think it could not have been very good at my overcrowded school. Yet, every year, Wagar had the highest number of top students in Quebec. The

school also always had one of the highest overall averages in Quebec's high school leaving exams.

But, while the academic achievements were exemplary, the behavioural issues were often deplorable. It was so hard for teachers to control a classroom of almost 50 teenagers – especially when teacher and students were from different worlds.

My Grade 10 biology class was a case in point. Of the 44 students, you could bet 42 were Jewish, but our teacher wasn't. Her name was Miss Martin. She was a classic Brit, a spinster as they used to say, fit and proper with a navy blue dress well below her knees and hair tied in a bun. I don't remember if she was a good teacher. I do remember that she could not control the class.

There was no hiding the huge cultural gap. Miss Martin had no understanding of our identity, our culture, our religion. And we had little understanding of hers. We were so different. She was a fish in a shark tank and we had a sense

from the first day that it was not going to end well.

I am not proud to say that we drove the poor woman nuts. She could never get a grip on either herself or the classroom. It was like a daily journey to chaos and confusion instead of learning. It was about surviving bad behaviour, which only got worse because bad behaviour inevitably feeds on itself.

Although September and October went by badly, Miss Martin was still standing in November, and we were still being rotten, spoiled teenagers. Then, one day in early December, we drove her over the edge.

Miss Martin stood in front of the class trying to get our attention. She couldn't, and in total exasperation, said loudly enough for everyone to hear, "Sometimes I wonder if what Hitler did in Germany was so wrong."

Within a month Miss Martin was gone. The principal told us a Trump-like whopper: that her leaving had nothing to do with what she had said. To this day, I remember how ugly the whole thing got. Overcrowding a classroom is to invite ugliness.

And I guess logic tells me that when life and death issues are on the line, it is going to get even uglier for baby boomers in super-overcrowded hospitals.

Wondering how the public health care system will accommodate the unprecedented leap in numbers when the baby boomers begin to reach their 80s in just 10 years brings back baby boom memories of what it was like in overcrowded public schools.

My high school classes always had more than 40 students. There were 42 students in my Grade 9 English class and 44 in Grade 10 biology. Students' desks were lined up to the blackboard.

In elementary school there were so many students that in Grade 2, I only went to school for half-days. I was in a class of 40-plus in the morning. In

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VOLUNTEERING FOR SAR-EL

In May, I volunteered on a medical army base with Sar-El, the non-profit project of service for Israel under the direction of the IDF. Our group of volunteers ranged in age from 50 to 94 and we hailed from Canada, the United States, Britain, Hungary and France. Younger groups were deployed to the North and the Negev.

Sar-El engages every volunteer in meaningful ways. We unpacked huge, heavy medical kits from the front lines, MASH bases, and disaster relief areas around the world. We removed outdated supplies and restocked them with

gauzes, saline solution drops, iodine, morphine, operating tables, tents, and syringes, and evacuated blood container tubes. We confirmed that contents and packaging information aligned. We wrapped our palettes, and organized forklifts and loaders.

Each morning began with a flag-raising and singing "Hatikvah." Evening activities were also meaningful.

Big thanks to volunteers Molly Wolanski in Montreal and Pamela Lazarus in Israel for organizing our group of diverse, collectively engaged people from around the world.

Floralove Katz



Floralove Katz (far right, kneeling) with her group of Sar-El volunteers at the medical supplies base in Tel HaShomer.



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Meet our Honouree Lawrence Greenspon

Lawrence Greenspon is an exemplary role model, humanitarian, philanthropist and volunteer. A highly respected criminal defence lawyer, Mr. Greenspon co-founded REACH, the Resource Education Advocacy Center for the Handicapped. He has raised millions of dollars for numerous charities in Canada and abroad and helped to establish the Snowsuit Foundation; the charitable component of the Dragon Boat Festival; the Maharaja's Ball; the Nordic Pole Walk for Cancer Survivors; and The Sens Foundation Rink of Dreams. He is the current chair of the Montfort Hospital Campaign.

Mr. Greenspon is the recipient of the Award of Justice (Advocates Society), the Gordon Henderson Award (Carleton County Law Society), the Golden Apple Award (Ottawa Food Bank), the Quality of Life Award (St. Joe's Women's Centre), a Lifetime Achievement Award (Volunteer Ottawa) and the Community Builder of the Year Award (United Way).

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The JNF Ottawa Negev Dinner has a proud history of raising funds for humanitarian and environmental causes. Mr. Greenspon has chosen to support the ALEH Organization in Israel.

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For more information visit us at Ottawa.jnf.ca or contact our office.

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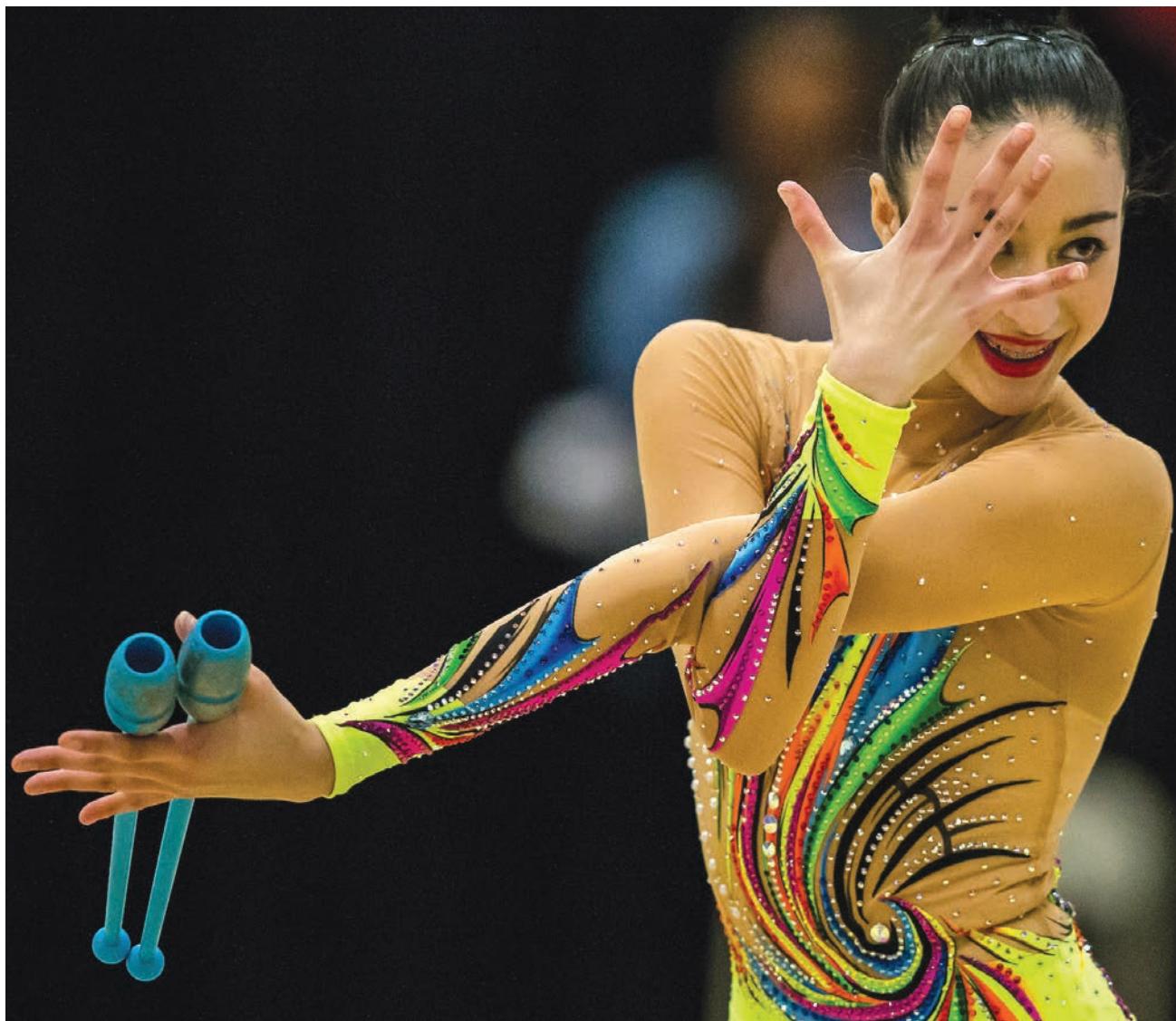
- Max Baker**, by his grandparents, Ricki and Barry Baker
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- Paige Kaufman**, by her parents, Mitchell and Melissa Kaufman
- Boris Livshits**, by his parents, Yuri Sinaniev and Diana Livshits
- Haley Miller**, by her parents Mitch and Lisa Miller
- Ariella Morgan**, by her parents, Steven and Sarah Morgan, and grandparents, the Morgans and the Beutels
- Benjamin Shapiro**, by his parents Nikki and Michael Shapiro, and his sister Neilah

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- Dr. Mark Levine**, by Rhonda and Dr. Danny Levine on the occasion of his receiving the Order of Canada
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Haley Miller competes in the women's junior high performance competition B event at the 2017 Rhythmic Gymnastics Canadian Championships at the Kinsmen Sports Centre, Edmonton, Alberta, May 21, 2017.

Top-ranked gymnast among Ottawa athletes heading to Maccabiah Games

BY NORAH MOR

Haley Miller, who has just completed Grade 8 at the Ottawa Jewish Community School and is a top-rated rhythmic gymnast – she's currently rated ninth in Canada – says she's looking forward to representing Canada at the 20th Maccabiah Games, the Jewish Olympics, taking place from July 4 to 18 in Israel.

Miller hopes to bring medals home from Israel and also has her sights set on the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo. She trains 25 hours per week after school and on weekends.

The Maccabiah Games take place every four years in Israel and with more than 10,000 athletes expected from about 80 countries, it is one of the largest sporting events in the world.

"Through sports, we can reconnect Jewish athletes to Judaism and to Israel," said Tali Dubrovsky, national executive director of Maccabi Canada, the national association which fields the Canadian team.

Part of the Maccabiah experience is the opportunity to tour Israel – a first-time Israel experience for many of the athletes.

Miller is looking forward to seeing Israel, a country she has studied extensively as an OJCS student.

"I'm excited to see all the places I've heard of and learned about," said Miller. "I feel I know so much about Israel, before even going there."

Miller was her class valedictorian in Hebrew and said she "can read Hebrew without nikkud (vowel symbols), but it's hard, sometimes."

Asked about her favourite aspect of gymnastics, Miller pointed to the confidence it builds.

"It's a life lesson," she said. "Even when I'm done with gymnastics, I will always know that nothing comes easy, but that [the hard work] pays off at the end."

Noting that her gymnastics training takes up so much of her time, Miller added she would not be doing it if she didn't like it so much.

"At the end of the day or on the podium, all the sacrifices are insignificant. I won't remember the birthday parties I missed... Gymnastics makes me appreciate much more the time with friends, and I'm thankful for my good and understanding friends."

Other Ottawa athletes on the Canadian Maccabiah team include Hayley Bennett (women's softball), Kenneth Kaczowski (wrestling), Jamie Bender Kerbel (junior baseball), Jesse Levine (tennis), Daniel Osterer (softball), Jake Osterer (softball), Rob Osterer (softball), Stephen Osterer (softball), Coby Pearce (junior tennis), Alexa Shabinsky (track) and Lauren Shaffer (swimming).

They will be accompanied by Ottawa Bill Iszo, a Maccabi Canada board member.

Visit <http://tinyurl.com/hw8uwgg> to sign up for daily updates from the Maccabiah Games.



A group of students enjoys the opportunity to be covered in colours.

Hundreds walk and run covered in colours for Jewish education

BY NORAH MOR

The grey skies, drizzle and occasional downpour didn't dampen spirits, June 4, when students and supporters – including graduates, parents, grandparents, and even a few dogs – of all of the city's Jewish day and supplementary schools spent a Sunday afternoon having fun and raising funds for their schools at the annual Am Echad Walk/Run for Jewish Education in Ottawa.

Each participant in the Am Echad Walk/Run chose which school would receive the funds they raised through sponsorships for their participation. Thirteen schools, including day schools, supplementary schools, and even Jewish preschools were represented.

"It is truly fantastic to see how important Jewish education is for the community," said Rabbi Elazar Durden, principal of Torah Day School of Ottawa, who was participating in his first Am Echad Walk/Run, along with his son Yehuda.

Michael Polowin, a proud father of two OJCS graduates and incoming chair of the OJCS board, said he was proud to

support the school at the walk/run.

The school, said Polowin, gave his children a wonderful start in life "and also taught them about who they are."

A new component to the event added this year was the Colours Race. Racers ran through the Ottawa Jewish Community School (OJCS) parking lot where onlookers covered them with coloured powder.

"This is the most fun part of the day for me, and one of the main reasons I came today," said Libby Weiss, a Grade 5 student at OJCS.

Following the walk/run, the action shifted inside the OJCS building where a kosher dinner was served and the fun and games, including inflatable rides for the kids, continued through the rest of the afternoon.

Co-ordinating all the action were OJCS parents Jennifer Greenberg and Galit Sternthal, the event co-chairs, and Leila Ages, the fundraising chair.

"Although it was a lot of work, it was also great fun for us," said Greenberg. "We are very excited to see the great turnout."



A group of runners leaving the starting line just before they're covered in coloured powder.



A young girl slides down one of the inflatable rides in the OJCS gym after the walk/run.



A family's dog walks in the rain to support Jewish education.

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Replica of the Wolfson clock unveiled in ByWard Market

BY BENITA BAKER

Seven years ago, when acclaimed Toronto actress Paula Wolfson began searching for information about her grandparents – whom she had never met – little did she realize her search would bring her to the ByWard Market on a sunny spring day to witness the unveiling of a replica of the clock that once hung over her grandfather’s Clarence Street watch shop.

The event took place on Friday, May 12 at the official opening of the redesigned George Street Plaza. Part of a larger initiative aimed at revitalizing the ByWard Market, the giant Wolfson clock is central to the new design.

City Councillor Mathieu Fleury described the clock as a focal point of the plaza, as in “meet me under the clock.”

The ceremony was clearly emotional for Wolfson.

“My grandfather would be so honoured to know that he left behind such an enduring legacy,” she said, holding back tears.

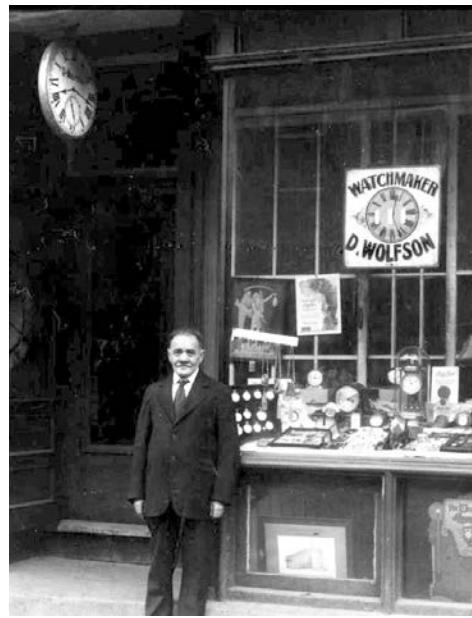
Initially, Wolfson had little success finding any information about her grandparents. But then she encountered John Diener, vice-president of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Ottawa.

The genealogical detective kept following leads that ultimately led him to the Ottawa Jewish Archives. There he not only found a photo from the 1920s of David Wolfson in front of his Clarence Street watch shop, but also the clock.

With the help of archivist Saara Mortensen, David Wolfson’s story and a piece of Ottawa’s Jewish history came to life.

When Wolfson closed his shop, he gave the clock to Sam Nathanson, who ran a pawnshop on William Street. After serving in the Second World War, Louis Nathanson joined his father in business. He modified the clock by adding ‘pawnbroker’ across its face as well as the pawnbroker’s symbol to the bottom.

In 1946, Sam Nathanson’s daughter Sylvia married Bertram Bronshter. They joined Louis in the business and



Watchmaker David Wolfson stands outside his Clarence Street shop in the ByWard Market, circa 1930. The original Wolfson clock can be seen in the doorway on the upper left.

“My grandfather would be so honoured to know that he left behind such an enduring legacy.”

changed its name to Sam’s Buy and Sell. Musical instruments became their most popular item so they changed the name to Sam’s ABC Music.

When Sam’s moved to Bank Street at Alta Vista in the 1980s, the clock sign was removed and stored by the Ottawa Jewish Historical Society (OJHS).

In 2009, the OJHS restored the clock and donated it to the Ottawa Jewish Archives.

“The Wolfson clock is the most important artifact in our collection,” said archivist Saara Mortensen. “Seeing a copy of it here in the square keeps history alive and relevant. Visibility is the key.”

“Paula’s grandparents were forgotten for the last 60 years,” added Diener. “This clock has made them come alive again.”



Paula Wolfson (right) with John Diener of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Ottawa and Saara Mortensen of the Ottawa Jewish Archives under the replica of the Wolfson clock in the ByWard Market’s George Street Plaza.



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Meet Federation's community building team

BY SARAH BEUTEL
VICE-PRESIDENT, COMMUNITY BUILDING
JEWISH FEDERATION OF OTTAWA

You might see me walking down the street, or at Loblaws, and ask, "So what's new at the Jewish Federation of Ottawa?"

"Do you have some time to chat?" I respond, "There's lots that is new and I really want to tell you about it!"

"Uh, sure, I'd love to hear all about it," you say.

New faces have joined Federation's community building team. Several long-time and valued employees have moved on to new adventures; some have retired, some have decided to pursue new directions, and a few of us, as a result of new openings within the organization, have taken on new positions.

While it is always sad and hard to say



The Jewish Federation of Ottawa community building team: (from left) Pauline Colwin, Natalie Abenheim, Samantha Sharkey, Scott Goldstein, Ariel Fainer and Sarah Beutel. Missing from the photo are Dovi Chein and Saara Mortensen.

farewell to colleagues who have become friends, it is also an opportunity for us as an organization to bring in new energy and fresh ideas that help to propel us forward toward meeting our many and varied objectives.

I would like to introduce you to our amazing team (in alphabetical order by first name).

Ariel Fainer, a familiar face for many, continues as director of initiatives for the Emerging Generation, rolling out

the highly successful PJ Library program in Ottawa, and overseeing Federation's efforts to engage the next generation in our vibrant community. Contact Ariel at afainer@jewishottawa.com.

Dovi Chein, formerly the Jewish student life co-ordinator, was promoted to director of Hillel Ottawa, and continues to work to create a welcoming, inclusive and pluralistic environment for Jewish students on Ottawa's university campuses. Contact Dovi at director@hillelottawa.ca.

Natalie Abenheim is our new community engagement specialist whose role is to engage people in volunteer opportunities within the Jewish community. Natalie is also overseeing the virtual Jewish Ottawa Info-Centre, and co-ordinating the important work of the Shoah Committee and March of Living. Reach Natalie at nabenheim@jewishottawa.com.

Saara Mortensen continues as archivist of the Ottawa Jewish Archives. She can be found in the special Archives area within the Greenberg Families Library overseeing the collection, conservation and preservation of our Jewish community's collective memory. Contact Saara at smortensen@jewishottawa.com.

Samantha Sharkey is our new events co-ordinator and brings years of event planning experience to Federation. She replaces Rena Garshowitz who was promoted in March to Annual Campaign

manager. Samantha is co-ordinating a variety of Federation events, from Annual Campaign Kick-off to Mitzvah Day, and more. Contact Samantha at ssharkey@jewishottawa.com.

Scott Goldstein, the former director of Hillel Ottawa, was promoted to the position of director of community collaboration last November. He has delved right into his new role, building connections with many Jewish organizations and individuals. Among the many programs that he oversees are Federation's Shinshinim program, our Israel connection through Partnership 2Gether and Federation's allocations to partner agencies. Contact Scott at sgoldstein@jewishottawa.com.

Supporting our team's efforts is **Pauline Colwin**, Federation's director of communications. Pauline and the communications team are an integral part of everything Federation does to build, strengthen and support our Jewish community. Contact Pauline at pcolwin@jewishottawa.com.

The next time you attend a community event, or maybe see one of us at Loblaws, please stop to say "hi!" We would love to catch up, and to hear your take on the latest happenings in our community, or how we can best use your talents for the benefit of our community.

You can reach out to me at sbeutel@jewishottawa.com.

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Child Holocaust survivor tells powerful story to high school students

BY NICKIE SHOBEIRY

‘E very survival story is a love story,’ said Andy Réti, a child survivor of the Holocaust, born in 1942 in Rechnitz, Austria. “Love of life, love of family, and love of freedom.”

Réti, now a Toronto-based Holocaust educator, was speaking to 700 students from public high schools in the Ottawa area gathered, May 26, at Algonquin College Theatre for a Holocaust education event presented by the Azrieli Foundation and Shoah Committee of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa.

Réti’s book, *Stronger Together*, which tells the story of how Réti and his mother Ibolya Grossman survived the Holocaust, was published by the Azrieli Foundation’s Holocaust Survivors Memoirs Program. Each of the students in attendance received a copy of the book.

Inspiring students to be not a “bystander” but an “up-stander” in the face of bullying, Réti discussed how the Holocaust has affected his life.

In just two months in 1944, 440,000 Hungarian Jews were deported, Réti said. Many were sent to Auschwitz, including his maternal grandparents. The only Jewish community left was in Budapest, where they were subject to assault, death marches and murder. Before this, anti-Jewish laws were set in place, drafting men into forced labour. The death toll was in the thousands, including Réti’s father.

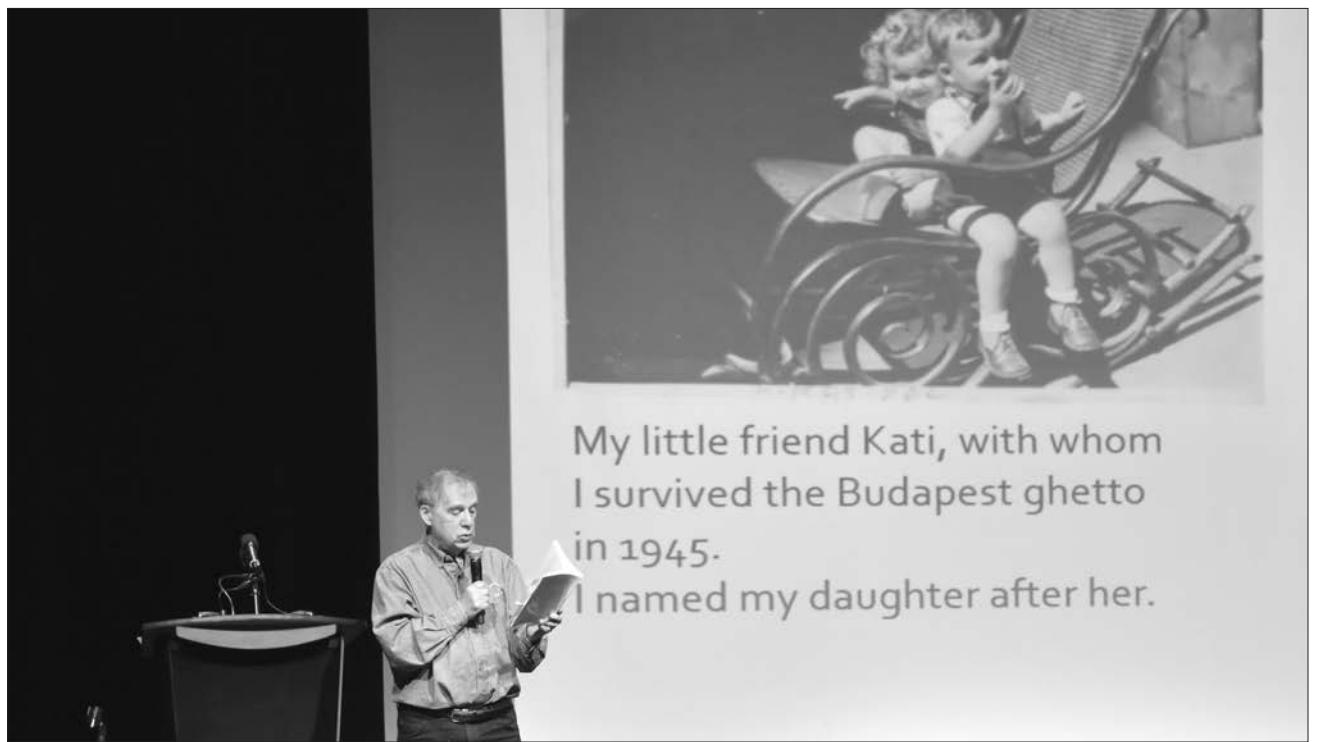
“Murdered!” Réti shouted. “For one reason and one reason only: because he was Jewish.”

Thousands of Jews in Budapest were removed from their homes and confined to ghettos. Men, no older than 20, came to Réti’s home, giving his mother and grandmother five minutes to pack.

“We were able to pack up a small knapsack,” Réti said. “Crackers, water, a few necessities. In no time, tens of thousands were marched out of every building and forced, at the end of a gun, to march down to the end of the street.”

All valuables were to be handed over. Touching the ring on his finger, Réti explained, “My mother was so much in love with this beautiful man that at the risk of her own life – and my own – she refused to hand over her wedding band.” Ibolya hid the ring in Réti’s diaper.

Réti counted the miracles that happened during the ordeal: the policeman his grandmother recognised



Child Holocaust survivor Andy Réti reads from his memoir during a presentation to high school students May 26, at Algonquin College Theatre.

from her hometown, the stranger who protested when a blanket was taken from Ibolya, for her baby. Eventually, Réti’s family were taken to a ghetto where they stayed for three months. In a building meant only for 600 people, 3,000 lived, with 27 crammed into one apartment.

Réti shared a personal recollection of the liberation: a Russian soldier, giving him a bread roll.

“We go home, we try to pick up the pieces, and it’s not easy,” Réti continued. “But life does go on.”

In 1958, Réti and his family moved to Canada. He went on to have children and grandchildren, and at the age of 60, became a member of a motorcycle club. In February 2005, Réti’s mother passed away. It was also the year that Réti did his first ever Ride to Remember, with his mother’s wedding band – the ‘Ring of Love’ – in his breast pocket.

Reflecting on the hate he has seen, Réti said, “You don’t learn that on your own. You are taught hatred. And what is the opposite of hatred? The opposite of

hatred is love.”

Réti held the students in rapt attention, many of them moved to tears, and he received many standing ovations.

After the talk, there were long lines of students who waited patiently for Réti to sign their copies of his book.

Visit <http://memoirs.azrielifoundation.org/> for more information about the Azrieli Foundation’s Holocaust Survivors Memoir Program.

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Mini-conference at Temple Israel addresses rebellious aging

BY LOUISE RACHLIS
FOR TEMPLE ISRAEL

There were several dynamics happening as a capacity crowd of 108 gathered at Temple Israel, June 4, to take part in a morning of “rebellious discussion on life’s third act.”

“First, people were engaging in conversations about life planning and topics they don’t usually discuss,” noted Rabbi Rob Morais, one of the keynote speakers. “Second, the information we are gleaned about services that are potentially available; to hear about how this stuff really works. And thirdly,” he said, “there’s the dreaming about what could be, and what you want. The different ideas floating around the table were really wonderful to hear.”

“We knew there’d be a great response,” said organizer Fran Klodawsky as she looked around the sessions in progress. “There is all this incredible energy and thirst for knowledge, a desire to remain vital, to be consulted.”

The mini-conference, “Aging Rebel,” was the second event in the series, “Thinking Social Action/Justice: The Next 50 Years,” that is part of Temple Israel’s 50th Anniversary celebrations.

“Fifty years ago, very brave people decided to found Temple Israel,” said Rabbi Morais, who spoke about the Jewish perspective on the “Aging Rebel.”

“Institutions age like people do. Over the past few years, we’ve lost many of those founding fathers and mothers,”

said Rabbi Morais. “They were always there to bounce ideas off. It’s a tremendous loss to the institution.”

He said the Hebrew word for elder is an acronym meaning “the one who has attained wisdom.”

“Our obligation is to respect and welcome the advice and insights of those who have gone before us. The Torah advises us to rise before the aged and show deference to the old, those who come before us... You have to make that advance, seek out the wisdom, and sit at the table with those who have that wisdom.”

The other keynote speaker was Dominique Dennerly.

“One hundred years ago, the average life expectancy was 57,” she said. “Now it’s 84. We are guaranteed a certain number of years our ancestors weren’t. We don’t realize how much we’ve internalized the script that it’s all about retirement. It’s fun for the first few years, then what... All this expertise and wisdom and potential goes untapped.”

Five years ago, Dennerly said, her friend Cathy Carmody presented the idea of “Novescence,” a new life stage from age 55 to 85, where we can write a new script.

“Ask yourself,” she said, “what have I not done yet that I would love to do? What opportunities am I not seizing because I think it’s too late?”

Dennerly became a serious artist, a sculptor.

“It’s about a deep contentment and renewal,” she said.



Participants in one of 10 small groups discuss issues related to the “Aging Rebel” mini-conference at Temple Israel. (Robin Chercnik)



Participants in one of 10 small groups discuss issues related to the “Aging Rebel” mini-conference at Temple Israel.

The keynote speakers were followed by 10 small group sessions spread throughout the Temple Israel building

where participants chatted enthusiastically about various issues related to rebellious aging.

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Could Gal Gadot become the biggest Israeli superstar ever?

BY GABE FRIEDMAN

(JTA) – Try to think of the most famous Israelis in history. Not necessarily the most consequential or “important” ones – like any number of Nobel Prize winners or behind-the-scenes Middle East peace deal negotiators – but those who are most universally recognizable.

Most lists would likely include a pioneering role model (Golda Meir), a supermodel who once dated Leonardo DiCaprio (Bar Refaeli), its seeming prime minister for life (Benjamin Netanyahu), a politician with crazy hair (David Ben-Gurion), a war hero with a pirate-style eye patch (Moshe Dayan) and a virtuoso violinist (Itzhak Perlman).

But a new name may soon go at the very top of the list: Gal Gadot.

The actress and model stars in “Wonder Woman,” a film that opened this month based on the iconic DC Comics series.

Starring in the average Hollywood superhero blockbuster instantly makes any actor an international sensation – but this isn’t your average superhero flick. “Wonder Woman,” featuring one of the few iconic female superheroes, carries the kind of symbolic weight that could turn Gadot into a global feminist torch-holder for decades to come.

Gadot, 32, has long been a household name in Israel, where she has been a supermodel since winning the Miss Israel pageant at 18 in 2004. She proudly served her mandatory two years of service in the Israel Defense Forces and, yes, she is married (to Israeli businessman Yaron Versano).

Gadot scored a part as an ex-Mossad agent in the fourth film of “The Fast and the Furious” franchise in 2009 – in part, she said, because director Justin Lin was impressed with her military experience. Her first appearance as Princess Diana of Themyscira (Wonder Woman’s real name) came in “Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice” starring Ben Affleck and Henry Cavill in 2016.

Although she wasn’t widely known outside of Israel, her profile is quickly changing. “Wonder Woman” isn’t an amazing piece of art, though it will likely satisfy fans of over-the-top superhero films.

“Wonder Woman” also bears the weight of the feminist anticipation that



Gal Gadot at the premiere of “Wonder Woman” at the Pantages Theater in Hollywood, Calif., May 25, 2017.

has been building steadily around the film for years. The hype only increased when a female director (Patty Jenkins) took over the project in 2015, making “Wonder Woman” the first female superhero film to be directed by a woman.

And Gadot is actually already well on her way to becoming embraced as a feminist icon. Last fall, she was included in a UN ceremony honouring the Wonder Woman character as an honorary ambassador for the empowerment of women and girls. (The United Nations soon dropped the character as an honorary ambassador after staffers there complained that the comic book superheroine was “not culturally encompassing or sensitive.”) Gadot recently proclaimed that Wonder Woman, “of course,” is a feminist in an Entertainment Weekly interview that is being cited across the Internet. From her lack of underarm hair to the kind of shoes she wears, everything is being analyzed through a feminist lens.

It won’t hurt Gadot’s popularity that she seems to be, as the original Wonder Woman character was in the comics, sculpted from clay by a god. On screen, she has a magnetic quality – simultaneously graceful, elegant, tough, athletic and bursting with sex appeal.

How popular will Gadot become? It’s hard to say. Other recent female superhero movies have starred actresses who

already were well-known, such as Jennifer Garner in “Elektra” and Halle Berry in “Catwoman.”

One thing is for sure: Gadot will go down in history as a distinctly Israeli actress. Unlike Natalie Portman, an international superstar and Oscar winner who was born in Israel but left at age two, Gadot speaks English with an Israeli accent. She talks openly about being from a small Israeli city, Rosh Haayin,

and her love of the Israeli character.

“In Israel, people have chutzpah,” she said in a recent cover story in Marie Claire. “People take issue with it, but I’d rather have that than play games. Here, everyone’s like, ‘We love you; you’re so wonderful.’ I prefer to know the truth, not waste time.”

So if Gadot finds the superstardom she seems headed for, Israel will have a new most famous face.

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My daughter and I deeply appreciate your expressions of sympathy on the passing of our beloved wife and mother, Ethel Rosenblatt.

We are grateful for your support and comfort at this difficult time.

Debbie and Bernie Rosenblatt

Lessons: Shentow kept alive the stories of millions who perished

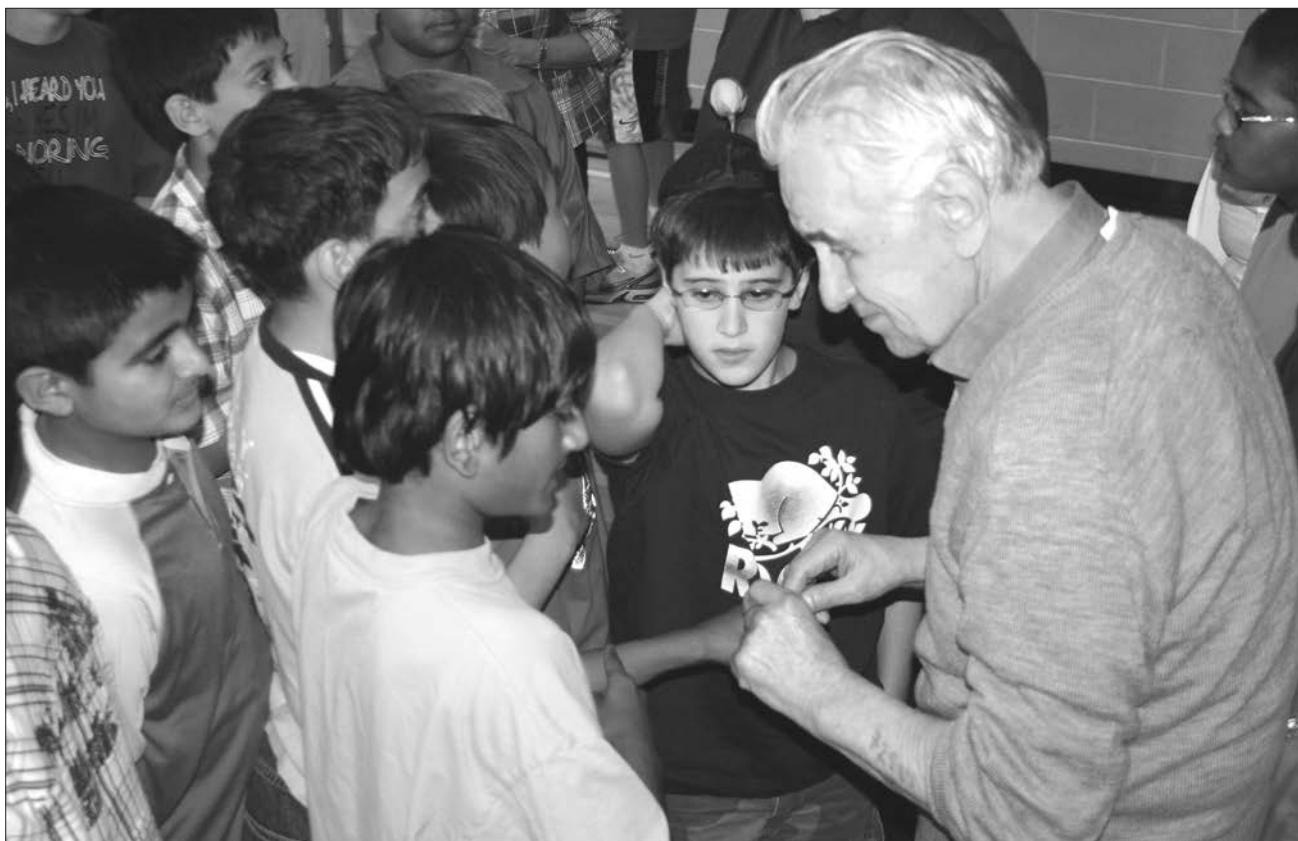
Continued from page 1

surface in Canada. This made him realize that he had an obligation to share with others what he had witnessed during the war.

David and Rose became actively involved in the Coast to Coast March of the Living (MOL) program. They travelled alongside MOL students in 2002, 2006, 2008 and 2012. Each time, David returned to Poland – to Treblinka and Auschwitz – where his entire family perished. With each experience, his wounds were reopened. Yet, David felt a responsibility to share his story on the hallowed grounds where the atrocities took place in order to instil in others the importance of remembering the tragedy of our past.

David's commitment to Holocaust education went beyond the March of the Living program. He spoke to students of all ages and ethnic backgrounds in schools throughout Ottawa. Each time he shared his story it was with a genuine sense of shock, horror and disbelief over the profound transgressions against humanity he had lived through. David often expressed his belief that it was a miracle he survived. Yet, in his survival, he kept alive the stories of millions who perished.

David was a witness to a tragic period in the history of mankind. In sharing his story, he has passed on the torch. We are now the witnesses. It is now our duty and responsibility to commit ourselves to Holocaust remembrance and education and to speak out against racism, hatred and discrimination against any individual or group of people. This is David's legacy and the greatest honour we can give to a man who devoted his life to remembering our past with the hope of creating



David Shentow speaks with Grade 6 students from Charles H. Hulse Public School and Ottawa Jewish Community School during a Day of Cultural Understanding.

a better world for generations to come.

Zekher tzadik livrakhah – May the memory of this righteous one be a blessing.

Karen Palayew is the Ottawa chair of the March of the Living. For more information visit www.marchoftheliving.org.

Shentow: 'I am not a hero, I am simply a witness to history'

Continued from page 1

weren't in Belgium. The sign at the train station read "Auschwitz."

SS guards ordered the men off the train. Stragglers were shot without warning. The prisoners were ordered to form lines of five men abreast. They were told to proceed past a tall, blond SS officer. With the flick of a finger he directed some men to the left and others to the right. This officer was Dr. Josef Mengele, the Angel of Death, and being sent to the left meant certain death. Mengele waved the two men on David's right and the two men on his left toward the left side of the platform. David was spared.

In reality his nightmare was just beginning. While most men only survived the harsh, inhumane climate of Auschwitz for mere weeks, David was still a prisoner in the summer of 1944, when things got even worse. The Nazis feared the arrival of the Russians and began moving all prisoners on foot to Kutno, Poland. This was the first of the notorious Death Marches. Those who fell behind were attacked by dogs or shot by guards. David once again survived, only to be loaded

into a cattle car and transported to the Dachau concentration camp.

During the last week of April 1945, David was lying on his bunk unable to get up; his legs were no more than sticks. He knew that prisoners unable to work were immediately sent to the gas chamber. He had cheated death often but now knew his time was up. An SS officer entered the barracks screaming, "Get up, you filthy Jew! Get up!" David's punishment was a savage beating that would destroy his hearing. Hours later, after being left for dead, he dragged himself out of his barracks. Something was wrong. The camp gates were wide open and there were no guards. It was April 29, 1945, the day that Dachau was liberated by Allied Forces. It was also David's 20th birthday. Once again, he had miraculously cheated death.

Decades later, in his retirement years, David became Ottawa's most prominent Holocaust educator.

David said that he often wondered how he survived when so many other innocent people perished. I always told him that maybe someone had different plans for him. Maybe his true destiny in life was to be

a messenger. His message was heard by thousands. It was a message that opened eyes, touched hearts and even inspired action. It was also a message that he honestly hated giving. Every time he spoke of the tragic events of his youth he suffered nightmares. Yet, whenever asked to speak publicly he was always accommodating.

David always proclaimed, "I am not a hero, I am simply a witness to history."

With all due respect, there are many who would disagree with him. One would be my former Grade 6 student, Sophia Mirzayee.

Sophia recently graduated from Carleton University with a degree in Human Rights. Last September at the Canadian War Museum, Sophia delivered a speech to an audience that included Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. She spoke with great passion and eloquence about the importance of Holocaust education and its connection to teaching tolerance. She also said meeting David Shentow in Grade 6 and hearing his message changed her life.

The Nazis failed to take David's life. They tried to delete his identity by erasing his name and assigning him a number – 72585. That also failed. For those who knew David, his number was nothing more than a scar from the past. It was part of him but it never defined him.

Holocaust deniers tried to discredit his words. They also failed. David's message will live on. It will live on through countless teachers such as myself, and through students like Sophia.

David Shentow will be remembered as a loving husband and father, a respected member of his community, a teacher, and a testament to the strength of the human spirit.

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Yom Yerushalayim celebrated at Ottawa event

BY MICHAEL AARENAU

An event celebrating Yom Yerushalayim (Jerusalem Day), the Israeli holiday marking the reunification of Jerusalem, was held May 21 at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre (SJCC).

Held two days before Yom Yerushalayim began on the evening of May 23, this year's celebration marked the 50th anniversary of the capture of East Jerusalem during the Six-Day War in 1967 and the reunification of the city which had been divided since the 1948 War of Independence.

Noga Weiss and Canaf Ahituv, Ottawa's Shinshinim – young emissaries to the community from the State of Israel – organized and hosted the event on behalf of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa and neither could hold back their emotions while describing what it was like to visit Jerusalem each year to celebrate Yom Yerushalayim. Both were born long after Jerusalem was united and said it was almost unthinkable to imagine a time when the Western Wall wasn't under Israel's control.

Sara Vered, though, remembers the War of Independence and bore witness to "the brave soldiers who gave their lives in 1948, holding Jerusalem from the invading Arab armies."

Vered, the evening's featured speaker, recalled the 1948 war and some of the people she met at the time, including a botanist near Mount Scopus who, with his wife, watered his plants every day in spite of the fighting unfolding around them, and a brave boy who threw a Molotov cocktail through a window to help hold down West Jerusalem until the armistice agreement was signed.

"We're the people of history and our history makes us strong," Vered declared. "It's our task to keep telling these stories because we want each generation to know that if we didn't have the State of Israel, we'd still be wandering from nation to nation."

Perhaps the event's most poignant moment was Jason Goldfarb's description of how his grandparents, Saul and Edna Goldfarb, bought the first Chanukah menorah lit at the Western Wall in 1967. They bought the menorah in 1972 and, many years later, donated it to the Soloway Jewish Community Centre. Saul lit the menorah at the communitywide Chanukah celebration in 1998.

Daniel and Orit Tor, the Canadian Friends of Hebrew University community ambassadors in Ottawa, explained that Jerusalem symbolizes many different things.

"When you live in Jerusalem, you



SCOTT GOLDSTEIN

Shinshinim Noga Weiss (left) and Canaf Ahituv host the Yom Yerushalayim event, May 21, at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre.

feel the history around you, but it's also new and vibrant, with the cultures and flavours intertwined with the history," said Daniel.

"Every one of us has his or her own Jerusalem," Orit added. "While I'm far away from my home in Israel, today I feel like I'm home."



March of the Living Canada expresses its sadness over the passing of

David Shentow Z"L

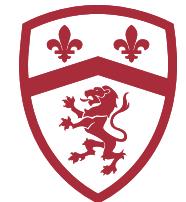
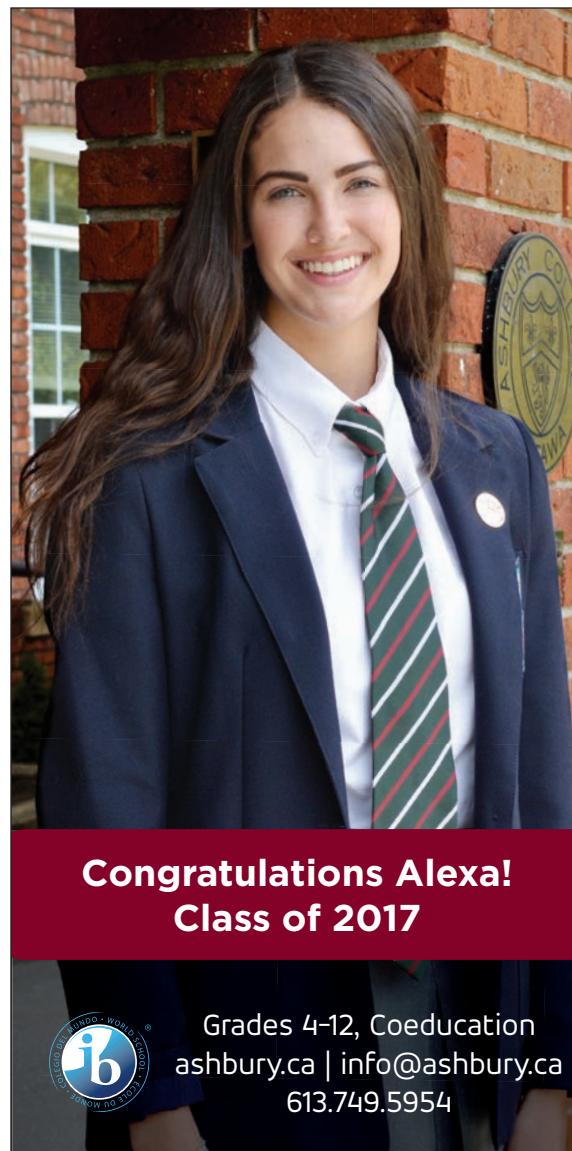
Holocaust Survivor and Educator



David Shentow, of Ottawa, Ontario, educated thousands of young people across Canada about the Holocaust and the dangers of hatred and intolerance.

A true gentleman, and gentle man, his legacy of kindness and hope will live on in the hearts of so many teens who had the privilege of joining him on the March of the Living or hearing his eloquent words at other Holocaust related events.

May his family find comfort among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.



ASHBURY COLLEGE

The finish line for Alexa Shabinsky is here. The talented Ashbury College student shines on stage, and excels on the track. Alexa proudly represented Ashbury at the OFSAA Track and Field meet in June, and will soon receive the Duke of Edinburgh award. Just days after she collects her Ashbury diploma, Alexa will fly to Israel where she'll compete for Canada at the international Maccabiah Games. In September, Alexa will sprint south, where she'll study broadcast journalism at the University of Miami.

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We must 'stand up and not remain silent in the face of hatred'

Arielle Zelikovitz, a Grade 11 student at Sir Robert Borden High School, attended the sentencing hearing for the young Ottawa man convicted in the series of anti-Semitic, Islamophobic and racist graffiti attacks that shocked the city last November, and offers these thoughts.

It is quite upsetting to watch the news and, on a regular basis, see reports of anti-Semitic and racially motivated attacks taking place in Europe, Israel, and other parts of the world. In November 2016, this unfortunate reality hit all too close to home when a series of hate crimes took place in Ottawa, the majority of those attacks targeted the Ottawa Jewish community, but also our city's Muslim and Christian communities.

I attended the defendant's sentencing hearing last month, not only as a concerned member of the Jewish community, but as a student who has participated on the March of the Living. My journey to Poland and Israel in 2016, travelling with fellow students and a number of incredible Holocaust survivors, gave me a heightened sense of responsibility to speak out against others being persecuted. The Holocaust, as we all know, was one of the most horrific encounters of anti-Semitism that the Jewish people have ever faced.

The defendant, a youth close to my age, not only vandalized Jewish and other religious buildings throughout the city with swastikas, he also spoke openly and positively about Hitler. These events that took place in my own community are a reminder to us all that anti-Semitism, as well as hatred for other religions, is still present in today's society, even in a country as diverse and peaceful as Canada.

When my mom told me about the trial, I was instantly interested in attending. Not only because I thought the courtroom experience would be fascinating, but I felt it was important to show my support for the community. Since my experience on the March of the Liv-



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

ing, I have realized that strength is found in numbers.

While my appearance may not have meant a lot to the defendant, I believe my presence was an important way to show the impact that his actions had on our community. When I refer to our community, I do not just mean the Jewish community. A church and a mosque were vandalized as well. Hearing the impact statements from members of the different religious groups helped put into perspective the similar concern that other members of our community – not just the Jewish community – are facing. We were all made to feel unsafe in our own community.

Sitting in the courtroom, listening to others speak about how these crimes of hate impacted them, I began to realize how difficult it must have been for Elly Bollegraaf, a Holocaust survivor who was sitting in my row. Elly was strong enough to speak up and provide her own impact statement, describing how the offender's acts of anti-Semitism brought her back to a time and place that was simply unthinkable.

Listening to Elly made me wonder how one could possibly continue to have such hatred for others. It is not that I am naive, but rather, that I fail to understand where such irrational hatred comes from. Elly's impact statement was not only extremely emotional for me to hear, it also allowed me to learn a crucial lesson. She reminded me, and our entire community, how important it is to stand up and not remain silent in the face of hatred. I admire her courage and think it should be a lesson for all of us to remember that we must speak out publicly against such hatred and that we must, as human beings, ensure that what happened during the Holocaust never happens again.



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Paul Shaffer moves on from his Letterman gig

BY GABE FRIEDMAN

NEW YORK (JTA) – Paul Shaffer, sporting a gray T-shirt and a one- or two-day-old beard, is sitting in the living room of his spacious Manhattan apartment near Lincoln Center. The walls are crammed with music memorabilia, including a signed Curtis Mayfield single and a plaque presented by the State of Israel to Sammy Davis, Jr.

The homey scene is a far cry from the glamorous studio environs that made Shaffer famous.

For more than 30 years, Shaffer served as David Letterman’s sidekick, musical director and band leader on his two late-night television shows. Since Letterman’s first show aired on NBC in 1982, Shaffer has been known for his sparkling suits and quirky sunglasses, and for backing some of the biggest musicians in the world, including Miles Davis, Carole King and Steve Winwood.

But now, on a steamy late spring evening, Shaffer has an audience of one as he sits down at an old Hammond organ near a window. The instrument once belonged to the late James Brown, Shaffer said, and he picked it up years ago at an auction.

Shaffer turns on the large multi-tiered organ, lets it warm up and starts playing a walking bass line on the bass pedals.

“I used to stay away from [the bass pedals], I was too afraid of them,” he said with a smile. “Now I’m getting to the point where I really want to play them all the time.”

Time is something Shaffer, 67, has had since Letterman retired in 2015.

“I thought, let’s take a break and enjoy a few things other than show business,” he told JTA. “I guess I don’t have the depth for that because I just got bored right away – and depressed.”

So Shaffer soon found himself in a recording studio with his “Late Show” band. An album, “Paul Shaffer and The World’s Most Dangerous Band,” was released in March, and features an array of guest vocalists, including Bill Murray (yes, that Bill Murray).

The new record, which consists mostly of covers of R&B classics, is something of a return to his roots. A nice Jewish boy from Thunder Bay, Ontario, Shaffer recalled how his father – a lawyer he describes as “conservative but hip” – played Sam Cooke and Ray Charles around the house.

The Shaffers were among some 40 Jewish families in a Lake Superior town, and the only synagogue was



Paul Shaffer on the set of the “Late Show with David Letterman” in 2001.

JOHN PAUL FILO/CBS VIA GETTY IMAGES

Orthodox. So Shaffer had an Orthodox bar mitzvah and learned to love Orthodox services, which he says he still attends from time to time at a synagogue in Manhattan. He brought up his daughter and son Jewish in the New York City suburbs of Westchester County; his son also had an Orthodox bar mitzvah.

Far from having the stereotypical dreams of “my son, the doctor,” Shaffer said his parents “secretly” wanted him to succeed in music.

“There was the Jewish attitude of, ‘That kid is going to play the piano if I have to break every one of his fingers,’” he recalled. “I was going to be musical. I had that kind of Jewish mother.”

Shaffer didn’t hide his Jewish identity as he rose through the ranks of show business. His career began in earnest in 1972 when he was the musical director of the Toronto production of the hit rock musical “Godspell” – its impressive cast included Victor Garber, Gilda Radner, Eugene Levy and Martin Short.

Shaffer then played in the original “Saturday Night Live” band before becoming the music director on the Letterman shows – “Late Night” on NBC and then “The Late Show” on CBS. A New York magazine article from 1986 described him as a “musician, comic, celebrity, fan, workaholic, hipster and ethical Jew” who seems “equally comfortable at a rock concert or a cocktail lounge, at a comedy club or a seder.”

Shaffer, in what New York magazine called one of the city’s “most bizarre rituals,” hosted what became

known as the “Paul Shaffer Celebrity Seder” for the cast and crew of “Saturday Night Live” during the show’s early years. One year, Shaffer recalled, Murray showed up with his mother and brother. Another year Eddie Fisher, there with his daughter Carrie and her eventual husband, Paul Simon, sang “My Yiddische Mama.”

“I have to confess I broke halachic rules and accompanied Fisher on the piano,” Shaffer said.

Shaffer said he and Letterman remain in touch. In fact, the comedian showed up at a Chabad fundraiser dinner a few months ago to present Shaffer with an award.

These days, Letterman sports a long, bushy Chasidic-style beard – and it didn’t go unnoticed by the guests.

His opening sentence was, “I can’t tell you, ladies and gentlemen, how many people have approached me tonight and said, ‘Rabbi what time is sundown?’” Shaffer recalled. At the end, they presented him with a black hat.

What’s next for Shaffer?

He’s not sure yet, but at least one thing is clear: his organ practice will continue.

With his hands moving swiftly around the keys and his feet hitting the bass pedals, Shaffer sounds like an eager piano student all over again.

“I’m trying to get to the point – and I’m achieving it, too – where it’s just natural,” he said.

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JET to present 20th annual Jewish education extravaganza

BY THAMAR SPITZER
FOR JET

A week of morning courses, lunch-and-learns, coffee talks, evening courses and a Shabbaton finale are all in store for the 20th annual Yarchei Kallah from July 3 to 8. Join JET (Jewish Education through Torah), on a weeklong Jewish learning extravaganza with some of Ottawa's finest teachers and the renowned Rabbi Michael Skobac.

JET's Yarchei Kallah, a week of educational opportunities, attracts hundreds of people each year and is designed to have something for everyone.

"It's a unique learning opportunity because you can tailor your schedule, mixing-and-matching from over 45 different classes at different levels," said JET founder, Rabbi Zischa Shaps.

Rabbi Skobac will be hosting a morning series entitled, "The Path to Per-

sonal Transformation," a mussar class which uses Judaism as a "technology for change."

"One thing that all people, Jews included, think about is how to improve the quality of their lives, especially when it comes to their personality traits – which is the most intimate aspect of who they are," said Rabbi Skobac. "Judaism is a 3,000 year old program for helping people grow their personality traits."

The evening classes include "A Rabbi's Perspective on Christianity and other Challenges to Judaism" with Rabbi Skobac, who is a leading expert on missionaries and cults. He's a director of Jews for Judaism and has lectured extensively around the world on Jewish continuity, spirituality, and counter-missionary work.

Some of the other speakers during Yarchei Kallah will include Shaindel Simes, Rabbi Reuven Bulka, Rabbi

Michael and Stacy Goldstein, and Rabbi Yaakov Moshe Harris teaching a range of classes including "Dream interpretation: Talmudic and Psycho-social Insights," "Judaism and Vegetarianism," and "Jumpstarting Jewish Engagement."

The week is filled with diverse learning opportunities with seminars, text-based lectures, learning while lunching, casual conversations, a Shabbaton, and a Texas barbecue for young professionals at the Glebe Shul.

Visit www.jetottawa.com to see the complete Yarchei Kallah schedule, course descriptions and list of speakers. At the website you can also fill out the online registration form to personalize your classes and design your own schedule based on what you want to learn. You only pay for the classes you attend, either per day, per individual class, or per class series.

Events will be held at the Solo-



Rabbi Michael Skobac is among the teachers leading classes at JET's Yarchei Kallah, July 3-8.

way Jewish Community Centre, Hillel Lodge, and at Congregation Beit Tikvah. For more information, call JET at 613-695-4800.

Federation AGM

Continued from page 2

take their first steps) and taking a team approach.

"The one fundamental difference is that a race has a clear finish line whereas community work continues."

The most emotional point of the evening came during the presentation of the community service awards, when Gillian Presner accepted the Freiman Family Young Leadership Award and the Lawrence Greenberg Young Leadership Development Award.

Presner talked about letters she wrote to her young daughters last summer before undergoing brain surgery. She said she wrote the letters in case she did not survive the surgery because she wanted her children to know her enthusiasm and passion for the community, "that my work here is not yet done."

Jeffrey Miller received the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award. Now presented every second year, it is the highest tribute the Ottawa Jewish community bestows.

Foundation AGM

Continued from page 2

ket program helping families headed by women. Volunteer Donna Strauss accepted the grant on behalf of the food bank.

Paul Finn also presented the George Joseph Cooper Scholarship, valued this year at \$15,687, to Anna Frenkel for her leadership, academic excellence and strong commitment to the Jewish community. Frenkel is pursuing a master's degree in education while continuing to study speech-language pathology. Michael Landau ended his term as

"You are a true mensch, and I'm honoured to present the award to you," said Robert Greenberg, one of the late Gilbert Greenberg's sons, in presenting the award to Miller.

The Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award was presented to Hyman Reichstein, while Eyal Podolsky received the Student Award. Podolsky accepted his award via an audio recording sent from France where he is a student intern on a breast cancer research project. His brother, Tommy, picked up the award on his behalf.

Tributes were also offered to Sharon Appotive, who chaired the 2016 and 2017 Women's Campaigns, and Michael Polowin, the 2017 Annual Campaign chair. Polowin had been scheduled to lead the 2018 Annual Campaign but stepped down due to his new role as OJCS board chair.

Kerzner announced that Appotive will return to chair the 2018 Annual Campaign with Aviva Ben-Choreen as Women's Campaign chair.

chair of the Foundation noting that much was done during his tenure to further the Foundation's fundraising efforts.

"I believe we should continue to pursue higher goals," Landau said, noting the Foundation's annual distribution to community agencies is now about \$3 million.

"I have big shoes to fill," said incoming Foundation Chair Gillie Vered. "Thank you for this opportunity to keep up the good work of those who had come before me. Passing the torch is what the Foundation is about."

OBITUARY

SHENTOW, David – On Monday, June 12, 2017, at Bradgate Arms Retirement Residence in Toronto, David Shentow z"l passed away at age 92 with his wife and daughters by his side. Beloved husband of Rose for 67 years, devoted and loving father to Renee and Lorie, grandfather to Michael and Rachel, great-grandfather to Rachel and Chaim's children: Esti, Miri and Momo. David, recipient of the Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012, and Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers earlier this year, touched many lives, particularly when telling of his experiences during the Holocaust. Born in Warsaw, Poland, and growing up in Antwerp, Belgium with his parents and two younger sisters, David was the sole survivor of his family. He was dedicated to Holocaust education. Always accompanied by Rose, David accepted invitations from schools, universities and organizations to share his testimony, participated in March of the Living four times, and appeared in documentary films about the Holocaust. Passionate about the arts and travel, his zest for life was unmatched. David's generosity, warmth and sense of humour charmed everyone in his presence. A funeral service was held from Benjamin's Park Memorial Chapel on June 14th. Interment was in the Community Section of Pardes Chaim Cemetery.

Memorial donations may be made to the March of the Living, 416-398-6931, or to the charity of your choice.

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What I learned from summer camp

There are many things I miss about childhood, but there are two times a year I miss it more than any other.

One is September, for no other reason than the thrill of all the new school supplies. To this day, I'm a sucker for a fresh notebook and a new package of pens.

The other is summer.

More specifically – summer camp.

I started going to sleepaway summer camp the year I turned either six or seven – I don't exactly remember which.

But here's what I do remember. The weeks before, my father took me to the Scouts Canada shop so I'd have every single imaginable piece of gear I could need.

Lesson one learned from summer camp: make a list when you're packing. It helps you make sure you've got what you need, and if you're out of room, you know what you don't. (Goodbye, canoe paddle.)

That summer, or perhaps the one after, my parents gave me a Walkman to take to camp and I remember exactly which tape I chose first to take with me: Fats Domino.

Lesson two learned from summer camp: music fads come and go, but the classics are that way for a reason.

At that time in my life, my mom actually did most of the packing. On the list were towels for swimming and showers. So, she did what most reasonable people would do when packing for a kid going to camp – she packed old towels.

Little did she know – and how could she – that all the other girls were going to show up with beach towels decorated with all manner of colours or cartoons.



STEPHANIE SHEFRIN
**MODERN
MISHPOCHA**

Lesson three learned at summer camp: if kids are going to judge you because you don't have a cool towel, those aren't the kids you want to be friends with anyway.

Five or six summers later, I finally told my parents that I really didn't want to go back to that camp.

And that's when they decided to send me to the best summer camp on earth: Camp Kadimah in Barss Corner, N.S. Yes, a Jewish summer camp in the middle of nowhere – but the best.

If you are a camp person, you're now ready to pick a fight with me and tell me I'm wrong because your camp, not mine, is the best camp in the world.

That's how camp people are. It's how my husband and I are. The only consistent disagreement we have over raising our daughter is where to send her to summer camp.

I should be clear: this is of such profound concern to us that we were having the argument even before we got pregnant.

And, if you still think I'm not serious: when she was an infant, we'd each sing her our own camp songs as lullabies and once got into an argument over the proper lyrics to "Rad Hayom." His camp does it one way, mine another.

So, yeah, camp is a big deal in our house.

Camp taught me a lot. The lessons I listed above, how to water ski, the joys of Led Zeppelin. To this day, I can still make a macramé bracelet out of pretty much anything.

When people talk about the benefits of summer camp, the one most often cited is independence. And, for sure, that's true – you learn to take care of yourself in a way that's completely different than at home.

There's a Jewish side of that as well.

You see, I went to Jewish day school. I was raised in a Jewish home.

Yet, I can say without question, that camp is where I actually delighted in being Jewish in a way I just didn't the rest of the year.

I'm not much of a dancer, but put on the tunes for Oneg Shabbat at camp, and I'll do that popcorn dance until my palms were smarting from all the clapping.

There's something to be said for the fact that at Jewish summer camp you can live a Jewish life in a way you just can't in the city, no matter where you are on the religious spectrum. Perhaps it's because in our million-channel universe, there's only ever one program on at camp.

So, while regular readers of this column might know we still haven't settled on whether our daughter will attend Jewish day school, she will be going to Jewish summer camp.

Maybe she'll end up at my camp or my husband's. Or maybe we'll compromise and she'll go somewhere new, and come home with a new version of "Rad Hayom."

But Kadimah will always be the best camp. Just saying.

Do calorie counts help you make better choices?

Go to almost any fast food chain restaurant or coffee shop in Ottawa and you'll notice that the number of calories in each item is posted on the menu board. On January 1, 2017, Ontario implemented the *Healthy Menu Choices Act*, becoming the first province in Canada to require chain restaurants and coffee shops with more than 20 locations, as well as grocery and convenience stores and movie theatres to post the calorie counts of every standard food item and drink on the menu. The goal of the signage is to help consumers make more informed and healthier choices.

Having an idea of how many calories you should be eating provides context when making purchasing decisions. The act requires establishments to post a statement indicating the average number of calories an adult (2,000) and a child from age four to 12 (1,500) needs per day.

The number of calories you need varies depending on several factors including age, gender, weight, body composition and level of physical activity. It's also important to understand that not all calories are equal and, unfortunately, the act does not require the posting of nutritional information beyond the calorie counts.

Do the numbers on signage affect your buying decisions and eating habits? While I couldn't track down a provincial study, an American survey found that only 12 per cent of respondents ordered menu items with fewer calories after reading the caloric content. Only half of these consumers even noticed that calories were posted on menu boards when the numbers were initially posted. <http://tinyurl.com/y8jkfsdo>

Other reports show improvement in selection when



GLORIA SCHWARTZ
**FOCUS ON
FITNESS**

caloric information is posted but some reports show that certain subgroups – such as young men – buy higher-calorie items after reading caloric info. Perhaps these consumers want to gain weight or get more value for their money. <http://tinyurl.com/ycjaufav>

Do adults use caloric information to make smarter choices for their children, if not for themselves? This does not seem to be the case. A review of American consumers' receipts from fast food restaurants in a city where caloric labelling is mandated versus one where it is not, suggests that while menu board calorie posting increases awareness, it doesn't decrease the calories purchased by adults for their children. <http://tinyurl.com/y87ascbj>

Canadians love coffee. In a 2015 survey of 80 countries, Canada ranked number one for litres of coffee consumed per capita at food service establishments. Unfortunately, coffee shops sell a plethora of high-calorie doughnuts, croissants and beverages, delivering a jolt of temptations that many consumers find difficult to resist when they buy coffee, even when caloric info is in plain view.

The long-held belief is that if you have a deficit of

3,500 calories, you lose a pound of fat. This rule is based on mathematical research by Max Wishnofsky in 1958, and although it's been quoted by weight-loss professionals and scientists for decades, it's an oversimplification that's been refuted in the past few years. For example, a 500-calorie deficit (skip the muffin, exercise more) per day and it's assumed you'll lose a pound of fat each week. Weight loss includes not just fat, but lean tissue if you don't exercise, and water. In theory, you should lose 52 pounds per year with an ongoing 500-calorie daily deficit. Anyone who's tried to lose weight knows that rapid weight loss is easier the first few days or weeks of dieting and then it slows down. This is due to a variety of factors including the body's metabolic adaptation. When we cut calories and begin to lose weight, our body expends fewer calories. To continue with weight loss over time, you'd have to cut out even more calories to lose each additional pound. Over a year, you'd have to restrict your intake by as much as 7,000 calories to lose a pound! <http://tinyurl.com/m78tpnt>

Unfortunately, most websites, apps and dieticians still base their advice on the 3,500-calorie rule rather than more up-to-date predictive models.

While losing weight is not as simple as choosing a cup of coffee and a banana over a Frappuccino and a muffin, it's a good place to start. Healthy habits begin with small steps. Small steps begin with knowledge. Caloric information has the potential to improve waistlines and health. I'd like to see additional nutritional information at the point of sale – such as sodium and sugar content – as well as healthier menu options. What you do with the information is up to you.

‘The world is catching on to the PA’s antics’

Is the Palestinian Authority (PA)’s policy of paying salaries to imprisoned terrorists and their families finally starting to backfire? Or, can PA President Mahmoud Abbas continue selling the line that the PA raises its children in a “culture of peace”?

And what affect will these factors have on U.S. President Donald Trump’s vows to broker an Israeli-Palestinian peace deal?

At time of writing, Trump is fighting allegations of obstruction of justice after fired FBI director James Comey told an extraordinary Senate hearing that the president attempted to derail an FBI inquiry into Trump’s former national security adviser, Michael Flynn, and his inappropriate contact with Russia.

So, it may be a while before Trump returns to tackling a peace deal he has said “is not as difficult as people have thought.”

But, assuming he survives the latest challenge to his disastrous presidency, Trump will be unable to resist the urge to succeed where other U.S. presidents and world leaders and international pressure have failed miserably.

Abbas went on a charm offensive when he visited the White House in early May. In their joint White House news conference, he assured Trump that “we are raising our youth, our children, our grandchildren, on a culture of peace.”

But Israel’s Channel 2, citing an unnamed U.S. source, says that Trump yelled at Abbas during their meeting in Bethlehem later in the month.

“You tricked me in D.C.!” Trump is alleged to have shouted at a shocked Abbas.

“You talked there about your commitment to peace, but the Israelis showed me your involvement in incitement [against Israel].”

Recent developments suggest the world is catching on to the PA’s antics.



The PA minister of finance has admitted that foreign aid has dropped by 70 per cent since Palestinian Media Watch (PMW) – www.palwatch.org – started publicizing the issue of terrorist salaries in 2011.

In April, the PA cut salaries to its employees in Gaza, but maintained the salaries of terrorist prisoners and released terrorists.

Republican Senator Lindsay Graham has reintroduced legislation to cut U.S. funding to the PA if it continues paying those salaries.

Israel may follow suit. A government committee has approved preliminary reading of a bill calling for withholding about a billion shekels (C\$380 million) from the tax revenues it collects for the PA – about equivalent to the amount the PA disbursed in “martyr pay” in 2016.

PMW reports that the governments of Norway and Denmark have asked the PA to return money they donated to a youth centre for women after PMW revealed that it was named for arch-terrorist Dalal Mughrabi. She led a 1978 bus hijacking in which 37 Israelis, including 12 children, were murdered.

Even the UN, which usually turns a blind eye to the PA’s antics, rejected the choice of name as “wrong and unacceptable.”

Days after sending a message to Israelis at a Tel Aviv demonstration for a two-state solution that the PA’s hand was “extended in peace,” Abbas approved the

appointment of Karim Younes, an Israeli Arab serving a 40-year sentence for kidnapping and murdering an Israeli soldier, to his Fatah party’s ruling Central Committee.

As foreign funding is declining, the PA is scrambling for reasons to justify its terror promotion and terrorist salaries.

The most ludicrous argument was voiced by Fatah Central Committee Member and Commissioner of International Relations Rawhi Fattouh.

In a statement published on Falestinona, a Lebanese Fatah website, he argued that paying salaries to terrorists prevents them from turning “to ISIS or any other extremist party.”

Under this logic, foreign donors “help the PA bring peace to the Middle East.”

Fattouh said that countries that suspend aid “must bear the consequences,” presumably a deadlier form of terror.

Moves to dramatically reduce U.S. foreign aid to the PA usually get vetoed or watered down for fear of destabilizing the Abbas regime and empowering Hamas.

In hopes of advancing the peace process, Trump has already backed down on his campaign promise to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Is he angry enough to sanction the PA for its terrorist salaries and other incitement? Or will he follow his predecessors’ lead and opt for appeasement?

“I never get too attached to one deal or one approach,” Trump wrote in his 1987 book *The Art of the Deal*.

“I keep a lot of balls in the air, because most deals fall out, no matter how promising they seem at first.”

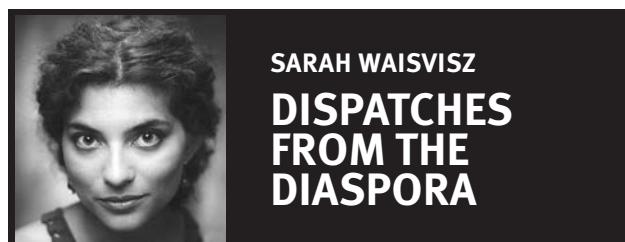
The president may need to brush up on his juggling skills to get this deal done.

This land ‘is not mine; it does not belong to me’

In Jewish thought, there are several categories of citizenship including stranger, citizen, and in-dwelling stranger. “Ger” means stranger, “gerim,” the plural, means strangers. In *Leviticus 19:34*, we find a discussion of the ger: “The stranger who resides with you shall be to you as one of your citizens; you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.”

“Ger toshav (the one who dwells among you)” is distinct from ger. A ger toshav is a positive term to describe a non-Jewish person who stands for the rights of Jewish people, who raises Jewish children but does not themselves convert, who is active in congregational life, or who is on a Jewish journey without being born Jewish. Because ger toshav has connotations of otherness, of being different from the group, some Jewish communities prefer to use the term *k’rov Yisrael* (friend or relative of Israel). For both ger toshav and *k’rov Yisrael* the term, and the responsibility it demands, is about allyship.

As I write this, just a few weeks before a summer of epic Canada 150 celebrations, I am thinking about how all non-indigenous people in Canada can be considered gerim. In this analysis, all of us who are not indigenous are visitors to a land that rightfully belongs to the Inuit, the Métis, and the First Nations. According to my hypothesis, if all immigrants to Canada [and



their descendants] are gerim, what will it take for us to merit the designation *geri toshav*? What does allyship look like? More specifically, what will it take for non-indigenous Jewish people in Canada to be allies of indigenous communities?

No matter how we as contemporary individuals feel about the modern State of Israel, many will agree that our status as a Diaspora community depends on the Babylonian Exile and expulsion from the spiritual and historic Eretz Yisrael. The word “diaspora” is from the ancient Greek word meaning “scattering” or “dispersion.” Jews have been living in Diaspora since ancient times, as strangers within strange lands, and have nurtured new communities away from Eretz Yisrael. Each year at Passover we also remember the end of the Israelites’ first significant Diaspora when they returned to Canaan after several generations of slavery, as well as exile, in *Mitzrayim* (Egypt).

The Jewish people therefore know a thing or two

about being visitors and then settlers to a land. I wonder whether our historic knowledge of living alongside others, and of being a less powerful minority within a majority community, might not be a useful position from which to contribute to the ongoing labour of repairing old relations and nurturing new, healthy relations between settlers and indigenous peoples in Canada. Can Canadian Jews take up the call more loudly, and perhaps, in an institutional way, stand up for indigenous peoples in Canada who, for 500 years, have been reduced to third-class citizens in their own land? If we are visitors here, on land that belongs to others, what can we do to be supportive and ethical in-dwelling strangers, to be supportive *geri toshav*?

I write this column at my desk in a house I rent, a house built on the unceded and unsundered land of the Algonquin people. In naming my position, I challenge myself to be aware that I am a visitor to this land, just as I am a visitor to this house. It is not mine. It does not belong to me. Yet as a visitor, as an in-dwelling stranger, I have responsibilities to uphold. I must treat this house, this land, this water, this nature, and the people who own it with respect. I must actively practice being an ally. Only then can I be honoured as a *ger toshav*.

These questions and others will define how I observe Canada’s 150th. How about you?



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Hymie Reichstein Mazel Tov on being the recipient of the Shem Tov Award by Ruth and Irving Aaron

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Ted Colver by Julia Gluck and Ted Overton

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In Honour of:

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Kelley Scott Mazel Tov on buying your first house by Julia Gluck and Ted Overton

Will Affleck Mazel Tov on your achievements by Julia Gluck and Ted Overton

Joel Yan Mazel Tov on winning the Thelma Steinman Direct Service Award by Julia Gluck and Ted Overton and Henry and Maureen Molot

Peter and Minda Wershof Mazel Tov on your 40th wedding Anniversary by Henry and Maureen Molot

R'Fuah Shlema:

Dr. Rob Smolkin by Cheryle and Manny Gluck

Evelyn and Irving Greenberg Fund

In Honour of:

Jeff Miller Mazel Tov on receiving the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award by Evelyn Greenberg

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In Honour of:

Bryna and Ilan Rumstein Mazel Tov on the occasion of your 50th Wedding Anniversary by Sol and Estelle Gunner

Lisa and Alex Binderow Mazel Tov on the birth of your daughter by Sol and Estelle Gunner

Rena Cohen Mazel Tov on your granddaughter's Bat Mitzvah by Sol and Estelle Gunner

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Mrs. Bea Dubinsky Wishing you good health and happiness on your 102nd Birthday by Margo, David, Aaron and Gail Kardish
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Harvey Slipacoff by Monica and Alvin Stein

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In Memory of:
Joel Taller by Roslyn Taller and Myles Taller and Family

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In Honour of:
Estelle Caplan In appreciation by Diane and Lou Tannenbaum

Toby and Joel Yan Family Fund
In Honour of:
Joel Yan Mazel Tov on winning the Thelma Steinman Direct Service Award by Ruth Kahane and Harvey Goldberg, Bonnie and Sherwin Lyman

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Marvin Ross by Carole and Norman Zagerman
R'Fuah Shlema:
Lyon Sachs by Carole and Norman Zagerman
In Honour of:
Jeff Miller Mazel Tov on receiving the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award by Carole and Norman Zagerman

Feeding Program
In Memory of:
Maurice Wright by Wendy Wright
Ethel Rosenblatt by Vickie Jennings, Carol and Laurie Pascoe, Flo and Joel Morgan
Joel Taller by Glenda Goldmaker and David Moss
Elaine Kurtzman by Violet Segal
In Honour of:
Dr. Norman and Margo Viner Mazel Tov on your 60th Birthdays by Barbara and Steve Levinson
Kenneth Mirsky Mazel Tov on your 80th Birthday by Barbara and Steve Levinson
Stephen Saslove Mazel Tov on receiving the Shalom Perel President's Award of Merit by Carol and Laurie Pascoe
Joel Yan Mazel Tov on receiving the Thelma Steinman Direct Service Award by Carol and Laurie Pascoe
Howard Monson Mazel Tov on your special Birthday by Barbara and Steve Levinson
Allan and Maria Taylor Mazel Tov on your marriage by Barbara and Steve Levinson
Beverly and David Gluzman Mazel Tov on the birth of your granddaughter by Lysette and Louis Kohn
Valerie Chippin Mazel Tov on your 80th Birthday by Glenda and David Moss and Family
Harriet Slone wishing you a very happy special Birthday by Joan Bloom and Barbara and Steve Levinson
Francie Greenspoon Mazel Tov on Abbey and Isaac's graduations by Barbara and Steve Levinson
Brian and Bev Glube Mazel Tov on the birth of your beautiful granddaughter by Joy and Seymour Mender
Joshua Krane Wishing you a very Happy Father's Day by Sam, Myra and Justin Krane

Technology/Staff Training Program
In Memory of:
Anna Clarke by the Bolton Family

Therapeutic Program
In Memory of:
Anna Clarke by Irene and John Wright
In Honour of:
Irwin and Audrey Kreisman Mazel Tov on the occasion of your daughter's wedding by Rosalie and Harold Schwartz

Recreation Program
In Memory of:
Ethel Rosenblatt by Greg Rideout (Emissions Research and Measurement)
In Honour of:
Musica Ebraica Yasher Koach for your wonderful concert by Kathryn Palmer
Sylvia Monson Mazel Tov on your 101st Birthday by Kathryn Palmer
Evelyn Greenberg Mazel Tov on your prestigious Awards by Kathryn Palmer
Jeff Miller Mazel Tov on your well-deserved honour by Evelyn Greenberg
Sheela Morin Happy 75th by Beth Roodman
Stephen Saslove Mazel Tov on receiving the Shalom Perel President's Award of Merit by Beth Roodman and Carol and Laurie Pascoe
In Observance of the Yahrzeit of:
Bertha Garber Palmer
In Honour of:
Norine Hum In appreciation for your kindness to my late mother by Kathryn Palmer
Cantor Danny Benlolo In Appreciation for your kindness by Kathryn Palmer
The Staff at Hillel Lodge In appreciation for your wonderful care of my late mother by Kathryn Palmer
Marilyn Adler In appreciation for your kindness by Kathryn Palmer
Issie Scarowsky In appreciation for all your beautiful photos of my late mother by Kathryn Palmer

Ritual Program
In Honour of:
Eric Elkin and Molly Hirsch Mazel Tov on the birth of your new grandson by Peter and Minda Wershof

IN MEMORY OF:
Ethel Rosenblatt by Jill Hendren, Rabbi Levy and Dina Teitlebaum, Peter and Minda Wershof
Gladys Bodnoff by Barbara and Neil Barak and Family
Betty Finkelman by Shirley Kriger
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Percy Waxman by Noreen and Syd Bosloy
Carole Goldstein by Beverly and Irving Swedko
Abe Hillel by Lydia and Sami Sourani
Eli Hoffman by Shirley Viner

IN HONOUR OF:
Irving and Beverly Swedko Mazel Tov on your grandson's Bar Mitzvah by Janet and Norman Ironstone
Brian Keller Happy 70th Birthday by Steven and Roz Fremeth
Gayle Krochmalnek Happy Birthday and best wishes by Sharon and Eli Cohen
Rose Stein Happy 102nd Birthday by Michael and Muriel Wexler
Naomi Cracower Mazel Tov on being honoured by the Canadian Hadassah-wizo by Michael and Muriel Wexler
Manny Agulnik Best wishes on your 75th Birthday by Graciela and Buddy Steinberg, Phyllis and Bill Cleiman, Faith and Myron Silver, Sam and Roberta Goldmaker, Shirley Siegel and Syd Bernstein, Marsha and Warren Black
Sylvia Monson Mazel Tov on your 101st Birthday by Edith Landen, Bea Torontow
Sharon Rosentzveig Mazel Tov on the birth of your grandson by Marten and Elaine Brodsky
Parinaz and Ilan Adler Mazel Tov on the engagement of your daughter Soleil by Ed and Cary Lander
Jeff Miller Congratulations on receiving the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award by Rhoda and Mike Aronson
Rena Cohen Happy special Birthday by Morton and Sylvia Pleet
Arlene and Seymour Isenberg Mazel Tov on your 50th Anniversary by Helen and Mayer Alvo
Bryna and Ilan Rumstein Happy 50th Anniversary by Lydia and Sami Sourani

R'FUAH SHLEMA:
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MAURICE KLEIN

AJA 50+: AJA (Active Jewish Adults) 50+ held a volunteer appreciation event at Herb Garden in Almonte, June 7. “These dedicated people believe in all work and no pay,” said Margo Rosen, outgoing president of AJA 50+. AJA 50+ provides year round programming and social networking for mature adults.⁹



HOWARD SANDLER

Kol Miriam Choir: The Kol Miriam Choir gave its first performance, June 4, at Congregation Beit Tikvah, during an Emunah event.



Lag B’Omer CHEO walk: The Lag B’Omer carnival, May 14, sponsored by Chabad of Centrepoinette and the Soloway Jewish Community Centre began with a walk and award presentation honouring the Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO). From left: CHEO pediatric hematologist/oncologist Dr. Donna Johnston; CHEO CEO Alex Munter; Rabbi Reuven Bulka; Mayor Jim Watson; and Rabbi Chaim Mendelsohn.



ISSIE SCAROWSKY

Magen David Adom event: Kehillat Beth Israel hosted a concert benefitting Canadian Magen David Adom for Israel (CMDA) on June 11. Among those in attendance were (from left) Susan Puritz, CMDA administrative assistant; Daniel Amzallag, CMDA national media co-ordinator; Anita Vandenberg, MP (Ottawa West-Nepean); Cantor Daniel Benlolo; Dan Dransfield; Seymour Eisenberg, CMDA Ottawa Chapter president; and Sidney Benizri, CMDA national executive director. Performers included Cantor Benlolo and the Tamir Neshama Choir.



Jerusalem Stories: In May, Canadian Friends of Hebrew University presented an exhibit, “Jerusalem Stories,” at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre in celebration of the 50th Yom Yerushalayim, the anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem in 1967. The stories were collected from Ottawa community members who wanted to share their special connection to Jerusalem.

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FUND FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

MAZEL TOV TO:

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Refuah Shlemah to:
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MAZEL TOV TO:

Gerald and Mary-Belle Pulvermacher on their granddaughter Mia's Bat Mitzvah by Beverly and Irving Swedko.

ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:

Barry and Ricki Baker by Beverly and Irving Swedko.

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MAZEL TOV TO:

Hyman Reichstein on receiving the Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award by Sharon and David Appotive.

BRAYDEN APPOTIVE ENDOWMENT FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Cindi and Mark Resnick on the birth of their grandson Kyle Aiden Resnick by Sharon and David Appotive and family.
Heidi and Jon Pivnick on the birth of their granddaughter by Sharon and David Appotive and family.
Bev and Bryan Glube on the birth of their granddaughter by Sharon and David Appotive and family.
Michael and Melanie Polowin on the engagement of Jacob to Sarah by Sharon and David Appotive and family.
Irwin and Audrey Kreisman on the marriage of their daughter Sarah by Sharon and David Appotive.

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BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:

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ANNIVERSARY WISHES TO:

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Elissa and Avi Iny on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter by Sandi and Eddy Cook and family.
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Bryna and Murray Cohen on the marriage of their daughter Robin to Jonathan by Sandi and Eddy Cook.

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MAZEL TOV TO:

Jeff Miller on receiving the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award by Joel and Barbara Diener.
Bryan and Beverly Glube on the birth of their granddaughter by Joel and Barbara Diener.
Irwin and Audrey Kreisman on the marriage of their daughter by Joel and Barbara Diener.
Gabe Karlin on his retirements by Joel and Barbara Diener.

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Irving Solman on his special Bar Mitzvah celebration by Adele and Jeff Sidney.

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Donna Dolansky by Myrna and Michael Waiser.

MAZEL TOV TO:

Gillian Presner on receiving the Freiman Family Young Leadership Award by Barbara and Len Farber; by Marc and Jessica Borenstein and family; and by Sharon and David Appotive.
Bernard and Donna Dolansky on Gillian's receipt of the Freiman Family Young Leadership Award by George and Elaine Citrome.

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Mary-Belle and Gerald Pulvermacher on their granddaughter Mia's Bat Mitzvah by Arnold and Roslyn Kimmel.

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Melanie and Michael Polowin on the engagement of Jacob and Sarah by Rhoda and Jeff Miller.

Continued on page 32

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REFUAH SHLEMAH TO:

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The Honourable Madame Justice Heidi Polowin by Dodie & Bram Potechin.

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Gerald and Mary-Belle Pulvermacher on their granddaughter Mia's Bat Mitzvah by Trudy and Sheldon Wiseman; and by Avraham and Elissa Iny.

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Myra and Lester Aronson on the engagement of Greg and Meaghan by Gerald and Mary-Belle Pulvermacher.

Roslyn and Steven Fremeth on the birth of their grandson Jackson by Gerald and Mary-Belle Pulvermacher.

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Sam and Roberta Goldmaker by Gordie and Penny Resnick and family.

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Alan and Barbara Goldrosen on the birth of their grandson by Sheldon and Corinne Taylor.

John and Dayra Diener on the marriage of Brian and Wendy by Sheldon and Corinne Taylor.

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Sheldon Shaffer by Myra and Sam Krane and family.

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MAZEL TOV TO:

Eyal Podolsky on receiving the Student

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Jeffrey Miller on receiving the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award by Steve and Laurie Gordon.

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MAZEL TOV TO:

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Shirley Eidinger by Phyllis and Marvin Silverman.

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SAM AND SUE SLACK ENDOWMENT FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:

Joy and Seymour Mender on Jared's engagement to Leah Bottner by Susan and Charles Schwartzman.

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MAZEL TOV TO:

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MAZEL TOV TO:
Allan Taylor and Maria Medeiros on their recent wedding by Marty, Ellen and Sharon Cardash; by Max and Ellie Greenberg and family; by Jerry and Lily Penso and family; and by Murray and Judy Lieff.

BRENT AND RISA TAYLOR ENDOWMENT FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:
Hyman Reichstein on receiving the Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award by Brent, Risa and Shira Taylor.
Allan Taylor and Maria Medeiros on their marriage by Brent, Risa and Shira Taylor.
Dayra and John Diener on the marriage of Brian to Wendy by Brent, Risa and Shira Taylor.
Felice and Jeff Pleet on the marriage of Erin to Chris by Brent, Risa and Shira Taylor.
Alissa and Yaacov Attias by Brent, Risa and Shira Taylor.
IN MEMORY OF:
Joel Taller by Brent, Risa and Shira Taylor.
Allan Ingles by Brent, Risa and Shira Taylor.

SUSAN WEISMAN AND JEFF TAYLOR ENDOWMENT FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Betty Finkelman by Susan Weisman and Jeff Taylor.
MAZEL TOV TO:
Felice and Jeff Pleet on the marriage of Erin to Chris by Susan Weisman and Jeff Taylor.

IRVING AND DIANE WEXLER FAMILY FUND

MOTHER'S DAY WISHES TO:
Diane Wexler by Dorothy and Bernie Tonchin.

ZIPES KARANOFSKY FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:
Frieda and Phil Chodos on the birth of

their twin granddaughters by Rick and Helen Zipes.
Steve Morgan & Sarah Beutel on the Bat Mitzvah of Ariella by Rick and Helen Zipes.
Irwin and Elli Horner on the birth of their granddaughter by Rick and Helen Zipes.

REFUAH SHLEMAH TO:
Nicki Ages by Rick and Helen Zipes.

THE WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE PHILANTHROPY PROGRAM

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

WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE ENDOWMENT FUND

MOTHER'S DAY WISHES TO:
Susan Marcovitch by Gita and Jerry Pearl.
Liz Pearl by Gita and Jerry Pearl.
Shirley Katz by Gita and Jerry Pearl.
Aviva Orenstein Kalin by David and Judith Kalin.
Nina Dover by Dr. Mark Dover.
Dr. Karen Dover by Dr. Mark Dover.
Ruth Kaplan by Fran Freedman-Kesler and family.
Libby Katz by Fran Freedman-Kesler and family.
Ethel Kesler by Fran Freedman-Kesler and family.
Sylvia Kershman by Fran Freedman-Kesler and family.
Mother's Day Wishes in Memory of:
Bess Swedlove by Carol-Sue Shapiro.

IN MEMORY OF:
Carole Goldstein by Rhoda and Joe Levitan.

MAZEL TOV TO:
Vivian Paul and Robert Douglas on their marriage by Lynne Oreck-Wener and Bob Wener.

REFUAH SHLEMAH TO:
Manny Agulnik by Lynne Oreck-Wener and Bob Wener.

THE SAUL AND EDNA GOLDFARB B'NAI MITZVAH PROGRAM

STEFANIE AND TAYLOR AGES B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

IN APPRECIATION OF:
Lianne Laing for volunteering her time to speak at OJCS by Leila Ages.

RYAN JEREMY BAKER B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:
Andrea Rosen and Gabe Karlin on the birth of their first grandchild Austin by Benita and Steven Baker and family.
Judy Cleiman on the birth of her grandson Felix by Benita and Steven Baker and family.

YITZHAK KAMIL MITZVAH FUND

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:
David Kardish by the Kamil family.

STACEY SAMANTHA KATZ B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

IN MEMORY OF:
Joel Taller by Joany and Andy Katz.

MAZEL TOV TO:
Cindi and Mark Resnick on the birth of their grandson by Joany and Andy Katz.
Penny and Lewis Leikin on the birth of their grandson by Joany and Andy Katz.
Alissa and Yaacov Attias on the birth of their granddaughter by Joany and Andy Katz.
Lise and Mark Thaw on the engagement of Bryan to Cynthia by Joany and Andy Katz.

LIEFF FAMILY B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:
Bev and Bryan Glube on the birth of their granddaughter by Francie Greenspoon and Norman Lieff.
Francie Greenspoon on her retirement by Sharon and David Appotive.

KAYLA REICHSTEIN B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:
Stanley and Orly Aaron on their daughter Yael's Bat Mitzvah by Malcolm and Vera Glube.
Arnold and Roslyn Kimmel on their grandson Sam's Bar Mitzvah by Malcolm and Vera Glube.
Avraham and Elissa Iny on their granddaughter Emily's Bat Mitzvah by Malcolm and Vera Glube.
Irving and Beverly Swedko on their grandson Max's Bar Mitzvah by Malcolm and Vera Glube.

NOAH REICHSTEIN B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:
Jeff Miller on receiving the Gilbert Greenberg Distinguished Service Award by Malcolm and Vera Glube.
Hyman Reichstein on receiving the Shem Tov Community Volunteer Award by Malcolm and Vera Glube.
Gillian Presner on receiving the Freiman Family Young Leadership Award by Malcolm and Vera Glube.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO:
Hildy Lesh by Malcolm and Vera Glube.

BENJAMIN SHAPIRO BAR MITZVAH FUND

MAZEL TOV TO:
Nikki and Michael Shapiro on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Ben by Sarah Beutel and Steven Morgan 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. Attractive cards are sent to convey the appropriate sentiments. All donations are acknowledged with a charitable receipt.

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

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



A rich account of the remarkable life of Cantor Kraus

The Life of Moshele der Zinger: How My Singing Saved My Life

By Cantor Moshe S. Kraus
Baico Publishing Inc.
info@baico.ca
245 pages

BARBARA CROOK BOOK REVIEW

In the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, he was known as *Moshele der Zinger* (Moshele the Singer). The diminutive young man with the golden voice used his talents to entertain, sustain and give solace to his fellow prisoners as they faced deprivation and death.

But as he recounts in his autobiography, Cantor Moshe Kraus's prodigious talents saved his own life on more than one occasion.

That's why *Moshele der Zinger* is subtitled *How My Singing Saved My Life*. It's a rich account of the remarkable life of Cantor Kraus, 95, and his more than 70 years as a renowned chazzan.

Full disclaimer: I have known Moshe and Rivka Kraus since 1998. I travelled to Germany with Cantor Kraus to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Bergen-Belsen, and I wrote the foreword to the book.

So I am far from an objective reviewer. But I've been lucky enough over the years to hear Cantor Kraus tell some of

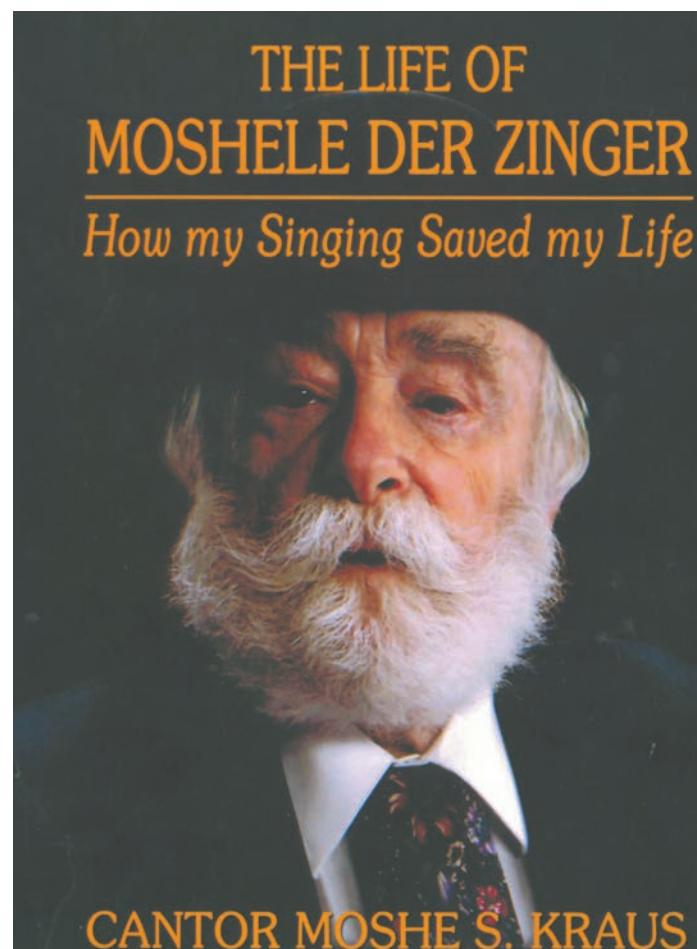
these stories in person and can state unequivocally that the book – shaped with the help of writer/editor Lynn Cohen – truly captures his voice and his unique style of storytelling.

It includes a collection of Chasidic tales – some humorous, some poignant – which Cantor Kraus learned from his late father.

Cantor Kraus was born in Uzhhorod, in what was then Czechoslovakia but is now Ukraine. The oldest of nine children in a close-knit Chasidic family, he was recognized at a young age as a *wunderkind*, a child singing sensation.

By the age of 13, he had sung at concerts and Shabbat services throughout Eastern Europe. At 18, he became city cantor of Sighet, Romania, which was a thriving Jewish community with five large synagogues before most of its Jews were wiped out in the Holocaust.

It was also the home of the late Holocaust survivor and human rights activist Elie Wiesel, who sang in Cantor Kraus'



choir and referred to him as his “rebbe” for the rest of his life.

Cantor Kraus soon became the chief cantor of Budapest. But in 1943, he was deported to the Bor labour camp in what was then Yugoslavia, and to Bergen-Belsen the following year.

More than 600,000 Hungarian Jews died in the Holocaust, including Cantor Kraus' parents, five of his eight siblings, 20 aunts and uncles and almost 100 cousins.

Although his experiences at Bor and Bergen-Belsen comprise only one chapter in a book that includes countless humorous anecdotes, this portion of Cantor Kraus' life is essential to understanding his physical and mental resilience, religious faith and luck, as well as the singing talent that indeed saved his life.

As a teenager, Cantor Kraus had loved the singing of the German Jewish tenor Yosef Schmidt, and later studied with Schmidt's teacher.

At Bergen-Belsen, he was asked to sing for the camp commander, Josef Kramer, known as the Beast of Belsen, who made a game of shooting prisoners. When he requested music in German, Cantor Kraus was able to sing the repertoire of Yosef Schmidt so beautifully that Kramer made sure he was never among the 1,000 prisoners Cantor Kraus says were chosen to die every day.

When he was liberated on April 15, 1945, Cantor Kraus was infested with lice and weighed less than 80 pounds.

Although Cantor Kraus remains a relentlessly positive person, he is still haunted by his Holocaust experiences.

“I just can't believe it still hurts after

all these years,” he writes. “There is no answer as to why. If somebody gives you an answer, tell him he's a liar. There is no answer.”

After liberation, Cantor Kraus worked for the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, and later moved to Israel to become the first chief cantor of the Israeli army.

It was there that he met the 16-year-old Rivka, to whom he proposed a half-hour after they met. She called him a *meshuggener*, Yiddish for crazy person. But he persisted, and they became engaged a year later.

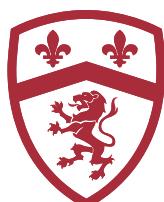
In addition to a solo career that took him around the world, Cantor Kraus was head cantor in Antwerp, Johannesburg and Mexico City. The cantor and Rivka settled in Ottawa in the 1970s, where he worked at Congregation Beth Shalom until his retirement in 1980.

Although he's been fêted by the rich and powerful and honoured by world leaders, his memoirs make it clear that Cantor Kraus' life continues to be defined by faith, gratitude and the sanctity of prayer.

“My highlight was every tefillah,” he told Kinneret Gliberman for an Ottawa Jewish Bulletin article in 2006. “Every davening I gave my best. I always knew I was standing before God.”

“I didn't daven to entertain people. I davened for God.”

The book launch event for *The Life of Moshele der Zinger: How My Singing Saved My Life* by Cantor Moshe S. Kraus will take place Monday, July 3, 7:30 pm, in Councillor Lounge, Ottawa City Hall.



ASHBURY
COLLEGE

Ashbury College prepared Jonah Shinder to take on the world. The talented student athlete participated in both football and rugby at the school, travelling to South Africa with the rugby team this spring. Jonah mentored Grade 9 students at Christie Lake Camp, and took part in International Day, where he helped showcase foods from Israel. This astute member of Ashbury's investment club will put his commerce knowledge to good use when he attends Dalhousie University in September.



Congratulations Jonah!
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WHAT'S GOING ON | June 26 to July 24, 2017

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

MONDAY JUNE 26

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

Chanting & Chocolate: Joyful singing from the heart
Temple Israel, 1301 Prince of Wales Dr., 7:30pm - 9pm every month on the last Monday until Aug. 27, 2018, Cost \$10
Contact: Lorne Mallin, 604-222-3379, lorne.mallin@gmail.com, <http://chantingandchocolate.com>

WEDNESDAY JUNE 28

Tamir AGM & Carnival
Kehillat Beth Israel Congregation,
1400 Coldrey Ave., 5:30 - 8pm
Contact: Krystal Valencia, 613-7253519, ext. 104, kvalencia@tamir.ca

Women's Torah Study with Rabbi Deborah Zuker
Kehillat Beth Israel Congregation,
1400 Coldrey Ave., 7- 9 pm
Contact: Deborah Zuker, rabbizuker@kehillatbethisrael.com

SATURDAY JULY 1

Kehillat Beth Israel Celebrates Canada 150
1400 Coldrey Ave., 9am- 12pm
Contact: Deborah Zuker, rabbizuker@kehillatbethisrael.com

SUNDAY JULY 2

JET's Yarchei Kallah week of learning
Morning classes and Lunch and Learns at Hillel Lodge, evening classes at SJCC, until July 8.
Info: info@jetottawa, or 613-695-4800

THURSDAY JULY 6

PJ Library Parent Book Club
Teen Lounge, 7:30 - 9:30pm,
every two months on the 1st Thursday until Nov. 2, 2017.
Contact: Ariel Fainer, 613-798-4696, ext. 240, afainer@jewishottawa.com

SATURDAY JULY 8

The Jewish Future in a Multicultural Canada
Kehillat Beth Israel, 1400 Coldrey Ave., 9 am - 12pm
Contact: Deborah Zuker, deborahzucker@gmail.com

Tot Shabbat Celebrating July Birthdays

Kehillat Beth Israel, 1400 Coldrey Ave., 10:30am - 12pm
Contact: Deborah Zuker, deborahzucker@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY JULY 12

How the Past Configured the Present; History of the Jewish People & Israel, 7pm - 9 pm
Sarah Beutel, sbeutel@jewishottawa.com

SUNDAY JULY 23

The Canadian Jewish Experience: An evening remembering Louis Rasminsky: Great Canadian, Jewish Icon
7 pm, refreshments will be served
RSVP 2017cje@gmail.com

CANDLE LIGHTING BEFORE

JUNE 30	8:34 PM	JULY 21	8:22 PM
JULY 7	8:32 PM	JULY 28	8:16 PM
JULY 14	8:28 PM	AUGUST 4	8:05 PM

BULLETIN DEADLINES

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5	FOR JULY 24
TUESDAY, AUGUST 1 **	FOR AUGUST 21
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16	FOR SEPTEMBER 4

* Early deadline: Community-wide Issue ** Early deadline: holiday closures (all dates subject to change)

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

CONDOLENCES

Condolences are extended to the families of:

Murray Acker
Toronto
(father of Stephen Acker)

Chaim Borenstein
Montreal
(father of Marc Borenstein)

Helen Freedhof
Toronto
(mother of Yoni Freedhoff)

Judith (Judy) Friend
Montreal
(sister of Joan Bloom)

Etta Hersh

Eli Hoffman

Leon Raber
Winnipeg
(Father of Frayda Raber)

Marvin William Ross
Toronto
(brother of Gloria Krugel and Corinne Zagerman)

Herb Schwartzman
Toronto (brother of Charles Schwartzman)

David Shentow

Bernard (Buddy) Stein
Florida
(brother of Alvin Stein)

Joel Taller

David Walsh

Beatrice Wolfson

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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