

Hamilton Jewish News

THE VOICE OF JEWISH HAMILTON

SEPTEMBER 2017 VOL 32:1/ TISHREI 5778

AGREEMENT #40007180

New CEO brings wealth of experience

Story and photo by WENDY SCHNEIDER, the Hamilton Jewish News

Hamilton Jewish Federation's new CEO was born and raised in Argentina, but his Jewish professional journey began in Winnipeg. In 1997, Rymberg, his wife Marisa, and their two young children were among the first Argentinian immigrants brought to that city under the Jewish community's Grow Winnipeg initiative. Deeply appreciative and impressed by the role played by the Jewish Federation in his family's integration into Canadian life, Rymberg embarked on a career path that would take him, by way of Ottawa and Toronto, to Hamilton, where, as the leading Jewish professional in this community, he intends for Federation to have a similarly positive influence on Jewish life.

Rymberg's disillusionment with his country of birth dates back to 1994, when Buenos



Federation's new CEO, Gustavo Rymberg

Aires' Jewish Community Centre, known as the AMIA, was the target of a major terrorist attack in which 85 people were killed and hundreds injured.

"Everything changed after that," he told the HJN. "All the Jewish buildings had extra security, and even kindergarten children had to go through metal detectors."

See COVER STORIES, page 4

Future looks bright for Jewish Hamilton

ENTHUSIASTIC PARTICIPANTS IN MILLENNIAL GATHERING SHARE THEIR VISION OF A THRIVING COMMUNITY



More than 24 people responded to an open invitation to share their perspectives on Jewish life in Hamilton.

Photos by Wendy Schneider

by LOUIS STROUD, Special to The Hamilton Jewish News

An email began circulating around Hamilton in July with a headline that read something to the tune of "Under 40s Doing Jewish in Hamilton." Being a member of that particular demographic, and lucky enough to have received the email, I was looking forward to attending.

I have long been absent from the Hamilton Jewish community and, through a recent bout of good fortune, I am currently working on getting my foot back in the door. Like many, I had my Bar Mitzvah at 13 and then slowly Judaism began to trickle out of my life. Having grown up in Dundas, I maintain lifelong relationships with a wonderful core of genuine and wacky Jewish friends I've known for almost 33 years (Thanks to a Jewish playgroup at six months), but this gathering was a way for me to reconnect more broadly.

I pulled up to Cindy and Lowell Richter's house for 7 p.m., now beginning to feel a little nervous ... perhaps it was the idea of making small talk, maybe it was forgetting people's names or the fact I really didn't think I would know anyone.

For me, I feel the battle of showing up to these events is purely mental. I may sugarcoat it in excuses like I am too busy, or a plethora of reasons, but I honestly find those instantly fall away once you're in the midst of it all.

See COVER STORIES, page 4



Photo by Wendy Schneider

Wednesdays with Ahuva

A group of devoted students pay tribute to their beloved Torah teacher, Ahuva Soifer. **PAGE 17**

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

JACKI LEVIN, PRESIDENT,
HAMILTON JEWISH FEDERATION



Think of what Jewish Hamilton could be: We need a place, aside from our shuls, where we can be Jewish, where we can meet and socialize with other Jews, where our children can learn about being Jewish and learn to be proud of it, where our seniors can have enriching experiences in a Jewish setting, where we care for the vulnerable among us, where we can hear about what is going on in Israel and the Jewish world. We need for there to be a strong, vibrant Jewish community for young and old. Not to have such a community is unthinkable and would rob generations of connections to their history and culture.

To achieve this we need to engage a new generation to learn to be our leaders. We need to help identify and nurture a new generation to be the leaders of today and tomorrow, to ensure that there is a Jewish community in Hamilton. The best way to engage Jews in this way is through the Hamilton Jewish Federation which can represent all members of the community regardless of their religious affiliation.

One of the strengths of a small community like ours is the ability, in fact the necessity, of coming together from all walks of Jewish life. We can do this by working together, young and old, religious and secular. I hope that this year's L'Chayim Campaign with our wonderful new CEO, Gustavo Rymberg, will bring excitement and will result in each of us stepping up to the plate with the resources necessary to make the vision of an engaged Jewish Hamilton that we can and must have.

Look at this list of what the Hamilton Jewish Federation provides and could provide. If you want these things, please support the UJA campaign generously.

- a Jewish camp
- a Jewish newspaper
- Jewish schools
- Jewish preschools
- a kosher food bank
- sources for Kosher foods
- social and sports activities for Jewish adults
- places for Jewish teens to meet each other and have fun
- social services for Jews in need of help
- community celebrations of Jewish Holidays

Get engaged! Let us know what YOU want to have a meaningful Jewish life in Hamilton. Get in touch with Gustavo at grymberg@jewishhamilton.org or call him at 905-648-0605.

Thinking of writing for the Hamilton Jewish News?
Simply want to get more out of reading newspapers?

Learn the building blocks of reporting.

Journalist Wade Hemsworth will be teaching a three-night course in the basics of reporting, including: Effective interviewing, clear writing and self-editing. Students will learn how to put a story together, with real-world examples, and an assignment that can be published in the HJN.

When: Monday Nights, Sept. 18, Oct. 2, Oct. 16
Time: 7 to 9 p.m.
Location: Beth Jacob Synagogue, 375 Aberdeen Ave.

The course is free, but there will be a \$20 fee for course materials. All are welcome. Please register by Sept. 5 to allow for preparation of reading packages. Questions? Email Wendy Schneider at wschneider@jewishhamilton.org or call 905.628.0058.

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COMING UP

CHANUKAH ISSUE

- Deadline for booking ad space - Oct. 17, 2017
- Deadline for receiving editorial copy - Oct. 31, 2017
- Deadline for receiving ad copy - Nov. 13, 2017
- Estimated date of arrival - Nov. 28, 2017



LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

Over the next few issues, the HJN will use this space to salute our community's dedicated emerging leaders. We start with Yves Apel, 45, who is chairing Federation's annual Community Campaign for the fourth consecutive year. "This community deserves to have a strong Campaign," said Apel about his decision to stay on for an additional year past his planned three-year term. Apel rejects the notion that millennials are not interested in volunteering and taking on leadership roles. "It's not that they're too busy or have different priorities. It's just that not enough work is being done to recruit them." Volunteering, said Apel, "is in my genes... My parents did it. My kids do it. My wife has done it. Community is important to us so we take ownership. It's just part of what our family does."

Hamilton Jewish News

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Hamilton, ON L8N 1G6
Agreement # 40007180

HAMILTON JEWISH NEWS is published four times a year by Hamilton Jewish News Inc. and funded by the Hamilton Jewish Federation
Circulation 2,000

EDITORIAL POLICY

The HJN invites members of the community to contribute letters, articles or guest editorials. Written submissions must be forwarded by the deadline indicated in each issue. This newspaper reserves the right to edit, condense or reject any contribution for brevity or legal purposes.

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Young Jewish Hamiltonians imagine their future

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

I was greeted by Cindy Richter, who went into how she hasn't seen me since I was yai high, and my new boss, HJN editor Wendy Schneider before making small talk with other participants. I'll be honest. That's what it was. But you know what? Small talk is like learning to walk before you run. Without it you'll never know if you have any similar interests, common ground or connections. And you know what, the next thing I knew, the patio filled with familiar faces. On top of that, I met Naomi, an occupational therapist and learned what an OT really does. That's a win-win. So within a short amount of time, I met a handful of new people and reconnected with a group of peers I hadn't seen since my pre-teen days at Temple Anshe Shalom.

In short, Under 40s Doing Jewish in Hamilton is an attempt to revitalize an aging Jewish community with younger blood. To this day I still hear stories from my father about B'nai B'rith baseball and from my mother about the Hadassah Bazaar. All these events were wonderful, I'm sure, but it takes a lot of people and sweat equity to keep active and when those leaders retire, or those great times only become great memories. Although the program was not necessarily intended as a recruitment for new community leaders, it was the first step in opening up discussion about the future of the Hamilton Jewish community with regards to a resurgence of returning Hamilton Jews and newcomers who now call Hamilton home. Once everyone arrived, all 24 of us moved

into the rec room to take part in a discussion facilitated by Lorry Schneider and Terry Bennett. After introducing ourselves and briefly explaining what brought us to, or back to Hamilton, it became apparent that most, if not all of us, were on the same page. And I'm sure you can guess what the number one reason is? Yes, you nailed it: the rocketing prices of Toronto real estate, for which Hamilton and the Jewish community has to be thankful, because we are gaining such a richer and more diverse community with every draconian Torontonion townhouse bidding war. The most cited other reasons people gave for moving to Hamilton were the city's wonderful access to nature partnered with the slower pace of life and booming new foodie and arts scene. Participants also said they felt that Hamilton is a great atmosphere that has great local resources to raise their children within the community.

Following introductions, the room split up into groups to discuss what meaningful Jewish experiences Hamilton has brought us, which in turn stirred up a lot of great memories from those of us who were born here. For those new to Hamilton, the fact that a night like this occurred at all showed that they have joined a community that cares about them and cares about its future.

The main goal of the night was for the Hamilton Jewish Federation and JCC leadership to hear from the younger generation about how they see themselves contributing to the future of Jewish Hamilton. Joining

Lowell and Cindy Richter as observers were HJN editor Wendy Schneider, Federation's new CEO Gustavo Rymberg and its president Jacki Levin.

There is no doubt that our generation has a desire to connect and create lasting relationships in the Jewish community, but the difficulty lies in our 21st century lifestyle, where we are faced with endless options, busy schedules, long hours, raising young families, and up-to-the-second social media alerts.

Do we need younger community leaders looking to step up? Yes. But maybe it needs to be in a 21st century way, where, instead of a sole leader taking the brunt on his or her shoulders, a rotating group of co-leaders shares the weight.

The evening was a great example of a coming together of Jews in the community. Within our gathering alone there was interest in starting a toddler/parent group, joining an existing Jewish poker group, and starting a co-ed Jewish baseball league. It's wonderful that so many people want to make things happen. The tricky part is following through.

The evening concluded with some short remarks by Gustavo Rymberg, who emphasized Federation's desire to do whatever it can to meet the needs of this generation through ongoing dialog and facilitation. Although it's just a start, what emerged from the evening is a Facebook group under the name Doing Jewish in Hamilton – Under 40, kindly created by the Hamilton Jewish

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There is no doubt that our generation has a desire to connect and create lasting relationships.

Federation for the purpose of helping young people with each other. So please, if you are looking to host a parent-toddler activity, get a baseball game going like the good ol' days, or any sort of get-together; or perhaps even looking to step-up and become a leader, know that there is a lot of interest, and there are a lot of new and returning Hamiltonians who would welcome your efforts. Who knows? A little small talk could go a long way.

A follow-up meeting for Jewish Hamiltonians in their 20s, 30s and 40s, will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 18 at 14 Crawford Court in Dundas. The evening, sponsored by Hamilton Jewish Federation and the Jewish Community Centre, will once again be facilitated by Lorry Schneider and Terry Bennett. To get your name on the email list, for more information or to RSVP, please email the JCC at info@hamiltonjcc.com.

EXHIBIT OPENING: Jewish immigrant stories

ROSE & PHIL ROSENHEIN MUSEUM AT BETH JACOB COMMITTEE

To mark Canada's 150th year, the Rose and Phil Rosenshein Museum at Beth Jacob Synagogue is presenting an exhibit featuring the stories of eight Jewish individuals or families who came to Canada after 1975, and subsequently settled in Hamilton.

Their countries of origin include the former Soviet Union, Turkey, France, South Africa, Israel, Poland, Honduras, and Iraqi Kurdistan. The grand opening of Welcome to Canada: Jewish Immigrant Stories of Hamilton, will take place Sunday, Oct. 22, 2017, from 10:30 a.m. until noon.

"Hamilton, like Canada itself, has a rich history of immigration, and Hamilton's Jewish community is part of this history," said Wendy Schneider, head of the volunteer committee that planned the exhibit, with the help of Toronto-based curator Emily Horne. "Each story that we've highlighted is unique, and together they show the diversity of our community."

Other committee members include Simone Rotstein, Hope Kamin, Ralph Bloch and Elissa Press. The project received support from the City of Hamilton's Canada 150 Projects and Events Funding Program and from Beth Jacob Synagogue.

The idea for an exhibit about Jewish immigration arose out of a desire to highlight the commonalities of the immigrant experience at a time when millions of displaced people around the world are desperately seeking refuge from conflict and uncertainty.

"The immigrant experience is something with which Jews naturally identify," Schneider said. "Many of our parents and grandparents came to this country at the turn of the last century fleeing pogroms in Eastern Europe. Many Holocaust survivors, lucky to have gained entry to Canada,



Piotr Gawek is among those profiled in the Jewish immigrant exhibit. Photo by Wendy Schneider

settled in Hamilton. Our goal, in this exhibit, was to showcase the stories of our community's more recent arrivals."

The opening will include a video presentation of the subjects of the exhibit speaking of their immigrant experiences, followed by an interactive discussion and a tour of the exhibit itself. People who attend the exhibit will be able to share their own stories about their immigrant experiences, using writing materials that will be available. Beth Jacob's Hebrew School will hold a special family program that morning, as well, on the theme of immigration.

For more information or to RSVP, contact the Beth Jacob Synagogue office at office@bethjacobsynagogue.ca.

Goldblatt lecture examines Christian Zionism and Jewish-evangelical relations

MCMASTER UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES

McMaster University's Department of Religious Studies is delighted to announce another lecture on a fascinating, cutting-edge topic of interest within the Jewish community and beyond. The 2017 Lillian and Marvin Goldblatt Lecture at McMaster University will be given by Dr. Faydra Shapiro on the topic, "Holy Ambivalence: Jewish-Evangelical Relations and Why They Matter."

Evangelical-Jewish relations occupy a unique niche within Jewish-Christian relations, and interfaith relations more broadly. Evangelical Christians and Jews have their own quite specific history, interests, limitations and common ground. At the same time, Evangelical-Jewish relations matter outside the theological space of interfaith relations, because of their impact on geo-political realities in the form of Christian Zionist support for Israel. The ambivalence that characterizes Jewish-Evangelical relations is an important and often overlooked aspect for making sense of contemporary Christian Zionism.

Dr. Shapiro received her PhD from the Department of Religious Studies at McMaster in 2000. Shapiro and her family subsequently made their home in Hamilton, where they were deeply immersed in the Adas Israel community. The family made aliyah in the summer of 2008.

A dynamic speaker with extensive experience teaching both Christians about Judaism and Jews about Christianity, Dr. Shapiro is a specialist in contemporary Jewish-Christian relations, with a focus on evangelical Christian-Jewish relations. She has published and presented extensively on the topic of Christian Zionism and evangelical Christian support for Israel. She currently holds the position of executive director of the Israel Center for Jewish-Christian Relations and Associate Fellow at The Philos Project.



Photo courtesy of Faydra Shapiro

The Goldblatt lectures have been held at McMaster University since 2002. In past years, speakers have addressed a range of topics, such as the Vatican and the Holocaust, the life and thought of Abraham Joshua Heschel, the Lubavitch community, and the concept of Holy War in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Last year's lecture on the creation of a Jewish museum in Poland attracted a standing-room-only crowd.

Due to the Goldblatt lecture's increasing popularity, we are pleased to announce its move to the David Braley Health Sciences Centre at 100 Main St. W. (corner of Bay St. N.), room 2032 in downtown Hamilton. Please join us on Thursday, Oct. 26 at 7 p.m. Admission is free and kosher refreshments will be served. For more information contact Celia Rothenberg at rothenb@mcmaster.ca.

Our role is to ensure that every Jewish need is satisfied

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In 1996 a delegation from the Winnipeg Jewish Federation travelled to Buenos Aires to recruit young Jewish families to its city. When Rymberg heard of the initiative, he went home and told his wife that there was an opportunity to make a new life for themselves.

"I was 29 years old. My kids were young. My wife and I decided it was time to give the kids something better... in a Jewish environment. For us that was very, very important."

It was June when Rymberg flew to Winnipeg to check out what could become their new home. Their first impression was of a beautiful city where everything was green and in bloom. Rymberg laughs as he recalls the scene that greeted his family six months later, when they boarded their flight during an Argentinian summer, and disembarked several hours later into a typical Winnipeg winter. The bitter cold, however, was no match for the warm welcome they received by the Jewish community.

"What they did for us the moment we arrived was incredible. It's one of the reasons I appreciate Federation," he said, recalling the whirlwind of meetings with bank managers, real estate agents and government agencies

as well as job interviews, all arranged through its offices.

A graphic designer by profession, Rymberg's first job in Canada was with a company commissioned to do merchandising for the city's upcoming Pan Am Games, but then a graphic design position opened up at the newly opened Asper Jewish Community Campus. Rymberg applied, got the job, and although it was only a part-time position, was "amazingly happy."

"My life changed when I started working at the Jewish Federation and JCC in Winnipeg," he said, for it was then that he decided to devote himself to Jewish communal service. His dream, from that moment on, was to work through the ranks and one day become CEO of a Jewish Federation.

After a five-year stint in Ottawa as marketing, program and membership director of the Soloway JCC, and seven years in Toronto heading up marketing, programming, and revenue development for the Prosserman JCC and the Schwartz-Reisman Centre, Rymberg has achieved his lifetime goal.

Below, Rymberg outlines what he hopes to accomplish in his new role.

HJN: Why did you want the Hamilton

Jewish Federation CEO position?

GR: Because this position offers me the opportunity to really make a difference. I see it as both different and similar to other jobs I've had in the non-profit Jewish world. It's all about making an impact. When the JCC Association of North America chose me as its young professional of the year in 2003, I thought to myself, here is a guy who emigrated from Argentina and look what he has accomplished. That was very big for me. Later, I was awarded a JCCA scholarship to get my Master's in marketing management at Ryerson University. These are just some of the things that the Jewish community allowed me to do, and now I'm happy to be in a position where I can give back and make a difference in others' lives.

HJN: What kind of contribution do you hope to make in Hamilton?

GR: The best contribution I can give to this community is to give it what it needs. My goal for the first year here is to discover what this community is looking for and to understand its needs. I see it as my responsibility to ensure that every Jewish family can have the Jewish life they're looking for. I want to establish connections with everyone:

the Orthodox, Conservative, Reform, the intermarried and the unaffiliated. Everyone should get what they need.

HJN: What is the essence of Federation's role in the community?

GR: To open the doors for Jewish experiences and to ensure that every Jewish need in the city is being satisfied, to create the small moments that make big memories. We want people understand that Federation is open to change, that we cannot expect to replicate the same model of Jewish life for the rest of our lives.

HJN: How do you plan to engage Hamilton's young Jewish families?

GR: Our role is to listen to them and learn from them because we are not them. We've had very different experiences, and things are changing. There are a lot of challenges in Jewish life today and Federation has to be responsive to these changes and challenges. How is Federation going to be part of an intermarried family? How do we give children from all backgrounds a sense of belonging? The important thing is to create as many points at which anyone can feel that they belong.

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DOING JEWISH IN HAMILTON

Upcoming Events

SATURDAY, SEPT. 16 AT 8:30 P.M.
Temple Anshe Sholom presents
Emil Fackenheim's Radio Talks

TAS welcomes Professor Michael Morgan, professor emeritus of philosophy and Jewish Studies at Indiana University, who will discuss the comments and ideas Fackenheim shared during his radio talks. Emil Fackenheim was one of the most significant Jewish theologians of the 20th century. While rabbi at Anshe Sholom, Fackenheim spoke regularly on the radio. These short radio talks delivered to a popular audience on Sunday mornings were based on his Shabbat sermons presented at the Temple, touching on current events, religious values and ethics. Yossi Fackenheim, Emil's youngest son, will also read some of his father's addresses during the presentation. The program will begin with Havdalah and a dessert reception at 8: p.m.; presentation and discussion at 8:30 p.m., followed by the S'lichot Service. All are welcome.

SUNDAY, OCT. 15 AT 1 P.M.
Beth Jacob presents Spice Up Your Life with Bonnie Stern

Honorary co-chairs Rosalie Gaffe and Jill Gaffe invite the community to Spice Up Your Life with Bonnie Stern on Sunday Oct. 15 at 1 p.m. at Beth Jacob Synagogue. Tickets are \$36. Bonnie Stern, one of Canada's most popular food personalities, has taught cooking around the world, authored 12 bestselling cookbooks and writes a weekly column for The National Post. Spice up Your Life promises to be a great day for learning, tasting and celebrating life.

SUNDAY, OCT. 22 AT 10:30 A.M.
Welcome to Canada: Jewish Immigrant Stories of Hamilton See page 5

THURSDAY, OCT. 26 AT 7 P.M.
2017 Goldblatt Lecture at McMaster University See page 5

SUNDAY, OCT. 29 AT 10 A.M.
Aaron Shiffman's video recollections of Jewish Hamilton

The Rose and Phil Rosenshein Museum at Beth Jacob invites the community to its forthcoming Jewish Hamilton Project presentation featuring video of Aaron Shiffman, a cornerstone of the Hamilton Jewish community for decades. On Oct. 29 at 10 a.m. selections from 2004 video interviews will be screened, with



Aaron Shiffman's recollections of Jewish Hamilton will be featured at the Treasures of the Jewish Hamilton Project on Sunday, October 29 at the Rose and Phil Rosenshein Museum at Beth Jacob Synagogue.

Aaron in attendance. In his recollections, Aaron recounts how the Jewish community in Hamilton has evolved over the years. Until the early 1950s, Hamilton had a chief rabbi. Kashrut was the norm. Jewish organizations had hundreds of members. Yet at the same time, no one would have dreamed of wearing a yarmulke in public. Aaron discusses how this changed beginning around the early 1960s. Other fascinating subjects Aaron speaks about include the York street delis, the Jewish neighbourhoods, the downtown and east-end Jewish businesses, and the invention of the institution of the shul kiddush. The program will be held at Beth Jacob Synagogue. Come at 9 a.m. for minyan. Breakfast will be served at 9:30 a.m. \$8 cover. Program runs until 11:30 a.m.

Lifelong Learning

JEWISH STUDIES AT MCMASTER

The Department of Religious Studies at McMaster is offering an array of exciting courses in Jewish Studies this academic year. Members of the community are warmly welcomed to join these courses as listeners (see <https://registrarmcmaster.ca/enrol/2459/> for information on how to do so). The courses

Women in the Biblical Tradition REL2B03

In this course we will analyze the portrayal of women in Biblical literature, taking into consideration some material artifacts. We will read about how women are depicted in different genres of literature, and what the ancient authors say about women. By analyzing the portrayal of women and gender in antiquity, the course will also provide conceptual tools to engage in contemporary debates concerning them. **Mondays, Thursdays 1:30 - 2:20 p.m. Professor Hanna Tervanotko**

TEMPLE ANSHE SHOLOM ADULT EDUCATION COURSES

Conversational Hebrew for Adults

Mondays, Nov. 6 - Dec. 18 at 7 p.m.
Why Pray? with Rabbi Jordan Cohen **Mondays, Nov. 6 - Dec. 18 at 8 p.m.**
 For over 2000 years, prayer has been the main mode of Jewish worship. And yet, for many Jews, prayer remains a challenge and a mystery. In this course we will explore the Jewish approach to prayer, the differences between individual prayer and communal worship, the development and the meaning of the prayers of the siddur, and how you can strengthen your own prayer life. All texts will be provided.

Introduction to Judaism

Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. beginning Sept. 7. Classes alternate between Temple Anshe Sholom in Hamilton, Shaarei-Beth El in Oakville and Solel Congregation in Mississauga. Registration fee. For more information contact rabbijc@anshesholom.ca.

All courses take place at Temple Anshe Sholom and are free, unless otherwise noted. For more information contact the Temple office at 905-528-0121.

BETH JACOB SYNAGOGUE ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

Your Sacred Voice with Rabbi Hillel Lavery-Yisraeli. **Sundays 9:30-10:30 a.m. beginning Nov. 5.** Learn to sing and lead prayers, and gain a deeper understanding of how and why we pray as we do.

Talmud: Jewish Jurisprudence. Tractate Makkot, with Rabbi Hillel Lavery-Yisraeli. **Mondays 6:15-7:30 p.m. beginning Oct 23.**

Explore the Jewish concept of justice through this short tractate. What constitutes legitimate testimony? What is the Jewish definition of perjury? What is an appropriate court-administered punishment and how ought it to be carried out in different times and contexts? This course will incorporate modern legal approaches as well as guest speakers.

The December Project with Rabbi Yonah Lavery-Yisraeli. **Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. beginning Oct 26.**

Contemporary Analysis of Jewish Law with Rabbi Aaron Selevan. **Wednesdays, an hour before sunset. All classes take place at the Adas Israel Synagogue, 125 Cline Ave. S.**

ADULT EDUCATION AT THE ADAS ISRAEL

To infinity and beyond: A four-week series exploring the nature of our soul and the afterlife with Rabbi Daniel Green. **Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. beginning Oct 17.**

Crash Hebrew Course with Geraldine Katz-Rose. **Starts Wednesday, Oct 25 at 7:30 p.m.**

Inside Look at the Weekly Parsha with Rabbi Aaron Selevan. **Sundays 7:45 a.m.**

Contemporary Analysis of Jewish Law with Rabbi Aaron Selevan. **Wednesdays, an hour before sunset. All classes take place at the Adas Israel Synagogue, 125 Cline Ave. S.**

Culture

ISRAELI FOLK DANCING

Thursdays at Wendy's Yoga Studio at 14 Crawford Court in Dundas 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. \$10; www.wendysyogastudio.ca.

TEMPLE ANSHE SHOLOM BREAKFAST CLUB

Fall and Spring series on Sunday mornings. Breakfast available at 10:15 a.m. for \$10. Presentation begins at 11 a.m. Fall series begins Nov. 5. All meetings take place at 215 Cline Ave. N.

RABBI BASKIN'S BOOKS & IDEAS

Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. starting Nov. 1. All meetings take place at 215 Cline Ave. N.

For everyone

JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF HAMILTON

Wednesday, Sept. 13 at 7:30 p.m.
The Kuzari, or Do Ashkenazi Jews Descend from Converted Chasars, with Ralph Bloch
 Wednesday, Oct. 18 at 7:30 p.m.

All classes take place at Beth Jacob Synagogue, 375 Aberdeen Avenue. Please confirm your attendance via email to r.hillel@bethjacobsynagogue.ca.

Discovering My Balanced Family Tree - Researching the Al Pearlstein Story with Mark Pearlstein

Wednesday, Nov. 15 at 7:30 p.m.
Jewish Farming in Ontario with David Loewith; All meetings take place at Temple Anshe Sholom, 215 Cline Ave. N.

Women only

NA'AMAT HAMILTON

Na'amat meetings feature a wide range of guest speakers, and take place every month. To receive monthly newsletters and for more information email hamilton.info@naamat.com.

ADAS ISRAEL WOMEN'S CLASSES

Adas Israel monthly Rosh Chodesh learning, weekly Shabbat class, class on the power of prayer. Times and locations may vary weekly. To add your name to the list email rebecca@adasisrael.ca.

For Parents & Tots

TEMPLE ANSHE SHOLOM YOFI SHABBAT

Family Oneg Shabbat on Friday Sept. 8, Oct. 6, Nov. 3, Dec. 1 at 5:15 p.m.

TEMPLE ANSHE SHOLOM TOT SHABBAT

Drop in and YoFi Tunes Saturday mornings from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

MOMMY & ME PILATES AT THE HHA WITH ARIELLE FARBBER

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B'YACHAD GRADES 8 - 10

Anshe Sholom and Beth Jacob students learn together **Wednesdays 4 to 6:10 p.m.**

For Families

BETH JACOB SYNAGOGUE

Wednesday, Sept. 13 - Apple Picking with Temple Anshe Sholom 4:30 to 6 p.m. at Myer's Apple Farm

Friday, Sept. 22 - Rosh Hashanah Family Service with Cantor Frani Goodman at 10 a.m.

Saturday, Sept. 23 - Rosh Hashanah Family Service with David Gershon at 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, Sept. 30 - Yom Kippur Family Service with Cantor Frani Goodman at 10:30 a.m. in the Richter Chapel

Wednesday, Oct. 4 - Sukkah Decorating and Pizza Dinner 4:30 to 6:15 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 12 - Simchat Torah fun during evening services

Friday, Oct. 27 - Congregational Shabbat dinner. For more information email office@bethjacobsynagogue.ca

For Seniors

TAS LUNCH & LEARN

Light lunch and presentation on Mondays at 11:30 a.m., beginning Oct. 16. Sessions alternate between Shalom Village and Temple Anshe Sholom.

CHEVRA CLUB

The Chevra Club is a seniors group that gets together once a month at Jewish Social Services for playing cards, hearing from speakers, entertainment, and outings to plays. The next meeting is on **Sunday, Sept. 17 at 1 pm** at 30 King St. E., Dundas; Cards/Mahjongg. Lunch served; \$7 per person; RSVP 905-627-9922 ext. 23.

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from

Ben Levitt

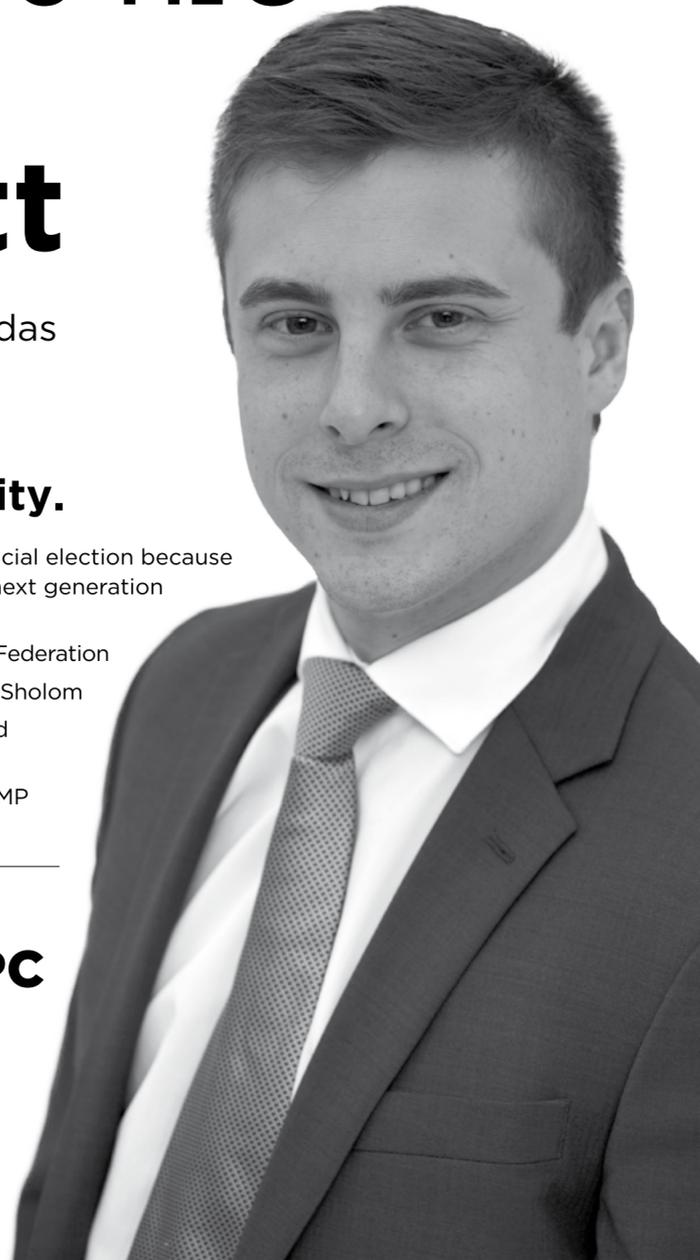
Ontario PC candidate for
Hamilton West-Ancaster-Dundas

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A voice for our community.**

- Ben is running in the upcoming Ontario provincial election because he passionately believes that it's time for the next generation to stand up and demand change
- He serves on the Board of the Hamilton Jewish Federation
- Ben also serves on the Board of Temple Anshe Sholom
- He volunteers with Out of the Cold Hamilton and B'nai Brith
- Ben works in the Constituency Office of local MP David Sweet



Contact Ben at:
(905) 870-4923 | benlevitt.ca
info@benlevitt.ca
Facebook: Ben Levitt 2018
Twitter: @BenLevitt2018



Praying at the Kotel.



A recent trip to Israel included a celebration of Israeli culture and heritage - connecting Ben to his roots and deepening his faith.



Volunteering at a children's summer camp in Tel Aviv.

Federation News

FEDERATION BOARD THANKS BARB BABIJ FOR HER COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Board of Trustees of the Hamilton Jewish Federation wishes Barb Babij well after her five-year tenure as CEO of Hamilton's Jewish Federation and thanks her for her hard work on behalf of the organization. "During her tenure, Barb spearheaded several cross-community initiatives including cross-community educational programming and the Special Needs Action Project. Federation's annual Community Campaign was restructured and various operational issues addressed and resolved. In addition, Barb has initiated change by taking Federation in a more businesslike direction. She has worked hard to make every dollar of your Federation contribution count, by assuring that administration costs are carefully monitored. This allows the maximum amount to be allocated to our beneficiary agencies annually," said long-time board member Janis Criger. "These types of changes are not always visible, but are important in assuring Federation's sustainability. Barb's dedication to our community and her hard work in initiating change have been greatly appreciated."



Looking back: Retiring Federation CEO Barb Babij with Federation past president Larry Szpirglas at her first annual general meeting.

Meet the Federation staff



Gustavo Rymberg
CEO

Working for Federation since: August 2017
Background: Extensive experience working for JCCs and Federations across Canada.
What excites you most about working for Federation? The opportunity to make a difference in Hamilton's Jewish community.



Elaine Levine
Programming and Special Events

Working for Federation since: 2002 in various capacities, including programming, young leadership development and Holocaust education.
Background: A Torontonian by birth, Elaine has been living in Hamilton since 1973.
What excites you most about working for Federation? The opportunity to build memories and enhance people's Jewish experiences in Hamilton.



Sarah Rosen
Campaign Coordinator

Working for Federation since: August 2016
Background: Sarah has deep family roots in Hamilton and spent a lot of time here as a child. She has many years of work experience in the Toronto Jewish community.
What excites you most about working for Federation? The chance to interact with the community. That's been my favourite part about working for Federation.



Frehiwot Pochaev
IT specialist

Working for Federation since: July 2016
Background: Ethiopian-born Frehiwot made aliyah to Israel in 1996. She, her husband, Oleg, and their two young children moved to Hamilton in 2016 for work opportunities.
What excites you most about working for Federation? I love the Jewish community in Hamilton, and I'm proud to be part of the Hamilton Jewish Federation's dedicated and caring staff.



Kim Donaldson
Bookkeeper

Working for Federation since: January 2016
Background: Kim has extensive experience in both the for and not-for-profit worlds, but has always gravitated to working for charities. "It's very rewarding and a way of giving back."
What excites you most about working for Federation? I enjoy the people and working as a team.



Wendy Schneider
Editor, Hamilton Jewish News

Working for Federation since: September 1994.
Background: In addition to being the HJN's longtime editor, Wendy's past roles with Federation include marketing and communication, volunteer recruitment and leadership development.
What excites you most about working for Federation? I am excited about Federation's potential to be a unifying force in the community.

Jacki Levin assumes top lay position at Federation



The Board of the Hamilton Jewish Federation is pleased to announce that Jacki Levin has assumed the role of president, succeeding Carl DeLeon. A past Negev Dinner honoree, Levin has served Hamilton's Jewish community in a number of leadership capacities, both at Federation and at Shalom Village. Levin served a term as Federation treasurer, and has chaired its allocation committee for the past number of years. Simultaneous with her work with the Federation, Levin also served a full term as president of Shalom Village. "The community should be thankful that Jacki has taken on this essential leadership role," said Federation CEO Gustavo Rymberg. "I have great respect for her knowledge of Hamilton's Jewish community, her attention to detail, and her dedication and commitment."

HJN welcomes Louis Stroud to its team

The Hamilton Jewish News is pleased to welcome Louis Stroud to its team of regular contributors. Born and raised in Dundas, Stroud, 33, spent most of his 20s travelling the world, including a two-and-a-half year teaching stint in South Korea. Stroud returned to Hamilton in 2013 to help run his mother's burgeoning bakery business, Hotti Biscotti. Before long, his sense of adventure had him trying his hand as an arborist, which would lead the budding entrepreneur to start his



own tree removal business. Along with his many interests and talents, Stroud is a prolific blogger and published writer whose pieces have appeared

in Hamilton Magazine and the Hamilton Spectator, among other publications. While settling in Hamilton was never part of his long-term plans, Stroud is happy to find himself among the growing number of Jewish "under-40s" who are contributing to Hamilton's transformation into a hip and thriving cultural centre. "I really feel excited to be a part of the Hamilton Jewish News," he said, "because I see it as a way to get my foot back into the Jewish community."

The new portable homeland



Ben Shragge

Poet Heinrich Heine called the Bible the portable homeland of the Jewish people. Today, the portable homeland of the isolated individual is the smartphone. There, in your pocket, behind a big, beautiful wall (i.e., lock screen), is a private kingdom. Within it are your customized community (contacts and social media), national gallery (photos and videos), means of self-government (calendar and reminders), an army of apps for taking on the world (weather reports, maps, and the arsenal that is the app store).

We make ever greater escapes to our portable homeland: not just while standing in line, but while crossing the street; not just while sitting on the subway, but while driving; not just while waiting for a friend, but while a friend is speaking. Reality, with its delayed gratifications and closed-off, flesh-and-blood profiles, has

become a place of exile. We're physically here, but our minds, then quickly our fingers, are reaching for mobile Zion.

There's a park by my apartment with big, welcoming Adirondack chairs. I see people sit down with a book, begin to read, then, inevitably, put the book down and reach for their smartphone. Sometimes they'll place their phone on the pages, as if to tell themselves that they'll come back to the book eventually. I observe them judgmentally, then, inevitably, do the same thing. The book is closed and forgotten.

Neuroscientist Daniel Levitin writes that "the prefrontal cortex has a novelty bias." Thus, "We answer the phone, look up something on the Internet, check our e-mail, send an SMS, and each of these things tweaks the novelty-seeking, reward-seeking centers of the brain, causing a burst of endogenous opioids . . . all to the detriment of our staying on task." Reading a book requires sustained focus, but our brain's addiction to shiny new things (beeps and unread alerts; the presentiment of beeps and unread alerts) draws us back into our new portable homeland.

It would be one thing if smartphones brought us true comfort and community,

as the word "homeland" implies. But any comfort derived from them is fleeting. We get a hit of dopamine from responding to a text or getting a like. But when we fiddle with our phones, we multitask—i.e., shift from one task to another (check feed, refresh, respond, click like, glance up, answer question, switch app, repeat) in rapid succession. This constant attention-shifting and little decision-making ("should I/when do I/how do I reply?") drains our mental energy and leaves us feeling exhausted, disoriented, and anxious: in Babel ("confusion"), not Zion.

While we get some transient pleasure from Instabook notifications, a deeper satisfaction comes from reading and absorbing an actual book—or any such effort (writing, building, creating, learning) requiring the steady engagement that smartphones lure us away from. As Levitin writes, "It seems unlikely that anyone will look back at their lives with pride and say with satisfaction that they managed to send an extra thousand text messages or check social network updates a few hundred extra times while they were working."

As far as community goes, journalist/blogger Andrew Sullivan observes that:

"Truly being with another person means being experientially with them, picking up countless tiny signals from the eyes and voice and body language and context, and reacting, often unconsciously, to every nuance. . . . By rapidly substituting virtual reality for reality, we are diminishing the scope of this interaction even as we multiply the number of people with whom we interact." A thousand Facebook friends isn't a community; it's a collection, a set of baseball cards updating you on their stats. Meanwhile, a 2015 Pew survey found that almost half of eighteen-to-twenty-nine-year-olds used their phones to "avoid others around you."

I'm no stranger to my portable homeland. As I write these words, my eyes drift over to my phone alerting me that a corporation has become my follower. I admit I feel a second of . . . if not pride, then some shadow of a feeling that's better than nothing. But then I set a recurring reminder that my true homeland is elsewhere.

Ben Shragge is the digital editor of the Hamilton Jewish News. He currently resides in Boston.

Beware of computer scams that target seniors



Amy Back

Technology can be a wonderful tool, opening up the world, and making your life easier, but it is important to be smart, and take that moment to consider, before you click on that email, install that toolbar — or call the number that popped up on your screen. In 2016 computer scams cost Canadians over \$1.2 billion, which does not include the huge issue of identity theft, frustration, and emotional trauma of being taken advantage of by fraudsters. Phone calls from scammers

started three years ago. If you get one you should simply say, "I don't know why you're calling me — I don't own a computer!", and hang up. This might stop future calls, and prevent them from launching their spiel, they are well trained, and very good at talking their way into accessing your computer, so do not engage in any dialogue, it's easy to get caught!

The newest variation on this scam is the voice or message on your computer: You have been infected with a virus — Do Not Shut Down Your Computer or You Will Lose Everything, Call this Number. This is designed to scare you — and it's not true. You can shut down your computer safely! It is the only way to close the window. If you have been targeted by one of these companies, you do have

recourse with the credit card companies. Do not send money by Western Union. You can never recoup that loss. If you do internet banking it is possible for them to access your bank accounts, another strong reason not to allow this type of access to strangers. A further twist is the offer to return your initial cost by cheque. They will offer a refund but cannot send such a small amount, so if you send a money order for the difference — they will issue a cheque for the entire amount. It makes no sense — yet many people have done this as well.

Malware, is the general name for computer viruses and spyware and most of us have it on our equipment. It accumulates just from using the internet, and we notice because the performance suffers, our machines slow down,

perhaps some programs don't work as well, and this deterioration continues until proper maintenance is done. Most folks ignore this until they can't get on the internet, or it is so slow that they can't deal with it — then they take it to their local computer store or technician. That makes sense. To trust your computer and personal information to someone you don't know — does not make sense. These companies do not actually remove viruses, nor do they 'clean up' the software, but they do charge you at least three to eight times the standard fees — in US dollars! Sadly, it is no longer true that only Windows computers get viruses. Apple computers are experiencing the same problems.

Amy Back is the owner of Computer Help for Adults.

The lawyers and staff at Ross & McBride LLP wish the entire community a happy and healthy New Year.

L'Shanah Tovah.



Jeffrey Manishen

Hon. David Steinberg

Barry Yellin

Joshua Perell

Brad Wiseman

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JEWISH FEDERATION



A gift to the L'Chayim Community Campaign embodies the phrase "Kol Yisrael Aneivim Zeh Le'Zeh" — "all Jews are responsible for one another" — and makes you an important part of the collective strength of our community. Jews have a long tradition of taking care of at-risk Jewish populations here and around the world by helping them live with dignity where they are.

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Investing in our young people ensures that the values that make Jewish Hamilton strong and vibrant today will guide and inspire future generations. Our teens and children will be making the decisions that shape the community in the next generation. Instilling a strong sense of Jewish identity in our youth is how we safeguard the importance and distinctiveness of what it means to be Jewish in Hamilton.

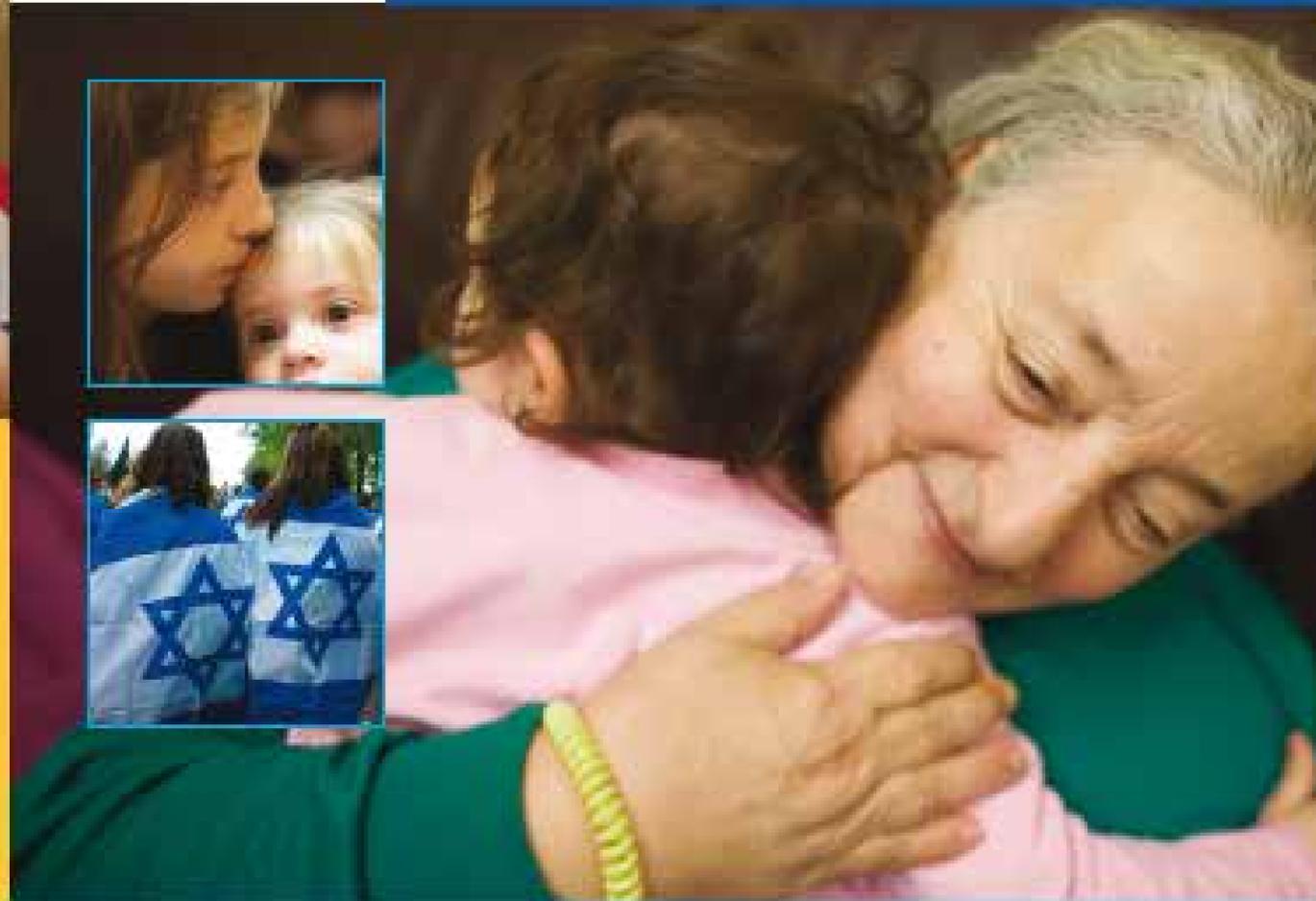
Supporting Jewish education and cultural programs are critical priorities. Together with our beneficiary agencies, we enable hundreds of children to attend Jewish day and afternoon schools, and to have the summer camp experiences that make Jewish life relevant and meaningful to them. At the same time, these programs help prepare our children for a lifetime of community engagement.



AN INCREASE OF 18% WILL MAKE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT IN OUR ANNUAL CAMPAIGN AND WILL TRANSFORM JEWISH LIFE IN HAMILTON.



As part of Hamilton Jewish Federation's collective action, you provide food and housing to struggling seniors; cash support to families in times of need; career transition counselling for unemployed professionals; services to people with special needs and much more. Care for the vulnerable is a core Jewish value — one that defines us as a community.



From summer camps that build lifelong skills to supportive networks that help seniors live with grace and dignity, your one gift to the L'Chayim Community Campaign, makes an impact in the lives of many.



The L'Chayim Community Campaign is the single, most efficient and effective way to ensure our community's vitality and vibrancy in the year ahead. Whether we are feeding the hungry, comforting the sick, caring for the elderly, educating our youth, ensuring a Jewish future, or supporting Israel, our Jewish community stands together. And, together, we can transform Jewish Hamilton.

TRANSFORMING LIVES BY IMPROVING QUALITY OF LIFE AND STRENGTHENING JEWISH IDENTITY

THE HAMILTON JEWISH FEDERATION IMPACTS JEWISH LIVES THROUGH ITS BENEFICIARY AGENCIES

For more than 80 years, the **Hamilton Jewish Federation** has nurtured a strong, supportive and vibrant community for generations of Jewish Hamiltonians. Our role is to bring together the financial and human resources that enable a network of non-profit agencies and programs to care for the vulnerable, invest in youth and deepen Jewish life efficiently and effectively.



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- Beth Jacob Hebrew School
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- McMaster Hillel
- Midrasha | Hamilton Hebrew High
- School Shuttle
- Temple Anshe Sholom Religious School
- Kashrut Services
- Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs | CIJA
- Jewish Federations of Canada | UIA
- Jewish Agency for Israel
- Joint Distribution Committee

PROGRAMS

- SNAP (Special Needs Action Project)
- Cross Community Education
- March of the Living
- PJ Library
- Community Relations & Public Affairs
- Hamilton Jewish News
- Holocaust & Human Rights Education
- Legacy Endowment Fund
- Young Adult Division
- Ralph Travis Israel Experience Fund
- Birthright



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Special Mentschen



Pictured above, l to r: Pat Dermer, Sylvia Jacobs, Simone Rotstein, and Ahuva Soifer.

Photo by Wendy Schneider

Wednesdays with Ahuva

A group of devoted students pay tribute to their beloved teacher

by SIMONE ROTSTEIN, with PAT DERMER AND SYLVIA JACOBS, Special to The Hamilton Jewish News

The doors open automatically as we enter Shalom Village. We greet an elderly gentleman sitting in one of the two wing-back armchairs in the lobby. "Beautiful day isn't it?" we ask.

"Yes," he replies. "I'm waiting for my ride." We chat briefly, make our way past the receptionist, welcoming us with a cheery 'Hello' and go up using the elevator.

We knock at the door and let ourselves into the apartment. Ahuva turns her wheelchair to face us, a broad smile emerges and her eyes twinkle. She is nicely dressed in a skirt and a colourful print blouse, her hair, like freshly fallen snow, is well-groomed and she is ready for our Wednesday afternoon study group.

Ahuva's home reflects her scholarly life. Bookshelves are lined with ancient texts in both Hebrew and English as well as classic literature and modern authors. A small table holds the Babylonian Talmud, bookmarked at the spot currently being studied. Yet another table is laden with large print reading as well as audio books.

This is a home where reading and study are an everyday occurrence.

The study group began in 2007, when Sylvia Jacobs phoned Ahuva Soifer, "Would you be interested in forming a Jewish study group?"

Ahuva was eager to be teaching and studying again. "Yes, I would. You know, Sylvia, there has to be a commitment here. This is serious business. We're going to be studying, not socializing. Would you be willing to deliver a drosh on the portion we are learning?"

They invited Ruth Goldberg to join them and the three women set up the parameters for their group. It would be held every Wednesday at 2:00 pm at Ahuva's apartment. Before Sylvia and Ruth arrived, Ahuva set out a glass of water at each of their places. She asked them if they would like something to eat. "We didn't come to eat, we came to study," Sylvia and Ruth replied and they devoted an hour and a half on the study of Jewish text.

Unfortunately, Ruth passed away and, in 2011, Ahuva phoned Simone Rotstein. "Are you interested in studying with us? There are only two of us and that isn't

enough for a study group." By that time, Ahuva's deteriorating vision was causing reading difficulties. Yet, she remained stoic and tolerant as she listened to two keen women mangle her beloved Hebrew language while studying Jewish text. In 2015, Pat Dermer joined the group and we became a foursome.

Ahuva is a challenging teacher. She skillfully explains the text using questions and drawing attention to the Hebrew words and their possible meaning. "What is the root of the word?" she implores us, forcing us to examine the text more critically. "How is it used here?"

She loves the Hebrew language and is well informed on Torah. She demands that the text, be it a parsha or a haftorah, be read in Hebrew and that the Hebrew be understood. Then, she skillfully elicits a discussion. How does it relate to our lives? Can we understand it a different way? Invariably, the conversation veers into politics and the state of the world. Ahuva's political views lead to a lively, stimulating discussion. Everyone has the opportunity to state her opinion and to listen respectfully to others. Ahuva's compassion shines

through as she guides the discussion, always accepting diverse views. The only things absent are gossip and attempts to best each other.

In the years together, we have studied much of the Torah, spent time on several of the Prophets, read parts of Pirké Aboth and discussed poetry and current events. Time has left its mark on all of us. We have suffered losses and dealt with health issues. Ahuva is now in a wheelchair. At times, she covers her face, frustrated with her difficulties recalling words and announces, "This is the end of the study group. I can't teach any longer." Still, we continue and Ahuva's eyes sparkle and her mind sharpens as she recalls information.

Recently, we have been studying the parsha of the week and she begins each study session asking, "Who has read the parsha this week?" We no longer read in Hebrew or parse the meaning. We recount the text, question things that interest us and discuss their implications. Ahuva invariably has something thought-provoking to add. She remains an inspiring and ethical teacher.



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In search of ethical wills

LESLEY SIMPSON
Lesley Simpson is a PHD candidate in Jewish studies at York University. Please reach out to jewishbethical-wills@gmail.com.

Since this is the High Holiday issue of the Hamilton Jewish News I wanted to reach out to my former Jewish communities with a request for help. I returned to school as what is called a mature student because I wanted to rectify my lack of Jewish literacy. Some people may suggest that returning to school to do a PHD in Jewish studies is a radical solution but this yearning was embedded in my soul, like a profound ache. I had no idea what comprehensive exams would involve (2.5 hours of interrogation about your field of study), nor that I would be schlepping green carts loaded with books back and forth, like my own bookmobile. When I was a kid in Hamilton I remember going to the Locke Street library for the first time, looking at the shelves from floor to ceiling, crinkly plastic covering the picture books, and standing there, stunned, and wondering to myself how can I possibly read them all? I still feel that way. It was as if I had dropped down into a civilization that had been waiting for me, with the books saying, "What are you waiting for?" Time passed. I worked as a reporter for The Hamilton Spectator for a decade after working as a journalist in Toronto for CBC Radio and The Toronto Star. Some things change and some things don't. I still love to learn, read and write.

I returned to school in 2013, became interested in paradigms of Jewish memory and ethical wills. An ethical will is a letter, most often from a parent to a child, about hopes, wishes and dreams. It can be a song, a podcast or even a memoir of personal history. An ethical will is NOT a legal will, but an act of

legacy. One writer characterized it as something concerned with precept rather than property. The writers of ethical wills may be famous (Theodor Herzl, Edmond Rothschild, Hannah Senesh), or ordinary folks such as American writer Sharon Strassfeld, the author of Everything I Know, Basic Life Rules from a Jewish mother. Strassfeld felt the need to write a letter to her daughter when she left for college and her daughter treasured this letter. Strassfeld then wrote a new one for her son, who promptly lost it! The voices of the letters are as varied as the people who have created them.

When Solomon Rabinovich (known by his pen name Sholem Aleichem) died, he left an ethical will that was read into the US Congressional Record. He wanted to be remembered with laughter and he asked his descendants to gather together on his yahrzeit and to choose the stories that made them laugh. He warned them not to waste money on foolish monuments. His descendants have gathered together now for more than 100 years, in a ritual hallmarked by oral performance and laughter. (To see his 1916 ethical will printed in The New York Times, see sholemaleichem.org).

I began looking for Canadian material and found little. So I have turned this drought into an opportunity with the goal of creating the first national collection of Canadian Jewish ethical wills. I am looking for material that Canadian Jews have written, or have received (from a parent, grandparent or friend.) As a former Hamiltonian and someone who has been, at different points in my life, a wandering curious Jew and a member of Temple Anshe Sholom, Beth Jacob Synagogue as well as Adas Israel Congregation, I would be remiss without reaching out to the place I first called home.

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Only in Israel

Photography by Benson Honig

Above: Beach scene, Tel Aviv Taybelet, 2016

Below: A Haredi performer strums Dylan and Pink Floyd, Jerusalem Day, 2015.



A holiday with two names



by JENNIFER LANG
Reprinted with permission by the author

This past Friday night sundown to Saturday night sundown was Yom Kippur, which, loosely translated, means the Day of Atonement, when the Jewish people repent for all the sins they have committed in the past 12 months. And for many Jews in Israel—and around the world—it is exactly that, a solemn, holy day accompanied by fasting and a total cleanse of body and soul.

Then there are the other Jews in Israel, those who are called chiloni (secular), who might or might not attend services, who might or might not eat like on any other day. The only bond that every Jew in Israel shares on Yom Kippur concerns the car: the roads are empty. Except for the bikers, a few scooters and even a rollerblader or two. See, in Israel, Yom Kippur is also called Chag HaOfanayim, or the Festival of Bikes.

Since we changed clocks last week, sundown was at 6 p.m., which meant that the holiday, which also coincided with the Sabbath, began and ended early. We had to eat dinner even earlier so that we could arrive at synagogue for services by nightfall. As soon as we left our house, the air felt different. Not only had the temperature and humidity dropped, making it feel almost like early fall, but also there was an absence of noise and chaos, music and honking. In the quiet of the streets, we set out by foot for shul, a 20-minute walk across town.

The first thing we saw at the end of our block on our right was a small, very Israeli populated synagogue called Etzion where people were milling about both inside and outside the building. From there we wound our way onto the main road called Ahuzza. Since there were no cars, we agreed to walk on the street like most of the other pedestrians. But, since on this one day a year there were no cars, we learned quickly we had to share the road with the bikers and watch where we were walking. Hordes of kids were racing down the two-lane street in both directions, hands free, shouting recklessly, braking abruptly if need be, and we had to pay attention.

The population of Ra'anana hovers today around 78,000 and is largely secular. While there were thousands of people walking to and from services, there were just as many, if not more, on bikes—toddlers being pushed on tricycles by a parent, preschoolers on two-wheelers with training wheels, daredevils riding without using their hands, teens riding in large groups, adults riding at a leisurely pace. As soon as we hit Ahuzza, I gasped, wishing I had brought a camera to take pictures of the sight. Never had I seen anything like it: religious synagogue goers walking alongside secular bikers, sharing the road in a quiet, respectful way, unlike when anyone in this country is behind the wheel of a car.

One cliché after another crossed my mind: you have to see it to believe it, it was a sight to be seen, awesome. Being outside Friday night made me smile, overcome with this feeling of only in Israel.

American, married to a Frenchman, living in Israel, Jennifer Lang obsesses over home: what, where, why. Much of her writing digs at her divided self, trying to make sense of how she arrived here. Israel—and all her ambivalence—is her greatest muse. Check out her essays at israelwritersalon.com.

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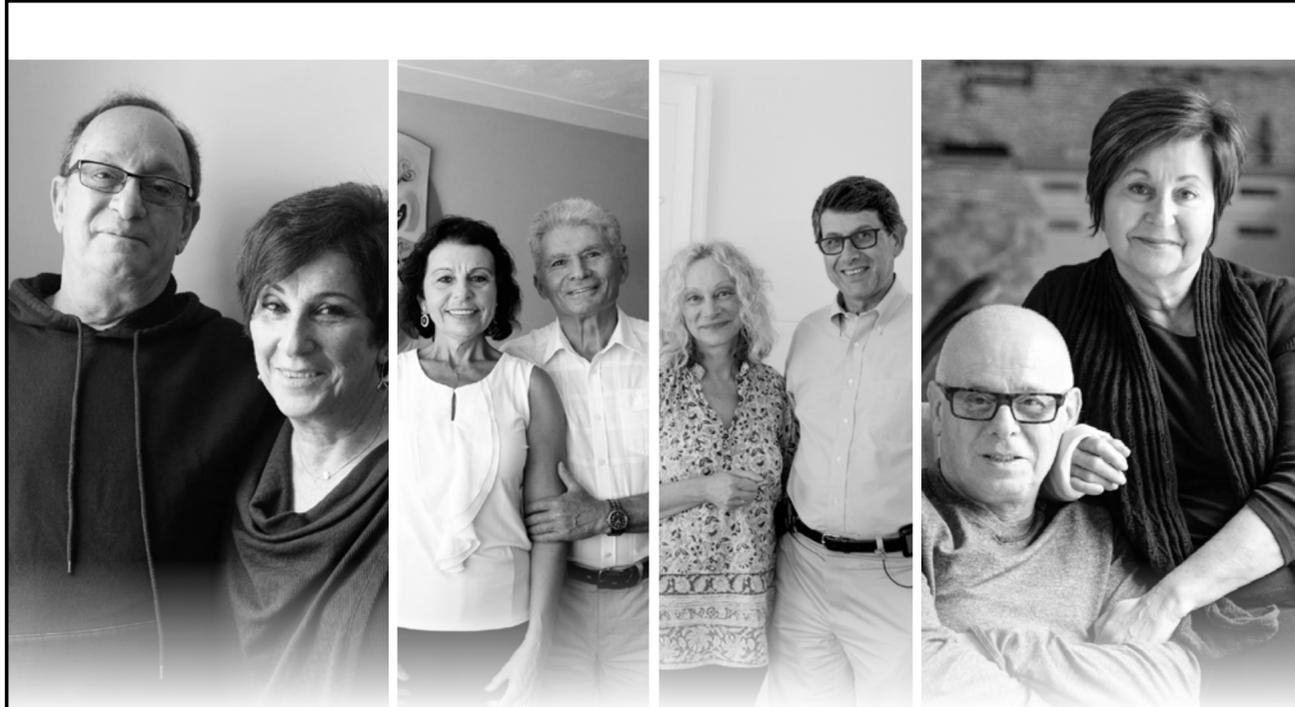
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HAMILTON IS HOME



Welcome to Canada:
Jewish Immigrant Stories of Hamilton
A new exhibit opening
October 22, 2017



HAMILTON HEBREW HIGH

Hamilton Hebrew High, the after-school Judaic studies program through which Hamiltonian teens can earn Ontario Secondary School credits, has re-opened its doors after a fresh “kippah-to-boots” remodeling. Formerly known as Midrasha, the HHH offers a variety of courses that encourage Jewish students of all backgrounds to engage in explorations of self, community, and life.

Prime among the changes is the appointment of Sam Weisbrod as principal of the school. A Toronto administrator with a passion for Jewish education, Weisbrod has served numerous Jewish institutions in both professional and voluntary capacities. He relocated to Hamilton last August with his wife and son, Tamar and Amitai.

Weisbrod believes that Jewish education needs to be accessible, and above all else, relevant. “Internal Jewish dissonance is the biggest challenge facing our people today,” says Weisbrod.

“And it is also what destroyed our Temples and communities of millennia ago. Education is a most powerful vehicle through which to effect self-empowerment, and consequently, change. If an individual is afforded the opportunity to boldly explore her or his own Judaism, she or he may come to realize that there is far more that should unite us than does divide us.”

Weisbrod is enthusiastic to grow the HHH in new directions, including the re-introduction of Jewish culture clubs on public high school campuses. He also alludes to a landmark gala event scheduled for December. “We’re all set for a tremendous year,” he grins. “While it’s true that the two main reasons for going into education are usually July and August, I’m really excited about the coming September.”

To learn more or enroll in classes, visit the new HHH website at www.hcubed.ca.

B’Yachad post B’nai Mitzvah program

DORA ANN COHEN ELLISON AND RINA RODAK

At Beth Jacob and Temple Anshe Sholom, we are committed to offering an engaging and thought-provoking program for our post B’nai-Mitzvah students. This year, we are proudly reintroducing the B’Yachad program, which is offered to our students in Grade 8 through Grade 10 on Wednesdays 4:30-6:10pm. This program will allow students from our schools to explore Judaism together. Our goal is to provide programming that inspires the students to be caring and knowledgeable members of the greater community of Hamilton. This year our students will be alternating Torah study and discussions of global events with volunteer experiences at our various community agencies.

In the fall, students will study with Rabbi Cohen, exploring the topic of poverty and helping those in need. The students will also learn about Hamilton Jewish Social Services (JSS) and plan a lesson that they will use to teach the younger students about JSS. As part of their volunteer experiences, students will deliver the food to JSS, tour the facility, help stock the shelves, and ask JSS director Carol Krames

any questions they may have about poverty in the Jewish community. They will be given a shopping list and a set amount of money and asked to shop for items for the kosher food bank. During B’Yachad’s second session students will study with Rabbi Hillel and hear from other guest speakers, as well as learning about volunteer opportunities at Shalom Village, Jewish Social Services, Hamilton JNF, Hamilton Jewish Federation and others.

For more information about the B’Yachad program email Dora-Ann Cohen Ellison at dacelison@anshesholom.ca or Rina Rodak at school@bethjacobsynagogue.ca.

Beth Jacob and Temple Anshe Sholom look forward to welcoming new and returning students, Junior Kindergarten through Grade 10, on Wednesday Sept. 13 at our opening program at Meyer’s apple farm. Further joint BJ/TAS Hebrew School programming will take place throughout the year, with a fall food drive, Chanukah concert at Shalom Village and more for Purim and Lag Ba’Omer in the spring.

KEHILA JEWISH COMMUNITY DAY SCHOOL

ANNA LILLMAN

Kehila Jewish Community Day School is celebrating its “Chai” year. About 20 years ago, I was on a committee that wanted a new school that would be open and accepting, with project-based learning and active student and family participation. We wanted a school that was academically strong, traditional and rooted in religion and ritual. The school we envisioned sounded exciting, and we were hoping to send our children to it.

Due to family reasons, we left Hamilton, but Kehila did get built, and when we came back,

it was here with all the elements we wanted! I was amazed and impressed. Kehila has an enriched curriculum which meets and surpasses Ontario expectations, a warm, supportive environment, and a place to experience tradition and ritual.

Kehila is more than that. My children are learning three languages (the immersive French and Hebrew learning experience is incredible) and have gained confidence in their ability to learn what they want. There are field trips and experiential community education, from learning about

reptiles to helping out at Shalom Village. Above all, Kehila is a community school, one where both the children and I have found friends and community. We have celebrated holidays together, experienced life events from birth to death, and been fully there for each other. We became participants in Jewish Hamilton life because of Kehila.

My Kehila story is one among many. Every student from the last 18 years can tell you about the learning and community found here. May Kehila last for many more years and stories.

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HAMILTON HEBREW HIGH
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Canadian Hadassah-WIZO (CHW) Children Healthcare Women

Shana Tova!

Canadian Hadassah-WIZO (CHW) wishes all of our members, friends, and supporters a happy, healthy, and peaceful New Year!

We are deeply grateful for your generosity and continued support of our projects for Children, Healthcare, and Women in Israel and Canada.

Debbie Eisenberg
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CHW Board of Directors
Alina Ianson
National Executive Director

Canadian Hadassah-WIZO (CHW) passionately supports programs and services for Children, Healthcare, and Women in Israel and Canada.

1-855-477-5964 www.chw.ca info@chw.ca

12 common errors when doing genealogical research

BRENDA RISHEA

When researching your family tree, there are some common pitfalls.

1. Neglect to write it all down.

We often forget to include dates and locations of births, marriages, and deaths, and family stories.

2. Draw conclusions without fact-checking or other proof.

If you neglect to confirm a story with other family members or an official report, the story just becomes an unverifiable myth.

3. Make wrong connections.

Compare the parents' and siblings' names to determine whether this is your ancestor. Also verify the dates and places to see if they coincide.

4. Fail to include other names by which the person was known.

Often people are known by their nicknames and their "real" name only appears on an official document. Living family members can help you determine the correct names, as well as cross-checking other official documents by matching birth/marriage/death/arrival dates and locations.

5. Jumping from one branch to another.

If you stay working on one branch at a time, there will be less chance for errors.

6. Tossing documents away.

If you don't have room to keep all the papers and documents, scan them into your computer and store them in at least two places: on your internal drive, and on a backup external hard drive.

7. Ignore the names of witnesses in the document.

You can pinpoint the correct person if you also know that the witness to their official document happened to be their

godparent, sister or brother, and that the names of the parents on both sides match.

8. Not share your research.

Sometimes another family member has already done the research and can save you time and effort.

9. Quit working on your tree.

There is always something new to add: a baby born, a recent death, records releases, census records, websites, new family members discovered, etc.

10. Ignore variations in spellings.

When an immigrant changes countries, the spelling of the first name and surname might change in the process.

11. Fail to interview family members while they are still alive.

Use a video camera or tape recorder and then digitalize the recordings so that they can be preserved.

12. Fail to keep track of your sources of all information.

This can cost you hours of lost time to search for it again.

If you feel overwhelmed, join a local Jewish genealogy society. They can be very encouraging and help unblock walls you have come across. You also get to hear great motivational guest speakers.

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Hamilton and Area (JGSH) meets monthly between September and June at Temple Anshe Sholom, 215 Cline Ave. N., Hamilton. All are welcome. First meeting is free for non-members. For more information, please check our website at www.jgsh.org or contact Hazel Boon at 905-524-3345 or email jgshamilton@gmail.com.

BETH JACOB SYNAGOGUE

RABBI HILLEL LAVERY-YISRAELI

Beth Jacob Synagogue is far more than just a synagogue. We have a plethora of activities and events geared for all age groups from preschool to senior citizens. Beth Jacob is a fully inclusive synagogue welcoming people of all backgrounds and persuasions. We are fully inclusive of LGBTQ2 individuals. We welcome blended families, in which not everyone is Jewish. We happily assist people who desire to convert to Judaism while not imposing conversion on those who only wish to be involved in our community as a non-Jewish friend.

Our prayer services are open, welcoming and user-friendly. They are uplifting, encouraging, inspiring, musical and spiritual, with thought-provoking sermons providing modern Jewish approaches to the current worldly issues. We celebrate our heritage, incorporating it in our lives, while truly living in the present. No previous experience, commitment or participation required. Come as you are! And we are fully egalitarian, treating women and men equally.

This coming fall we are delighted to host Cantor Frani Goodman for our High Holidays. In addition to being a cantor

and an educator, she is a jazz singer and an experienced swing dancer. She grew up in Vancouver and currently lives there, but performs cantorially around the world. We are grateful for the privilege of having her come to our community this year.

Our synagogue services are exciting experiences throughout the year as well. Try starting off your weekday with morning minyan every day of the week. After the short service where, among the rest, we comfort mourners and pray for the sick in our community, you can schmooze with your friends over a cup of coffee (and a taste of schnapps on special occasions).

Friday nights we enjoy an especially uplifting musical service led by Rabbi Hillel in the popular Carlebach style. In summer months when Shabbat doesn't arrive until late in the evening, Rabbi Hillel leads the service with guitar, mandolin or charango (!), while congregants drum along with tambourines and castanets. It is a joyful start to Shabbat.

See our website www.bethjacobsynagogue.ca or call 905-522-1351 for more information. We would love to have you join us!

HAMILTON HEBREW ACADEMY

The Hamilton Hebrew Academy is pleased to announce an expansion of its childcare program with the addition of two new classrooms: infants and toddlers. As a childcare centre licensed by the Ministry of Education, the infant program marks a new beginning at the earliest point of new beginnings.

"We are here to partner with parents as soon as that time arrives," said HHA principal, Rabbi Yaakov Morel.

"If a family is considering child care options, it's never too early to begin a Jewish education."

In fact, the Talmud attributes the greatness of R. Yehoshua Ben Chananiah, the first century sage, to his mother and how she brought his crib into the Torah study hall.

The opening of the infant room, together with an additional toddler room, complements the school's anticipated new playground designed with a separate play area for those ages.

"We strive to be the best childcare facility in Hamilton," said Rabbi Morel, "and that encompasses all aspects of the educational experience."

UPCOMING JCC PROGRAMS

Morris Black Speaking Contest

Sunday, Nov. 19 at 2 p.m.
Kehila Jewish Community Day School
215 Cline Ave. N., Hamilton

Open to Grades 3-8 in Hamilton and surrounding areas. Register no later than Monday, Nov. 13; First prize: \$100; Second prize: \$50; Third prize: \$25. For more information or to register email info@hamiltonjcc.com. Refreshments will be served.

JCC's Babysitting Course

Sunday, Sept. 17, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Beth Jacob Synagogue
375 Aberdeen Ave., Hamilton

For children in Grades 5-9; Participants receive the Canadian Red Cross babysitter's manual, as well as an emergency contact form, sample resumes, business cards, glossary, and wallet card confirming they have completed the course. Please email info@hamiltonjcc.com by Sept. 10 to reserve your spot. \$65 per child

LIFE AFTER DEBT

Jewish Free Loan Toronto is pleased to announce that loans without interest are now being offered throughout Ontario. Personal loans up to \$7,500 are available to cover such things as debts, medicines, dental treatment, rent arrears and Jewish life cycle events. Student and business loans up to \$10,000 are available for any costs related to studying or setting up a new business. Guarantors are required on all loans with the exception of the \$1000 loans. For more information visit www.jewishfreeloan.ca, call 1-416-635-1217 or email info@jewishfreeloan.ca.



CAMP KADIMAH 2017

Bigger, better and a whole bunch of fun. This year at Camp Kadimah we saw new changes, old faces and one of the most amazing summers in memory. Whether we were hanging out with some monkeys at the water park, or experiencing some awesome magic tricks, Camp Kadimah provided a wonderful summer that has created memories that will last a lifetime. Make sure to sign up your kids early next year!

Thanks for sponsoring some sunshine



Camp Kadimah extends our appreciation to all those who donated to its Sponsor Some Sunshine fundraiser. Because of our sponsors' generous support more children in our community had the opportunity to attend and experience a Jewish day camp. Thanks to our Silver Sponsors Hamilton Hyundai, the Hamilton Hebrew Academy and Joel Feldman. This summer, Camp Kadimah also provided an amazing Canadian camp opportunity to the two little Syrian girls pictured here.

MCMMASTER HILLEL

JUDITH DWORKIN

McMaster Hillel is pleased to welcome Ayinadis Darbow, an Ethiopian-born Israeli, as its newest Israel Fellow. A strong believer in public diplomacy and the relationship between Israel and Diaspora Jewry, Darbow is excited to connect Jewish students on campus to Israel through her personal experiences.

"With my passion for education, knowledge of Israeli history, and my personal journey, I plan on bringing Israeli culture to life for both Jewish and non-Jewish students," says Darbow. "Through my Israeli experience, I hope to encourage students to get more involved in Israel education and advocacy over the upcoming school year."

Darbow comes to Hamilton from Beit She'an, a small town in the northern part of the Jordan Valley where she has been very involved in the town's Ethiopian community. After immigrating to Israel at age two with her entire family, she quickly learned the importance of staying part of the Ethiopian community in Israel. "For me, there is nothing more important than community, and I'm excited to meet my new community in Hamilton, Ontario," Darbow said.

Her experience working with the Beit She'an Youth Centre and as a member of the Tzofim (Israeli Scouts Youth Movement) will prove invaluable when working with Hillel students.

"Having an Israel fellow on campus helps strengthen the relationship between students and Israel," said Michal Coret, student president of McMaster Hillel. "We hope Ayinadis will bring a first-hand authentic perspective to contemporary life in Israel as a young person. Her ability to have meaningful discussions, build relationships with students and provide students with different perspectives will create an opportunity to further explore the role that Israel plays in their lives as part of their Jewish identity."

4TH ANNUAL AMAZING JNF BLUE BOX COLLECTION & SCAVENGER HUNT
SUNDAY, OCT. 29, 2017
HEADQUARTERED AT ADAS ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE
125 CLINE AVE. S. FROM 10AM - 2PM

All ages welcome! Teams can be individuals, couples, or whole families!
Complete fun and exciting challenges while collecting Blue Boxes for JNF!
5 extra points if you register before Oct 10th!
Great Prizes! Pizza!

Please Note - As always, people can turn in their filled Blue Boxes anytime throughout the year, if preferred. Please call our office for your closest drop-off location or to arrange for us to pick them up!

FOR MORE INFO AND TO REGISTER: JNF HAMILTON 905.527.5516 EXT. 1

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Shana Tova from Shalom Village

As we come together to celebrate the High Holidays, Shalom Village extends our warmest wishes for the coming year 5778. Rosh Hashanah marks the start of a new year — a time of humble prayer, joyful celebration, and hope for a new beginning. At the heart of this holiday is the belief that the power of personal transformation is not outside us but lies within. In this season of renewal, we celebrate that spirit; we honour our fathers and our mothers; and rededicate ourselves to the work of Tikkun Olam, repairing the world.

From all of us at Shalom Village, L'Shana Tova Tikatevu. May this year be a year of blessing, good health, and peace for you and those you love and may you be inscribed for blessing in the Book of Life.

Shalom Village Services

Rosh Hashanah:
Thursday, Sept. 21 at 9:30 a.m. and 3:45p.m.
Friday, Sept 22 at 9:30a.m.

Kol Nidre:
Friday, Sept. 29th at 6:45 p.m.

Yom Kippur:
Saturday, Sept. 30 at 9:30a.m. and 3:45p.m.

Honour your loved one with a Shalom Village tribute card

The Shalom Village Charitable Foundation invites you to send one of our beautiful, personalized Rosh Hashanah greetings and tribute cards this new year, featuring artwork by our residents. By reaching out to family, friends and loved ones this Jewish new year through the purchase of our Rosh Hashanah cards, you touch not only the recipients, but also the lives of our residents at Shalom Village. To make your donation and send your card visit www.shalomvillage.ca/giving or contact Julia Mantle at julia.mantle@shalomvillage.ca or call 905-529-1613 ext. 231.

Support Seniors. Celebrate Family.

Exciting new additions to Shalom Village's Hustle4Health

The annual Hustle4Health is just around the corner and it promises to be the best year ever! Like previous years, the 2017 Hustle4Health offers the option to walk or run on a 1k, 5K or 10K course. Sponsors will also be pleased to know that The Hamilton Spectator will once again highlight key sponsorships.

New this year is the www.Hustle4Health.ca website and online registration. The new website allows you to register as an individual, or to create, or join a team. Additionally, individuals who raise more than \$100 will receive a free registration refund.

Also NEW this year is an early registration bonus. Participants who register before October 2nd will receive an upgraded 'Tech T-Shirt' with moisture wicking fabric. Use the code HJNUpgrade to get your early registration bonus.

Support Seniors. Celebrate Family on Nov. 12 at 9 a.m.
70 Macklin St. N., Hamilton
For sponsorship information, contact Laurie Pringle at 905-529-1613 ext. 227.

Visit www.Hustle4Health.ca to register or learn more.

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Announcing that **Yael Greenberg, MSW; RSW,** specializing in Family therapy, has joined Patmos Counselling and Associates.

Yael recognizes the need for families in the Hamilton area to receive skill-based learning and support in dealing with their children's (8-24 yrs) and loved ones emotional conflicts. Her practice offers a new approach to address this need.

A Proven, Skill-Learning, Family Program is coming to Hamilton...



Yael is excited to bring a new, evidence-based family program developed in Toronto (by 'Dialectical Living') to Hamilton. Run in groups or individually, this program combines mindfulness, skill-learning and peer support.

An information meeting will be held in October at Patmos Counselling, 86 Homewood Avenue, Hamilton, ON L8P 2M4

For further information about this course or counselling services please contact

905-541-6562 | yaelfamilytherapist.com

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND



2017 Negev Dinner honorees Dr. Mark Levine, Dr. Sandra Witelson and Dr. Hertzl Gerstein. Photo by Donna Waxman

by GERALDINE KATZ-ROSE

This year's Negev Dinner at Liuna Station literally brought people to their feet. Music provided by internationally acclaimed guitarist Johannes Linstead had people dancing in the aisles and a hora circle formed around the head table!

Three esteemed honorees, Drs. Hertzl Gerstein, Mark Levine and Sandra Witelson, brought a special cachet and elegance to this year's Negev Dinner. Chaired by Mr. Rob MacIsaac, Dr. Paul O'Byrne, and Dr. Kevin Smith, more than 400 people attended the event. The honorees were introduced by Dr. John Kelton, executive director of the Michael G. DeGroote Initiative for Innovation in Healthcare at McMaster University Medical Centre. In Kelton's remarks, Witelson, Levine, and Gerstein represented "sex, drugs, and rock 'n roll," one of the many highlights of a memorable evening.

Funds raised from the dinner went to the Herzog Hospital in Jerusalem, a leader in providing services to those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and other mental health issues.

Yizkor Campaign Be Part of the Solution

The 2017 High Holiday Yizkor Campaign will help to address Israel's growing problem of domestic violence against women, by supporting necessary renovations of a women's shelter in Rishon LeZion. Open to all women, regardless of ethnic or religious background, this shelter has unfortunately been unable to keep up with the increased need. Please consider donating generously to the campaign.

The Amazing JNF Blue Box Race & Scavenger Hunt

Announcing the 4th Annual Amazing JNF Blue Box Collection Race & Scavenger Hunt, on Sunday, Oct. 29! Teams and individuals compete in fun and exciting challenges while collecting the iconic Blue Boxes from around the community on pre-determined, assigned routes.

Last year more than 50 people on 13 teams competed for valuable prizes like a tablet, movie passes, and gift cards. All ages are welcome! Put your teams together now and get extra points for early sign-up! Call the JNF office at 905-527-5516, ext 4 for more information and to register.

NA'AMAT HAMILTON



Na'amat members check out the Bliss Haven Retreat Centre, where the group will be staying for a weekend in November; From l to r: Fortunee Shugar, Mila Zhitomirsky, Anita Bernstein and Ronit Mesterman. Photo by Julia Kollek

JULIA KOLLEK

If you're new to Hamilton – or even if you've lived here for a while – the local Na'amat group is a great way for Jewish women to meet and support women of all backgrounds in Israel at the same time.

Our monthly meetings combine socializing with presentations on interesting topics, and our invited experts attract a growing following. In our line-up this fall, we'll get advice on 'How to get a good night's sleep' from a sleep specialist, and hear from a McMaster physician about the benefits and hazards that surround the controversial issue of medicinal cannabis.

We've also booked a weekend away from Nov. 25-26 at a beautiful retreat, just an hour from Hamilton, where we plan to relax and have fun.

Na'amat is an acronym in Hebrew for 'working women and volunteers', an

organization founded in Israel in 1921. Our group is part of a worldwide volunteer network that fundraises to support projects that provide educational opportunities, address social justice as well as gender equality for women of all backgrounds and religions in Israel.

Na'amat also runs daycare centres and shelters for women and their families in need. Although primarily a women's organization, Na'amat's work benefits everyone, whether through its support for educational programmes or by generally creating a more equal society in Israel.

We offer a warm welcome to new members and would love to hear from you! Find out more about our meetings and our retreat by emailing us at hamilton.info@naamat.com.

JEWISH SOCIAL SERVICES

CAROL KRAMES

The majority of food bank users in the City of Hamilton spend more than 60 percent of their income on rent. The Jewish community is no different. The Hamilton Jewish Social Services kosher food bank helps a significant number of people in our community get through the month. Many of our clients who are employed struggle to pay their rent since their salary does not adequately cover both rent and food. It is impossible for us to solve the economic difficulties in Hamilton. However, we can make sure that there is food on the shelves of the Food Bank. Here's how you can help:

- Organize a food drive
- At your next simcha, birthday party or get together, ask your guests to bring an item for the food bank.
- Buy a few extra items during your grocery shopping expeditions to donate to the food bank.
- Join the JSS "Chicken Club" by providing a family with a kosher chicken or meat meal for their Sabbath meal for

a minimum monthly tax deductible donation of \$25.

- Ask your organization, school or shuls to have members bring a food item or cash donation to their meetings.

Every bit helps. When shopping for the kosher food bank, look for items with a kosher symbol on products such as cooking oil, peanut butter, shampoo, instant coffee, cereals and canned fish. Dishwashing soap, deodorant, toilet paper, toothpaste, and cream rinse do not require kosher symbols. For more information, email carolkramesjss@hotmail.com or call 905-627-9922 ex 23 or 21.

Attention landlords and employers: Jewish Social Services can help advertise your room or apartment for rent. We get daily inquiries from families looking to relocate to Hamilton. Send your information to carolkramesjss@hotmail.com or call 905-627-9922 ex 21

Jewish, in your 20s, 30s, or 40s and living in Hamilton?
Join us for another evening of meaningful dialogue about

DOING JEWISH IN HAMILTON
(THE FOLLOW UP)

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 18 AT 7 PM
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Hilda Rosen, Ambassador

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JEWISH NATIONAL FUND OF CANADA
2017 HIGH HOLIDAY APPEAL



THIS PROJECT WILL HAVE A LIFE ALTERING IMPACT ON WOMEN AND CHILDREN WHO DESPERATELY NEED THIS FACILITY.

The shelter in Rishon LeZion will provide safe housing away from emotional and social contention. This enables families to rebuild their lives and start over in the wake of shattering abuse. JNF is working with the organization *NO to Violence Against Women*, helping victims of domestic violence.

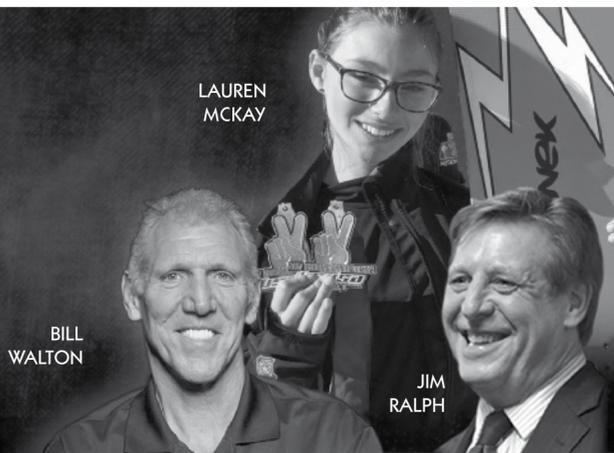
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HAMILTON CONVENTION CENTRE



Holy Ambivalence

Jewish-Evangelical Relations and Why They Matter



Dr. Faydra Shapiro

Evangelical-Jewish relations occupy a unique niche within Jewish-Christian relations, and interfaith relations more broadly. Jews and Evangelical Christians have their own quite specific history, interests, limitations and common ground. At the same time, Evangelical-Jewish relations matter outside the theological space of interfaith relations, because of their impact on geo-political realities in the form of Christian Zionist support for Israel. The ambivalence that characterizes Jewish-Evangelical relations is an important and often overlooked aspect for making sense of contemporary Christian Zionism.

Dr. Faydra Shapiro is currently the Executive Director of the Israel Center for Jewish-Christian Relations in the Galilee and Associate Fellow at The Philos Project. Dr. Shapiro received her PhD from McMaster's Department of Religious Studies in 2000. She has authored *Christian Zionism: Navigating the Jewish-Christian Border* and *Building Jewish Roots: The Israel Experience* (National Jewish Book Award Winner).

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