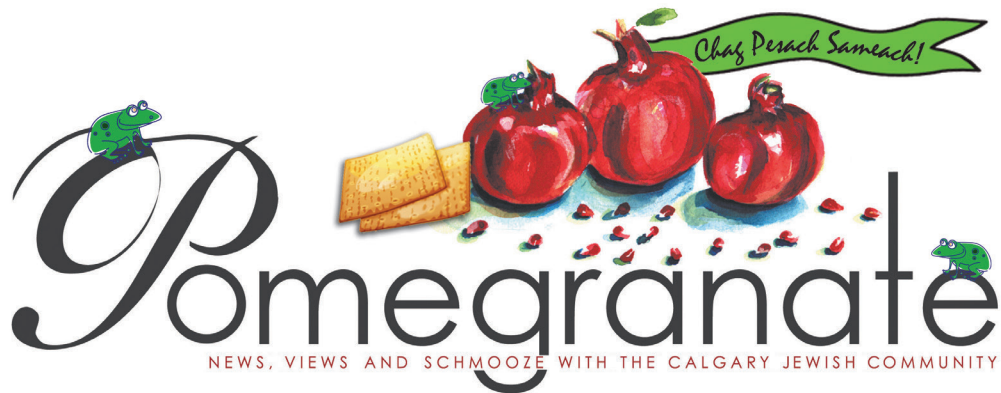


Calgary Jewish Federation wants you!

We have lots of exciting information to share about upcoming programs and events. If you are not already receiving our publications, please send us your contact information and we will be sure to bring you up to date on happenings in Jewish Calgary. To sign up today, please contact Janene Puffer at 403-444-3157 or jpuffer@jewishcalgary.org.



A PASSOVER MESSAGE FROM DREW



With a scourge of ten plagues, the drama of a parting sea and the eventual grand gift of the Ten Commandments, Pesach seems to be the most partisan celebration on the Jewish calendar. A true national coming-of-age, the Exodus and its yearly re-enactment at the Seder table mark the Children of Israel's passage – both physically and spiritually – from enslavement and degradation to dominion and honour.

Pesach's theme of freedom – for both the Children of Israel and the rest of humankind – actually makes it Judaism's most universal festival, appealing not only to members of our own community but to the aspirations of people of all religions, backgrounds, genders and inclinations.

"Ha lachma ania dee aclo avhetana bareh d'Mitzraim," we chant in an Aramaic text that unites us in both its obscurity and familiarity. "This is the bread of affliction which our forefathers ate in the land of Egypt," we say, pointing to the three ceremonial matzot in the center of the Seder table. "All who are hungry – let them come and eat. All who are needy – let them come and celebrate the Passover with us. Now we are here, next year may we be in the Land of Israel. Now we are slaves, next year may we be free men."

It is with this text that we welcome our guests around the Seder table to tell the story of the Exodus, to feast with them like royalty while we recount the tale of slaves. To speak of the aspirations of the parched desert as we fill their wine glasses four times.

There is no holiday during the Jewish year that is as much a part of the general consciousness as Pesach.

Many of our non-Jewish friends have been cherished guests around our Seder tables. There are Sederim with unique cultural customs in Jewish communities all around the world – from Katmandu to Kalamazoo. There are even online Sederim.

This special holiday persists, for despite its sometimes-grizzly tale of locusts and hardened hearts, we appreciate that Passover is emphatically a story about freedom and human rights. By rejoicing in the ancient Exodus of our Israelite ancestors, we understand that we are also celebrating many of the core values of humanism and Western Democracy.

As we sit down with our loved ones for the first Seder on Monday evening, April 14, it is essential that we remember that large portions of the world's population still do not live in freedom, while thousands more – including segments of the Jewish community – are terrified at the prospect of any religious expression.

"It would be comforting to think that slavery is a relic of history, but it remains a scar on humanity on every continent," said Walk Free CEO Nick Grono, noting that over 29 million people around the world are not living in freedom.

Walk Free's most recent report, titled the *Global Slavery Index*, ranked 162 countries on three factors: the estimated prevalence of modern slavery, child marriages and human trafficking. Another report from Freedom House stated that individual freedom has declined for the eighth straight year based on political rights and civil liberties. Only 88 countries of 195 (45%) surveyed were listed as free.

Though not physically imprisoned, in many parts of the world our Jewish brothers and sisters still combat pervasive antisemitism.

In late March, a pair of unidentified men assaulted Rabbi Hillel Cohen who runs the Ukrainian branch of the Hatzalah emergency services organization, while he walked on the street, said his wife, Rachel Cohen.

"They struck him in the leg, shouting anti-Semitic slurs, calling him a 'zyhd,'" Mrs. Cohen told the Jewish Telegraph Agency, referring to the derogatory word.

Earlier this month, a synagogue in the Crimean city of Simferopol was vandalized, its facade sprayed with swastikas and the words "Death to Jews."

There are about 15,000 Jews in Crimea, a total of 200,000 in the Ukraine. They prepare their Seders in a world of political uncertainty and fear of war. The prospect of conducting a peaceful Seder is no longer a given for the Jews of Hungary and of France, who are increasingly troubled by a rise in antisemitism.


As we break our matzot and pour our glasses of wine, we must vow to do everything in our power to liberate our fellow human beings who are behind bars – physically or spiritually.

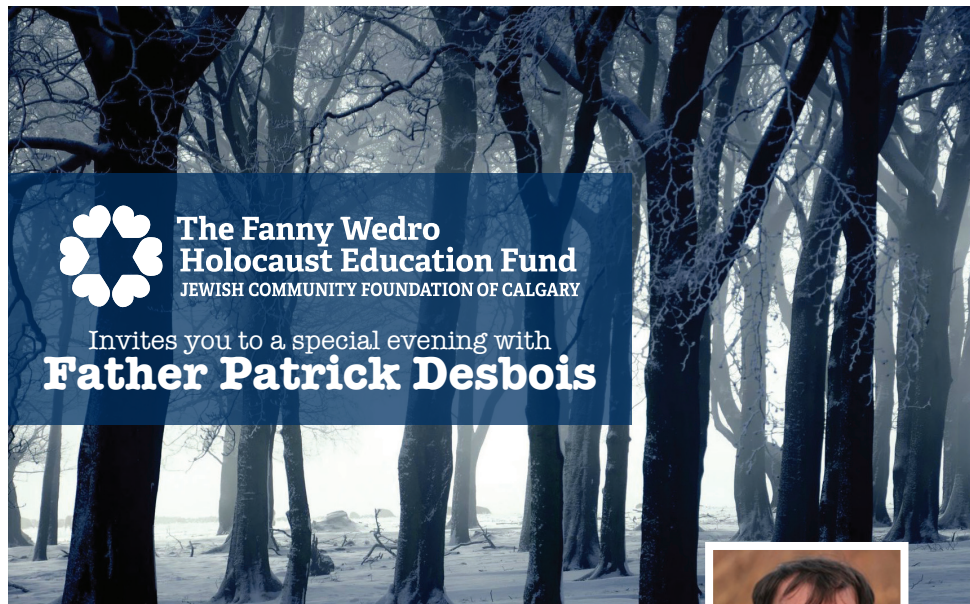
In one of the most famous and moving portions of the Seder, the Haggadah speaks of four archetypical children and their varying dispositions when it comes to the issues of freedom and human suffering – the wise child, the wicked, the simple-minded and the non-inquisitive.

The greatest lesson, like so many times in history, comes from the wicked child, who doesn't actually perpetrate the evil, but sits back and does nothing as evil occurs. Which child will each of us be this year?

*We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt – now we are free.
Avadim hayinu lepharo bemitzrayim, ata – benei chorin.*

*Next year in Jerusalem
לשנה הבאה בירושלים
Leshana haba'ah b'Yerushalayim*


Drew Staffenberg
CEO, Calgary Jewish Federation



**The Fanny Wedro
Holocaust Education Fund**
JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF CALGARY

Invites you to a special evening with
Father Patrick Desbois



Father Desbois is the author of *The Holocaust by Bullets: A Priest's Journey to Uncover the Truth Behind the Murder of 1.5 Million Jews*

Wednesday May 14

7:00pm • Beth Tzedec Congregation

Tickets are \$18, students free

For more information and to purchase tickets visit www.jewishcalgary.org



The Council of Christians and Jews invite you to an
Interfaith Holocaust Remembrance Service with Father Desbois
at St. Michaels Catholic Church, 800 85 St. SW, May 15, 7:30pm.

HAPPY PASSOVER

from the board and staff of Calgary Jewish Federation



PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE
CALGARY JEWISH FEDERATION'S COMMEMORATION OF

YOM HASHOAH HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

SUNDAY APRIL 27, 2014 27 NISAN 5774



Artur Huppert and his son Peterle, holding
a photo of his parents, Rozinka and Jusekl.
Photo courtesy of "The Last Album" by Ann Weiss

6:30pm

Observance begins at
Holocaust Memorial Wall
Calgary JCC

7:30pm

Observance continues at
Beth Tzedec Congregation
with guest speaker: Ann Weiss,
author of *The Last Album*
– *Eyes from the Ashes of
Auschwitz-Birkenau*

The program is free
– made possible by your
contributions to Calgary UJA.

For more information, please
contact Ilana at 403-444-3162 or
ikrygierlapides@jewishcalgary.org



**CALGARY
JEWISH FEDERATION**



Mad Young Leaders Lookin' Sharp for Purim

The Mordechai Martinis flowed on Purim as upwards of 100 Mad Men and Women showed up at the Libertine Public House dressed as their favourite character from the popular television series *Mad Men*. Calgary YLD's second annual Purim party on March 15 for YLD'ers (up to age 45) included a diverse crowd who readily embraced the spirit of the *chag*.

Looking sharp at the Purim soir  e were (l-r) 1. Michael Men and Elliot Weinstein, the event chair; 2. Hadassa Pertman, Alanna Hager and Jordan Walman; 3. Maria and Rob Oppenheim; 4. Genna Barsky and Joel Zimmerman; and 5. Jaqueline Lederman, Aliyah Rozenberg, Kira Blumer and Hayley Edwards.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Executive Director / Chief Executive Officer (ED / CEO)

The Calgary Jewish Federation (CJF) has an exceptional opportunity for a passionate, visionary executive with strong community building, fundraising and strategic management skills to lead our vibrant, dynamic and growing Jewish community.

For more information, please contact:

SIEGEL EXECUTIVE SEARCH SOLUTIONS
Kerry Siegel, Managing Partner
kerry.siegel@execsearchalliance.com
416-630-5988



A SUMMER OF A LIFETIME!

MAKE YOUR CHILD ONE HAPPY CAMPER

One Happy Camper provides grants of up to \$1,000 to children attending Jewish overnight camp for the first time.*

Visit OneHappyCamper.org to find your camp and apply.

For more information, contact Judy Shapiro at 403-444-3153 or jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org

*Some conditions apply



Calgary Jewish Federation welcomes and supports children and adults with special needs. If you or a loved one needs special accommodations to participate in any of our events, please contact Judy Shapiro at 403-444-3153 or jshapiro@jewishcalgary.org.

All events on the Pomegranate pages are supported by UJA dollars.



PJ Library® Holds Purim Parade

On Friday, March 14, PJ Library® and the Calgary JCC kicked off the Purim weekend with a loud and lively parade. Excited children, parents and caregivers delighted everyone at the JCC with their costumes and graggers (noisemakers), followed by hamentashen and Sabbath blessings.

Pictured is (l-r) 1. Esther Linetsky; 2. Shula Banchik with Kyna and Tuvia O'Gallagher; 3. Andrea Carter and Rebecca; and 4. Norah Moshkovits, with her children Ashira and Roey.



IT'S SAMMY SPIDER'S BIRTHDAY!

PJ Library® and Jewish Family Service Calgary invite all children to a very special birthday party, to celebrate the 20th birthday of Sammy, our favourite multi-legged friend (and the star of such PJ books as *Sammy Spider's First Day of School*, *Sammy Spider's first Purim*, *Sammy Spider's New Friend*).

SUNDAY MAY 4
10:30AM TO NOON • JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE CALGARY
420, 5920 1A STREET SW

Unwrapped birthday gifts for the Leo Paperny Children's Fund would be greatly appreciated.

There is no charge for this program, but registration is requested by May 1 by contacting Kathie at 403-612-6604 or kwainer@jewishcalgary.org.



Students Invited to Apply Now for Lion of Judah Scholarships

For the second time since 2011, the local Lions of Judah, the internationally recognized women's group whose members donate \$5,000 annually to the UJA campaign, will offer a scholarship to a deserving Calgary university student.

Selection criteria for the scholarship include:

1. Financial need.
2. Acceptance into or currently attending a recognized university in Calgary.
3. A written proposal expressing how the grant will benefit the aspirations of the applicant.
4. Volunteering in the Jewish community.

To apply for the LOJ Student Grant, visit www.jewishcalgary.org. Applications must be submitted by Friday May 23.

For more information about the grant program, contact Diana Kalef, at 403-444-3154 or dkalef@jewishcalgary.org.

