

Shalom! שלום!

Fall 1998 Vol. 23, No. 4 Stav 5759

SHANA TOVA!



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שלום

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Victor Goldberg, President



President: Victor Goldberg

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I am sitting down to write this article with fond memories of one more summer almost over – the herculean efforts to maintain minyanim in Glace Bay, the chevra of a Sunday morning service in Sydney, the marching of the Maccabiah teams over the beautiful Lake Williams bridge at Camp Kadimah, the historic creation of a Wills and Bequests Endowment Fund anchored by an injection of over \$200,000 from the Rebecca Cohn Estate, a wonderful presentation of Yovel in celebration of Israel's 50th even incorporating our own children and lyrics, and many more happy times with family and friends. I had planned to mesh these images in my President's Message but, following the horrendous late evening crash of Swissair Flight 111, they are but a seemingly outdated blur, subsumed by the tumultuous and tragic events since Wednesday, September 2.

Needless to say, we at the Atlantic Jewish Council and in the Jewish community in Halifax, have been mobilized in tandem with the larger community to respond to the needs of families, especially our fellow Jews. Events are still unfolding but, what can be said at this point is that, in this hour of crisis, everyone came together in the true spirit of Klal Yisrael, the brotherhood of all Jews. I must particularly thank **Rabbis Aranov, Feldman,**

Hoffman and **Ellis** (our AJC Chaplain) for their pastoral efforts. Synagogue leaders, sisterhoods, multi-disciplinary professionals, and numerous volunteers all pitched in. We received invaluable assistance and support from the Orthodox Union represented by **Rabbi Moshe Krupka** and **Alan Miller**, whose own father was murdered in Pam Am's 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland in 1988.

The authorities' respect for Judaism and Jews (the unofficial Jewish toll at press time is 19) was manifested by their accreditation of **Dr. Jay Levinson**, world expert in identification, who left his job and family in Israel to assist in the difficult task in Nova Scotia. Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to Dr. Levinson as well as **Rabbi Edgar Gluck**, New York Port Authority Chaplain who almost immediately arrived here to help in any way possible. Of course, we would not have been able to mobilize and react with the 24-hour unwavering work of our Executive Director, **Jon Goldberg**, who rose to the challenge with alacrity, tenacity and dignity. Jon and his staff have manned the phones, liaised with authorities, dealt with the grieving families and done what has to be done.

Continued on page 27

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Confirmed Jewish Passengers – Swissair Flight 111

Abadi, George	Klein, Stanley	Schuster, Stephanie
Ball, Eudye	Kleinman, Karen	Sheer, Donald
Ball, Martin Victor	Kleinman, L.	Springer, Judith
Coburn, Richard	Levy, Ronald	Springer, Lloyd
Danon, Albert Jacques	Mallin, Gilda	Topfgibson, Nancy
Fine, Douglas William	Mallin, Ralph	
Fuhrmann, William Mark	Mann, Jonathan	



FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By Jon M. Goldberg

Shalom from Spring Garden Road,

It's a cool, crisp September morning here in Halifax and the deadline for my *Shalom* article is only hours away!

The tragic crash of Swissair Flight 111 on September 2nd just less than 30 miles from where I sit and the subsequent chain of events that brought myself, our office and many members of our community together under this tragic cloud with relatives of the victims, public officials, rabbinical authorities, certainly brought close to home the frailty of human life.

Rosh Hashanah is ten days away. With every new year there are new hopes, new ideas, new people and new headaches to myself and our staff at the Atlantic Jewish Council.

As I look back on 5758 I feel a sense of accomplishment in a number of areas. Through the support of UJA and a private Foundation in Toronto, along with a tie-in with Northwood Center, **Rabbi David Ellis** was hired as Regional Chaplain and as a consultant to the Senior Citizens' Project being formulated here in Halifax. Rabbi Ellis has traveled extensively in the region and I know he has made a difference in the Jewish life of both the communities and individuals where he has visited. Our Senior Citizens' Project has not evolved as fast as I would have liked, however, we are still optimistic about the final outcome and hopefully, by the end of 5759, we will have things in place.

Most of our communities had wonderful celebrations in honor of Israel's 50th Anniversary. I hope to be able to provide more programming to celebrate this wonderful simcha right through to the end of December.

Our programming coordinated by **Yakov** for youth and campus, by **Shirley Burnstein** for seniors, our major production, *The Wizard of Oz*, our 50th Anniversary tour by Yakov, Shirley and **Joanna** were all part of a year that seems to have flown by.

Thanks to a major effort by some wonderful people in each community, Yom Hashoah was a meaningful and dramatic event in St. John's, Newfoundland, Fredericton, Saint John, Moncton and Halifax.

This past year we sent 12 of our high school students on the March of the Living program and Kadimah Israel, which included 9 Atlantic Canadian teenagers, had a record enrollment.

Professor **Tom Kuttner** of Fredericton has proven an exceptional community relations Chairman and I am pleased to say that we have outstanding representation on the new Boards of Canadian Jewish Congress and UJA/CJF Federations.

Our communities were fortunate to have been visited by **Dr. Elizabeth Maxwell**, numerous speakers and officials from the Israel Embassy and Consul.

Our *Shalom* subscription list grows larger each year and Camp Kadimah had a record enrollment for the third consecutive year.

There are too many people for me to thank individually for the time and effort they give as volunteers throughout our region. We are fortunate in Atlantic Canada to have a core of committed, sincere individuals who care about the quality of Jewish life, not just for themselves but for everyone. Whether it be in campaign, programming or organization and planning, it is these people to whom each of us in our own communities owe a deep debt of gratitude. May your names be inscribed in the Book of Life.

I also want to thank my staff for their efforts and continued devotion to the aims and ideals of the Atlantic Jewish Council. 5759 will, I hope, be a year of even greater impact by the AJC on the Jewish life here in Atlantic Canada.

I have restructured our Holocaust Education Committee and hope to effect a much better coverage of all our Provinces in order to fulfill the needs of a number of our survivors and also, to bring a better quality of education to the community at large.

The Israeli Ambassador will be visiting Newfoundland, PEI and Saint John, New Brunswick in October.

As per a number of requests, I am working on a speaking tour of some outstanding Jewish educators and Israeli politicians later this year.

Our Bi-annual Convention is being planned as I write this article under the capable co-chairmanship of **Marlene Unger**. This year's convention will be held in Fredericton on December 4, 5 and 6. We are working on an outstanding agenda and I ask you to mark this date in your calendar and please plan to attend.

In closing I would be remiss in not making special mention of our AJC Executive, in particular, our Management Committee. Over the past 6 years as your Executive Director, I've had a chance to meet many wonderful lay leaders from across the country. You should know that ours are second to none and that because of them and the reputation they and you, as the Atlantic Jewish community have, we are able to get funding for such things as chaplaincy, programmers and other projects which, from our own resources, we couldn't afford. Their networking, the time they take from their families and professions, has been translated into tangible results and has made our region an influence on the Canadian Jewish scene far in excess of our actual population.

To our Treasurer, **Michael Pink**, 1st Vice President, **Sheva Medjuck**, our Past President, **Larry Freeman**, our Secretary, **Barbara Paton**, our UJA Chair, **Jim Spatz**, our 2nd Vice President, **Mark Rosen** and of course, our President, **Victor Goldberg**, my personal thanks for your assistance and guidance over this past year. And so, my friends, as the sound of the Shofar echoes in the Synagogues throughout Atlantic Canada and you enjoy that special season that is our High Holy Days, I extend to each and every one of you my best wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.



YAKOV'S CORNER

*By Yakov Feig, Programmer
Shalom, Shalom!*

If you call my extension at the Atlantic Jewish Council, and I am out planning an event or "Yak"ing on the phone, you will hear my voice mail beginning with "Shalom, Shalom!". Shalom is a wonderful word. It can be used to say hello, good-bye, peace, or can be the quarterly magazine of the Atlantic Jewish Council. There is no need to have four separate words in Hebrew for these functions. In a similar vein, my task at the Atlantic Jewish Council has been to serve in many capacities. These have ranged from youth programming and teen programming, to university student programming, and young adults, to assisting with community functions, working with some of the small communities across Atlantic Canada, outreach activities, Israel Program Centre and other tasks. In essence, I have had to be more flexible than the word Shalom. Therefore, the summer is always important to begin planning activities for the upcoming season;

And what a season we are planning! Activities range from our Hebrew Reading Crash Course for adults, youth activities, teen programs beginning with elections for the Atlantic Jewish Teen Leadership Council, a full slate of programs for University stu-



Shirley Burnstein, Yakov Feig and Joanna Mirsky, The Jewish Jubilee Players, on their "Israel at 50" tour, August 1998.

dents across the region, programs for young adults, programs in PEI, Saint John, Fredericton, Moncton, Cape Breton, mainland Nova Scotia and Newfoundland too! Of course, this is just the beginning. I am looking forward to meeting the new Arevim in St. John's and Moncton as well as many of the familiar faces and new faces in the region including the new clergy at the Beth Israel and Shaar Shalom Synagogues in Halifax.

Aside from planning for the upcoming year, I also had the pleasure and honour of singing, and acting with our Jewish Jubilee Players **Shirley Burnstein** and folk-singer **Joanna "Jo Sky" Mirsky**, as we traveled in Shirley's Buick with all of our equipment to PEI, Fredericton, Saint John, and the Annapolis Valley as part of our "Israel at 50 Tour" from August 14th to 19th. Over 160 people met us in these four centres as we recapped 50 years of Israel's history through dialogue and song. Todah Rabah to **Joe Naylor**, **Dr. Sol** and **Evelyn Feldstein**,

Doron Fleisher, **Rabbi Yochanan** and **Carol Samuels**, **Marlene Unger**, **Janet Holtzman**, and **Peter Nathanson** for all your help in making it all possible. As usual, it was a lot of fun being able to perform with Jo and Shirley, sing together in the car, discuss current issues, and share a few jokes (they even put up with mine!).

Wishing everyone a Shana Tova Tikatevun, Vetechatemun - May you be inscribed in the book of life for a happy and healthy New Year!



Having fun during the "Israel at 50" tour, Fredericton, August 1998.

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THIS NEW YEAR: TAKE THE NOAH-ABRAHAM-LOT TEST

By Rabbi David Ellis, Chaplain

With the month of Elul, we have now entered into the preparation for the High Holiday season. Besides the usual organizing of synagogue activities and the festive meals, we must make this a time of individual and community reflection.

The incomparable liturgy of the High Holidays found in our *machazor* is always valuable to study. You will find these and other books on the holidays in your synagogue library. But I would suggest a very simple exercise: Study chapters 6-25 in Genesis, and compare yourself with the progenitor of our people, Abraham, his predecessor, Noah, and his contemporary and nephew, Lot.

Noah is mentioned in the Rosh Hashanah service in the *zichronot*, the verses of remembrance. After the flood, G-d remembered the covenant with Noah, by sending him the sign of the rainbow and the hope for rebuilding a new world. Yet for all of Noah's noble efforts in building the ark and saving his family, our Sages find a limitation to Noah's righteousness.

When G-d made the decree to bring a flood upon the world, to destroy all life, Noah does not present any kind of response to G-d. He builds the ark to save his own family but does not speak up on behalf of anyone else.

Abraham, on the other hand, is constantly on the lookout for his fellow man. He brought many of his followers with him to the land of Canaan (Gen. 12). He was on the lookout for wayfarers in the wilderness in the heat of the day (Ch. 18). He even stands up before G-d that he should not destroy the wicked cities of Sodom and Gemorrah if they have a righteous remnant in them. Noah, however, does not raise a protest at the prospect of the entire world being destroyed. He tamely follows G-d's directives for his own salvation.

There are any number of projects within our Jewish communities which need your support. The question is, will you be a Noah and only be interested in the initiative when there is benefit for yourself? Or will you be an Abraham, and support activities for the good of the whole community, regardless of your payoff?

For instance, many parents take a great interest in the synagogue and the Hebrew school when their children are growing up—making dinners, serving on committees, planning programs. But then when the Bar or Bat Mitzvah is over, they drop out, and far less is seen of them. They do not carry on in their expertise and efforts to help a new generation. These people are Noahs, not Abrahams. They are not bad; they are just not doing as much as our tradition demands.

Similarly, many take an interest in Camp Kadimah, as long as their kids are going there, but fail to contribute to help others come along. The camp is an enormous, year-round activity. Certainly, **Andrew Wolfson** and **Mark Rosen** could use others to help out their Abraham-like efforts throughout the year.

Many people are interested in Northwood and my Jewish chaplaincy, should their family members be there. But for someone outside their family, they are not so concerned.

You get the idea. Take a look throughout the activities of the community and see where you stand. Do you look out for the welfare of yourself and loved ones within the Jewish community? If so, you are only a Noah. But if you are helping in whatever way to enhance the community's efforts for others, you are following in the steps of Abraham.

There is, in particular, one group which I would target as prone to the Noah syndrome. They are those from approximately ages 45-60 within our communities. Earlier than this age, people can possibly be excused from being more active because of the commitments of raising younger children. In the later years, some will have health problems which prevent them from contributing as much as they might like. But those of middle-age usually have their children raised, are still in good health, often have a bit of prosperity and some free-time they did not once have—and yet we fail to see the fruit of their efforts within the Jewish community. It is up to us to see that these productive people contribute their share to our efforts.

In addition to the Noah-Abraham comparison, there is that of Abraham and his nephew Lot. Lot was always tempted by the superficial. In the arguments between their shepherds (Gen. 13), Lot chose the lush land to the east, even though it was near the wicked cities of Sodom and Gemorrah. The midrash records that Lot hobnobbed with the wealthy of these cities, protecting their ill-gotten gains by defending them in court.

There is in Judaism, unlike some other religions, no virtue in poverty. Abraham himself was a wealthy man. Yet there are those who would make choices of a career, a spouse, a place to live, on the basis of facades, rather than true values and character.

Thus one way you should be preparing for the holidays is in learning much more about that fabulous pillar of our faith Abraham, and Sarah his wife as well, who often manages to get the best of him. Let us hope that we will make 5759 a year they would be proud of.

Around the region: Some great ideas

As I travel around the region, I find each community has a particular custom or practice which the others do not have. Permit me to gather them all together, for some new ideas for the New Year.

Fredericton—The master list

If you read **Mrs. Jennie Brown's** reporting in this issue of events in the Fredericton community, you will note that she obviously has a master list of everyone's birthday and anniversary. Every community should make one of these, and a committee should be formed in each synagogue to invite friends and family of those celebrating special occasions to plan the event with the community. You will read within this issue of several recent celebrations held in Glace Bay; why not do them everywhere!



Moncton—Purim baskets

I was informed that the Moncton community made a special effort to see that every single person within the community, even several who were rare shul-goers, received a *shalach manot* basket for Purim. This was a contact with the community which was greatly appreciated by those who received them.

But why stop at Purim! Why not send around something similar for Rosh Hashanah, perhaps Chanukah, Tu B'shvat and Passover as well. How about sending such opportune care packages to college students from the community who are not in town.

Prince Edward Island—Torah study

The AJC directory quotes a source saying that PEI has the "least viable community in Atlantic Canada." While they do not have a synagogue and events are sporadic, due to the coming and going of summer residents, the Island does have an on-going Torah study group. I spoke with someone recently from a larger community who met with their group and was impressed at the level of knowledge and interest of those participating. Contact **Dr. Joe Naylor**, who has been the mainstay for the group for many years.

Yarmouth—The M'laveh Malkah

The shorter days and longer nights make an opportunity for a marvelous little Jewish practice, the M'laveh Malkah, the accompanying of the Sabbath Queen as she departs Saturday night. The occasion is usually a social one, perhaps with Havdalah, a film, a speech or presentation or just a get-together. The Yarmouth community put on such on my visit last February, at which time we raised several hundred dollars through Hadassah for Ethiopian Jews in Israel. (By the way, Yarmouth, even though it now has less than a dozen Jewish families, maintains an active Hadassah chapter—another great idea!)

Saint John—Jewish History

There have been pages over and over again in the *Shalom* about **Marcia Koven's** achievements in the Saint John Jewish Museum. Every other community in the Maritimes has much to learn from her efforts, and she is prepared at any time to advise and share her experience in preserving our communities' heritages.

Sydney—The Sunday morning breakfast

On Sunday morning after the morning services, there is held a breakfast, courtesy of **Mr. Frank David** and his crew. It is a marvelous occasion for getting together for great friendship and conversation.

Newfoundland—The arev/arevah

This community has arranged for many years for an Israeli college student to help with organization and youth activities. This past year, Moncton has done so as well. Other communities in the Maritimes might well benefit from the services of young, highly qualified volunteers from Israel.

Beth Israel, Halifax—The daily Minyan

The Beth, as they proudly note, is the only synagogue east of Montreal with a daily minyan. Having this daily contact with Judaism and its services is a marvelous tradition. But it struggles for participants. I myself often found myself not able to come for certain reasons. But during the summer, I managed to go regularly. It is a special feeling of continuity, to feel the pulse of the community from day to day, to follow the rhythm of our prayers throughout the year. I believe everyone from both of the Halifax synagogues should make it a point to participate as often as possible.

Shaar Shalom, Halifax—Computer expertise

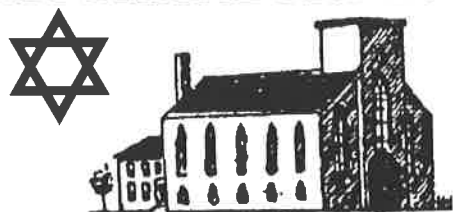
My good friend and president of the Shaar Shalom, **Mr. David Sherman**, saw many years ago that computers were in the future. So he took a course to learn about them. He uses his expertise for the synagogue and its affairs. Many notices are sent to congregation members via e-mail, thus saving postage. There are any number of uses for computers in the synagogue. Enterprising experts should have their hand at it.

These are only some of the great ideas I have seen around the region. Say, wouldn't it be great if every community adopted each other's great ideas! For the beginning, let's have a go at two or three for the upcoming year.

If you have other ideas I have missed, please share them with me.

Note: Although I am writing this during the aftermath of the Swiss Air disaster, I will save my accounting of those events for a later issue.

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ROSH HASHANAH MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF CJC

By Moshe Ronen

As the New Year 5759 approaches, we pause to examine our accomplishments and the new paths or directions that we must seek.

Our generation was shaped by the crucible of Auschwitz, by our people's battle for a homeland, by the State of Israel's ongoing struggle for peace and security, and by Canada's openness and pluralism. This year we celebrate and "sound the horn loud" on Israel's jubilee. We are at the dawn of a new millennium and renewed hope. We have accepted the torch of continuity passed on by those who suffered, sacrificed, strove courageously and built anew. But as external threats lessen, we unfortunately have seen our internal divisions rise.

It is saddening and indeed ironic, that we as Jews continue to struggle tirelessly for understanding and acceptance of others in our multicultural society, even as that same tolerance seems elusive within our own community.



Moshe Ronen

There is no point denying that there is division among our people. As our brothers and sisters in Israel, so too we stand divided on issues of religion, and even the peace process.

We may be divided by strong opinions, but we must present those in a civil tone and in the context of a united community. Yes, the Jewish community desperately needs bridge-building of its own. In-fighting and disunity always have led to hurtful and harmful consequences for us all. We need to reestablish proper dialogue, learn from one another, and reject intolerance and disrespect. We are all sisters and brothers: "Am Yisrael", part of one family.

As we gather in synagogue during the High Holy Days, let us all pray for peace among our people and peace and security for Israel. May the New Year be a time for sweetness and warmth in Israel, the Diaspora, here in Canada and within in our own Jewish Community as well.

EMBASSY OF ISRAEL

September 2, 1998

11 Elul, 5758

Dear Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to extend greetings and best wishes on behalf of the State of Israel to the Atlantic Jewish Community on the eve of Rosh Hashanah.

This past year marked Israel's 50th Anniversary. Within the Atlantic Jewish Community and throughout Canada, celebrations took place to mark this miraculous occasion. I was filled with great joy that Canadian Jewry celebrated so warmly and enthusiastically Israel's Jubilee. For this I say: Thank you.

Much was accomplished during this past



Ambassador David Sultan

year in Israel and the Diaspora. These accomplishments enable us to look towards the future with renewed confidence to the challenges awaiting us in the coming year - the greatest being the continuation of the peace process so as to achieve a secure and comprehensive peace with the Palestinians and the rest of Israel's neighbors.

I wish you all a good new year, a year of peace, security, health and happiness.

Shana Tova,
David Sultan
Ambassador
Ottawa, Ontario

MESSAGE FROM THE CONSUL GENERAL OF ISRAEL IN MONTREAL

In light of the Jewish New Year 5759, it is my distinct honour to extend greetings to the Atlantic Jewish Council and its leadership.

From the time of the establishment of the State, the Jewish communities of the Maritimes have always been extraordinary supporters in Israel. The Atlantic Jewish Community's undying devotion to the State of Israel has been an integral force in strengthening the bonds between the Jewish communities of Canada and the people of Israel. As we enter the new year, I would like to extend my most sincere gratitude to all the leaders,

activists, and community members of the Atlantic Jewish Community who have uniquely contributed to the social fabric of Canadian Jewry.

As the representative of Israel in the Maritimes, it is my pleasure to wish the entire Atlantic Jewish Community a happy and healthy new year. May your community continue to flourish with an abundance of good fortune, prosperity, and success.

Shana Tova U'Metukah.

Daniel Gal
Consul General

BEQUEST & ENDOWMENT FUND IS LAUNCHED

By Joel Jacobson

Jack Prince's leadership has led to the formation of The Legacy of Life, a bequest and endowment fund that will aid Atlantic Jewish Canadians for decades to come.

Speaking at a luncheon to formally launch the concept, the veteran Halifax lawyer apologized for being negligent in not establishing this fund decades ago. But he told 40 business and community leaders the benefits from the income of the fund will be the enhancement of the quality of Jewish traditions regardless of the size of the community.

Jim Spatz, co-chair with Mr. Prince of the AJC's Bequest and Endowment Fund, said the fund has been underway for a few months although only officially announced recently. He said the intent is to enhance Jewish life in Atlantic Canada.

Several gifts, totalling more than \$250,000, were announced at the luncheon, including a \$214,000 bequest from the estate of the late Rebecca Cohn.

"For a beginning, it's not a bad start," said Mr. Prince. "These gifts came unattached. There is no legal direction for use but they will aid the poor Jewish people in the region."

The Legacy of Life will enable Atlantic Jewish Canadians and their families dispersed throughout Canada and the world to contribute, with tax credits and income development, to charitable organizations that will benefit smaller communities in the region.

At the launch at the Citadel Halifax Hotel, Mr. Prince welcomed several Halifax-area accountants and lawyers who deal with both Jewish clients and others.

He introduced accountant **Robert Kleinman**, executive director of the Jewish Community Foundation of Montreal and director of Financial Resource Development, Federation CJA, who spent a valuable hour outlining various endowment and bequest plans. "Canadians are neophytes in planned giving compared to Americans who have developed so many products to meet the needs of donors," said Mr. Kleinman, who had 18 years experience as a taxman with Ernst & Young prior to moving to the Montreal Foundation. "Some Canadian Jewish centres, such as Toronto and Vancouver, have moved profitably into planned giving while others, like Calgary, Edmonton and Halifax, are just starting."

Mr. Spatz, a medical doctor and real estate developer, was impressed with Mr. Kleinman's knowledge and ability to present it in lay terms. "He's an expert in the field and today, he was teaching experts (accountants and lawyers) new things."

Mr. Kleinman presented the seminar with copies of the National Jewish Gift Planning Handbook, which he authored

under the auspices of the United Israel Appeal of Canada, Council of Jewish Federations of Canada, Federation CJA and Jewish Community Foundation of Montreal. The 23-chapter volume, with appendices, deals with various methods of gift planning, such as Life Insurance, Gift Plus Annuity, Retractable Donations, Gifts of Residual Value, Capital Property, Marketable

Securities, Real Estate, Private Company Shares, or Art, and Charitable Remainder Trusts.

"As financial planners, there's a place for you to deal with your clients," he told the professionals. "If you can't bring them these ideas, not forcing them to do charity but showing them how, you're not giving them all the opportunities from a financial point of view."

"You also make charity happen, which is such a major part of Jewish life. Even if you charge your fees, you've done your part."



Seated at the head table at the B&E Luncheon (l-r) Victor Goldberg, President of AJC, Robert Kleinman, CA, Guest Speaker, Jack Prince, Co-chair of the B&E Fund, and Dov Harris, Director Planned Giving, UIA Federations Canada. Absent from photo is Co-Chair of the B&E Fund Jim Spatz



Michael Murphy and Heather Ferguson of Canada Trust, Trustees, present Victor Goldberg, AJC President with the bequest from the Rebecca Cohn estate.

FREDERICTON SHOWS UP IN FORCE IN MONCTON

By Miriam Cohen

On September 3, the big brown Tim Horton's bus pulled into the parking lot of the Fredericton Exhibition grounds and thirty-six eager people loaded the bus on their way to the production of "Yovel" at the Capital Theatre in Moncton., "Tim Horton's donated their bus to the community for this special event. You can't beat those donuts and coffee!

It was a lively group led by **Bob Brown** and **Ivan Levine**. Accompanying the group were **Rabbi and Mrs. Samuels** who tried to lead the noisy group in song but got overridden by the talkative group at the front of the bus.

Having arrived in Moncton the group proceeded to a buffet supper at a restaurant near the theater. Having been fed and "watered" we then moved on to the beautiful Capital Theater on Main Street. Most were impressed with the beauty of the place and the pictures in the lobby of "Israel Through the Past 50 Years."

It was a pleasure to see **Evie** and **Barrie Carnat** as Emcees

from Moncton. It certainly gave the performance a strong connection to Israel on a personal level. Yovel's performance was done professionally, and the video presentation that went with their show was awe inspiring. One felt they were going along with Israel's birth and growth. The life and *ruach* of the group was infectious. The added feature of **Heidi Lipkus** joining the group for their finale brought the whole performance home.

The "Yovel" Group ended their glorious program by gathering brave souls from the audience to join in dancing on the stage to the joyous Israeli music they were singing.

The evening was over too soon and the Fredericton crowd was ushered back on the bus (it took several bus calls) to be counted again by Bob Brown. It was a much quieter group going back, some were sleepy while others talked and read. We arrived back before midnight and all had had a great evening.

Special thanks must go to **Faye Medjuck** for bringing the Fredericton Group to this wonderful performance. She was instrumental in getting it together. Thank you Faye!

MONCTON PARK TO BE NAMED "PARC ISRAEL PARK"

By Joel JACOBSON

(from *Canadian Jewish News*)

The soon-to-be named Parc Israel Park, a greenbelt between Lewis and Steadman Streets in Moncton, will be dedicated to the Jewish community of that New Brunswick city to recognize Israel's 50th anniversary and honour the contribution Moncton Jews have made to the city.

Mayor Brian F.P. Murphy made the announcement at a Yovel concert in the Capitol Theatre in early September where he and more than 250 guests enjoyed the high-powered enthusiasm of the young Israeli music group.

On the same day, the Mayor declared Israel Day and had an Israeli flag, provided by community leader **David Attis**, flown on the city flagstaff.

Mr. Attis, president of Moncton's Tiferes Israel congregation, said the concert attracted a busload of people from Fredericton, 120 kilometres away, and another dozen people from Saint John, 100 km to the south.

"We also had a large number from the non-Jewish public," he

said, indicating the production was to "educate and inform the public that three minutes of a newscast is not what Israel is all about."

He laughed and added, "it was definitely not a fundraiser. We had to really sell the show. We had cooperation from local radio stations and newspapers. They ran contests and gave tickets away for us and created great awareness."

In prepared remarks at the concert, Mayor Murphy praised the contribution of Moncton's Jewish citizens. "They have contributed enormously to our business community, to academia, to the practice of medicine, and the compassionate caring of our sick, to the legal profession and the judiciary, to the cultural community as well as being leaders in our political and spiritual lives.

"Though small in number, our Jewish citizens have positively contributed to our municipal fabric disproportionate to raw numbers."

At the conclusion of the concert, many of the crowd danced in the aisles, including politicians and members of the non-Jewish community.



*On behalf of Halifax Regional Council and our citizens,
I welcome this opportunity to extend best wishes to
members of our Jewish Community.*

Shalom.

*Walter R. Fitzgerald
Mayor
Halifax Regional Municipality*

UJA CAMPAIGN '98 KICKS OFF WITH

By Joel Jacobson

From the moment the stage lights rose until those lights dimmed 90 minutes later, Halifax and Moncton audiences were held in the warm embrace of music, joy, peace and love by Yovel, six young Israeli entertainers filled with energy and enthusiasm.

Visiting the two Atlantic centres as part of a 14-appearance



The Halifax Youth Parade kick off the Yovel show.

cross-Canada month-long tour, the six-member Yovel troupe sang its way through a 50-year commemorative of Israel, from the nation's start in 1948 until today.

From the opening number, *Never Had a Moment (to be dull)*

until the closing song, *Halleluya*, audiences were treated to exquisite harmonies from this talented group who sang in front of a video screen, which showed highlights of Israel's first 50 years along with mostly-smiling faces of Israelis from all walks of life.

Both concerts were highlighted by appearances of Halifax's **Heidi Lipkus** who has appeared in numerous Atlantic Jewish Council musical productions, including *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Wizard of Oz*. The Halifax university student opened the Halifax concert with *O Canada* and joined Yovel to lead *Lay Down Your Arms* and *We Rise Again*, **The Rankin Family** song written by Sydney's **Leon Dubinsky**.



Heidi Lipkus joins the Yovel Troupe in Moncton.

The Halifax concert filled the lower level of Rebecca Cohn Auditorium with 600 enthusiasts and included **Lieutenant Governor Jim Kinley** and his wife **Grace**, city councillors **Jerry Blumenthal**, **Bill Stone** and **David Hendsbee**, and representatives from other government and social agencies.

As Yovel performed a medley of Hebrew songs, including *Hava Nagila*, the audience was encouraged to rush the stage for a



Full audience participation!

massive hora.

In Moncton, **Evelyn** and **Barrie Carnat** chaired the event before 300 people at Capitol Theatre where New Brunswick **Premier Camille Theriault** and Moncton **Mayor Brian Murphy** brought greetings from their respective governments. Logistics and Coordination were done by **David Attis**.

Thirty people travelled by bus to attend from Fredericton.

The Moncton audience filled the aisles at the concert's end, dancing and singing and mixing with the Yovel group, which is comprised of three male and three female professional singers and dancers from Israel.

Both concerts featured special speakers including **Dov Harris**, national director, bequest and endowment fund, UJA. Ethel Cooper-Rosen, co-chair, women's division, Halifax UJA campaign addressed the audience.



Victor Goldberg (r), president of the Atlantic Jewish Council chats with Nova Scotia Premier Russell MacLellan (l) and Ralph Medjuck at the pre-show reception

A CONCERT FEATURING YOVEL



At the reception before the show, Their Honours Lt. Gov. Jim Kinley and Mrs. Grace Kinley greet councillor Jerry Blumenthal.



The Yovel Troupe in Moncton.

Photos courtesy of Diane Doiron



During the Yovel Show, Dov Harris, National Director of the Bequest & Endowment Fund, made presentations to Halifax UJA Leadership. Receiving recognition are Ethel Cooper-Rosen and Mark Rosen with Dov Harris.



Co-chair of the Bequest and Endowment Fund, Jim Spatz talks with Opposition Leader Robert Chisholm at the reception.



Dov Harris makes a presentation to Victor Goldberg, President of the Atlantic Jewish Council.



Jim Spatz accepts a gift from Dov Harris, while Executive Director Jon Goldberg looks on.



Dov Harris, with Co-chairs Dr. Howard and Karen Conter. Howard was also the Master of Ceremonies for the evening.

HALIFAX COMMUNITY MOBILIZES IN THE WAKE OF AIR DISASTER

by Joel Jacobson

(from *Canadian Jewish News*)

The Halifax Jewish community is doing whatever possible to ease the anguish of families who lost relatives and friends in the crash of Swissair Flight 111 off Peggy's Cove, near Halifax, NS, Wednesday night.

Three rabbis from the Halifax community were meeting victims' family members who flew to Halifax to identify remains. **Rabbi Mendy Feldman** of the Lubavitch congregation was at Halifax International Airport. **Rabbi David Ellis**, chaplain of the Atlantic Jewish Council, was stationed at CFB Shearwater in suburban Dartmouth where a morgue had been set up, and **Rabbi Saul Aranov** of the orthodox Beth Israel Synagogue was available to families arriving at Halifax-area hotels.

Jon Goldberg, executive director of the Atlantic Jewish Council, said many area families had offered their homes for accommodations. In addition, he had contacted kosher-observant families to provide meals, if necessary.

"Our community is only about 1,500 people, but when the families arrive, the Halifax Jews will welcome them. We're here to help any Jewish people who need it."

By Friday, even before a complete passenger list was available, it was known there were at least 15 Jewish victims, identified religious authorities in New York and Geneva.

The recovery of passengers' bodies has been a slow process

with only about 40 of 229 found as of Friday morning. "We're not sure how fast families should come here," said Mr. Goldberg. "Who knows how long they would have to wait?"

Mr. Goldberg said telephone calls started coming to the Atlantic Jewish Council office within hours of the crash which occurred at about 10:30 p.m. AST Wednesday (Sept. 2).

"I spoke with **Rabbi Edgar Gluck** in New York Thursday," said Mr. Goldberg. "He's the official Jewish advisor with the Port Authority of New York and the state coroner. He's also **Mayor (Rudy) Guiliani's** chief Jewish advisor. He told me seven people identified themselves to rabbis in New York as being relatives of victims. A rabbi in Geneva said he'd heard from eight families with victims on the Swiss list (of approximately 30 known passengers). Those are the only ones known by name."

The first inquiry to Mr. Goldberg's office came from Gush Etzion, from the family of crash victim **Dr. Jonathan Mann**, a former professor at the Harvard School of Public Health and a pioneer in the fight against AIDS. The family, which said it was planning to leave soon for Halifax, requested information about the local hebra kadisha.

"The passengers' families may require services that are not available in Halifax," said Goldberg. "We have no Jewish funeral home here and in the hebra kadisha, we're all volunteers," Goldberg said.

TRAGEDY BRINGS OUT UNITY, LEADERSHIP AND HUMANKNESS

By **Rabbi Edgar Gluck**, Police Chaplain
The Port Authority of New York

As the tragic incident involving Swissair Flight 111, which caused the unfortunate demise of 229 people, the Nova Scotia Jewish community showed its immense concern. The entire community rallied support and resources to all family members of victims that they came into contact with. I have never witnessed such comradery and organization as I have seen this week in Nova Scotia.

Under the leadership of the Atlantic Jewish Council, led by its energetic, and dedicated president **Victor Goldberg**, the community met with **Dr. John Butt** and **Dr. Young**, the Medical Examiners directing the identity and burial of all victims, explaining the religious needs of the dead and the remaining family members.



Rabbi Edgar Gluck, upon his arrival in Halifax.

The Sisterhood began a tremendous effort of cooking kosher food for the families of the victims and the visiting clergymen. They also arranged transportation to and from the synagogue twice daily and made the strangers literally feel at home. I have yet to see such warmth, sincerity, cohesiveness and *menshlichkiet* displayed by any council, or any community, as I have seen this week. May everyone who dedicated themselves and all members have a Healthy, Happy and Successful New Year.

Editor's Note: Rabbi Gluck brought his experience to Halifax, gained in the investigation of the TWA flight 800 where he was a major help in dealing with the relatives of the victims.

CONFIRMATION NEEDED

By Joel Jacobson

(from *Canadian Jewish News*)

A member of the Israeli police criminal identification unit has joined Halifax Jewish clergy to help solve halachic issues stemming from the Sept. 2 crash of Swissair Flight 111 off Peggy's Cove, NS.

Rabbi Jay Levinson, who has assisted in post-crash identifications world-wide, was invited to Halifax by the Atlantic Jewish Council to confirm Jewish deaths. He was to interview those who last saw Jewish victims board the aircraft and then testify before rabbinical courts in the United States regarding status of the widows.

Under Jewish law, a widow cannot remarry until it is proven beyond a doubt that her husband died. Otherwise, she is an agunah and any children born to a subsequent marriage are illegitimate.

Rabbi Saul Aranov of the Beth Israel Congregation in Halifax said relatives of the deceased cannot observe mourning rites without confirmation of death.

Message from the President of the State of Israel

Dear Friends,

During this past year Israel celebrated her 50th Anniversary. Looking back, there was indeed much of which to be proud. Our country has grown and developed and has a thriving economy, a level of technology among the most advanced in the world, impressive scientific research, highly developed agriculture and a very rich cultural life. This, despite the internal and external problems we face.

Unfortunately, the much needed and longed for peace with all our neighbours has not yet been realized, but the peace process is still continuing. It is a very difficult and protracted process with many painful contentions, but all sides involved have too much to lose not to pursue it. I, therefore, believe that eventually we will attain the goal of living in peace with our neighbors.

During the past year we also justifiably celebrated the 50th anniversary of legal immigration to Israel. We have had great success in meeting the Zionist challenge of absorbing immigrants from all over the world, and Israel's population has increased ten-fold to 6 million people since the country achieved independence. Unfortunately, not all our brethren in the Diaspora have chosen to realize the Zionist dream. At this opportunity, I, once again, wish to call on all our brothers and sisters throughout the world to join us. Not only will you be strengthening our country, but you will also be ensuring the survival of your future generation.

May we, during the coming year, see the fulfillment of our prayers for peace and prosperity, and may we look ahead to an ever brighter future for Israel and the Jewish people.

Shana Tova u'Gemar Hatima Tova,

President Ezer Weizman

WE ALL CAME TOGETHER

By Jay Levinson, Jerusalem

The evening of 2 September will be long remembered in Nova Scotia and throughout the world for the tragic crash of Swissair Flight 111, but in all of the sorrow and tears there was one positive phenomenon which deserves mention. We all put differences aside and came together to unselfishly offer whatever help we could render.

Although I have been a repeated visitor to the relatively large Jewish population centers in Montreal, Toronto and Hamilton, this was my first visit to Nova Scotia. In my capacity with the Israel Police and through work with Interpol, I came with experience from more than a half-dozen previous crashes. Without the least hesitation the Israel Police approved the request of the Union of Orthodox Congregations in New York that I function as their advisor. The O-U, however, was clear in its intent. They were gearing up to serve all those bereaved families who wanted Jewish assistance. And so was the intent of the Atlantic Jewish Council, serving the religious and the non-religious without distinction in the days before Rosh Hashanah when we remind ourselves of the importance of caring for our fellow man. (To relate a small secret, we also helped with several non-Jewish families, since our thrust was to give humanitarian assistance to our fellow man.)

It's hard to describe to those who were not present what assistance was given. It meant preparing meals for those who eat kosher, sitting with families to hear their questions and console them in their sorrow, and gathering information for identification from families near and far. A call to a family in Florida. Speaking with someone in Frankfurt. Seeking advice in Chicago. Arranging for fingerprints from New York. The combination of these efforts by the many who unselfishly combined their labor created a working atmosphere which exemplified the ideal that as Jews we are one people.

Nor did we work alone. The RCMP and the Office of the Nova Scotia Medical Examiner did not "suffer" us an unavoidable evil. Day after day we worked together, deciding what needed to be done and who was best equipped to do it. In many cases requests for information was levied on the Jewish Community, and I am proud to relate that through the assistance of Jews, many of whom none of us has ever met, requested information was forwarded with speed that won all of us compliment from the requesting authorities.

The coming altogether of the International Jewish Community was a landmark we should all bear in mind as we look to the future and coming year, hopefully with only joy for us and no sorrow.

Identification of victims:

A victim is identified by the positive comparison of sufficiently significant information collected before death (*ante mortem*) and after death (*post mortem*). The Jewish Community assisted by:

- helping to collect *ante mortem* information from families;
- verifying that all comparison with *post mortem* data met the Jewish requirements of certainty and no possibility of mistakes.

LOCAL NURSE HELPS THE SURVIVORS

By Joel Jacobson

(from *Canadian Jewish News*)

Lorraine Tobia is tired. It's evident in her eyes, her voice, her demeanor. Yet she is ready to go again, if necessary, to give of herself so others may have comfort.

The Halifax nurse spent a traumatic two days ministering to suffering families who lost loved ones in the crash of Swissair flight 111 off the coast of Nova Scotia. As a volunteer, she coordinated Red Cross personnel at the rocks of Peggy's Cove when families of the 229 victims arrived to view the crash scene.

A member of Shaar Shalom Synagogue and a single mother of two boys, ages eight and six, Ms. Tobia assisted in briefing sessions at Peggy's Cove, prepared families for what they might see, explained the Red Cross role in providing professional nursing care and assistance, and helped distribute tangible keepsakes.

"We took people to the rocks, showed them the area where the plane went down, gave them hand-picked stones indigenous to the area, bottles of sea water, post cards, one-use cameras and, for the children, teddy bears.

"No matter what the language, the children, and even some adults, reached out for the bears, pulled them in and hugged them. It was very powerful and had a profound impact on all of us."

The crash occurred late on Wednesday evening [September 2nd] and by Friday, Ms. Tobia knew she would be on site Saturday and Sunday. She works on the oncology unit of the Queen Elizabeth II Health Science Centre, Victoria General site in Halifax. She is also on the cardiac arrest unit, is licensed to give medications and is familiar with CPR.

"My father died when I was 10 because no one knew how to administer CPR," she recalled. "That's why I know it very deeply."

She said her original shift was seven hours Saturday and Sunday but she worked 14 hours Saturday and 18 hours Sunday. "Once we realized more and more people were coming, my presence was requested and I was willing to stay."

Knowing that several Jewish families who lost relatives would be arriving, and realizing she would be the only Jewish person in the support team on Shabbat, she took with her kippas and copies of the Shaar Shalom's Friday night service, with a transliteration of the Kaddish. (She is a member of the Shaar's Chevra Kadisha.) "I had the privilege of taking the family of Harvard professor and AIDS researcher **Dr. Jonathan Mann** and his wife to the rocks. I made sure the two pre-teen sons had kippas. The only thing I regret is not having a tallis with me. I was asked for that on occasion."

She was upset Saturday at the presence of Messianic Jews. "I was trying to do my Red Cross job for all the families as well as steer the Jewish families away from the Messianic Jews. Fortunately, **Rabbi (Pamela) Hoffman** (of Shaar Shalom) stepped in and they quietly went away. Sunday, (Lubavitch) **Rabbi Mendel Feldman** was there and was very visible."

Late Sunday evening, just before support tents were disman-

ted, rescue staff, firefighters, army, police, Salvation Army and Red Cross personnel held a service on the rocks. **Major Ron Stuckless** of the Salvation Army read psalms and portions from the Bible. Ms. Tobia finished the service reciting Kaddish and placing a small stone she had earlier collected on one of Peggy's Cove's large rocks.

"There was a full moon shining on us. It's something I'll never forget," said Ms. Tobia. "There was total silence as I said Kaddish. People were moved. My father's yahrzeit was two days earlier (13 Elul) and I planned to be in shul Saturday. I didn't get to go, of course, and didn't say Kaddish until Sunday so it was especially moving for me."

Many support staff will require debriefing and counseling, including Ms. Tobia. "I had a group debriefing session for a couple of hours with United States counselors who worked the TWA crash and World Trade Centre bombing sites. I'm sure I'll have more counseling.

"In my business I have seen many gruesome things. I once saw a man who had been in a river for seven days and that was hellish. But it was nothing like what I saw here, drifting into the rocks."

Ms. Tobia said the experience of working with the families was good for her.

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some wait for them to happen...

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THE HUMAN DESTINY OF ASCENSION AND DECESSION

By Rabbi Saul Aranov, Beth Israel Synagogue, Halifax

The observance of the Jewish New Year calls to mind in time what was or was not achieved in the year 5758, which is just concluding, as we usher in the New Year 5759 with all our hopes and aspirations for the coming year. The Jewish community was sorely tested in the space of the waning weeks of the year with the tragedy of Swiss Air flight #111 (115). This misfortune occurred between the Scriptural readings of *Kee Te Tzei*, which means when one embarked on a journey and the reading *Kee Tavo* which means when one arrives at his or her destination.

In the human societies of the past when one left port to travel on the high seas or to traverse a desert wilderness by caravan (flight by air was not yet contemplated) people were filled with anxiety and trepidation wondering whether they would arrive at their destination. Upon safe completion of their journey they would recite prayers of thanks giving. Is it not so when we begin a New Year? We do not know what might transpire in the New Year on this journey in time. In our advanced technological age when we travel we can hardly imagine what dire circumstances could result as we commence our journey. We are unfortunately brought to the realization that human existence is at best precarious. This theme is also underscored in the prayer *Netaneh Tokef* which is recited prior to the "*Kedusha* - Holiness Prayer" of the Musaf service on the High Holy Days. "Who will live, who will die, who will suffer poverty, who will be prosperous, who will be made low and who will be raised up."

Pulsating dynamic human personalities filled with visions of accomplishment and august missions span continents in the service of the global community through the UN, or by being active in scholarship, scientific endeavour and philanthropic causes. Others peruse educational achievement, each one fulfilling their destiny as they try to reach their destination. Men, women, children, husbands and wives, parents and grandparents, brothers and sisters. So it was with the passengers on Swiss Air flight 111. Beyond our comprehension they were plucked as petals in the flowering of their lives from this human existence to be planted in the gardens of Paradise.

We read in a High Holy Days Psalm 130 that it is a Psalm of Ascent *Shir ha-Ma'alot* yet, the opening word is "*Me-Ma'amakim* - out of the depths". What a contradiction. How does one call out to the L-rd from the depths and is yet able to scale the heights of heaven?

The New Year declaration "*Alah Elokim Be-Teru'ah...*" The L-rd ascends (is elevated) through the *Teruah* - sound of the shofar. The word *Teruah* means something bad that should cause us to tremble. That means even though we may suffer misfortunes they enable us to rise from depression as we cry out to the L-rd from the depths to help us to soar to a life of higher spiritual achievement.

The movement from 'below' to 'above' has been the Divine plan from the beginning of creation. This too is a Rosh Hashanah theme since it is the birthday of human beings. The mystical tradition expresses it as *Yeridah Tzorech Aliyah* - we descend into

this world from Paradise - the world of souls, in order to achieve spiritual ascent to a higher plane. The soul was sent earthward to bring the heaven down to earth, to sanctify the mundane world. We ought not forget that we have a rendezvous in the spiritual world.

The soul when it enters this world feels an estrangement from its origin in the spiritual world. In time the soul adjust to this worldliness but it still has a yearning to return to its source in the spiritual world. Yet, the tendency of the modern person is to think only of the present moment in the here and now. When there is loss of loved ones in this existence we despair. We do not leave our options open to other worldliness.

Tragedy poses a challenge to us to transcend above despair. The story of the Jewish nation has been that of a people who encountered tragedy and tribulation time and again. Yet we strove to overcome our suffering and to rise to the challenges that were thrust in our path. We held the compass of our destiny in our hands as our people rose up from the desolation and depths of the Holocaust and were not handed a state for the Jewish People. They had to fight five wars in the past 50 years to maintain a Jewish Commonwealth. What applies to our nation certainly applies to the individual person.

The efforts of groups such as by giving aid to individuals in sorrow gives buoyancy of spirit to those individuals. The Halifax Jewish Community rose to the occasion during the days after the Swiss Air Disaster. The lesson to be drawn is that when the members of a community cooperate together they can accomplish many great things. I pray that in the year to come Maritime Jewry of Canada will be activated to achieve great things in a cooperative effort in positive projects that will strengthen the communities of Atlantic Canada. A Happy and prosperous Jewish New Year.



From Around



At the opening of the Saint John Jewish Historical Museum are (l-r) Shulamith Medjuck, Halifax Herzl Kashetsky, Saint John, Hedda Medjuck, AJC Vice-President Sheva Medjuck and Frank Medjuck, all of Halifax



Former United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali embraces Bena and Hedda Medjuck during his recent visit to the Eco-Sands Dunes at Buctouche, New Brunswick.



His Honour Lt. Gov. Jim Kinley examines an aerial photo of Camp Kadimah while Victor Goldberg looks on.



Enjoying lunch at Kadimah (l-r) Sheldon Cohen, Camp Director, Marty Zatzman, Their Honours Mrs. Grace Kinley and Lt. Gov. Jim Kinley, and Freda Cohen.



Visitor's Day at Kadimah, August 1998. Andrew Wolfson, Co chair of the Camp Committee, greets the families.



In Jerusalem on the March of the living, (l) Laura Gergely and Jessica Rappaport of Halifax.

The Region



A captive audience Visitor's Day '98.



Tzofiot at Camp, (l-r) Nathan Zilbert, Adam Conter, Eric Goldberg and Ben Ludman.



David Price provides information at the Israel Booth at the Nova Scotia Multicultural Festival June 1998.



Maccabiah Games begin at Camp Kadimah



March of the living participants getting ready to leave, April 1998. Pictured are Jennifer Winn and Laura Gergely of Dartmouth



The Staff of the Atlantic Jewish Council wish everyone a Shana Tova: (l-r) Yakov Feig, Christina MacNeil, Marie Herschorn, Rabbi David Ellis and Carol Ginsberg

CELEBRATIONS AND HONOURS FOR FANNY COHEN ON HER 90TH BIRTHDAY

By Elliott Marshall

On a beautiful day, July 16th, 1998, in a beautiful setting at the Gowrie Resort Restaurant, in Sydney Mines, there gathered together relatives and friends of **Miss Fanny Cohen**, to honour her on the occasion of her 90th Birthday.

Among the many tributes received by the honouree were those recognized by the National Hadassah-Wizo President, National Executive Vice-President, members of the Cape Breton Hadassah-Wizo Organization, a group of friends of the Queen Esther Chapter of Hadassah-Wizo of Sydney, Congregation Sons of Israel in Glace Bay, members of the Glace Bay Chapter of Hadassah-Wizo, and the Glace Bay Hebrew Ladies Aid and Auxiliary, contributions to Israel, fruit baskets, floral tributes from friends and family, and many cards and phone calls from former students and visiting relatives from away.

In paying tribute to her 'Aunt Fan', niece **Leone Bushkin** of Hansdale, NY, expressed in the most beautiful words, recalling the many happy times and for experiences going to theatre and shopping together in New York City. The *creme de la creme* was presented to Fanny by Leone, which reads "The Fanny Cohen Scholarship Fund for Academic Excellence by her loving Family, to Honour her Lifetime of Teaching Generations of Glace Bay's Young People."

On July 19th, a Kiddush was held in the Congregation Sons of Israel, Glace Bay. President Elliott Marshall gave the following address:

"...Don't tell me women aren't important in Synagogues, no matter what stream of Judaism - I'll go to the highest court in the land and debate that with anyone.

"In my time, in this synagogue, where I spent my entire Jewish experience, including and especially, the last ten years as President of Congregation Sons of Israel, I believe in the totality of the Jewish community. Without women like our honoured guest, Fanny Cohen, our congregation would never have existed for this long. As my good friend **Isaac Ein** has said many times, 'By all the laws of natural reason, we should have been out of business 15 years ago.' There are communities of 50 and 60 families that have closed their Shul doors, but not us. One of the big reasons? The women. According to Orthodox tradition, women cannot participate in Shul services, but there's more to an affiliated, organized congregation and Jewish community than the Shul.

"What are we here? We are "traditional" but in a rather relaxed form of Judaism. We could maybe be called 'Modern' or 'Mainstream' Orthodox; anyway, we're Jewish.

"We here are attached to our faith through the synagogue and through prayers. It is the source of strength of our Jewish life here. It is the barometer of Jewish commitment - that's what we have here! From what I have read, learned and witnessed in my travels, going to different shuls, in all branches of Judaism, to me a Jew is a Jew is a Jew.

"Here in this community, we depend on each other, we need each other, we count on each other. We're not scholars but we're

eager to learn. Every bit of new information we absorb; bits of Torah and Talmud, we embellish. Without Shabbat there is no sanctity. It's the fact of attending Shul and wanting to be in the spiritual atmosphere of the Shul that's important.

"...Fanny Cohen is a 'keep the candle-burning' kind of person. Fanny is a leader in all Jewish women's organizations - Hadassah-Wizo, Ladies' Aid. These activities are taken for granted by men; we tend to underestimate their importance, their values, their purposes, their functions, and their results thereof regarding Israel and Diaspora Jewry.

"Fanny is a teacher, with an impeccable career, who taught in the toughest of times, socially, economically, politically. She was, and still is, involved in many activities within the general community and makes us proud. For example, just recently, our congregation received an invitation to the 100th anniversary of Epworth Church celebrations. Fanny received a personal invitation. Fanny called me and we attended the celebrations together. When we walked in, Fanny's reception, not only from her 'retired teacher' friends but the whole church's congregants, was a pleasure for me to behold and witness.

"Fanny is a lady, who is educated, well read, very well informed and because of her humble nature and preference to keep a low profile, you don't always see and know the real Fanny Cohen. Fortunately for me, I have had the good fortune to get to know the real person, and it has been to my advantage. I can approach her, which I have done and will continue to do, for advice and, yes, some praise and some criticism regarding some of my literary projects. I respect this very much. She doesn't pull any punches, and I like that because I know that it's honest and sincere.

"And in talking about Fanny, I've only touched the surface. I haven't even mentioned her gefilte fish. I'm keeping that a secret because she makes some especially for me.

"Fanny, on this auspicious occasion, on behalf of all of us here, we wish you well, we wish you happiness, we wish you good health, and please, continue to be the wonderful lady you are!"

Fanny, Fanny A poem dedicated to Fanny Cohen

*Fanny, Fanny, whatever your age,
You're our hope and our future, our designated
gauge.
Whenever we're down, with no light in the tunnel,
We look to you for a light and a funnel.
You're a leader, a lady, a teacher, a sage.
If there's a term to be translated, we turn to your
page.
You don't look for praise, for glory or wage,
That's why we shout out to all 'You're the rage!'*

SUMMER OF '98 IN THE BAY

By Raymond Goldman

The congregants of the Glace Bay Shul, Congregation Sons of Israel, always look forward with enthusiasm for the Shabbos visitations of **Rabbi David Ellis**. Time and time again he has come to our rescue for our special occasions. He reminds us of an ace relief pitcher in baseball, coming into the game when we most need him and to save the game. We are still in the game with his support, and he frequently quotes the famous **Yogi Berra** adage, "...the game is not over until it's over" which certainly pertains to us.

This was our greatest summer in years for visitors. Practically every Shabbos we welcomed worshippers who helped us in not only fulfilling our quorum of ten but participated in our service of *Lannen the Torah*.

Many of our visitors were American tourists who came to us and our beautiful Island not only due to the most favourable monetary exchange for them but to escape the extreme heat, cool off, and enjoy our Cape Breton hospitality, scenery and a change of pace.

We also welcomed back ex-congregants or descendants of our synagogue pioneers who come down to *Doven* with us and visit the grave sights of their ancestors in our well kept cemetery.

On one momentous Shabbat we had the pleasure and blessing of four Hasidim from Brooklyn, New York, **Reb Usher Z. Piller**, two of his many sons, 13 and 14 years old respectively, and a colleague **Mr. Rueven Schmidt**. Reb Usher had purchased the home of **Norman and Schannah Lipshutz** and will utilize it as a summer cottage, close to shul, a sandy beach and many other amenities.

The following Sunday morning, on the conclusion of the minyan and prayers, the youngest of the Piller boys blew the Shofer, one melodious blast that we will remember for a long time to come. An enjoyable Kiddush and educational discussion was held. The Reb also gave us a few lessons on the proper and only way to put on Tifillen. One is never too old to learn.

A *Yasher Coah* to Rabbi Ellis for bringing the Hadisim to our community, even though it's seasonal, it's still a great help to us and maybe others will follow.

It's an example of how imperative it is that our shul and our presence in Glace Bay be maintained and preserved.

We also took out a website on the international World Synagogue Directory. This has played a very significant role on our inquiries. As of this date we are the only synagogue in the Atlantic Provinces on the web. How do you like that?

NEWS FROM SAINT JOHN, NB

By Janet Holtzman and Marcia Koven

We are pleased to report that we continue to have services every Friday night and Saturday morning under the direction of **Jerry Koven** and **Dan Elman**. Our thanks go out to **Ben Smith**, who continues to make certain that there is a minyon at both services. We welcomed many visitors to the services during the summer months. Once again, we will be welcoming our **Rabbi Bacon** from Israel, when he will conduct our Holiday services. It is always a pleasure to welcome Rabbi Bacon, who has become part of the Saint John Family.

Our thanks go out to **Yakov and Company** for bringing a delightful concert to our community.

Our best wishes go out to **Sandra & Ron Levine**, on the marriage of their son, **Darren**, and to our University graduates - **Nathan Davis** and **Keiver Calp** - and High School graduates - **Keri Calp** and **Lynn Bessoudo**. Birthday wishes to **Bella Green**, **Harry Gaum** and **Ben Cohen** on their 85th.

Condolences to the Gaum and Bessoudo families on the loss of their wife and mother, **Dorothy Gaum**.

Our Museum continues to be THE PLACE TO VISIT while in Saint John. Our students have created a database with information about all those interned in our Jewish cemetery. They have revamped the map of the cemetery and can access by name, next of kin, birthdate, date of death and burial, plot number, obituary (when available) and photo of gravestone. This was a mammoth job and one that we can be very proud of. Now if anyone wants any information about their departed relatives, it is easy to find the information.

Our Museum will be closing just before Rosh Hashanah to walk-in visitors but will take group tours (ten or more) by appointment.

We would like to extend best wishes for a healthy and happy New Year to all of our friends and relatives in the Atlantic Region.



Consul General & Mrs. Gal were in Saint John to officially open the Museum for the summer season.

Pictured l-r: Josh Beutel, President of the Saint John Jewish Historical Museum, Consul General Daniel Gal, Marcia Koven, Curator and Mrs. Daniel Gal.

FREDERICTON NEWS

By Jennie Brown

Anniversary greetings to the following: **Daisy and Frank Budovitch** - 56 Years; **Sue and Lou Levine** - 50 years; **Sharon and Peter Pinsler** - 31 years; **Rhona and Allen Ruben** - 31 years; **Lois and Ivan Levine** - 28 years

A delightful luncheon in honour of Sue & Lou Levine's Anniversary was hosted by their daughters **Ellen and Bonnie** and their son-in-law, **Fred Potash** of Toronto. Relatives and friends from Montreal, Toronto, New York and Saint John were present. Wishing Sue & Lou many more anniversaries with good health and happiness.

Mazel Tov: to **Jason Isaac**, son of **Carol and Simmy Airst** who was called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah. Jason's grandparents are **Jennie and Joe Chippin** of Fredericton and **Boris Rosenblatt** of Torrent, Ontario. to **Roz and Bob Brown** and **Sylvia and Julius Israeli** on the marriage of their children **Neil Shawn and Anne Lea**. Anne is the granddaughter of **Bernice Fransblow** of Vancouver and Neil is the grandson of **Jennie Brown** of Fredericton. The ceremony was held at the Sgoolai Israel Synagogue with **Rabbi Yochannan Samuels** presiding. to **Cheryl and Joe Abrams** on the marriage of their daughter **Tara** to **Jason**, son of **Judy and Henry Ellis** of Raynaham, Mass. The wedding took place at the home of the bride with Rabbi Yochannan Samuels officiating. Tara is the granddaughter of **Vera Singer** of Montreal and Jason is the grandson of **Celia and Phillip Assiran** of Falmouth, Mass. Tara and Jason have taken up residence in Bridgewater, Mass.

A Speedy recovery to **Harold Velensky** and **Edith Levine**.

A Meeting of the Lillian Freiman Chapter of Hadassah Wizo was held at the home of **Gladys Swetsly**. Hostesses for the evening were **Jennie Chippin, Valerie Chippin** and **Edith Levine**. The meeting opened with a prayer read by the President

Sydelle Grobe, followed by the reading of the treasurer's report prepared by **Marlene Unger**. New executive for 1998- 1999 are: President - **Marilyn Kaufman**; Secretary - **Marissa Blanchard**; Treasurer - **Jennie Chippin**; Medical Services - **Sydelle Grobe**; Baby Creche - **Cheryl Abrams**; Youth Aliyah - **Marilyn Kaufman** and **Miriam Cohen**; Cards - **Nessa Leckie**; Call Committee - **Jennie Brown**.

The Jewish Jubilee Players from Halifax entertained a large audience in the social hall of the synagogue. The players featured renowned folk singer **Joanna Mirsky**, entertainment director for Northwood Centre, **Shirley Burnstein** and program director for the Atlantic Jewish Council, **Yakov Feig**.

A general meeting of the Sgoolai Israel Synagogue was held on Sunday, August 30. The officers for are 1998- 1999: President - **Bob Brown**; Vice- President - **Louie Budovitch**; Administrator - **Bob Brown**; Treasurer - **Steven Rosenfeld**; Secretary - **Arnold Chippin**.

On Sunday, June 14 members of Hadassah and their spouses visited the New Brunswick Internment Camp Museum at the Village of Minto Building, 45 minutes by car from Fredericton. There are over 500 artifacts on view in the Museum. They were either discovered at the camp in Ripples or were donated by residents of the area.

Wishing all the readers *Shalom* a Shana Tova.

NEWS FROM THE ISLAND

By Rosalie Simeone

Congratulations: to **Menara Simeone** on the occasion of her Bat Mitzvah. Services were conducted by **Rabbi David Ellis** at our Community Meeting Room at Dunstaffenage, PEI. She participated in both Friday evening and Saturday services, in both Hebrew and English. Many Thanks to Rabbi Ellis and **Yakov Feig** for studying with and guiding Menara.

Welcome home to **Albert Cohen**. Albert attended Kadimah Israel this past summer. He was assisted in this endeavour by the AJC, as well as the PEI Jewish Community. Albert has gained a great deal from his experience and looks forward to continuing along the path of Youth Leadership.

Farewell -to our summer members. We hope you all have a successful year "away", and wish you a speedy journey "home" next year.

To all our friends in the region. Shana Tova - all the best for a happy and healthy New Year.



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CAPE BRETON COUNCIL OF HADASSAH-WIZO

By Evelyn Davis

The 30th Annual Hadassah-Wizo Bazaar took place on May 13th at the Temple Sons of Israel Synagogue. The Bazaar had to be scaled down because we have too few members to handle the event. However, the retired men in the community have come forward and helped man the



Etta Chernin, Jack Yazer and Patricia Joy Alpert at the Youth Aliyah/Youth Services Brunch.

booths the day of the Bazaar, and came to assist in setting up during the days beforehand. Once again a new merchandise auction was held from 6-9 pm with **Allan Henderson** as auctioneer.



Following the Hadassah-Wizo Bazaar at the Sydney Synagogue, a donation was made to the CNIB. Making the presentation are Diana Schwartz, Bazaar Co-convenor, Lori Latimer-Merlin, District Manager of CNIB, Shirley Chernin, Co-Convenor for Glace Bay and Evelyn Davis, Sydney Co-Convenor.

Mayor David Muise cut the ribbon at 1 o'clock and the Cape Breton Community turned out in numbers.

An expanded menswear booth under the convenorship

of **Jack Yazer** was very successful. Jack has helped with the Bazaar for many years and the Council honoured him by making him a "Male Associate Member". The presentation was made to him at the Youth Aliyah Brunch by **Patricia Joy Alpert**, National President.

The Cape Breton Council of Hadassah-Wizo held a Youth Aliyah/Youth Services Brunch at the Temple Sons of Israel Synagogue on June 7th, under the convenorship of



Guest of honour at the Youth Aliyah/Youth Services Brunch, Patricia Joy Alpert, National President, centre, is flanked by (l-r) Shirley Chernin, Shirley Dubinsky, Etta Chernin and Faye David.

Etta Chernin and Faye David.

The guest of honour was the National President of Hadassah-Wizo, Patricia Joy Alpert. In her remarks, the president recalled her recent trip to Israel to attend a World Wizo gathering. She reported that "Conversion" was one of the major topics of discussion. She emphasized the new project "Ben Yakir Youth Village" and **Dr. Reuven Feuerstein's** research on autism.

Shirley Chernin introduced the speaker and **Shirley Dubinsky** thanked her. Youth Aliyah Chairmen were Etta Chernin, **Anita Lubetsky** and **Helen Marshall**. Once again the chairman reported an overwhelmingly successful campaign.



"AN ATLANTIC CANADIAN CELEBRATION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS"

"THE EMPEROR of ATLANTIS"

Halifax Premiere

An opera composed in Theresienstadt Concentration Camp 1942/44 by **Viktor Ullmann**, libretto by artist and poet **Petr Kien**. Conducted by **Georg Tintner**, featuring principal musicians of Symphony Nova Scotia, and others; **Phillipe Djokic** (concertmaster), **Jeff Goodspeed** (saxophone), **Scott Macmillan** (banjo). A culminating work of 20th century music, created in conditions of misery and privation, the opera is a triumph of human creativity, the impulse toward life and love, over despotism and tyranny. Canadian opera singers, including Halifax natives, **Jason Davis**, **Heidi Maegerlein** and **Blaine Hendsbee**, will be joined by **Phoebe MacRae** and **Steven Horst** to make up a stellar cast.

Ullmann's String Quartet, #3, Op. 46 (1943, performed by **Phillipe Djokic**, **Christopher Wilkinson**, **Susan Sayle**, and **Shimon Walt**, will also be given its Halifax premiere.

Halifax, Nov. 11-14, Great Hall, University Club, Dal. campus, evenings at 8:00, school matinee, Nov. 12. Open dress rehearsal, Nov. 11. No performance on Nov. 13th. Info. for ticket prices, reservations: 496-8220. *Book now; seats are limited!*

Touring dates:

Wolfville, Nov. 13, Festival Theatre.

Fredericton, Nov. 16, Le Centre Communautaire, Sainte-Anne.

Charlottetown, Nov. 17, Confederation Centre.

Antigonish, Nov. 18, Immaculata Hall, Saint Francis Xavier University. The Fredericton event is co-sponsored by the Atlantic Human Rights Centre and the Friends of Bernie Vigod.

Many events and exhibits have been organized to complement the performance and to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of Kristallnacht and the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. 1998 also marks the centenary year of Viktor Ullmann's birth.

Art Exhibits:

Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Education Gallery, 1723 Hollis Street, Halifax

"Drawings by Helga Weissova Hoskova" Sept. - Oct.

A young girl at Ghetto Terezin, 1941-44. Deported from Prague to Theresienstadt in 1941 at age 12, her father told her "draw what you see." Until she and her mother were deported to Auschwitz, Helga drew pictures depicting daily life in the ghetto. Today, in Prague, she is active as an artist.

In November the Art Gallery will have on display **Nyna Cropas'** masterful painting, "Kristallnacht".

Anna Leonowens Gallery, Nova Scotia College of Art & Design, Granville Terrace, Halifax

"Drawings from Terezin" - Nov. 9-20.

In 1997, the Canadian War Museum received a bequest of 104 drawings from the estate of **Thomas and Renee Weiss** (Ottawa). Validated by the Jewish Museum in Prague, this folio of drawings, possibly obtained by Mr. Weiss by purchase or barter during his internment in Theresienstadt, has never before been seen in public exhibition. A unique record of conditions of life in the

concentration camp, these drawings were done with minimal materials, at great personal risk to the artists (five of whom, and their families, were imprisoned and tortured in the notorious Little Fortress, for creating "propaganda art" that could expose the Nazi horror to the outside world). A selection, in facsimile, will be on exhibit.

Opening on November 9, 1998, the 60th Anniversary of Kristallnacht, with a public address by **Dr. Sybil Milton**, formerly senior historian, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, D.C., co-author of **Art of the Holocaust**.

Touring Exhibition:

"I Never Saw Another Butterfly," Children's Drawings and Poems from Terezin.

Formal instruction of children was forbidden in Terezin by the Nazis. Believing children were the best hope for the future, dedicated teachers organized art instruction so that learning could take place in the guise of leisure activity. Two suitcases of children's drawings recovered in 1945 are a unique record of the hearts, minds and memories of these child artists. Exhibition courtesy of the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Ottawa.

Public Lectures:

"The Uncanny Arts of Holocaust Memory," public lecture, **James E. Young**, Dalhousie Art Gallery, Nov. 8, 7:30pm, 494-2403.

Dr. Young, Chair of Judaic Studies, University of Massachusetts, is author of *Writing and Rewriting the Holocaust* and *The Texture of Memory: Holocaust Memorials and Meaning*, and is presently working on two more books, *After-Image: The Uncanny Arts of Holocaust Memory* and *A Vicarious Past: My Received History of the Holocaust*.

"The Legacy of Terezin Art and Culture," public lecture, **Sybil Milton**, Bell Auditorium, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (Duke St. entrance), Nov. 9, 8:00pm, 494-8223.

Dr. Milton is the Vice President of the Independent Experts Commission: Switzerland-World War II. Former Senior Historian with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, she has authored and edited many books on art, memory and the Holocaust. Dr. Milton co-edits both the Simon Weisenthal Center Annual and the documentation series Archives of the Holocaust.

"Musicians of Terezin & The Emperor of Atlantis," **Jean-Jacques Van Vlasselaer**, Saint Mary's Art Gallery, Nov. 10, 7:30pm, 420-5445.

Professor of French & Linguistics, Carleton, Music Critic for Le Droit (Ottawa), Professor Van Vlasselaer is one of the foremost scholars on the music of Terezin, and an acknowledged expert on the life and work of Viktor Ullmann.

Exhibition:

Atlantic School of Theology, Library, Der Weisse Rose Exhibit. October 1998.

Documentary Exhibit of German Youth Resistance movement, prepared by Goethe Institute, for information on times and location, call 423-7986.

Continued on page 29

Terezin Studio Project presents

November 11-18, 1998

Halifax and region



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EMPEROR OF ATLANTIS:

The opera composed by Viktor Ullmann and Petr Kien in Terezin, 1942/44, Georg Tintner conducting. Musicians of Symphony Nova Scotia and Peter Allen, Phillipe Djokic, Jeff Goodspeed, Scott MacMillan and a stellar cast of singers.



Exhibits of Art of Terezin and Holocaust History:

(Sept. - Nov.)

Art Gallery of Nova Scotia;

Anna Leonowens Gallery, NSCAD; St.

Mary's Art Gallery;

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Public Lecture Series

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Films of Terezin;

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Nov. 16 *TBA*

Charlottetown

Nov. 17 *Confederation Centre*

Antigonish

Nov. 18 *Immaculata Hall*

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An Atlantic Canada celebration for the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

MASSADA CLUB NEWS

By Doreen Gordon

On Thursday, April 2, a large number of Massada members went to Queen Elizabeth High School to see a performance of *Annie*, and what a performance it was! The sets, the music, the costumes, the huge number of students involved, the variety and diversity - it was terrific!

The next Club Massada meeting was held in the new Atlantic Superstore on Barrington Street on April 28th with a large number of members in attendance. Convenience is the word that comes to mind: easy access to the store; an elevator to the second floor; a large rack upon which to hang our coats; a large sunny meeting room for our deliberations; **Craig Harris**, Manager, was the speaker, discussing the many aspects of dealing with food products; facilities for preparing tea and snacks for our members. But, best of all, they provide someone to clean up after us! What more could we ask for?

It was announced that **Ella Morris** is unable to continue as Club Massada's Secretary. However, **Naomi Judah** has kindly agreed to take on the position. Many thanks to both women for their efforts on our behalf.

The next Club Massada meeting was held at the Beth Israel Synagogue on Tuesday, June 2, in the newly decorated youth lounge. The lovely warm, sunny day and, thanks to Sisterhood, the beautifully decorated room, brought out more members than usual, which lent a lovely festive air to the meeting.

President **Edith Schneiderman** welcomed Naomi Judah as our new secretary and she thanked Ella Morris our outgoing secretary for her many devoted years as secretary for Club Massada. The other members of the Board will continue for another term.

My dictionary tells me that a skit is a short sketch that contains humour or satire. "Mr. Wexler" and "Mrs. Lewis" brought a little of each of these, thanks to our guest performers, **Connie Eaton** and **Joe Goldstein**.

The 50/50 draw was won by **Lil Mosher**, who generously donated the money back to Club Massada.

The meeting was adjourned and refreshments were served.

In late June, **Shirley Burnstein** suggested we all take a trip over the bridge to Dartmouth and on to Shearwater which features an airport, aviation museum, flying club, yacht club, shopping areas, etc. However, when all was ready, at the last moment, torrential rains washed our plans away.

On September 2 most of the members of the Jewish Community went to see the Yovel Troupe from Israel at the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium at the Dalhousie Arts Centre. It was promoted as a Musical in Celebration of Israel's 50th and a celebration it was! The young troupers who performed were wonderful, especially as they were joined by our own **Heidi Lipkus** and eventually by our local youngsters and a few oldsters. A great time was had by all!

The High Holy Days are fast approaching and so, to one and all - May you be inscribed in the Book of Life for a year of happiness.

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A JOURNEY BACK TO PIER 21

By Joel Jacobson

Michael Kraus was 18-years-old, with high hopes for a better life, when he debarked the HMS Aquitania at Pier 21 in Halifax August 3, 1948. Fifty years later, Kraus is visiting Pier 21 to recall the moment he arrived in a new land from his Czechoslovakian home.

"It is more an intellectual than emotional moment," he says. "In the past few years, I have had several anniversaries linked with an unhappy event [World War II, concentration camp incarceration, liberation] but this is a wonderful anniversary. It was 50 years ago that Pier 21 meant a new life, new opportunities."

The Brookline, Massachusetts resident remembers "standing on the deck of the boat, looking at the town and seeing huge American cars on the docks, cars we saw only on film. I remember a town made of wooden houses, very different from Central Europe where we associated wooden houses only with vacation colonies. And I remember being able to drink ginger ale and Coca-Cola, beverages we didn't know in Czechoslovakia."

Kraus, 68, is now a successful architect working for a major Boston-area firm. His wife, **Ilana**, is a paediatrician in Boston. They flew to Halifax spent two days in Lunenburg where they met **Ruth Goldbloom** whose volunteer fund raising and organizational efforts have enabled the re-furbishing of Pier 21, and enjoyed more time in the city where he had his first taste of North American life.

"It is amazing that someone is trying to bring Pier 21 back to life," Kraus says of Goldbloom and her volunteer committee "It's a celebration of my life and of the lives of hundreds of thousands who also came to Canada through Pier 21."

Kraus spent his early years in Nachod, Czechoslovakia, a city of 15,000 people with 400 Jewish families, all of which were deported in 1942 as part of Hitler's "final solution". He was taken to a concentration camp in Teresienstadt. Moved to Auschwitz after a year, he survived the war through what he calls "a series of chances." His father was sick, unable to work and was sent to the gas chamber. His mother was selected to work in another camp and died six months

Later. Michael, strong enough to work, survived, from camp to camp. In January 1945, with 90 other boys, he was sent to another part of Auschwitz. Half the boys died in the next few months. Forty-five were shuttled between concentration camps until spring. "We were marched to the last camp two weeks before the war ended. We went a week without food or water and had typhoid fever. We were at the end of our lives. I would have died if the war went three days longer.

On May 5, 1945, he was liberated and spent six weeks in an American-run hospital. He was in such bad shape that he couldn't celebrate the liberation. A man and woman from his home town, who lost a child in the war, took him in, the only Jewish person from Nachod to survive the war, and helped him get back to school. But, in 1948, "they had the foresight to ship me out because they saw no future with the Communist takeover."

He stayed in Halifax one night, "with **Jennie Burnstein** who lived at 566 Robie Street", and went to Montreal where he earned a high school certificate and

briefly attended McGill University. A cousin in New Jersey arranged immigration to the U.S. where he earned his architecture degree at Columbia University.

Kraus kept a diary during the war years and continues it today. A film producer heard of his records and asked him to participate in a documentary of the war, *Voices of the Children*, which has aired on PBS.

He and the remaining members of the group of 45 orphans held a reunion in Israel in 1990 and stay in contact. He returned to Czechoslovakia in 1994, visited Teresienstadt and spent time with Jewish war survivors who stayed in Czechoslovakia. He discovered they denied their Jewishness, and married Gentiles because they could not practice their religion were under Communist rule.

"Because I came to Pier 21 in Halifax, I was given a new lease on life. That is worth celebrating."



While in Halifax, a reception was held in the home of Barbara Paton, centre, with Michael and Ilana Kraus.

CAMP KADIMAH DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

By Sheldon Cohen

The summer of '98 will rank with the best summers ever. The program and the weather were both amazing. The many new campers and staff left with wonderful memories and many new friendships were made. The many returning campers enjoyed a fun-filled, exciting summer.

The many plays, special days, Hityashvuit, Macabbia, Haganah Night, Carnival Day, Onegs, Visitors' Day dance Gala, Israel Day, Machar Day and daily peulot were so special this past summer.

The theme of the summer, Israel at 50, was featured in all aspects of our program. Our Kadimah Israel group had a great summer and many will be back in '99 as staff members.

Over the fall and winter we will relive the warm memories of the summer while reading our Iton.

We wish everyone a happy & healthy New Year and all the best in your studies. Looking forward to seeing all back at Kadimah in 1999. Shalom



Sheldon Cohen, Director, with his "right hand men" Michael Soberman (l) and Brian Indig, at the Closing Banquet of the 1998 season.

Thank you

Carol Lee and Ralph Loebenberg and their children would like to graciously acknowledge their gratitude to Dr. Joe Naylor and the entire Jewish Community of Prince Edward Island. We thank you for your great assistance with a minyan this past July. Your concern for our "Kaddish" was the highlight of our summer vacation. May you go from strength to strength and enjoy a sweet and healthy Shanah Tovah.

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Continued from page 2

Who would have thought that this small Jewish community would be gripped with such large-scale world-class disaster? I will not repeat my thoughts which are contained in my speech at the Sunday, September 7 Memorial Service, since it is reprinted below, but I am left with one prevailing feeling. Where we and others might have questioned the relevancy of small organized Jewish communities such as ours, the past days' events have proven the importance of firm and organized Jewish roots in diverse communities and underscored the need to work together as fellow Jews in good times as well as bad.

As the Days of Awe are upon us, I am sure that we will all reflect on the fate of Swissair 111, its passengers and crew as well as the implications of the tragedy and its aftermath for all of us. Those that perished and their loved ones will not be forgotten.

L'Shana Tova Tikatevu! May 5759 be a happy, healthy and prosperous year for you and yours.

Remarks at the Swissair 111 Memorial Service, Beth Israel Synagogue, September 6.

As we gather here this evening to commemorate the 229 passengers and crew, men, women, boys, girls and infants, of many nationalities and most religions, on board last Wednesday night's ill-fated Swissair Flight 11, let me first and foremost offer my and our deepest sympathies and condolences to the families and friends of the victims. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this time of grief and reckoning.

Although we, in Nova Scotia, have had our share of coping with massive loss of life during the earlier part of this Century, particularly with regard to the sinking of the Titanic and the Halifax Explosion, and despite the reality of living a Maritime existence, this generation has not witnessed first hand, and in our own backyard, a disaster of this magnitude. We have coined our beautiful province "Canada's Ocean Playground", no better exemplified by the majestic and rugged beauty of our 'beloved' Peggy's Cove and, as the ability to derive a living from the ocean has become more difficult, we have bolstered our reputation as a premier tourist attraction. Unfortunately, our ocean playground has turned into a tomb and our tourists' haven has been transformed into a scene of mourning. Nevertheless, our heartfelt hospitality, brotherhood and maritime spirit have shone through as a beacon of strength and comfort to the bereaved.

As a Nova Scotian, I am proud of the world class search and rescue and emergency response initiated from the outset. The selflessness of our professionals and volunteers from so many walks of life, but particularly, the fishermen and nearby residents was evident to all as the world fixated upon us. When the grim reality that no survivors could be found became obvious, we immediately confronted the tasks of recovery, investigation, identification and consolation with resolute determination and ecumenical respect and dignity for the deceased and their loved ones.

As President of the Atlantic Jewish

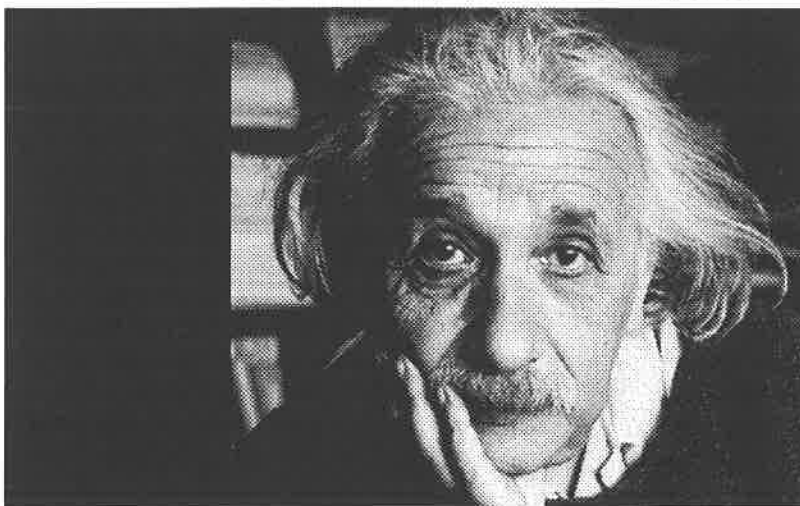
Community of this region of Canada, I wish to thank all of our members including Rabbis, leaders, professionals and all volunteers for joining together in solidarity and concern to work day and night to assist those in need.

To my fellow Jews whose lives have been torn asunder, we are your extended family and pledge all of our resources to help and comfort you regardless of your denomination. Although we are small in number, we are large in spirit and action and are ready, willing and able to assuage your loss whether you require pastoral or logistical support. Your lives have intersected ours in a sudden and devastating fashion and we will be there for you when and if you require.

As we approach our Jewish New Year and Day of Atonement, this tragedy reinforces the frailty and preciousness of life and living and the importance of family and community.

I conclude by reiterating our heartfelt sorrow and hope and pray that those who have suffered a loss have the strength to carry on.

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RECOLLECTIONS OF KADIMAH-ISRAEL '98

By Albert Cohen, Charlottetown, PEI

My first time in Israel and it was amazing. Before I left I had some second thoughts on how much I would like it but after a few weeks in Jerusalem I really felt comfortable in the Holy Land. There was so much to do and so much to see everyday that taking it all in was quite a task.

Some of the highlights of the trip were climbing Masada, 4 days in the army, camel riding, the Wailing Wall, Dead Sea, our excellent accommodations and all the museums and historical sights that we visited.

I really had a fun and fulfilling summer and I would just like to say thank you to the AJC for making my trip possible and it was an experience I will never forget.

By Miriam Noel, St. John's, NF

When people ask me how my summer was, I simply look at them and say "It was the best experience of my life." An experience. That's what it was. We didn't just tour for six weeks, but we saw, and participated in everyday Israeli activities. We hiked, rappelled, biked, and hiked some more, which really showed us what

Israel has to offer. We also toured, and observed life in Israel which was interesting. That last two weeks of our program were spent with a group of ten Israeli teenagers, who taught us much about their homeland, as well as making new friends halfway around the world.

July 21, 1998

"Today we went to Atlit detention camp, where illegal immigrants were sent when they were captured after landing in Israel. I never knew this place existed and it made me realize that if you made it to Israel without being captured, you were very lucky. This detention camp was almost like a concentration camp at a lower level. When the illegal immigrants came, they were separated, disinfected (clothes and all), given a bed and put to work. They were only allowed to see their husbands and wives once a week for an hour. Some people did manage to escape by hiding in suitcases, though. A man who was a crew member on the famous Exodus also came and talked to us. It was amazing to hear a firsthand story of what happened, and to meet a survivor."

The trip really opened my mind, and taught me more in six weeks than school did all year. I have absolutely no regrets at all, and I will always remember Kadimah Israel 1998.

A MESSAGE FROM THE JEWISH WAR VETERANS

Dear Comrades:

I want to thank my comrades who participate in the "Meals-on-Wheels" program; visit the sick; help make minyomin when needed plus any help when asked by the community.

We are reminded by Headquarters that anti-Semitism is still

alive and around us and we should be vigilant and wary.

Jackie and I wish you all a Healthy and Happy New Year.

Fraternally yours,

Gar Meltzer

Post Commander

HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

A series of public lectures by **Michelle Falardeau-Ramsay, Q.C.**, Chief Commissioner, Canadian Human Rights Commission

On December 10, 1948, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, affirming that "all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights".

In commemoration of the Declaration's 50th anniversary and the 20th anniversary of the Canadian Human Rights Commission, the Chief Commissioners of the CHRC will be speaking at seven universities across Canada, reflecting upon the human rights progress that has been made in Canada and internationally, and the challenges we still face as we approach the 21st century.

Michelle Falardeau-Ramsay was appointed Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Human Rights Commission in January, 1997. Her talk will cover a wide range of human rights issues, including women's equality, the rights of Aboriginal peoples, the barriers facing people with disabilities, the state of Canadian human rights legislation, and the challenge of diversity in a multicultural society.

All lectures are open to the general public free of charge. In Atlantic Canada, the lecture will be held on October 13, 1998, 7 pm, at the Memorial University, Science Lecture Theatre, Room SN2109, Science Building, St. John's, Newfoundland.

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Films:

The Terezin Studio Project is proud to present a series of films about Terezin and the Czech experience of the Holocaust. Together with showings arranged by the AGNS, we open with 3 days of documentary and propaganda (Oct. 18,19,20) and continue with six post-war films by Czech directors that wrestle with experiences of the Holocaust both inside and outside the ghetto.

All Showings in the Lecture Theatre of Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, enter on Bedford Row, 424-7542. All screenings are free but seats are limited. Priority at evening performances will be given to those with Opera passes.

Documentary Films on the Terezin Experience:

Oct. 18, **Terezin Diary**

Writer/producer and Terezin survivor **Zuzana Justman** tells the story of the Terezin ghetto and its children. The film weaves together survivors' memories, works of art, documentary materials and propaganda footage.

Oct. 19, **Paradise Camp** (a documentary on Terezin) and **Hitler Gives a Town to the Jews** (a rare viewing of the Nazi propaganda film in its current fragmentary state produced at Terezin to persuade the outside world that the Jews were being well treated. The director, **Marc Geron**, and many of the involuntary "actors" were deported to Auschwitz soon after), 7:30 pm.

Oct. 20, **Voices of the Children**, a documentary of the story of three people imprisoned at Terezin, a WWII concentration camp promoted by the Nazis as a model Jewish settlement. The film is an unusually revealing account of the Terezin experience.

Czech Post-war Cinema of the Holocaust, 1948-65

Oct. 29, **Distant Journey**, **Alfred Radok**, 1948/9, one of the most outstanding films in the history of Czech cinema. Radok, born in Southern Bohemia to a Christian mother and a Jewish father, survived the war under various pseudonyms and hiding in Prague theatres. The film tells the story of the Nazi persecutions by combining a narrative of individual characters with the visualization and dramatization of the major aspects of the historical terror, 7:30pm.

Nov. 2, **Transport from Paradise**, **Zbynek Brynych**, 1962. An intense psychological drama set in the Terezin ghetto, based on a novel by **Arnost Lustig**. The film is remarkable not only for visual dynamism, but for the humanization of its characters. Stylistically it marks a distinct deviation from the dominance of Socialist Realism in Czech cinema signifying a new age of modernism, 7:30 pm.

Nov. 12, **Diamonds of the Night**, **Jan Nemec**, 1964. Nemec's debut feature film based on a short story by **Arnost Lustig** is a brilliantly visual tour-de-force, the story of two boys who escape from a Nazi concentration camp transport train; their flight, dreams and nightmares, 7:30 pm.

Nov. 16, **The Fifth Horseman is Fear**, **Zbynek Brynych**, 1964. The main plot concerns **Braun**, a Jewish doctor in Prague, who treats a wounded resistance fighter and pays with his life for this heroic deed. **Brynych** transformed the original story of honour and heroism into a penetrating study of human

reaction to the Nazi menace against a striking visual exposition of life in Nazi-occupied Prague, 7:30 pm.

Nov. 26, **The Shop on Main Street**, **Jan Kadar** and **Elmer Klos**, 1965. The story is rooted in the history of Slovakia during the war. **Tono (Josef Kroner)**, a humble carpenter becomes fatefully entangled in the Holocaust horrors, when his brother-in-law, head of the local Fascist militia appoints him Aryan controller of a shop owned by an old Jewish woman (**Ida Kaminska**). Moving from light and comic to somber and tragic, the film presents a moralistic tale displaying the tragic consequences of human failure to cope with the existence of evil, 7:30 pm.

This program of events would not be realized without the help of many individuals and organizations. Funding and/or services for this project have been received to date from Canadian Heritage, Canada Council, the Arts Council of Nova Scotia, the German Federal Republic (Montreal Consulate), Embassy of the Czech Republic (Ottawa), Atlantic Jewish Council, German-Canadian Association of Nova Scotia, The Craig Foundation, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design and the Anna Leonowens Gallery, Saint Mary's University and Saint Mary's Art Gallery, Lord Nelson Hotel and Suites, Salter Street Films, Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Dalhousie University, King's College, Atlantic School of Theology, Air Nova, Canadian War Museum, Symphony Nova Scotia. The generosity of families and individuals within the Jewish community, both monetarily and through wise counsel and enthusiastic response, and the encouragement of friends and supporters without, has been of inestimable value to the Terezin Studio Project.

We are nearly in sight of our goals; won't you help put us over the top? Any revenues in excess of expenses will go the Family Services Fund or Holocaust Education Fund of the Atlantic Jewish Council.

For more information, please contact The Terezin Studio Project, (902) 496-8220, or visit our website at www.terezinstudio.org or write to us at 1096 Queen Street, Suite 200, Halifax, NS, B3H 2R9. Donors to the project will receive a tax receipt from the AJC.

**Jewish National Fund
announces
The 1998 Negev Dinner
in tribute to**



The Hon. Senator Erminie Joy Cohen
&
**The New Brunswick Forest Project
in the Negev Desert, Israel**

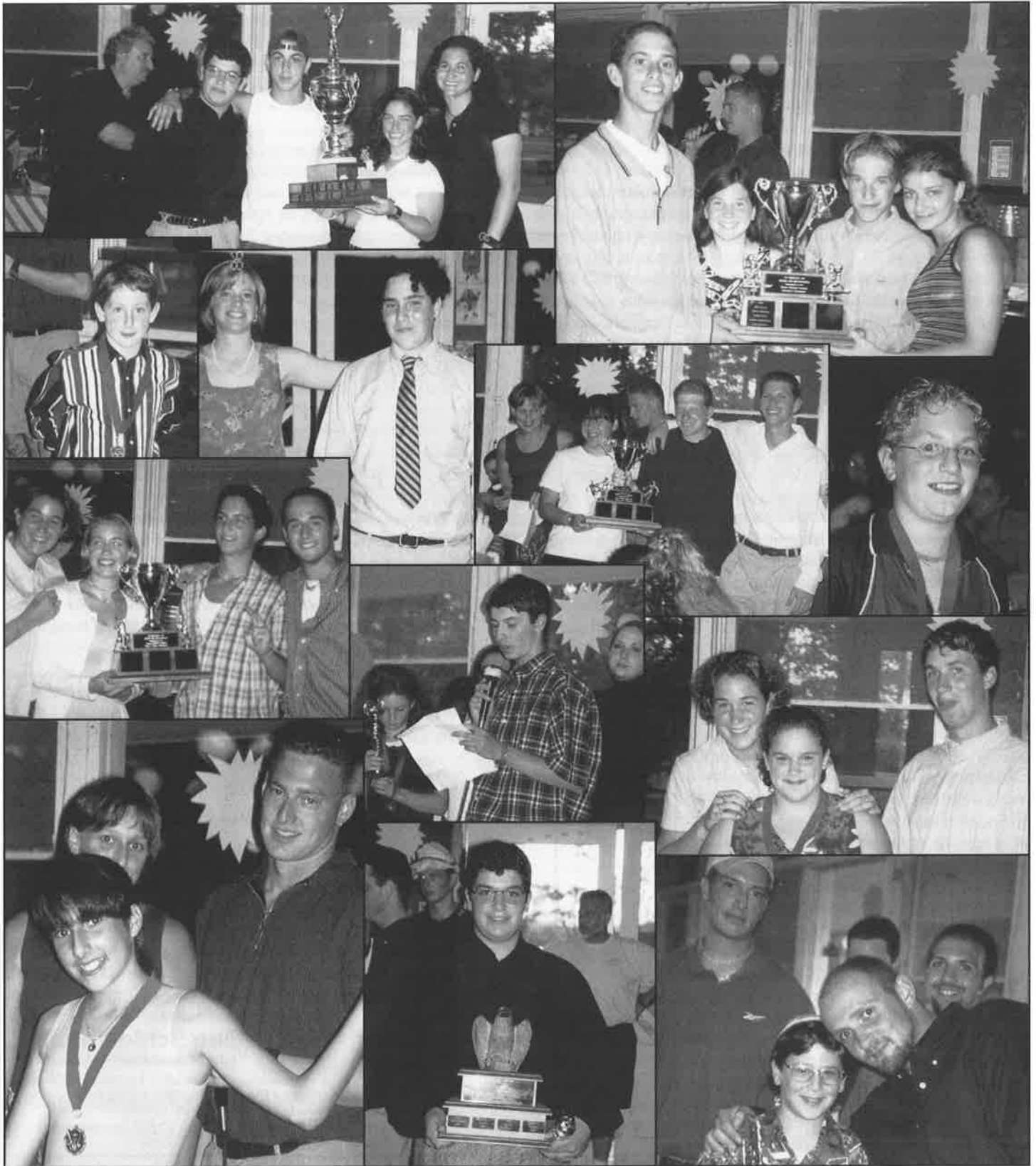


**Sunday, October 25, 1998
Saint John Trade &
Convention Centre
Market Square, Saint John**

**Renowned Canadian
Journalist
Joe Schlesinger
Guest Speaker**

Join us as we honour Senator Cohen by creating the New Brunswick Forest. Erminie's lifetime commitment to New Brunswick, Canada and Israel speaks for itself. For information, Dinner tickets or to purchase trees: write to P.O. Box 22018 Landsdowne Post Office, Saint John, NB E2K 4T7, or tel: (506) 657-7160

MEMORIES OF KADIWAH BANQUET NIGHT '98



DATELINE HALIFAX

Mazel Tov to: **Jonathan Ross** and **Renee Gersovitz** on their recent engagement; wedding is to take place August 29, 1999. Jonathan is the son of **Sharron & Norman Ross** and Renee is the daughter of **Sharon & Ben Gersovitz**; ...**Jason McIvor** on his recent engagement. Jason is the son of **Tamara & Paul McIvor**; ...**Allan & Lisa Garman** on the forthcoming marriage of their son **Jeremy** to **Susan**, daughter of **Arthur & Melody Baker**; ...**Gerald & Ethel Stein** on the marriage of their son **Mark** to **Holly Myers** on April 18, 1998; ...**Mark Offman** and **Cindy Offman** on the marriage of their daughter **Robin** to **Tony Wile**; ...**Ralph & Ruth Garson** on the recent marriage of their daughter **Andrea** to **Walter MacKinnon**.

Mazel Tov: to **Leon & Zelda Zelikovitz** on the birth of their grandson **Noah** born to **Evan & Lenora Zelikovitz** in Ottawa, another great-grandson for **Lil Borshy**; ...to **Shirley Burnstein** on the birth of a grandson, **Isaac Mendel Elliot**, born to **Bill & Milo Chernin** in Maine; to **Sheri & Bernie Myer** on the birth of their son, **David Joseph**; proud grandparents are **Joyce & Mort Gordon**; ...to **Dr. George & Sandy Kovacs** on the birth of their son, **Arron Leslie**.

Mazel Tov to the following Bar/Bat Mitzvahs: **Jodi Webber** daughter of **Jeff & Mimi Webber** of Denver, Colorado, and granddaughter of **Rena & Arnold Webber**; **Adam Osborne**, son of **Debbie & Mark Osborne**.

Congratulations to **Anna Kassner** and **Shira Webber** from the Bilingual program at St. Pat's High School. **Shira** is the daughter to **Hank & Bonnie Webber**, the granddaughter of **Shoshana Katz** and **Helen Webber Ziderman** and is attending Dalhousie University. **Anna** is the daughter of **Richard & Charmaine Kassner**.

Congratulations to our University Graduates: **David Berkovits** son of **Cantor Eddie & Rosalyn Berkovits** and grandson of **Rena & Arnold Webber**, who graduated from Ohio State University in Columbus Ohio with a degree in communications.

Condolences to the family of **Ida Zifkin**; ...to **Myrna Rubin** and family on the death of her father, **Sol Steinberg**; ...to **Juliet Haugel** and daughter, **Catherine**, on the passing of **Emil Haugel**.

Special Birthday Greetings to **Flo Kirsh**; **Ralph Garson** on his 70th; **Ray Caplan** on his 70th; **Carol Ann Silverman** on her 60th, **Leonard Fineberg** on his 75th; **Lil Borshy** on her 90th; and **Nordeau Goodman** on his 80th.

A TRIBUTE TO DOROTHY MARK

Remarks by Hedda Medjuck, at the unveiling

Dear Friends,

We are gathered today to pay respect to a woman, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend.

She was small in stature, but giant sized in strength. She shared her love and gifts with us, especially her recipes. Her most significant recipe was that of a decent human being, respect and humility. If we utilize that message, we will have learned well! She would be proud.

Summer was Mom's favourite time. She loved the country and loved to have people drop by. The door was always open for tea and cake.

Each person here today is in some way connected. On behalf of myself and family, we want to thank all of you who, in one way or another, were there for Mom in the latter years when she needed some help, though she never wanted to ask. Her physical strength may have dissipated, but her determination of mind persisted til life was beyond her control. She loved to put on a happy face, dress up and participate in whatever was happening. She was a positive role model for all, while still a human being. Our respect and love for Mama Dorothy has brought us together today.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

Regarding the Jewish War Veterans issue in Moncton, for sometime now, there has been confusion in Moncton regarding the Canadian Jewish War Veterans.

A former member of the Canadian Jewish War Veterans, Mr. Maurice Jake, has left the organization and established his own unit, which is called Moncton Jewish War Veterans.

One of his aims has been to create a memorial plaque in our synagogue containing the names of the Jewish War Veterans from the Maritimes, which has been done.

However, Mr. Jake still insists he is a member of the Canadian Jewish War Veterans, which he most definitely is not.

This creates confusion with the local Royal Canadian Legion branch, and within the local Jewish community it serves. The writer is the local representative of the Canadian Jewish War Veterans in Moncton, and as such, took part in the Moncton Armistice Day services which was held in the Moncton Coliseum on November 11th, laid the Star of David wreath and said the benediction, as our congregation is without a Rabbi at present.

Yours very truly,
Mendel Greenblatt
Moncton, NB

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E-mail: Jean.Sloan@Dal.Ca



We're the people



who helped the girl



find the hope



to begin a new life in Israel.

After 18 years of being an outsider, Marta contacted our Israel Program Centre at the Atlantic Jewish Council. Within days we made the connection that would lead her to a new life in Israel - to educational opportunities, Hebrew-language classes and the support of a network of professionals and volunteers. Marta made the connection to a community that supports the weak, feeds the hungry and nourishes the spirits of Jews at home, in Israel and in 60 countries around the world.



Be part of this community. Be a part of UJA Campaign '98. Make the connection.

