

Shalom

CONNECTING THE ATLANTIC JEWISH COMMUNITY



WINTER 2019

AJC President
Michael Argand Retires
15th Annual Holocaust
Education Week
St. John's Sign Discovery
Evokes Memories



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Atlantic Jewish Film Festival

AN ATLANTIC JEWISH COUNCIL PRODUCTION

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COVER ART BY: MAXWELL SMART "POWER AND VICTORY" 50" x 118"

To me, "Power and Victory" depicts my past and my future. My past in hiding in the forest and hearing the sounds of guns, stained with innocent blood that bears witness to man's inhumanity to man and at the same time it depicts my strength, my will and power by surviving.—Maxwell Smart, Painted in 1972.

FEATURES

- 8 15th Annual Holocaust Education Week
- 10 The Canadian Jewish Experience, A Celebration of Canada
- 16 St. John's Sign Discovery Evokes Memories
- 18 Glace Bay Torahs Find New Home In Toronto
- 20 My Sar-El Experience
- 22 Michael Argand AJC President Retires After An Extended Tenure
- 24 AJC Biennial Meeting In Halifax
- 25 Book Review: Double Threat: Canadian Jews, The Military, And World War II
- 27 Bedford Bat Mitzvah Girl Shows Initiative & Heart

Scholarship Information
on pages 5 and 43

IN EVERY ISSUE

- 4 President's message: Marilyn Kaufman
- 5 From the desk of Naomi Rosenfeld, Executive Director
- 7 From the desk of Edna LeVine, Director of Community Engagement
- 11 The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA) Report
- 13 Campus News
- 15 Camp Kadimah News
- 39 Rabbis Corner

AROUND OUR REGION

- 28 Halifax: The fifth year of the AJFF
- 29 Halifax: Spencer House Christmas Dinner
- 31 Fredericton
- 32 Moncton
- 33 Prince Edward Island
- 34 Saint John
- 36 Cape Breton
- 37 Newfoundland

NOTE TO OUR READERS

Our Atlantic Jewish community is losing more and more members as the years go on. In the past, Shalom has printed stories of regional community members who have passed away. While we try to acknowledge the major contributions of many of our late friends and family members, we request that you inform Shalom of passings of which we may be unaware so we may recognize these individuals. Shalom's editorial staff reserves the right to determine the length of memorial pieces to be printed in the magazine.

Written articles are the opinion of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the AJC.



From The Desk Of **MARILYN KAUFMAN**

President of the Atlantic Jewish Council

SHALOM FRIENDS

Old man winter struck early this year, and instead of the warm autumn season meteorologists predicted, we hunkered down in our homes with shovels, warm coat, hat, boots and gloves at the ready. In no way did this impede planned events around the Atlantic Region.

Following on the heels of the Yom Tevim in September and early October, Saint John held their Jewish Film Festival. Later, a variety of programs were held in November across the region, for Holocaust Education Week. One featured Dr. Robert Katz, Professor of Art at the University of Maine, Augusta, who travelled to Fredericton, Moncton, and Halifax to present his film and lecture entitled, *"Were the House Still Standing"*. His audio—visual presentation is a testimony of Holocaust survivors from Maine and their rescuers. Dr. Katz, who has made presentations as far away as China, was very well received.

I see our Atlantic Canadian Jewish community moving forward to meet the needs of a diverse Jewish community. We have to be proactive and innovative to retain our Jewish identity in the midst of shrinking populations, the rise of antisemitism and an ever changing world whose moral compass, at times, appear suspect.

Then, on Saturday morning, November 9th, news hit the airwaves of the murder of eleven Jewish congregants while attending Shabbat services at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh. I saw it only after I had returned home from my own Synagogue services in Fredericton. This heinous crime sent shock waves through Jewish communities around the world. We struggled to understand why this happened as we mourned in solidarity with the families and friends of the victims. Both religious and lay leaders of our communities fielded media

calls, phone calls and e-mails from numerous interfaith groups offering condolences and solidarity, to stand with us and the people of Pittsburgh during this difficult time. I, myself, sent an open letter of thanks to the Mayor, City Council, and people of Fredericton for their outpouring of support. We held evening vigils across our region to honour the memories of those who were murdered... just because they were Jews.

This tragic event was a catalyst to expediting security assessments in a number of our Jewish communities across the country... Synagogues, Jewish day schools and Jewish youth centres... where there is currently visibility of law enforcement on some premises. I have met with the RCMP and arranged contact with other New Brunswick communities. Ryan Hartman, of CIJA has been requested to come to the NB communities. Each community should have a prepared team ready to deal with any

emergencies should they arise. These events are a reminder that we must remain vigilant because we are not immune to evil acts of violence.

The Atlantic Jewish Council's Biennial, held in Halifax the week-end of November 16th, kicked off with

Friday evening Shabbat services followed by a delicious Shabbat dinner at the Beth Israel Synagogue (Thank you Sybil Shore and crew). The heavy rain was no deterrent to the large crowd who came out to take part in the evening. Michael Argand was recognized for the work he has done as AJC president for the past six years. On Saturday morning my husband and I attended the Shabbat service at the Shaar Shalom and a lovely kiddush which followed. The Jewish Film Festival Gala was held at Pier 21 in the evening which was well attended. The Sunday morning

biennial discussion groups and business session were followed by a working brunch with guest speaker Nikki Holland, new CEO of JFC—UIA. And lastly, I was welcomed to the podium as the incoming AJC President. I want to thank Rabbis Kerzner and Weiss and the Halifax community for their warm welcome. Thank you to Naomi Rosenfeld, Edna LeVine and the office staff as well as the numerous volunteers who made the successful weekend.


Many of our communities have just celebrated Chanukah—"Nes Gadol Haya Sham, A Great Miracle Happened There"—the story of the military victory of the Maccabees which has over many years evolved into a celebration of family. Perhaps, because as a child, I grew up with an Israel who at the same time was also growing into nationhood, both of us shared and continue to share the strong bond of Yiddushkeit and that sense of belonging.

"As long as we all pull together..."

I see our Atlantic Canadian Jewish community, which encompasses Newfoundland—Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, moving forward to meet the needs of a diverse Jewish community. We have to be proactive and innovative to retain our Jewish identity in the midst of shrinking populations, the rise of antisemitism and an ever changing world whose moral compass, at times, appear suspect.

We Jews of Atlantic Canada have a rich history, and have contributed much in weaving the mosaic fabric of the greater interfaith communities of which we are a part. And we Jews of Atlantic Canada have a strong voice which must be used wisely to build lasting partnerships and bridges with those of the larger community.

I appreciate the well wishes and offers of assistance and look forward to working with you all.

Chag Sameach! Tu B'shevat is just around the corner. 



From The Desk Of NAOMI ROSENFELD

Executive Director

SAYING GOODBYE TO 20-“CHAI”

On Rosh HaShannah in September, I spoke from the *bima* of several synagogues in our region announcing the theme of our 2018 UJA Campaign: “*L’chaim*” (*to life!*)

Why this theme? Well, in addition to it being a well-timed pun (this was the 2018 UJA campaign after all, and the number 18 literally spells out the word *chai* (life) in Hebrew letters), I have always been drawn to the significance that Judaism places on life—not just affluent life or prosperous life, but life in and of itself. Little did I realize in September how strongly these words would resonate in the wake of the Pittsburgh tragedy later this fall.

In Deuteronomy 30:19, G-d tells the people of Israel, “I set before you life and death, therefore choose life”, and choose life we did. We created a system of Jewish law that values *pekuach nefesh*, the preservation of human life, over virtually any other religious or legal consideration. We toast *L’chaim*, to life. We wear the word *chai*, life, around our necks. When celebrating simchas, we give gifts and donations in increments of \$18 (the numerical interpretation of the word *chai*). We sometimes even name our sons and daughters *Chaya* or *Chayim*, literally naming them *life*.

But Judaism’s appreciation of life does not end at the life of individuals. In Judaism, we ascribe great value to the life of our community. That’s why for hundreds of years, the rallying cry of the Jewish people has not glorified our strength, our intelligence, or our superiority. Not at all. Instead, our motto is three words: *Am Yisrael Chai*. The Nation of Israel lives. These same three words can be heard over and over again in recordings of various points in Jewish history: from the liberation of Bergen-Belsen in 1945, to the rallies of the *Let My People Go Movement* in the 70’s, to Shabbat celebrations at Camp Kadimah today.

When I explain what my job is to people from bigger Jewish communities, I’m frequently asked a familiar question: *is there Jewish life in Atlantic Canada?*

My answer is always the same: while we may not have the larger, more obvious Jewish institutions that dot our sister communities—we don’t have JCCs, Jewish day schools, or kosher restaurants/butchers—we **do have Jewish life in Atlantic Canada.**

In the past four months alone, we had an Israeli *shalicha* here for two months providing Israeli and high holiday programming around the region. We had community BBQs,

multiple Jewish film screenings and festivals, high holiday celebrations, Chanukkah parties, young family programs, teen programs, young adult programs, and a regional biennial convention. Even during the hard times, such as the Pittsburgh tragedy, each of our Jewish communities came together to pay tribute to the victims in their own unique way. It may not be as obvious or as theatrical as some other places, but we undoubtedly have Jewish life in Atlantic Canada.

The main difference between Jewish life here vs. there? Here, Jewish life doesn’t happen without an intentional contribution from every single member of our community. That is why I want to express my sincerest gratitude to the more than 400 people who chose to make Jewish life in Atlantic Canada happen by contributing to our 2018 UJA campaign—more than half of which stepped up to our 20-chai challenge and chose to increase their gift from the year before. Thank you!

Happy (secular) new year to the entire community! Best wishes for a happy and healthy 2019! 🍀

The Abraham Leventhal Memorial Scholarships

The Atlantic Jewish Council invites applications for Abraham Leventhal Memorial Scholarships.

The award will normally be to a maximum of \$5000.00 for each application.

The biannual application deadlines are May 31st and November 30th. Applicants can apply once in any 12-month period.

Criteria for Application:

The applicant must be a resident of Atlantic Canada. For the purposes of this application, this means that the applicant must have resided continuously in an Atlantic Canadian province (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, or Newfoundland & Labrador) for at least one period of 24 consecutive months, not including any time spent enrolled as a full-time student at a post-secondary institution. “Full-time student” means that the applicant was enrolled in a post-secondary education program for at least 60% of the regular course load, or 40% if the applicant is disabled, including internships and practicums.

Applicants must be attending a post-secondary institution in the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Please note that the Halifax institution must be the institution from which the applicant expects to receive a degree/diploma.



January 27: International Holocaust Remembrance Day

In commemoration of International Holocaust Remembrance Day the Atlantic Jewish Council, the Canadian Museum of Immigration, and the University of King's College join the global screening event of the award winning film **Who Will Write Our History**, Director: Roberta Grossman, 2018, 94 minutes, USA, English, Polish, Yiddish, with English subtitles.



Halifax film screening:

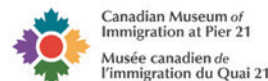
Date: Sunday, January 27

Time: 2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

Bronfman Theatre,
Canadian Museum
of Immigration at Pier 21
Halifax, NS

Who Will Write Our History explores the history of the Oyneg Shabes, a group of scholars, journalists and community leaders who worked in the Warsaw Ghetto to defeat Nazi propaganda “not with fists, but with pen and paper.” Through their brave actions, the group collected and preserved thousands of documents, burying them in three caches of metal boxes and milk cans. Two caches have been found, one in 1946 and another in 1950. Collectively they contained more than 35,000 pages ranging from works of art, photographs, execution announcements and hand-drawn maps of concentration camps. Today the collection, known as the Ringelblum Archive (named for the group’s leader) is housed at the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw, Poland.

Dr. Dorota Glowacka, Director of Contemporary Studies and Professor of Humanities at the University of King's College will introduce the film with a short presentation.





From The Desk Of **EDNA LEVINE** Director of Community Engagement

Increased community engagement continued to strengthen and expand our local participation in volunteer opportunities.

On Christmas Day twenty-three volunteers came out to Spencer House Seniors Centre to ensure for the 7th consecutive year seniors had a festive holiday celebration—with live music, caroling, friendly conversations, door-to-door transportation, deliveries, cooking, and serving up a delicious Christmas lunch.

Volunteer engagement initiatives continue this winter with support to “Out of the Cold”, a Halifax community-based organization which provides shelter, meals, support, and a community drop-in space for people who are homeless or precariously housed during the winter months. This seasonal shelter opened its doors in early December with an immediate need for hot meals. Following up on our partnership last winter with the local Shambhala community, we once again came together to provide two hot meals for the shelter prior to the Christmas holiday.

Spencer House Seniors Centre renewed their offer of the use of their commercial kitchen for us to prepare meals, and the Shaar Shalom’s Tikkun Olam committee has planned a cooking session to deliver hot meals to “Out of the Cold”. There are many opportunities for community members to participate, the shelter requires bagged lunches and snacks on a daily basis, please contact me: elevine@theajc.ns.ca if you are interested in participating.

The 15th annual Holocaust Education Week (HEW) presented programs to challenge, awaken, and encourage conversation. Dr. Dorota Glowacka, University of King’s College, opened HEW with guest speaker Dr Warren Rosenblum, Webster University, St. Louis, whose presentation on the Nazi euthanasia program sparked thought-provoking conversations.

HEW continued with a brilliant storyteller and a unique film on Holocaust survivors and liberators, woven together and artistically

delivered by Robert Katz, University of Maine, Augusta, who fascinated and educated listeners with his narratives.

HEW concluded with two presentations by Holocaust survivor and artist Maxwell Smart, author of *Chaos to Canvas*, in conversation with Elin Beaumont from The Azrieli Foundation. Smart captivated audiences with his emotionally charged stories from his frightening seven year journey of survival and eventual freedom to Canada. Over 400 students attended his morning presentation and as a remembrance Maxwell Smart gifted to each student a signed and numbered print of his painting ‘Power and Victory’ (on this issue’s cover). His optimism for the future resonated with students and they flocked around him after his presentation eager to ask personal questions and be close to him, his presentation was truly memorable.

This year during HEW a partnership with the Montreal Holocaust Museum enabled a workshop to be presented at the NS Social Studies Association’s annual conference, offering educators the opportunity to discover a range of Holocaust resources specifically adapted to the NS curriculum.

Community partners and support for HEW programming included The Azrieli Foundation, Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21, University of King’s College, Halifax Central Library and Hillel Atlantic.

In recognition of International Holocaust Remembrance Day, January 27, the Atlantic Jewish Council is participating in the global presentation of the film ‘Who Will Write Our History’. The main event will be live-streamed by the filmmaker, Roberta Grossman, from the UNESCO Headquarter in Paris, France. Details on the live-streaming will be provided to our communities in Atlantic Canada prior to the event.

In 2017-18 I worked with Tova Lynch, Ottawa, project leader for the Canadian Jewish Experience (CJE) exhibit and we successfully organized an Atlantic Canadian

CJE exhibit tour. To commemorate this exhibit, in the fall, Tova launched a book detailing the contributions of Jewish communities across Canada, celebrating Canada from the viewpoint of the country’s Jewish communities. “The Canadian Jewish Experience: A Celebration of Canada” is available for purchase online at Indigo-Chapters. The AJC owns a copy of the exhibit, most recently it was on display at the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 during HEW, please contact me if you are interested in displaying this exhibit in your community.

The 5th Atlantic Jewish Film Festival (AJFF) screened international award-winning films for four days and attracted new partnerships and attendees. A big thank you to the many community volunteers who contributed their time to ensure a successful festival, the AJFF relies on their efforts and commitment. I was grateful to work with and I extend my sincere appreciation and thanks to returning chair Lynn Rotin, and the organizing committee, Philip Belitsky, Rosalind Belitsky, Jon Goldberg, Anna Hazankin, Linda Law, Alex Rudcovski, Jordan Schelew, and Peggy Walt, who worked throughout the year to bring together the festival, ensure filmgoers an engaging line-up of films, relevant programming, and a special milestone gala party.

The AJFF aims to host a few special film screenings throughout the year. The first event was held this winter at the Shaar Shalom Synagogue with filmmaker Dr. Larry Gaum. He presented his film “Jewish Song Writers and the Evolution of American Music”, an exciting documentary. Co-sponsors for the evening included Linda Law and the Shaar Shalom Synagogue. Plans are underway for another singular screening, tentatively scheduled for early this spring, details to be announced soon.

The 6th AJFF opens November 21—please save the date and join us in Halifax for another exciting festival weekend! 🍷

15th Annual Holocaust Education Week

The 15th annual Holocaust Education Week programs are made possible in part by a generous grant from The Azrieli Foundation.



The opening HEW program 'Merely Human: Constructions of Feeble Mindedness and the Origins of the Nazi Euthanasia Program,' was held at the Halifax Central Library, Paul O'Regan Hall, with guest speaker: Dr. Warren Rosenblum. Long before the Nazi seizure of power, German reformers established almost 100 asylums for the "feeble-minded." This presentation explored the relationship between the progressives' "work of salvation" and the mass murder of persons with intellectual disabilities under the Nazis. A lively discussion followed the presentation, as well as a reception hosted by Hillel Atlantic.

Dr. Warren Rosenblum is professor of history and chair of the History, Politics, and International Relations Department at Webster University in St. Louis. He is the author of *Beyond the Prison Gates: Punishment and Welfare in Germany, 1850-1933*, which won the Baker-Burton Prize of the Southern Historical Association. He has also published essays on the history of disability, eugenics and euthanasia, and antisemitism in modern Europe.

The introduction to HEW was delivered by Dr. Dorota Glowacka, Professor of Humanities and Director of the Contemporary Studies Programme at the University of King's College.

This program was presented in partnership with the University of King's College and Halifax Central Library.



Edna LeVine, AJC Director of Community Engagement with Cornelia Strickler, Head of Education, Montreal Holocaust Museum, at the Nova Scotia Social Studies Teachers Association Annual Conference. They hosted a table with Holocaust resources for educators, as well *Holocaust Education Beyond the Museum* workshop was presented by Cornelia to teachers with information on pedagogical activities adapted for the Nova Scotia school curriculum. These tools include *Hana's Suitcase*, *The Heart from Auschwitz*, *17 Letters: For the Last Time and Forever*, and *Exploring the Evidence: The Holocaust, Cambodian Genocide, and Canadian Intervention*. The AJC is working to bring one on the Museum's exhibits to Halifax, the Museum's exhibit Cambodian Genocide was displayed in Sydney in November.



Maxwell and Tina Smart, seated, pictured with the cast of *KAMP*, the fully staged musical by local artists GaRRy Williams and Jamie Bradley, and produced by Eastern Front Theatre's Sam Rosenthal to rave reviews. Maxwell Smart marveled at the play's set design and how the musical captured the atmosphere and depicted a tragic time in our history—educating with humour and music. *KAMP*, inspired by historical truth, tells the story of a group of homosexual men who, convicted under Paragraph 175, are forced to wear the pink triangle and are interred in the isolation barracks of a Nazi concentration camp. A dramatic reading of *KAMP* was presented during HEW 2017. Mazel Tov, and thank you, to all the artists who participated in the process to bring this show to its first full production.



For more information visit www.HolocaustEducation.ca

Holocaust Education Week: Programs at the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21

BY ALEXANDRA CHERRY, PUBLIC PROGRAMS COORDINATOR, CANADIAN MUSEUM OF IMMIGRATION AT PIER 21, HALIFAX, NS

It has been an honour for the Museum to host programs for Holocaust Education Week (HEW) for the past decade in partnership with the Atlantic Jewish Council. HEW is a time to reflect and renew our commitment to remembering the difficult histories that we also share. This past HEW, the Atlantic Jewish Council invited two talented and thoughtful speakers to engage with the public on the topic of remembering and honouring stories about the Holocaust.

“WERE THE HOUSE STILL STANDING” a film and talk by Dr. Robert Katz, Professor of Art, University of Maine, Augusta.

Attendees were enraptured by Dr. Katz’s personal story of searching for own his family’s history, and of how he began with limited knowledge and contributors who preferred to look to the future and not speak of the painful past. Despite his family’s reluctance to share, Dr. Katz remained curious. When working with an Indigenous community in the United States, he was asked, “Where are your people from?” Not knowing the answer only made him even more determined to uncover the part of the story that his grandfather refused to speak about. His grandfather’s story was to be just one of the pieces of the puzzle of his history; others were a pile of old envelopes, innumerable letters, and finally, a surprise email from someone who was searching just like was. Dr. Katz learned that his grandfather had been Polish and discovered the name of the city he had been forced to leave. The act of return and confronting our past can be a trauma, but Dr. Katz approached it from the perspectives of both an academic discovery and an emotional opening. Now, finally able to know what had been left behind, he was inspired to co-create the film “Were the House Still Standing: Maine Survivors and Liberators Remember the Holocaust”.

Dr. Katz’s story was a reminder that

loss of identity is not only something felt by Holocaust survivors but also their descendants: The present generations who are searching for their families, and trying to imagine where they might have been had they not been separated by death and war.

“CHAOS TO CANVAS” Holocaust survivor Maxwell Smart.

The incomparable Maxwell Smart, now 88 years old, exudes such warmth and joy that it is difficult to envision him as a man who lost his entire family in the Holocaust and escaped the Nazis by hiding alone in the woods of Eastern Europe. His story emerged through a conversation with Elin Beaumont, the Outreach and Communications Manager from the Azrieli Foundation. His candid answers, and his paintings and drawings projected behind them, created an intimacy felt by each of the more than 400 participants. It was like listening to a close conversation between friends, during which Mr. Smart emphasized how his art had been integral to his survival. Mr. Smart described how he “painted every day in my mind”—which lead a practiced vividness to the images he created depicting his life during the war. The crowd left feeling inspired and impressed.

Mr. Smart’s story of a childhood taken away by war is at its core a testimony of survival through his own efforts, with the kindness of others and by chance. It was a message of inspiring change and bringing an end to persecution and hate. As he recounted his memories, he spoke with kindness and candor and his words brought as many laughs as tears from the crowd.

A particularly special moment was seeing Mr. Smart’s enthusiasm about speaking for the daytime school program. Over 400 students from around the province flocked to the Museum to hear his presentation, and Mr. Smart referred to the young people as “my future teachers, my future lawyers,

law-makers, my future doctors.” For him, each young person is capable of making positive change in the world. The students were entranced by his presentation, and many lined up afterwards to meet him, to say thank-you and ask thoughtful questions.

Mr. Smart came to Halifax not only to share his story, but also to revisit his past. He arrived in Canada via Pier 21 in 1948 as one of the 1,123 Jewish orphans who came to this country as part of the War Orphans Project. Retracing his point of arrival brought up vivid memories of the excitement and apprehension he felt throughout his journey to Halifax, and then onwards to Montreal to start his new life.

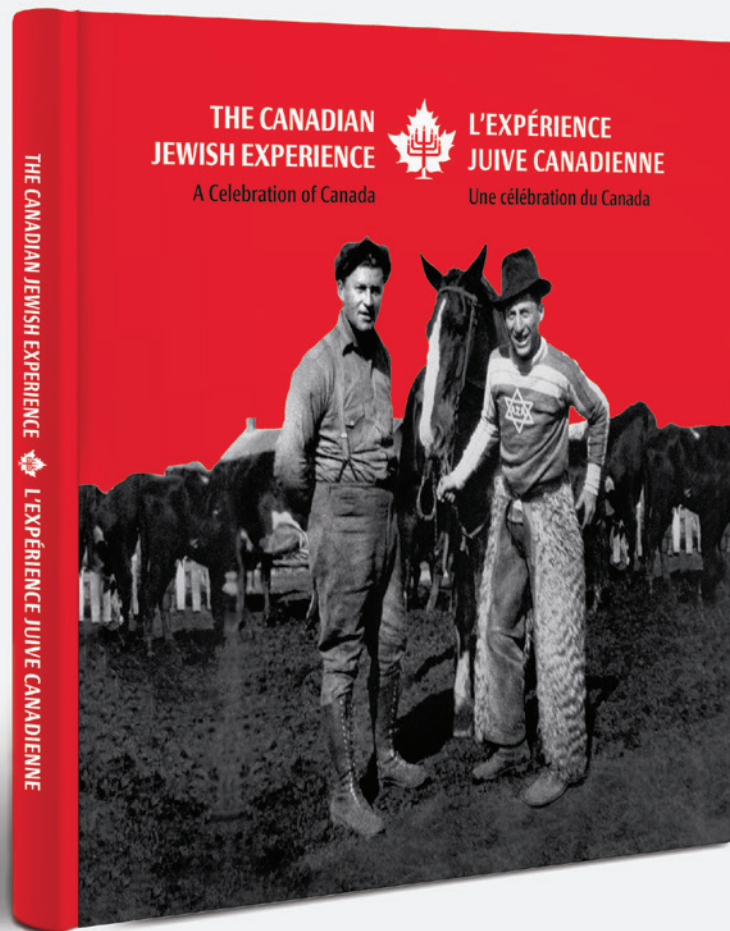
HEW programs coincided with the Tree of Life Synagogue shooting in Pittsburgh, and many people attended to show support and contribute to a more positive and inclusive future. Along with Mr. Smart’s presentations at the Museum he was able to speak with several local media organizations about the mass shooting and share his knowledge, personal story, and message far and wide. 5



PHOTOS: (1) Robert Katz with Alexandra Cherry, left, and Danielle Noble, Pier 21 Acting Public Programs Coordinator. (2) Tina and Maxwell Smart, Elin Beaumont.

“ THE CANADIAN JEWISH EXPERIENCE L'EXPÉRIENCE JUIVE CANADIENNE

The book will be available for purchase at Indigo online: chapters.indigo.ca



The book, **The Canadian Jewish Experience, A Celebration of Canada (CJE)**, is a work of love. It was created as the culminating event of the small group of dedicated volunteers who created the CJE. We hope that this book will be an enduring memory of how the CJE told during Canada's sesquicentennial the story of the contributions of Canadian Jews to the building of this great country.

By publishing this book we hope future generations of Canadians will have permanent access to not only the text and images of the fifteen panels that comprised the CJE but also a taste of the various events which comprised the CJE's Canadian journey.



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FOLLOWING YET ANOTHER ANTISEMITIC ATTACK:

Grief, Resilience, and Hope

BY COLLEEN DECKER, MANAGER OF STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS, CENTRE FOR ISRAEL AND JEWISH AFFAIRS (CIJA)



Eighty years ago, on the evening of November 9, 1938, Nazis ransacked Jewish homes, shattered the storefronts of Jewish-owned businesses, and destroyed synagogues across Germany in a deadly attack against European Jews that marked the beginning of history's darkest chapter: the Holocaust.

Years ago, I stood in a cold, dark museum in the middle of Washington DC and took it all in. Filled with sudden profound grief, and with tears streaming, I finally began to understand the horror that had begun that dreadful November night. And, I will never forget it.

Standing in the United States Holocaust Museum, surrounded by monuments and archives that depict the greatest moments in American history, I was struck by the realization that, although the atrocities of the Holocaust had not occurred in the U.S., there they were on full display in the heart of the U.S. capital. After working in the Jewish community for over a decade, I understand why. And, as witnesses to the deadliest antisemitic attack in U.S. history, the Pittsburgh synagogue shooting, I hope the rest of the world understands too.

Antisemitism is a big deal. Not because it's discriminatory or offensive, although

it's certainly both. Not even because it is built on belief in absurdities and outright lies. No, antisemitism is a big deal—with consequences far beyond the Jewish community—because antisemitism can become lethal.

We've seen it time and time again—in Buenos Aires in 1994, in Mumbai in 2008, in Paris in 2015, and now in Pittsburgh in 2018.

The world's oldest hatred is on the rise globally, and that should give us pause. We are not immune in this beautiful country. In fact, according to Stats Canada, the Jewish community remains the most-targeted religious minority in the country.

So, what's the solution?

First, whether it's halfway around the world, just south of the border, or right here at home, we cannot allow antisemitism to permeate to the mainstream. That is why CIJA is advocating for a national policy for online hate that includes the adoption of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA)'s working definition of antisemitism.


And, second, we must take security seriously. We are fortunate to have politicians who speak out strongly against these hateful acts and brave law enforcement officers who willingly put their lives on the line, sometimes paying the ultimate price, to protect us. But that's not enough. We must do more.

Eleven innocent people died in the Tree of Life Synagogue shooting. That's far too many, and yet that number could have been much higher. Though no amount of training can possibly guarantee safety during horrendous attacks, like the one in Pittsburgh, by preparing ourselves we can

mitigate some of the damage and save some lives, and that's something. This is why CIJA has a National Community Security Program (NCSP) that provides dedicated, responsive, and sustained security support and offers free training to educate community members about how to detect and prevent threats and how to manage crisis response.

I took a lot away from my visit to Washington all those years ago, but nothing stood out to me more than the inspirational strength and resilience of the Jewish community. Though previously afflicted in ways so horrible that most people—before seeing it with their own eyes, as I did that day—simply cannot imagine it, the community thrives today in countries all around the world. It is remarkable.

I was reminded of that resilience again after this attack, as I witnessed thousands of community members unite in towns and cities across the country—including Halifax, Fredericton, Saint John, Charlottetown, and St. John's—to remember the victims and their families, to mourn the senseless loss of life—and to sing.

As the many voices in the crowd rang out together as one, singing *Oseh Shalom Bimromav*, hope woke within me. Closing my eyes, I could hear a still small voice within me. The same voice I first heard in Washington. The one I know was heard by everyone in the crowd. It was crying out, "Never Again." 

We have an exciting announcement to make...

WE'RE EXPANDING AGAIN!

After expanding the PJ Library age limit to 8, PJ Our Way launched in Canada allowing kids ages 8.5-11 to enroll in the program. Each month, registered tweens will select their own book from a short list of options and it will arrive in the mail just like they're used to.

As part of the program, PJ Our Way participants can create book trailers, videos, quizzes, author interviews, and other media to communicate with peers about the books.



If you have, or know of a family that has any child at home age 8.5-11, they are eligible to enroll in PJ Our Way!

Please note, even if you have been previously enrolled in PJ Library, you will need to do a separate registration for PJ Our Way.

Contact: Lindsay Kerr, Director of Hillel
and Next Generation Engagement: lindsay@theajc.ns.ca

pjlibrary.org



CAMPUS NEWS

BY LINDSAY KERR, DIRECTOR OF HILLEL AND NEXT GENERATION ENGAGEMENT

Another fall semester has come and gone in what feels like the blink of an eye. Things have been very busy in and out of Halifax.

In the spring the AJC sold the house on Walnut Street which meant that Hillel would have a different home this year. We have been programming in the caretaker's apartment in the Beth Israel Synagogue. While it is certainly different than the house, it fits our needs, which are a kitchen and a space to gather. We have hosted a Rosh HaShanah welcome back dinner, a Yom Kippur break fast, and multiple Shabbat dinners in our space with menus ranging from traditional chicken and potatoes to Italian Shabbat. We have been continuing our efforts to become a recognized society at Saint Mary's University and will be ratified there this semester.

In September, David Levy, the Consul General of Israel (in Montreal) made his official visit to St. John's, Newfoundland so Hillel arranged for him to speak on campus in the evening. We had a great presentation and a lively discussion post program. I was fortunate to be able to go to St. John's for this program and have enough time to table on campus at Memorial University as well.

This semester I also went on an advocacy road trip with Jessica Burke; CIJA's Manager, Community Training and Campus Advocacy Liaison to LGBTQ2S+ Partnerships. In our time together, we visited and/or programmed at Dalhousie, St. Mary's, Acadia, UNB

Fredericton, and Mount Allison. Each time we visit campuses outside Halifax we strengthen our relationships with those universities and remind the Jewish students that we are here for them in whatever capacity the need.

PJ Library had a very exciting few months for two big reasons. First, we were approved for our major grant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation for the second time.

This grant is what allows us to expand the PJ programming beyond the books to your doors. Since August that has happened in the form of Rosh HaShanah Apple Picking, Rosh HaShanah family

cooking, our October Family Shabbat dinner (that so many people braved the pouring rain to attend), and once again, the home hosted Shabbat program which sees families gathering in each other's homes to celebrate Shabbat.

Second, is the big announcement that PJ Our Way officially launched in Canada! PJ Library serves kids until they are 8 years old and PJ Our Way builds off that, serving kids from 8½ until 12. Tweens are given much more autonomy in PJ Our Way as they log in to their account each month and select the book they'd like to receive. They can also participate in online discussions about their books. I am so excited that the older kids have the opportunity to continue reading as part of the PJ program.

The teens have been participating in JOLT programming again this year. They've done a variety of ice breakers and activities throughout their three leadership meetings. They have given their time and attention through service to four different causes this block. They were supporters at the Dalhousie Bladder Cancer Society walk in September, excellent canvassers for the AJC's UJA campaign in October, master purse fillers for Adsum for Women and Children in November, and spirited station leaders at the community Hanukkah party in December. I know that we will keep this momentum going in the second half of the school year!

Through the fall we have seen success hosting small (6-8 person) potluck Shabbat dinners for young adults in the community. The atmosphere is calm and casual making it the perfect match at the end of a long work or school week. We also send a young adult to the Moishe House Without Walls training seminar in Baltimore, Maryland which will result in more programming for young adults, from young adults. 5



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CAMP KADIMAH NEWS

BY SARAH ATKINS, DIRECTOR & MICHAEL PINK AND MICHAEL SOBERMAN, CO-CHAIRS



It is hard to follow a summer as successful and meaningful as this past one where we celebrated our 75th anniversary. But as many of us know from our iconic camp song, “Kadimah will be bigger and better, than ever it has been before!” To that end, we are very excited for this summer and are pleased to announce that Camp Kadimah 2019 is fully subscribed.

Our little camp in Nova Scotia has developed a reputation of being one of North America’s best Jewish summer camps and we are very proud of this accomplishment.

Our relationship and connection to Israel remains one of our hallmarks and to this end have been working closely the Foundation for Jewish Camp as part of the Cornerstone program and the iCenter for Israel Education’s Israel@camp initiatives. Shalom Orzach, a senior camping consultant who has worked with us over the past year observed the following about Camp Kadimah:

“I have had the privilege of working with, and consulting for Camp Kadimah to further enhance their accomplishments in the field of Israel education. From the outset I learned to admire how Israel lives in the very essence of the fabric and rhythm of camp Kadimah. It provides the portal through which campers and staff alike connect to their Jewish identity in a way that is proud and celebratory. The presence of Israelis, Hebrew, music, and thoughtful educational experiences enable campers to truly embrace the Israel story as their own story.”

We were pleased to be able to share this with many of you at the Atlantic Jewish Council Biennial session Sunday, November 18th. We enjoyed engaging with the community and sharing the successes and challenges of Camp Kadimah. As our partners, your voices have always been, and continue to be, vital for the continued success of Camp Kadimah. During that meeting, we shared the message that Camp Kadimah is committed to ensuring that

every single Atlantic Canadian member of our community who wishes to spend their summer at Camp Kadimah will be able to do so. Further, we are committed to providing financial assistance to any camper from Atlantic Canada who demonstrates the need for assistance. This has been one of the cornerstones of Camp Kadimah from the beginning and will remain an important pillar upon which camp is based.

Due to the overwhelming demand, we ask that all interested families apply by the application deadlines so that we can make the necessary accommodations. Camp registration opens each year on Visiting Day (This year it will be July 28th, 2019).

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the members of our volunteer Camp Committee who give so much of themselves and of their time to ensure the success of Camp Kadimah. We are truly blessed to be able to work with such a passionate and committed group of people. Members of the Camp Committee include: Rachel Budovitch, Michael Freedman, Leigh Lampert, Heidi Meirovitz, Julie Ruben-Rodney, Lynda Suissa, Louis Wolfson and Mike Yablon.

We look forward to seeing many of you on visiting day 2019 in Barss Corner and may Camp Kadimah and the community continue to go “From Strength to Strength”.

B'Shalom. 🌟



ST. JOHN'S SIGN DISCOVERY EVOKES MEMORIES

BY JOEL JACOBSON

“Anyone know who Lewis Ferman and Co. were?”

That tweeted question a couple of months ago began the rediscovery of a St. John's couple who came to Newfoundland from Poland in 1947, where they were Jewish resistance fighters who formed a community in the Belarusian woods during the Second World War.

Lewis Ferman and his wife Grunia Ferman met while both were living in the Naliboki Forest in current-day Belarus, with one of the organized camps of Jewish resistance fighters led by leader Tuvia Bielski, the basis for the film, *Defiance*. Those camps eventually became home to 1,200 Jews seeking refuge from the Nazi concentration camps.

But this story really begins in Newfoundland. Family members helped the Fermans arrive in Gander from a refugee camp in Rome. They had little money, a two-year-old daughter, Leah, minimal understanding of English but fluency in eight languages, and a desire to create a new life.

“My father bought a truck, had Lewis Ferman and Co. painted on the side, and travelled to small outposts on the island, selling his wares,” said son Alan Ferman, a Thornhill ON resident who spent his youth in Newfoundland. “In 1952, the year I was born, he opened his store on Water Street in St. John's”

Move ahead to October 2018. A crew refurbishing a Subway store on the old Ferman's site uncovered the iconic sign, Lewis Ferman and Co. It identified a retail men's women's, children's and dry goods operation that thrived for 36 years. When the store closed in 1988 so the Fermans could move to Toronto to be closer to their children and grandchildren, the sign was buried under the food chain's signage.

“Within hours,” said Alan Ferman, “CBC TV and radio were doing stories, talking to people about the old store and about my folks. Since then I've been in contact, through phone, e-mail, Facebook and Twitter, with hundreds of people who have fond memories of shopping there, doing business with my dad, stopping in for conversation with my mother, and being helped by them in so many ways.”

Lewis was a well-respected, admired man who was very involved in the St. John's Jewish community. He ran Shabbat services, read the Torah, led Kol Nidre services with his booming voice chanting the iconic melody that opens each Yom Kippur evening service.

He was among the first to do Holocaust memorial programs in North America, Alan recalled.

“First, he funded the program for a small Jewish community in the 1960s, organizing speakers and entertainment. It gained renown, and NL premier Joey Smallwood suggested my father publicize it to the general population.



“Smallwood attended and stressed people should never forget what happened (in the Holocaust). The program grew from there.”

Lewis Ferman placed family and Yiddishkeit first, Alan said. “Then came his business and the synagogue. He was all about people, building relationships and treating people right.”

Zack Rubin of Halifax remembers traveling to Newfoundland as a clothing representative for firms in Montreal and Toronto.

“The Fermans were welcoming people, very friendly. They invited me for Shabbat many times when I was in town. I enjoyed Lewis’ stories about how he worked with fishermen from other countries, helping them with translation.”

“Within hours,” said Alan Ferman, “CBC TV and radio were doing stories, talking to people about the old store and about my folks. Since then I've been in contact, through phone, e-mail, Facebook and Twitter, with hundreds of people who have fond memories of shopping there, doing business with my dad, stopping in for conversation with my mother, and being helped by them in so many ways.”

Shalom Auerbach, a Torontonion who lived his early years in St. John's before moving away, said Lewis Ferman's “interpreting job was his favorite, more than the store. He'd be called at all hours of the day or night to help a foreign seaman, particularly in health-related situations.”

Alan continues. “My dad had his own reserved parking spot at the hospital. He probably saved countless lives because he could tell doctors what the seamen were going through.

“My mother, too, with nine languages, would be an interpreter in all kinds of circumstances. She later received an honorary degree from Memorial University of Newfoundland for her community work.”

Auerbach remembers his father, also a survivor and great friends



with Lewis, stopping at Ferman's office at the downtown store. "It was a wonderful meeting place. Lewis was always so energetic, even as an older man. He was always warm to me as a kid. He loved to tell stories and I loved to hear them.

"He was a such a happy and positive man. His staff loved him and was very loyal. You could see they were like family to him, similar to a lot of Jewish businesses on Water Street."

Those are the recollections Alan Ferman is receiving from people all over the continent. He's received pictures of the old store, pictures of his parents, and is open to receiving more pictures and artefacts. He can be contacted via email at alan.ferman.biz.

The Lewis Ferman and Co. sign was torn apart when Subway refurbishing was taking place but is now being restored. It will be displayed next year, along with other mementos and artefacts in an exhibit of the Jews of Newfoundland-Labrador, being prepared at The Rooms Corporation of NL Government Museum in St. John's.

The sign will be a focal point. "It's an incredible, incredible story," said Dale Jarvis, folklorist and cultural heritage officer with the Heritage Foundation of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Jarvis was on Twitter when the tweet wondering about the sign's history was posted, and quickly took action to save it.

"A coworker and I literally ran from our office to Water Street," he



LEWIS AND GRUNIA FERMAN, 1986

told the CBC. "The sign was in pieces at that point. A construction worker was putting materials — sign pieces included — in a wheelbarrow and taking it to the dumpster. If we had been 10 minutes later, that would have been heading to the dump."

Claire Frankel-Salama, a very active member of the St. John's Jewish community for more than 30 years, remembered a party for Lewis Ferman's 80th birthday, held shortly before the couple moved to Toronto.

"Even when he was 80, if he shook your hand, your hand felt it for a little while afterwards," she said. "He was a very strong man in all ways. In his character, in his beliefs, physically."

Lewis passed away in 1989, his wife in 2004. Their daughter, Leah, died a year ago.

Alan has so many memories of his family, the store, the people who visited it.

"When they came to St. John's, they felt like Newfoundland was the greatest place in the world. and you know, people just really went out of their way to be kind and nice to them, and my parents gave it back in droves to people,"

"The store was like a melting pot. People from all over the Avalon (Peninsula) would come there and talk and my father used to say, 'Every one of the customers are really our friends.'" ³

ONE FAMILY MANY FACES



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GLACE BAY TORAHS FIND NEW HOME IN TORONTO

BY ARTHUR ZILBERT

EDITOR'S NOTE: BELOW IS AN EXCERPT OF THE SPEECH GIVEN BY ARTHUR ZILBERT DURING THE TORAH DEDICATION IN TORONTO.

My name is Arthur Zilbert and I grew up in Glace Bay.

The Congregation Sons of Israel Synagogue in Glace Bay came into being in 1901. At its peak it had 80 member families. There were also shuls in Sydney, New Waterford and Whitney Pier. Jews started to come to Cape Breton in the early 1890's as the economy was booming. The Glace Bay Jewish community was very vibrant when I was a child. Cape Breton in the early 20th century produced half of the coal mined in Canada. There was a large successful fishery and there was a steel plant in Sydney. Glace Bay until the 1960's was the largest town in Canada.

After World War I the Cape Breton economy began to decline and by the end of World War II the economics of Cape Breton became severe. The coal was very expensive to mine, the fish stocks disappeared, and the steel plant could not compete with cheaper competitors.

The Jews of Cape Breton were mostly merchants. There were a few doctors, lawyers and dentists but most had stores. In Glace Bay virtually all the grocery stores were owned by Jews as were the two movie theatres, so the community at large had a crisis every Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur when all those enterprises were closed.

The Jewish exodus from Glace Bay and the other Cape Breton communities started in the 1950's. When I was growing up our community was very tight knit. I suppose everyone knew everyone else's business but they also were willing to help each other. For every simcha in our town the women of the Jewish community worked with organized precision to cook, bake and plan every event. The post Bar mitzvah boys were all expected to lead services do haftorahs and to come to shul on Shabbat and holidays. We had an active Young Judea chapter and a Jewish Cubs group. As well many of the kids headed off to Camp Kadimah on the Nova Scotia mainland for the summer.

The Glace Bay community went from two full time rabbis to one rabbi then to a Bal Korah in the mid 1970's then to only lay people to lead the service. The late Dr. Phil Simon became the Torah Leiner. He had been trained in his youth by his teachers but did not lein they worked together to aide Phil to polish his latent ability. Phil worked diligently to perfect this skill such that when he retired to Toronto in 1989, he was able to lein regularly in the Beth Tikvah Shul.

As the community in Glace Bay shrank, they still had Shabbat services. There was a 90% turnout rate of those men that could

breathe and walk to attend shul. Ultimately the numbers diminished so that the shul could not be sustained. For several years there would be services for the high holy days only as there would be enough returnee relatives to make a minyan but with time this had to stop. For a number of years my late father was the chazan and Phil Simon did the leining with many others chipping in.

The Talmud Torah building with the social hall had been built in 1927 and was sold in 2000 and then ultimately the shul was sold in 2007 with both buildings being demolished so that there is only a vacant lot on Prince Street now.

In 2001 the residual Glace Bay community hosted a reunion known as a Kum a Haym. About 6 people organized an event for over 225 attendees. We had Friday night and Saturday services. There were photo exhibits and the savoy theatre was used to feed the crowds kosher meals and provided an entertainment venue.

The remnants of the Glace Bay community joined the only surviving synagogue in Cape Breton which was located in Sydney.

The Sydney shul struggles now to maintain itself. The remnants of the Glace Bay community had the last 2 Torahs from Glace Bay in storage at the Sydney shul. I was asked by Mark Chernin, the president of the Defunct Glace Bay Shul to arrange the sale of the Torahs with the proceeds to go into the perpetual care fund for the cemetery. The Torahs were delivered to my apartment in Toronto and I arranged the services of Rabbi Aaron Zacks to evaluate the Torahs, estimate the cost of repair and to give us a value for the Torahs. He did this very quickly. He indicated that the Torahs were likely written in Belarus and probably were 120 years old. Sadly, there was no one left to tell their story.

Ultimately, we had an online auction over 2 weeks and at the end the Simon family made the highest bid. This was something that pulled at the Simon family heart strings as Phil had leined from these Torahs so many times. All four Simon Boys leined their entire Torah Parsha at their bar mitzvahs. This would not be considered a big deal in Toronto but in a town with only an after hours cheder a couple of times a week and no firm educational model this was a great achievement.

Mark Simon approached Rabbi Elie about having the Forest Hill Jewish Centre take possession of one of the Torahs and the arrangements were expedited through his usual expertise.



1



2



3

PHOTOS: (1) Rabbi Karfunkle, Bruce Simon, Mark Simon (2) Arthur Zilbert (3) Matthew Simon, Aaron Simon, Bruce Simon, Mark Simon, Rabbi Zacks, Rabbi Karfunkle, Jordan Simon

We have in the Forest Hills Jewish members who are connected to Glace Bay. Those that I know of include Heather and Marty Goose, Murray Goldman, Matt Simmons, Jay and Toby Abramsky, Jackie and Norman Kahn, the Sables, the Simons and the Zilberts.

Ruth and Phil were very close to my parents and our family. We celebrate many simchas and many family tragedies. Phil gave the eulogy for both my parents. Phil and his son Alan Ala Va Shalom both passed from this life much too early, but the Simon family continues to do chesed and has been blessed with an expanding population of young ones who hopefully will carry on the good needs of their forebearers.

The Torah coming into this shul is donated in honour of the late Dr. Phil Simon and his wife Ruth who is with us today. It is also donated in honour of the late Dr. Allan Simon. There is a beautiful inscription on the new Torah cover to indicate this.

Phil worked 40 years as a dentist in Glace Bay and of course was our family dentist. He married Ruth who came to Glace Bay from her Native Ottawa. Ruth had gone to New York to work at the Canadian Consulate. It is a tribute to Phil that he was able to lure Ruth from downtrodden New York to the bright lights of Glace Bay. Ruth was involved in Hadassah, the ladies Aide group from the shul and worked in the locally famous Bazaars that were great fundraisers for the community. Ruth kept a kosher home and was a fantastic cook. I still salivate over memories of her spectacular chiffon cake.

They had 4 sons Gary, Allan, Bruce and Mark. The parsha this week talks of Joseph and his brothers. Ruth and Phil did not have 12 children like Jacob but unlike him they treated all their sons with equal love and consideration. Joseph showed loyalty to his brothers and his community. This loyalty is manifested in the Simon family to each other and to the Glace Bay community that has come here today.

Phil was president of the Glace Bay for 17 years. When the community lost its Rabbi and teachers Phil took it upon himself to teach the Bar mitzvah aged boys their haftorahs and helped them to learn how to daven. When I was in high school, he led a conversational Hebrew class for virtually all the high school students. He wanted to improve his Hebrew language skills and felt that this would be a good way to do it. He was involved in all the Jewish organizations like the UIA, JNF, and Boystown in Jerusalem. He also was involved in many secular community groups like rotary, masons, police boys club and restoring the savory theatre in Glace Bay. When Phil and Ruth moved to Toronto, they started a Toronto Cape Breton club.

Allan left Glace Bay to go to Dalhousie University in Halifax where he did undergraduate and dental degrees. He was an attendee of Camp Kadimah and other Zionist camps. He subsequently moved to Toronto to practice dentistry. He married Jackie Waldman. They had 5 children Aaron, Matthew, Dayna, Melanie and Nicole. Aaron gets the prize for the longest commute to shul coming from Israel for just this Shabbat emphasizing the family loyalty. Allan and Jackie were committed members of the Beth Tikvah Congregation.

Ruth and the Late Phil have 11 grandchildren and at this point 9 great grandchildren. I am sure his Neshamah is basking in the glow of his Torahs coming to a shul where his family has a presence. The fact that these Torahs have ended up in this welcoming shul in Toronto I think was part of some master plan. 🕊

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MY SAR-EL EXPERIENCE

BY ARNOLD CHIPPIN

Recently I had the pleasure of experiencing volunteering through Sar-El.

Some of you may know me from Camp Kadimah, the AJC or through the Maritime Community. Back in 1977, at the age of 21, I left Fredericton, NB for Israel. There I lived on kibbutz, served in the IDF (infantry) and did social work in a development town. In 1982 I returned to Fredericton married a wonderful woman and have 3 fantastic children.

Since 1982 I have visited Israel a number of times, usually once or twice per year and kept in contact with old and new friends. Unfortunately over the years I lost contact with all those who I served with. Most of you know me by the name on my Canadian Passport. On my Israeli Passport my first name is Avraham or Avi.

I was familiar with the Sar-El Program and always in the back of my mind, thought it would be an interesting experience. For those not familiar with the program, it basically involves doing volunteer work on an Israel Defence Forces Base. The program generally involves helping out with logistics and supply. Whether you are familiar with Israel or not it provides an interesting perspective that you don't get from the usual touring. Thousands of volunteers come to take part, but Sar-El has only a small staff in Israel and most of the processing and interviewing of applicants is done through volunteers.

As someone who is still working, it was a little more difficult for me to find the time between work and family to get away to Israel for a few weeks. A new group of volunteers starts approximately every 3 weeks and I registered for October, starting the Sunday after Simchat Torah. By chance it happened to be the same time as a large group of Canadians who have been volunteering together for years.

I arrived on Friday so that I could have a day or two to get over my jet lag before getting started. On Sunday morning I took the train to the airport to meet my group. They turned out to be mostly made up of retirees from Montreal who have been doing this together for years. Our group was made up of 27 people and although I didn't ask everyone their age, I would guess that the youngest was around 50 and went up in age from there to the early 90's. In case you didn't guess my age from the first paragraph of this article, at 63, I was probably one of the younger volunteers. Besides the Montreal group, there were some other Canadian, American, Dutch, French and German volunteers. I hope I didn't miss anybody.

Next we were bused to our base and were assigned two young female Lone Soldiers doing their military service. For anyone unfamiliar with the term, Lone Soldiers have no family in Israel. One of ours was from Spain and the other from France. Similarly during my draft service, almost 40 years ago, I was also a lone soldier.

Even though there were a number of couples in our group, our accommodations were divided into a men's and women's floor. My room-mate was from Germany. The accommodations were better than I expected. A common bathroom and showers down the hall, but

we had modern split unit heat pumps in each room and there was a lounge with a big flat screen TV and cable. We were given uniforms which as I remembered from my previous service, were not quite anyone's size.

Our base specialized in medical equipment and we were all assigned to civilian work managers. As many in my group had been to the base a number of times they had specific managers they wanted to work with. So I was a bit worried about the warehouse that I was sent, since none of the experienced volunteers asked to go there. My work partner from the volunteers was from Florida and although he looked younger, turned out to be about 5 years older than me. That still made us one of the younger work teams. Our manager who could pass for 50 turned out to be 65. As for the work itself, it was amazing—in my small warehouse, the three of us we were putting together a mobile field hospital.

Our manager was a great guy and was also in a band where he played violin and sang. He turned out to be better known than I expected. During one of our weekends off I was having supper with Israeli friends and when I showed them a Youtube video of my manager singing, one of them immediately knew who he was.

As for our work schedule, we got up early, had breakfast at 7:15, followed by the flag raising at 7:45 (when we were on time). After the flag raising we had a short walk to the warehouses and worked there until lunch at 12. Lunch was always excellent, lots of food, fresh salads and 3 choices for the main course including vegetarian. At 1pm we went back to work until 4pm. After work we had a couple of hours to rest, shower or clean up our accommodations, followed by supper at 6pm. From 7pm until about 8 we had an evening program provided by the 2 soldiers assigned to us. After that some watched TV, played bridge, or just socialized. By 9:30 things had pretty much quieted down for the night. Considering our group's age I was struck the excellent physical condition and mental acuity of the Sar El veterans. Obviously Sar El keeps you physically young and your mind sharp.

On Thursday we finished work at 11am, packed up, had lunch and were all taken by bus to Tel Aviv. Some of the volunteers chose to stay at an IDF hostel in Jaffa, which was free for Sar-El volunteers. I chose to take the train to Netanya where I was staying. We were off until Sunday morning when we all met up at the train station along with other groups from Sar-El assigned to different bases.

All in all it was a great experience and I can see why so many in our group come back year after year; some more than once per year. I would love to do it again. Our group was fantastic, and when I mentioned to one of my Israeli friends how nice they all were, their response was that it was only natural, because what other kind of person would come all that distance just to volunteer on an army base.

Any one who has volunteered knows that it can sometimes be a thankless job, but at Sar-El I learned a lot about medical equipment, made some new friends and I don't remember the last time I was




1980

thanked so much. Israel has had some great achievements over the years, but as anyone who is familiar with the country knows, it is not all a bed of roses, but Sar-El does show you some of the best when it comes to Israel.

Israel is known as one of the best in the world when it comes to responding to disasters, no matter in what part of the world they occur. The next time that Israel responds to a disaster somewhere in the world I will now have some knowledge of how their mobile hospitals are set up and might even be able to say that I worked on that particular hospital.



2018

I thought that perhaps our group may have given the two young soldiers a hard time as we were not always the most attentive or punctual. In spite of all that, they said they loved working with us and that the toughest groups to work with were the younger 19 and 20 year old Sar-El volunteers. So you don't have to be a senior or retired to volunteer for Sar-El. The program is not dependant on age and groups range from teens on up. It is open to all religions. 

If you want to know more about Sar-El look them up on the web: sarelcanda.org or you can contact me by email chippin@chippins.com.

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MICHAEL ARGAND AJC PRESIDENT RETIRES AFTER AN EXTENDED TENURE



EDITOR'S NOTE: BELOW IS PART OF A SPEECH MICHAEL ARGAND DELIVERED ON NOVEMBER 16 AT A SHABBAT DINNER, AT THE BETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE IN HALIFAX, IN HONOUR OF HIS RETIREMENT.

Thank you and I welcome everyone here especially considering this being our first Winter Storm.

A special warm welcome to our out of town guests Marilyn Kaufman, the incoming president, and her husband Seymour, Michael Soberman, the co-chair of Camp Kadimah, and Sarah Atkins, the Director of Camp Kadimah.

When I was approached by Howard Conter to take over the Presidency, I assumed it would be for two years. The two years begat four years and four begat six. Sounds like a passage from the bible, doesn't it? It has become an interesting challenging and rewarding time.

Thanks to my wife, Jo-Anne, for a multitude of things, but for saving my Shalom magazine President's messages which assisted me in writing this speech.

Due to the dedication and hard work of both Jon and Naomi, my Executive Directors, their staff, and all of you, and all of the other volunteers in Atlantic Canada, we have an impressive list of accomplishments.

LOOKING BACK AT SOME OF THE GOALS I WANTED TO ACHIEVE ARE THE FOLLOWING:

1. Improve community ties
2. Strengthen our Holocaust Education programming
3. Expand our support for Israel
4. Challenge our community towards a greater awareness of Tikkum Olum
5. And more recently, improve our programme for our youth and families

Although it is still a work in progress I strongly believe we have achieved these goals.

COMMUNITY TIES

We have worked to strengthen our ties between us and Israel.

One of the highlights of my tenure was the celebration of the 65th Anniversary of the State of Israel. In attendance was the Lieutenant Governor, Premier Dexter, numerous consuls and was hosted by the former Consul General of Israel Joel Lion. Thank you to the many volunteers and especially Myra Freeman for the incredible job she did organizing the event.

Another example was the highly successful Pride Shabbat dinner and our regular attendance at the Pride parades.

I remember the Hanukkah program held here at the Beth with over 300 attendees. The support of our Russian community to our various programs has been tremendous.

More recently I want to acknowledge the support we received from our non-Jewish friends, including many Church leaders, to the tragedy at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh. Thank you to the Rabbis who organized and participated in the Vigil held at the Shaar. The AJC received phone calls, emails and various offers of support, and the synagogues received flowers, home baked cookies and wonderful words of consolation.

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION

As you all know, Holocaust Education is something very dear to my heart as I am the child of Holocaust survivors. Much appreciation to Edna LeVine, our Director of Community Engagement. Edna has done an incredible job over the years, and perhaps is taken for granted. Thank you so much Edna, for all your efforts. The most recent program with Maxwell Smart was extremely well attended and very moving. Edna has developed a strong relationship with the Department of Education as well as other community organizations. I understand there were over four hundred students who came to hear Maxwell Smart speak on the Friday morning.

I also want to pay my respects to the late Mr. Philip Riteman for the thousands of people he spoke to about his personal story of surviving the Holocaust. In recent years I attended his presentation along with my son, given to the Dalhousie Law students. The crowd was so moved.

OUR SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL

A special mention to Howard and Karen Conter, Howard being our forever Chair of our campaign. deeply involved with the Coast-to-Coast Partnership2Gether program—a group of 6 small communities across the country that support the upper galilee region in the north of Israel. They have worked tirelessly for our community. Thank-you.

Our support for Israel cannot be separated from the AJC commitment to Camp Kadimah. Camp brings many young Israelis to spend the summer with our youth. Michael Pink and Michael Soberman and their love and dedication to Camp have no boundaries.

There are too many programs for me to single out, the Atlantic Jewish Film Festival, the Asper Human Rights and Holocaust Studies Program, the trip to Israel for young mothers, are a few. Thank you to all the generous donors and volunteers.

As many of you know I was very involved in the acquisition, renovation and eventual sale of the Bayit. Due to the generosity of the Latner Foundation the AJC received a profit of over \$70,000. Those funds have been dedicated to our Hillel programs.


One of the programs I am most proud of is our volunteer program, now in its 7th year to serve Christmas lunch and provide holiday cheer to seniors at the Spencer Seniors Centre in Halifax. Special thanks to all our community volunteers and Edna LeVine for organizing this initiative.

I have been very fortunate to work with two of the very best Jewish professionals.

Jon, with his 23 years of experience, was a pleasure to work with. For us, as a very small community, he was able to punch above his weight, which is quite something! I was very proud of the Shabbat dinner where we, as a community, showed our appreciation of Jon's service to our community. Thanks to all the volunteers and especially to my wife Jo-Anne and Marilyn Kaufman, the co-chairs of the dinner.

Jon has continued in his retirement to support the AJC. Naomi tells me how much she values your friendship and guidance. Jon is very much involved in the Windsor Project honouring David Ben-Gurion. Jon, you have contributed greatly to the Atlantic and Jewish Community, and I thank you.

Naomi, you have been with us a little over two years and your impact has been phenomenal. I remember when Naomi contacted me; she was still a student in Boston. She had read one of my President's messages and had learned that I was holding a series of meetings to redefine the AJC. She contacted me to offer her support as she previously held the position of Hillel director. That phone call led to us hiring her as Director, and we have never looked back. Naomi has accomplished so much in the short that she has been here, I along with our entire community, look forward to her continued leadership with Marilyn.

All the programs, trips and relationships could not happen without the generous contributions from our supporters. I thank all of you from the bottom of my heart. A special thank you to Jo-Anne, for being Jo-Anne, I love you. 



AJC BIENNIAL MEETING IN HALIFAX



BY JOEL JACOBSON

Marilyn Chippin Kaufman has added another item to her already busy agenda

The Fredericton woman assumed the two-year mantle of President of the Atlantic Jewish Council at the organization's annual general meeting Sunday (November 18) in Halifax.

Kaufman is also serving her fourth year as president of Fredericton's orthodox Sgoolai Israel Synagogue, the first woman in that role, teaches Hebrew school, and is Atlantic representative on the board of CIJA.

"With the demands of this new role, I'd love to give up the shul presidency," she smiled, "but no one else wants it."

Kaufman, born and raised in the New Brunswick capital city, knows she has her challenges as new AJC head, the first president from outside Halifax since 1988.

It's important we have someone from the smaller communities in the chair," she said after her unanimous election. "The region needs all of our voices to be constantly heard."

She admitted Halifax is dominant because the largest Jewish population in the wide-spread region is there but "we want a feeling of Yiddishkeit, religion, tradition and belonging throughout. It's important people in the region know who we are—as an AJC and as people living here—to understand we're all Jews who must be proactive to educate our own people, and others, about us and to combat things like anti-Semitism in a meaningful way."

She wants to promote more programming in the smaller communities, like Saint John and Moncton, NB, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador, and areas outside Halifax in Nova Scotia.

"They want to be included. They want programming. We have to find ways to bring them in," she said in an interview.

She told the meeting she hoped her board would be open to new ideas and would listen to concerns of a very diverse and scattered population. She stressed that the AJC must continue to build bridges with people of other faiths while retaining the Jewish solidarity.

Naomi Rosenfeld, completing her second year as executive-director of AJC, said she was "excited for Marilyn, who brings leadership skills and a knowledge of the national Jewish system to the position."

"We want to take more programming on the road, to the communities outside Halifax, which we are already doing but we must expand it. There's no one better to do that than Marilyn."

Rosenfeld reported to the meeting that, despite a staff of only four, but an "amazing volunteer base", the AJC is building a sense of Jewish community through welcoming events to all, such as dinners and barbecues and holiday events. Jewish identity has been stressed to the youth through Camp Kadimah.

The PJ Library has distributed more than 1,000 books to children and their families. Jewish teens have been part of a leadership training group that has outreached to the broader community. Through Hillel and Birthright, a younger population has been engaged. Holocaust education programs have been disseminated to thousands of school children.

"We've connected our community to Israel, through art, films, comedy shows," added Rosenfeld. "Eight Israeli youngsters were subsidized to attend Kadimah. We had a Shaliach here for two months, and hope to do that program again in the spring. And we're getting our people to Israel through missions,

Biluim Israel, and the March of the Living."

The meeting included the Biennial Conference of the AJC. It featured discussion groups on Camp Kadimah, the iconic, 75-year-old summer camp in Nova Scotia, on Atlantic Canada's relationship to the Canadian Jewish Community at large and on retaining and engaging a younger demographic.


KAUFMAN'S NEW EXECUTIVE INCLUDES:

FIRST VP: Adam Conter, Halifax

SECOND VP: Jennifer Jacobson, Halifax

TREASURER: Jeff Webber, Halifax

SECRETARY: Arik Drucker, Halifax

MEMBERS AT LARGE: Past President, Michael Argand, Halifax; Esti Barlevy, Nauwigewauk, NB; Jon Goldberg, Halifax; Pavel Jeloudovski, Bedford, NS; and Aviva Rubin-Schneider, Halifax. 

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DOUBLE THREAT: CANADIAN JEWS, THE MILITARY, AND WORLD WAR II

by Ellin Bessner | University of Toronto Press, 2018



www.ellinbessner.com



Nova Scotia airman Davy Conter (centre) poses with his crew, in WWII. (courtesy Dr. Howard Conter)

For her new book, Canadian professor and journalist Ellin Bessner spent six years researching, and travelling, and interviewing over 300 Canadian Jewish veterans and their families, to tell the untold stories of how and why Canada's Jewish community sent 17,000 men and women in uniform to defeat Hitler in the Second World War. It is a story that has never been comprehensively told before and fills an important gap in the publicly known accounts of how a country of volunteers helped win the war.

For the Jews of Canada, this war was what the prime minister of the day, Mackenzie King, called a "double threat". He said Hitler was not only dangerous to freedom and democracy, but was a threat to the very survival of the Jewish people as a race. In spite of this backdrop, or maybe because of it, Jewish Canadians enlisted in every branch of the service, and in the merchant marine. They fought and died in every major battle including Hong Kong, Dieppe, the Battle of Britain, the Battle of the Atlantic, North Africa, Ortona, D-Day, Falaise, the Scheldt, and throughout Northwest Europe, and in the Pacific.

Over 190 received military honours for bravery. Nearly 450 did not come home. You can find Canadian Jewish military graves from WWII in all corners of the world, including the large cemeteries of Normandy, as well as in Germany, England,

and Holland...plus in far-flung places such as Iceland, Ghana, Libya, and Crete. The Naval Memorial in Halifax's Point Pleasant Park lists at least half a dozen names of Jewish men who served and have no known grave.

According to wartime estimates, "every able bodied Jewish man of military age in the Maritimes served, including from larger communities such as Saint John and Sydney-Glace Bay, as well as smaller locations such as Inverness and Yarmouth.

"Some of these families, just about all the boys left town," says Stephen Nathanson, of Sydney. He believes the tremendous participation rate was because the young Jewish men, particularly from Glace Bay—especially those who didn't leave to go to university—thought joining up would let them escape for a while from the small town milieu and their predetermined futures, and see a bit of the world.

Nathanson's father Nate was a rear gunner in the RCAF and spent 18 months as a POW in Stalag Luft 6 and was one of the more prominent Atlantic Jewish personnel who served. Among them was Senator Jack Marshall, and his brother, a pilot, Tommy Marshall, who was killed in action with the RCAF; Dr. Frank Boyaner of Saint John, who served as a dentist in the Italian Campaign, and Lieutenant-Colonel Joseph Tanzman, a doctor who went overseas in 1942 and would become the Assistant Director of Medical



Services for the 3rd Canadian Infantry Division. Percy "Pinky" Gaum, a long time Cape Breton politician, served with the RCAF in Europe until he was captured and taken prisoner by the Germans. Both Davy Conter, of New Waterford, N.S. and Morton Heinisch, the son of Halifax community leader Noa Heinisch, were lost while on active duty missions with the RCAF.

Maurice Lipton of Sydney, who rose to the rank of Major General with NORAD after the war, was in charge of all RCAF training for the war.

Bessner tells us who these Jewish Canadian fighters were, why they went, and what their lives were like, as Jews, in Canada, and in the barracks, and on the battlefield. ☺

Editor's note: Ellin Bessner will be in the Maritimes this May, speaking at Yom HaShoah services in Halifax, Moncton and Sydney.

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BEDFORD BAT MITZVAH GIRL SHOWS INITIATIVE & HEART

BY JOEL JACOBSON



When Sylvie Anderson was preparing for her bat mitzvah at Shaar Shalom Synagogue in Halifax, NS, Rabbi Raysh Weiss asked her to do a Mitzvah project as part of her preparations to become a Jewish adult.

"Sylvie already had a project going, and it was entirely of her own vision," commented Rabbi Weiss. "No parents or teachers told her to embark on this project. It was entirely her initiative, beginning two years before."

In an interview, Sylvie said, "When I was 10 years old in Grade 5 at Bedford (NS) South School, a Syrian refugee girl arrived. She knew no English, was far behind what we were doing in class, wore the same clothes to school day after day, didn't eat very well, and looked like she needed help."

Sylvie, daughter of David Anderson and Heather Astroff, and granddaughter of Laurie and Marsha Astroff, Halifax, decided to take action with a couple of friends.

"We wondered what we could do to help her, and refugees generally. We did some research about refugee organizations and started raising funds to send to refugee camps (through UNHCR, a United Nations refugee agency)."

Last year, at age 11 and in Grade 6, Sylvie met with the executive director of the Halifax Refugee Center and spoke with officials at the Nova Scotia Department of Education about providing more translators and English as a Second Language teachers in the classroom. She also spoke with education students at Mount St. Vincent University about the situation and stressed how they could make a difference when they became classroom teachers.

Some change happened at her school and in her classroom. The immigrant student improved her learning and her attitude through the year. She had a few Arabic-speaking friends but made friends among the Canadian children, too.

The three students raised over \$1,400 for

UNHCR. "When fund raising hit obstacles, we thought of what this girl was like when she arrived at our school and how many children were still in camps and suffering, and that motivated us to keep going," Sylvie said.

With her bat mitzvah less than a month away, Sylvie spoke to over 100 members of the Shaar congregation on the Saturday following the Pittsburgh shootings, receiving kudos for what she and her friends were doing.

At her bat mitzvah December 1, 2018, she tied her work to the story of Joseph who was forced from his home like modern refugees. She talked of how her great-great grandparents came to Canada from Eastern Europe and were warmly welcomed to the local Jewish communities.

"We can pay forward our gratitude for my family's original treatment upon arriving in Halifax by extending ourselves to the newest waves of refugees arriving here," she told the shul audience. "We should help refugees, whoever they are, because we are Jewish and we have been in their shoes."

As she told them what she and her friends, as 10—and 11-year-olds, had done, she added, "Imagine what we could do as a community, to make a difference."

Rabbi Weiss is very proud of her student,

calling her motivated, passionate about what she's doing and a real inspiration to anyone. "Her social consciousness is unusual even for adults," the rabbi said.

Sylvie has other activities on her plate. She's studying piano and swims competitively six days a week while also attending Hebrew School. She wants to be a neurosurgeon—"I want to save lives and I like to help people."

"I realize there are problems in the world—war, racism—and we have to think of a solution to it," she concludes.

When asked if there really is a solution, she says, "I'm doing what I can do." 🌟

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THE 5TH ANNUAL Atlantic Jewish Film Festival

AN ATLANTIC JEWISH COUNCIL PRODUCTION

Give yourselves a pat on the back, volunteers and committee members! The fifth year of the AJFF was another big hit and the best part (other than the films, of course!) is that it attracted film-lovers from across Halifax and outside the Jewish community.

We laughed as we eavesdropped on the young couple in “Keep the Change”; were impressed with the multi-talented Sammy Davis Jr. and surprised by his humanity. “Budapest Noir” chilled us with parallels to the past. Eight films in all. They were produced in Israel, France, the Ukraine, Hungary and the USA and ran the gamut from comedy to documentary to drama to film noir.

The gala party was a fun affair; if you missed it this year make sure you join us in 2019. We’re already making plans; imagine this scene: dimmed lights, the seductive strains of the violin, tables of hors d’oeuvres and decadent desserts and you schmoozing with old friends and new. It won’t be a party without you! —**Lynn Rotin, AJFF Chair**



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(1) The 5th AJFF opening night film, Sammy Davis Jr., was sponsored by Israel Bonds. Raquel Benzacar Savatti, Chief Executive Officer, Israel Bonds, opened the festival with poignant remarks, reflecting on the recent tragedy at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pa., the racism Sammy Davis Jr. faced decades ago, and how sadly racism is still ‘alive and well’.

(2) The Friday afternoon film, Ahead of Time: The Extraordinary Journey of Ruth Gruber, was presented in partnership with Photopolis. Adrian Fish, photo-based artist and NSCAD Professor, provided insights into the life and times of Ruth Gruber. (Museum of Natural History)

(3) The Saturday evening film, Budapest Noir, was followed by the 5th AJFF gala at Pier 21. Philip Belitsky, AJFF committee member, introduced the crime/thriller film with remarks on the genre and setting.

(4) Marketing the festival at the Halifax Seaport Farmers’ Market. (5) The AJFF closing night film, Keep the Change, was presented in partnership with Autism NS with support from the Province of NS. Greetings from the Province were presented by Rafah DiCostanzo, MLA Clayton Park West with opening remarks from Cynthia Carroll, Executive Director of Autism Nova Scotia. Photo credit: Anna LeBlanc.

AJFF Committee Members

Philip Belitsky
Rosalind Belitsky
Jon Goldberg
Anna Hazankin
Linda Law
Edna LeVine
Naomi Rosenfeld
Alex Rudcovski
Jordan Schelew
Peggy Walt

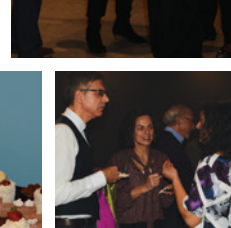
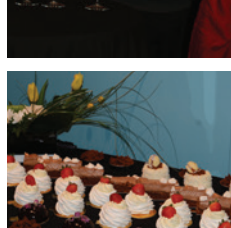
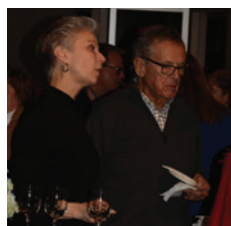


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GALA



Gala photo credit: Sergei Ratchinski www.saatchiart.com/rsd

OPEN HEARTS, FILLED BELLIES—SATISFACTION ALL AROUND

Christmas Day started like any other for more than 20 Jewish men women and children.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY JOEL JACOBSON

Little to do but eat breakfast, sit around, read, play on the computer, message friends on a hand device, and make a phone call or two.

But by 11 o'clock, this enthusiastic group left their homes with their volunteer hats on. They were ready to provide Christmas dinner and good cheer to a group of seniors who were gathering at Spencer House in south-end Halifax, a daily drop in center where they could chat, play cards and games and get a hot lunch.

Today was a bit different, though. The Jewish men and women would prepare dinner and serve it, giving their time and effort to make Christmas Day a happy one for others.

Edna LeVine, Atlantic Jewish Council's Director of Community Engagement, was first to arrive, with a key entrusted to her to open and close the center. Myrna Yazer, Vicki Lipkus and a couple of others were next to arrive to begin preparations for a turkey dinner, with all the trimmings.

As a few guests arrived, more volunteers came through the door, too, and started pouring coffee, tea and fruit punch, offering smoked salmon and cream cheese on crackers and chatting amiably with the seniors.

By noon, dinner was being served in a festive room, adorned with Christmas decorations, with background holiday music being played by flautist Linda Schroeder and pianist Mort Fels.

It was the seventh year in succession for this Jewish community expression of generosity. Schuyler Smith was volunteering at the AJC office then, and suggested, as he had nothing to do Christmas Day, others might want to volunteer at an event like this.

LeVine was all for it, contacted Spencer House whose administrators were excited, and the ball was rolling. Within days,

volunteers came forth and the Spencer House Christmas event was begun.

Yazer volunteered in year one and gravitated to the kitchen "where I usually gravitate," she smiled. She devotes volunteer time to Beth Israel Synagogue where she is a major contributor to latke, challah and hamantashen bakes and soup creations.

While giving direction in Spencer House kitchen, Yazer said, "This year, I made home-made cranberry sauce, stuffing and a Christmas cake. Then in this kitchen, we made mashed potatoes, squash, gravy, cooked frozen peas, and, of course, roasted the turkey. People brought in candy and chocolates, we offered smoked salmon with cream cheese on crackers as an appetizer, plus fruit punch, tea and coffee. As our guests left, each was given a gift bag."

"I love to share music," said Schroeder. "Any type, whatever people like to hear," she added. "This is such a nice gesture for (Jewish) people to make."

Guest Maurice McGaffney took a turn at the piano. The 75-year-old plays magnificently, only by ear, and has been a cruise ship and cabaret pianist for years.

"It's so wonderful what you do," he said to a volunteer. "Pitching in on the piano for a few minutes is the least I could do for this lovely meal."

There were 30 meals served, plus half a dozen home deliveries. More than 20 volunteers assisted and several more offered but were not needed.

"What's better than this?" Smith said as he saw so many smiling faces—both guests and volunteers. "Maybe it's time to branch out to another location. Our volunteers bring family and friends so it's a program we could expand."

With full bellies and a glow from the AJC's generosity, the guests departed.

With warm hearts, the volunteers cleaned up and LeVine locked the door. ☺



PHOTOS: (1) Linda Schroeder and Mort Fels provide music while Roy Argand and Nicole Heelan sing along (2) Debbie Novack serves meals to Pat and Helene. (3) Volunteers, from left, Mindy Jacobson, Debbie Novack and Mark Evans fill plates in the kitchen. (4) Bessie Lecker-Evans serves dinner to Cameille Sherman. (5) Schuyler Smith and Myrna Yazer place turkey on a plate for Spencer House seniors. (6) Delivering meals, Dave Hanson, Roy Argand and Hannah Novack. (7) Guest Eleanor Hennessey hands volunteer Lynn Rotin a tin of her homemade fudge to share at the Christmas meal.



REMEMBERING MARLENE UNGER ז"ל

On September 21, Fredericton's Israel Unger and his daughters, Sharon and Sheila, dedicated a grove of 1000 trees in memory of his wife/their mother, Marlene Unger. This grove was planted at the Ruhama Forest in the Negev, a forest dedicated to children who perished in the Holocaust. It was a fitting tribute to Marlene, an active member of the Jewish community who was a passionate Zionist and who fought against anti-Semitism. After unveiling the plaque, the family planted a eucalyptus tree at the site, something that was extremely meaningful to them. Dr. Unger is dedicated to adding to and enhancing Marlene's Grove by planting more trees there over the next few years. He looks forward to future trips to Israel with his children and grandchildren to visit Marlene's Grove and to watch the eucalyptus tree grow.

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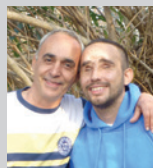
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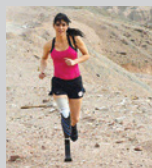
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FREDERICTON NEWS

An Evening With Dr. Robert Katz BY AYTEN KRANAT

Dr. Robert Katz, Professor of Art at the University of Maine in Augusta, ME Board of Director and Past President of the Holocaust and Human Rights Centre of Maine, was Fredericton's guest speaker during the Atlantic Jewish Council's Holocaust Education Week.

Dr. Katz co-created an audio-visual project which encompassed the testimony of 16 Maine Holocaust survivors and their liberators... an exhibit to be permanently installed in the Maine Holocaust and Human Rights Centre. His film takes you back in time to a testimony of the events of the Holocaust and verification of the survivors and their liberators. It depicts Jewish life in pre-World War II Europe, during the war and post war Poland, Galicia, Germany and Russia.

Dr. Katz proved to be a most able raconteur, weaving his childhood memories of his grandfather, Louis, into a story, illustrating how forensic science led him on a journey of discovery of his ancestors who had been annihilated in the Holocaust—a journey which spanned decades.

How ironic that on the evening of this presentation, the tragic events earlier in the day had unfolded in Pittsburgh with the mass murder of eleven Jewish worshippers in their Synagogue while attending Shabbat

morning services. And how ironic on this day, November the 9th, 80 years ago, the Nazi leaders orchestrated pogroms against the Jews in Germany and annexed areas where they attacked Jews, their businesses, their Synagogues and their homes. Kristallnacht—the Night of Broken Glass. The evening was a time for reflection on the state of the world... needless loss of life... Jews murdered once again, only because they were Jewish.

Dr. Katz's film and lecture entitled, *Were The House Still Standing*, showed us how important and how relevant Holocaust education is today. His exhibit is available for viewing and listening when you visit the Holocaust /Human Rights Centre in Augusta, ME. His presentation was greatly appreciated by the fifty or so people in attendance and his 35-minute film was only a small portion of his 3-hour exhibit. There has been some discussion of organizing a group trip to Augusta as a follow up to Dr. Katz's presentation.

Thank you to the Atlantic Jewish Council—Edna LeVine and Naomi Rosenfeld, Marilyn Kaufman (Chair), Rabbi Yosef Goldman, Ayten and Marc Kranat (Tech Crew), Israel Unger, Kelly Newman and Shelley Stephens.



PHOTO: Marilyn Kaufman, Ayten Kranat, Professor Robert Katz, Kelly Newman

FREDERICTON NEWS

Shelley Stephens, Sisterhood President, Sgoolai Israel Synagogue.

Fredericton gathered once again and welcomed the community for their annual Chanukah Party which was well attended and held on Sunday, December 2, 2018. They enjoyed light refreshments and played board games.

Once again, the Sisterhood of Sgoolai Israel Synagogue sponsored and partnered with the Fredericton Public Library for their annual Chanukah celebration, Festival of Lights which was held on Wednesday, December 5, 2018. The children enjoyed the festivities such as story time, singing songs, playing games and making dreidels.

On behalf of Sisterhood, Sgoolai Israel Synagogue, I would like to thank all of the volunteers at the Synagogue and the Fredericton Public Library who helped to make this a successful year of celebrations. 🌟



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MONCTON NEWS

BY NANCY COHEN

With all of the holidays, some special programs and two bar mitzvahs it was a busy fall in Moncton.

The annual Sukkah building event is always popular, bringing together adults and children to build and decorate the sukkah, and enjoy a barbecue once the work is done.

During Thanksgiving weekend several of our members, as well as some friends of the Jewish community, attended a screening of the excellent documentary film *Ben Gurion, Epilogue*. Following the film there was a lively discussion lead by Lucy Kleinerman. Lucy, who lives in Israel, was in Atlantic Canada for two months as the Atlantic Jewish Council's shlichah, a program sponsored by the Canadian Zionist Federation and the World Zionist Organization.

In late October our screening room was in operation once again thanks to funding from the AJC, for *Were The House Still Standing*, a film presentation and talk by Robert Katz of the University of Maine. In this film the testimonies of sixteen Holocaust survivors and liberators are woven together using video, large-format photography, audio, and text to ensure that their memories will endure and be shared with future generations. There was a very good turnout for this film and everyone who saw it agreed that it was excellent. It was also great to see AJC Executive Director Naomi Rosenfeld who came to Moncton for both programs.

Following the horrible mass shooting at Tree of Life—Or L'Simcha Congregation in Pittsburgh it was comforting to receive several letters of condolence and solidarity from various people and organizations in Moncton.

A delegation from the Muslim Association of Greater Moncton visited the shul and brought with them a beautiful bouquet of white flowers and a card expressing solidarity with the Jewish people. There was also a very thoughtful note from a group of Muslim youth.

The month of December is always brightened our local Hanukkah traditions. On the third night, a warm and friendly gathering took place to light the large hanukkah at the Moncton City Hall. Mayor Dawn Arnold was there to bring greetings on behalf of the City and spoke about Hanukkah as a time of hope, community and miracles. The following evening we were welcomed with open arms at the Moncton Hospital, where a crowd gathered in the hospital lobby to light the Hanukkah. Many stayed after the lighting to enjoy the coffee, tea and juice provided by the hospital to go along with the Hanukkah cookies we brought.

A community celebration took place at the shul, featuring a turkey dinner with all the trimmings and a few Yiddish dishes thrown in, such as noodle kugel, latkes and tsimmes. Everything was delicious! During the dinner two special people were recognized. Cheryl Allerston was the Director and teacher at Tiferes Israel Preschool for many years. Under Cheryl's guidance the school maintained its reputation as one of the best preschools in Moncton. Cheryl was highly regarded for her loving and gentle way of interacting with her young charges, and excellent teaching skills. Eighteen trees have been planted in Israel in her honour. Myrna Lamouroux was honoured for the generous donation she and her late partner, David Rubin made to the synagogue. Each woman was presented with a beautiful bouquet, and a leaves have been placed on the synagogue's Tree of Life.

MAZEL TOV TO:

Audrey and Irwin Lampert on the birth of their grandson Joey Ben Applebaum on November 16 who is lovingly named for two great grandfathers, Ben Attis and Joey Applebaum. The proud parents are Mindy and Derek Applebaum.

Eli Davidson, son of Jordan and Hannah Davidson, brother of Zev and grandson of Robert Leavitt on his bar mitzvah.

Joshua Haller, son of Jack Haller and Nicole Druckman, brother of Sam and grandson of Betty Rubin Druckman on his bar mitzvah.

Joannie Sichel who was awarded a YMCA Peace Medal for her commitment to the values of peace through her contributions to her local community. 🕊



PHOTOS: (1-2) Moncton City Hall Menorah Lighting
(3-5): Muslim Association of Greater Moncton visits the Shul.

Dear Francis Weil,

We are a group of Muslim youth in Moncton. Many of us are close neighbours of your synagogue, living in the downtown area. We would like to extend our deepest condolences and a hand of solidarity in light of the events in Pittsburgh, Pa. We are deeply saddened and disturbed by this act of hate that has taken innocent lives and contaminated a sacred space of worship.

Please let us know if we can help with anything in this difficult time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your community.

With you in solidarity and friendship, Amal, Aziza, Inda, Majed, Sahira, Salma and Wenda

PEI NEWS

BY ERNEST SCHLEICHKORN

PEI Jewish community celebrated the High Holidays. Rosh Hashanah, Kol Nidre and Yom Kippur services were hosted at the home of Joel Palter & Rachel Kassner.

Following Yom Kippur a break-the-fast Pot Luck was hosted by Rosalie & Don Simeone. Being as they live out of Charlottetown attendance was sparse, even though there was food in abundance. However it's quality not quantity that counts. A new PEIJC member, Katie Krebs from California is a vet at the AVC and studying neurology, was present.

Sukkoth was also a pot luck event and was hosted by Raquel & Rafael Hoerstring (new immigrants from Brazil).

Leo Mednick sent the following notice with regards to other High Holiday events: Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah while not celebrated by the PEIJC should be understood. *Simchat Torah* in particular is significant in that it is when the last chapter in the Torah is read and the cycle starts again with reading Genesis. Shemini Atzeret literally means "the assembly of the eighth" day in Hebrew. *Simchat Torah* simply means "rejoicing in the Torah." In the Diaspora, many holidays are observed for two days, and Shemini Atzeret is one of these days (Tishrei 22nd-23rd). As a result, Simchat Torah is observed on the second day. In Israel, where holidays are typically only one day, Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah are rolled into one day (Tishrei 22).

To improve the communications between community members, Leo has set up a Facebook private group for the PEIJC. The hope is that this will allow members of the community to communicate with each other and perhaps become friends.

Martin Rutte who spends summers on PEI had a successful book launch, *Project Heaven on Earth* was on Thursday, September 20, at The Kettle Black Cafe, in Charlottetown.

P.E.I.'s Jewish community held a vigil for victims of Pittsburgh shooting. Special thanks to Dr Joseph Glassner for the keynote

speech at this memorial event and delivering a heartfelt message. There were over a one hundred people present and media coverage on local and CBC News.

Dr Glassner also had a talk November 20, on UPEI campus re: "Dr. Leo Frank, A Jewish Fox Rancher" the first of a series of talks on the early history of the Jewish residents of the Island.

Hanukkah pot luck was hosted by Shamara & her husband Michael Fleishman, new members of the PEIJC. It combined a home warming as well; Shamara & Michael had just moved in and was well attended. Food brings out the crowds.

On a sad note, our thoughts and prayers are with Sol Feldstein, who fell and broke his hip during a blackout. He has been in and out of the hospital with complications. Many people are going to visit him in the hospital. We are hoping for a speedy recovery.

We were saddened to hear that our long time PEIJC member Jim Munves passed away August 31, 2018. Prior to that Jim emboldened the story of David versus Goliath, as he battled the PEI government to ensure that his wife Barbara return to him at home. In April 2018 Jim reached an agreement with the government to have his wife Barbara returned home when she was admitted as permanent resident at a local nursing facility, as part of an intervention order after her hip replacement surgery.

Jim was also passionate intellectual and environmentalist who believed strongly in the kabbalah philosophy of Tikun Olam, that mankind and each of us personally should try to improve and "fix" the world. The following is an announcement for a tribute that took place on Dec. 12: Never fire, nor wind, birth nor death can erase our good deeds. The good deeds of Jim Munves and his contribution to peace and justice in our Island province are remembered by his friends and associates since his death this past August. The event featured excerpts from the film, "Peace in Every Step", poetry, songs and remembrances from those who worked with Jim. ☺



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PHOTOS: (1) Vigil (2) Dr. Joseph Glassner (3) Leo Mednick (4) Martin Rutte (5) Channukah celebration (6) Succot celebration.

REPORT FROM THE SAINT JOHN

BY KATHERINE BIGGS-CRAFT, MUSEUM CURATOR

The Fifth Annual Saint John Jewish Film Festival was a great success. The gala opening film for event sponsors was screened at the Mary Oland Theatre, New Brunswick Museum on Saturday, October 20 and featured the film, **Mr. and Mrs. Adelman** (France 2017), the tale of a 40-year marriage that chronicled the passions, ambitions, victories, secrets, betrayals and the idea of sharing a whole life with someone. The movie was followed by a reception.

THE REMAINING FIVE FILM FILMS WERE SHOWN AT THE JEWISH MUSEUM INCLUDING:

- *An Act of Defiance* (Netherlands, 2018), a story set in 1963 when ten South African men, some Black and some Jewish, are arrested for conspiring to commit sabotage against the Apartheid state. Led by Nelson Mandela the group members plead not guilty. This true story explored the little-known role of South African Jews in consigning Apartheid to history.
- *The Invisibles* (Germany 2017) shared the experiences of four Holocaust survivors—two men and two women—living in Berlin after 1943 and who were protected by courageous Berliners
- *Sammy Davis: I've Gotta Be Me* (USA 2018) explored the life and art of a uniquely gifted entertainer, who was black, Jewish and Puerto Rican through interviews with other celebrities and footage from his shows.
- *Budapest Noir* (Hungary 2017) followed a hard-boiled reporter investigating the brutal murder of a prostitute which led him into the dark underworld of 1930's pre-Nazi Hungary. This politically charged tale of corruption and betrayal left our audience guessing until the surprising climax.
- *Shelter* (Israel 2018) was the story of two women—a one-time Mossad agent assigned to protect the Lebanese former spouse of a Hezbollah leader hiding in a safe house in Hamburg, Germany and the relationship that develops between them and the threats that they faced.

We had wonderful attendance each evening, many of patrons coming night after night to view this fine selection of films. This event would not be the success that it is without the support of our generous sponsors and their commitment to ensure the Jewish Museum is able to collect and preserve the community's history and share it with visitors. Stay tuned to hear about plans for the return of the event next year.

The Museum held its annual general meeting on Sunday, November 4th. As part of the meeting, the officers and directors were elected for 2018-2019. Dr. Elizabeth McGahan will continue in the role of president, with Lorie Cohen-Hackett as vice-president, the Rev. Dr. Philip Lee as recording secretary and Eyal Ekshtein as treasurer. Dr. Joseph Arditti, Ilanit Friling, Lloyd Goldsmith and Regina Mantin were elected as directors.

On Sunday, December 9th, the Museum came together with the members of the Congregation Shaarei Zedek to welcome about 150 people to celebrate Hanukkah with the lighting of the menorah and sharing latkes and sufganiyot in the Museum. Everyone was welcomed by Bruce Washburn, president of Congregation Shaarei Zedek and Dr. Elizabeth McGahan, president of the Saint John Jewish Historical Museum. Dan Elman provided the history and meaning of the holiday, before Dr. Joseph Arditti led the prayers and lit the shammas candle. Seven families in the community were each invited to light one of the candles—Anna Vinizer (one of our Hebrew school teachers) and family, Eyal Ekshtein (board member of the Museum) and family, Uzi Michaelov and family (who prepared the latkes and donuts), Orly Melech and family (members of our congregation), Esti Barlevy (the head of the Hebrew School) and family, Ilanit Friling (a board member of the Museum and wonderful organizer for the event) and family and Bruce Washburn (president of



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the synagogue) and family. Two Saint John MLAs, the Hon. Trevor Holder and Glen Savoie, were invited to light a candle as well. Ari Snyder provided music for evening and was positioned next to the treats where all could enjoy his excellent keyboard playing of seasonal songs while enjoying good conversation with friends.

With the end of the summer tourism season at the beginning of November, work in the Museum turned to the projects which take place "behind the scenes". One of these is the reorganization of the Dr. Moses I. Polowin Memorial Library including a review and reclassification of all the books on the shelves. Once this is complete, we hope that members of the Museum and Synagogue will be encouraged to read and

JEWISH HISTORICAL MUSEUM



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discuss these books. Plans are also in the works for a reading room adjacent to the Synagogue where we can show some of the most important books in our collection. Another project involves the indexing and reviewing of almost 50 boxes of archival material including photographs, minutes, documentation of Hadassah events from the 1950s to the 1980s and personal stories.

Two projects funded with a grant from the Greater Saint John Community Foundation will be completed as well, including the filming of oral interviews with Jewish community members. The collection of these stories will add to information the Museum has on the history of the community and add to the information available on the families who lived in Saint

John over the past 150 years. The other project will focus on the preservation and sharing of the art of Herzl Kashetsky, particularly the slides of works used for educational programs.

Next spring, the Museum will open a new exhibit on the Jewish businesses which existed in Saint John. A survey of the city directories from the mid-1800s to 2000 suggests that there were about 200 different businesses in the city. The exhibit will include stories and advertisements from Saint John newspapers, personal recollections, photographs, business records and artifacts. If anyone has material in their personal collections—photographs, advertisements, and memorabilia—we would like to add them to the exhibit—and

to our permanent archival collection so that future generations can see how vibrant the Jewish business community was.

The Museum will reopen for the summer season in May 2019, but in the meantime, tours are welcomed by appointment. [S](#)

PHOTOS: **FILM FESTIVAL** (1) Lloyd Goldsmith, Saint John Film Festival Committee Chair (2) Dr. Joseph Arditti introducing the film. (3) Film at NB Museum **HANUKKAH** (4) Ari Snyder and Esti Barlevy (5) Dan Elman at menorah lighting (6) Brice Washburn and others with the menorah (7) Dr. Elizabeth McGahan, president, Saint John Jewish Historical Museum and Arthur Melanson, custodian, Shaarei Zedek Synagogue. (8) Ari Snyder **BUSINESS ADS/STORE** (9) Dreskin's (10) Advertisement for Calp's Department Store – May 20, 1958

CAPE BRETON NEWS

BY SHARON JACOBSON

FALL IN CAPE BRETON

One might think we just watch the grass grow or the snow fall here in C.B., and that is, joyfully true. But, then again, despite our numbers we carry on Evy's legacy. We try to go to Shul.

The "Pittsburgh Shooting" magnified the importance of our efforts and we did rally to the call for attendance. Who wouldn't?

A poignant moment for me was coming upon a surprise bouquet of flowers resting on the Shul steps that following Shabbat morning. Another, very different moment, I experienced in San Francisco after dropping my 3 and a half year old grandson at the Helen Diller JCC. I'd had a coffee and was questioning someone on the security in the building. Suddenly, there were guards, walkie-talkies, people instructing where to leave the building, cordoning-off tape, police cars—A Bomb Threat!

Some years ago, in Toronto, I was in disbelief when we started needing armed guards at our synagogues, but this was an escalation I never imagined.

As kids in cheder, we wanted to believe the magnitude of the Holocaust would lead to a new or better understanding; a progressive enlightening of Mankind. The news of rising Antisemitism is not only troubling, but beyond our common understanding. It is an ideology with chameleon—like qualities. It can morph into anything anyone wants it to be at any time. On Passover, there should be a fifth question: "Why do Jews continue to be different from all other minorities?"

Allan Dershowitz once lamented about feeling like a guest in his own country...

I'm starting to feel we are guests on the planet...A tenuous existence regardless of the (immutable?) law of the land...

The annual Holocaust Memorial event renews one's faith in Man that someone does care. This year, once again, Diane Lewis with her committee which included Sharon Columbus and Barrie Carnat organized a program at the 99 year old Sydney Armoury. She managed to bring in the United Against Genocide/ Travelling Exhibition from the Montreal Holocaust Museum. It was a different yet provocative approach,

highlighting other minorities as well. President of the Sydney synagogue, Martin Chernin, offered the audience the perspective he learned from his family towards his historical heritage; the Hon. Mark Furey, Minister of Justice, brought particularly well-nuanced remarks from the provincial government; the cherished, Charlie Palmer, a veteran of 2 World Wars, reminded everyone of what he witnessed upon the discovery of the Camps! The Cape Breton Chorale performed with a piece from Oscar Peterson, the perennially appropriate, "We'll Rise Again" and the never too meaningful O Canada!

On the walls of the Armoury, school children had posted their drawings to capture the Elie Wiesel quote: "To forget a Holocaust is to kill twice."

Sydney, New Waterford, Glace Bay, and Whitney Pier—Soon all 4 communities will completely fade away. Their members met one morning with Noah Levine, a representative of the Community Legacy Project to discuss the inevitable demise of the CB Jewish Community. It was a sobering exercise. How many years does one think we have left? What to do with the building, (Sydney synagogue), it's artifacts, (Torahs, Yahrzeit Boards, Siddurim etc) and especially, maintenance of the cemeteries. Stephen Nathanson has acquired a veritable archival selection of material. The local Beaton Institute, as well as Ottawa were mentioned as viable destinations for this material.

Stephen is presenting a talk to the Old Sydney Society on the History of Jews in Cape Breton. It will be held January 24th at 7:30 at the Old Bank of Montreal building downtown Sydney.

A curious afterthought—Shirley Chernin would meet the Cruise Ships in Sydney Harbour whose passengers were interested in how Jewish people came to live and work here on the island. Apparently, they still find it "curiouser & curiouser"...

The CJNI article "Torah from defunct Glace Bay NS Shul comes to Toronto" gave new meaning to the phrase "Come From Away". There was a Maritime Torah dedication December 8, 2018 to celebrate the arrival of the Torah, which was thought to



PHOTOS: (1-9) Sydney Breakfast (10) Charlie Palmer

NEWFOUNDLAND NEWS

News from the far east

BY RABBI CHANAN AND TUBA CHERNITSKY

be 120 years old and probably from Belarus. Many Maritime Torontonians attended or should I say Torontonian Maritimers! The Simon family, who grew up and lived in Glace Bay, purchased, restored and donated it to the Forest Hill Jewish Center in memory of Phil and Allan Simon, father and son, both dentists. Dr. Phil's wife, Ruth and her 3 sons, Gary, Bruce and Mark noted the auspicious occasion as it fell on Dr. Phil's Yahrzeit. As Mark professed:

"This was important for the family—an opportune time to hold onto a piece of Glace Bay." Former Glace Bay resident, Arthur Zilbert, a retired physician and lifelong friend of the family with his inimitable equanimity facilitated the sale. Dr. Phil Simon, a long-time president of the Glace Bay Congregation Sons of Israel was our modern Moses who led us through services and guided the community when no rabbi was available to us.

So much for all the Sad News...

While Yom Kippur is not a joyful holiday like Chanukah, our Break-Fast brings out the best in all of us. It is not simply Bagels that Bind us, but Camaraderie. We come together for a fine exchange of good words after the Fast. Shayna Strong and family—ever so helpful and well-organized, we thank you.

We celebrated another Bar Mitzvah on August 27th—Asher Allan (the second such event this summer). Their extended clan gathered in Cape Breton once again to keep their Bond to the Sydney Shul and its Living Past.

Our wonderful Faye (Tootsie) David celebrated her 90th Birthday with at least 40 people at Flavor on the Water! Her sister Nettie Simon from Glace Bay was 94 years young and her brother Louis Allan is 91) Shayna tells me there was seafood chowder, latkes, kugel, deep-fried chocolate bars and Fantastic People enjoying everything! Son, Phil and daughter, Laurel came in from "away" as did Rhea, Roz and Chris. There was a snowstorm, but Nothing diminishes Tootsie who was in great form!

Betty Shore reported that the Cemetery Fund for Glace Bay had a welcome response from several donors. The kids are honouring the parents!

Our native son Irwin Simon even bought a local sports team.

Eli Marshall's estate left a substantial sum for the cemetery and further news about that will be forthcoming.

Stay tuned! We are still here! ☺



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PHOTOS: (1) Jordan Berson recites the blessings on the Chanukah candles before lighting the first candle. (2) From left to right: MP Nick Whalen, Mayor Danny Breen and Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Labour. (3) The attendees mingle over hot drinks and donuts.

Thank G-d, we have too many things to write about!

We started off the new year with a bang. Besides hosting locals for Shofar blowing and a grand four-course meal for the 2nd night of Rosh Hashana, we had the great merit to host some tourists as well. Thank G-d it looks like next year we will need a larger space as we barely fit in our current location. The message we walked away with is to cherish the special relationship that we all have with Hashem.

Succot was great. Despite the cool temperatures, a good time was had by all. Everyone was invited to the Succah for "Pies Under The Sky", with an assortment of quiches, kugels and cake. The children enjoyed roasted marshmallows for dessert. The excitement of the high holiday season reached its peak on Shmini Atzeres—We had a small meal in the Succah with Sushi and brisket, followed by lively hakafot and dancing. It was a very special evening, especially for the children. An event no one wants to miss! Celebrating the joy of being Jewish.

Right after Succot began the 2nd year for the popular Kids in the Kitchen program. So far they've made Falafel and Israeli salad, Latkes and Black and White cookies. Yum!

The public Menorah lighting, held on Sunday December 2nd was a huge success this year, attracting over 200 people to Bannerman park. The event was attended by elected officials, MP Nick Whalen, minister of Advanced Education, skills and labour Bernard Davis, mayor Danny Breen and many of the city councillors together with chief of police Joseph Boland. Deputy mayor Sheilagh O'leary had to cancel at the last minute unfortunately, but was there in spirit. After hearing of the message of Chanukah and offering tribute to the victims of the Pittsburgh synagogue massacre, mayor Breen shared a few words and lit the shamash. Jordan Berson was honoured with lighting the first candle, as this was the first night of Chanukah.

We finished off the civil year with a very successful crowdfunding campaign. Thanks to generous matchers, every donation was tripled. We reached our goal in record time! Thank you to all who stepped up and made a donation. ☺

We are open 24/7. If you are coming to visit please let us know and we will be happy to meet you. For more information you can reach us at 709-341-8770 or through e-mail at chabadofnewfoundland@gmail.com. For discounted rates on hotel reservations, check out our website at www.chabadNfld.org.

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY HAVURA OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

BY KATHERINE SIDE

This has been a busy fall for the members of the Jewish Community Havura of Newfoundland and Labrador. In September, our members celebrated high holidays and were pleased to welcome visitors to St. John's. The early fall has proven to be a popular time with visitors to this attractive tourist destination, and we especially appreciated the participation, this year of an exceptionally accomplished shofar blower.

At the end of September, we celebrated Sukkot, with our usual backyard sukkah, service and brunch. However, the tragic events at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, at the end of October, were felt widely. Hillel Atlantic, St. John's chapter organized a community wide vigil at a local St. John's park. The vigil was attended by many community members and the Jewish Community Havura received letters, messages, and telephone calls of support from individuals and from other religious groups across Newfoundland and

Labrador. The vigil was covered by the local press, including the St. John's Telegram and The Southern Gazette, and nationally by the CBC. Memorial University undergraduate student, Justin Tobin and other members of the Hillel Atlantic chapter who helped organize the public event noted the importance of recognizing kindness over hate.

In November, we held our Annual General Meeting and elected a full slate of Board members, whose activities continue to range from coordinating local activities, including holiday celebrations and bi-weekly Shabbat services and dinners, participating with other religious groups in the Religious Social Action Coalition, and liaising with the Atlantic Jewish Council. Weather permitting, we'll continue to meet over the winter, every second Friday evening for services and to share a meal together, with special services organized for children.

The Jewish Havura's annual Hanukkah party was well attended. Held later during the



holiday, it ensured many bright lights from lots of candles. We owe a special thanks to the event's organizer and to the Klezmer band, whose talents were appreciated by everyone who attended, especially the dancers.

The annual Holocaust Memorial Service that we organize each year with support from the Atlantic Jewish Council, will take place in the spring. We'll keep you posted about the date.

We meet together as a community throughout the year and welcome visitors and new members. If you're visiting St. John's, Newfoundland, or you're planning to move here, please contact us through our website, www.havura.org, or by email info.havura@gmail.com, or telephone, (709) 834-7866. 📞

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FROM THE DESK OF RABBI DAVID ELLIS, AJC REGIONAL CHAPLAIN

In the last Shalom Magazine I wrote an article comparing Sandy Koufax and one Ann Waldbaum, a late friend of mine from Denver, for their efforts in “making Jews”, Koufax, by his inspiring example on Yom Kippur in the 1965 World Series. Mrs. Waldbaum, by saving a student from the drudgery of Hebrew school with her cookies served before.

The Denver part of the story was suggested to me by someone from Denver who had come through Halifax several weeks before. I sent her a copy of the article about Koufax and Mrs Waldbaum. She liked the article so much, that she suggested I send it to the Intermountain Jewish News (IJN), Denver’s local Jewish paper. I did so. She and hundreds of others in and around Denver read my article, in somewhat revised form. There were dozens of phone calls and remembrances shared one to another.

The woman who was visiting, Ms. Tilly Rollin, wrote her own letter to the IJN. I quote it in its entirety:

I have always said, “It’s a small world when you’re Jewish”. This was especially born out when I met Rabbi David Ellis, who wrote the wonderful special to the IJN last week, entitled “Koufax and Waldbaum-Not Just the Cookies”. My husband Howard and I were planning a cruise to Canada, when we realized we would be on the ship during Shavuot and miss going to shul on the second day for Yizkor. We determined the cruise ship would be in Halifax, Nova Scotia, on that day and we found we could take a cab to the Shaar Shalom Synagogue from the pier. When we got to the synagogue, we joined 20-30 people in their lovely, very familiar service. We were warmly welcomed by

several congregants and the rabbis. Howard was given the honor of carrying the Torah, and I assisted in closing the ark. After the service a man introduced himself. When I told him we were from Denver, he said he had lived on Denver old West Side and knew many people from the old Hebrew Educational Alliance on Stuart St. He had fond memories of his time in Denver, and I was surprised how many people we knew in common. The man, of course, was Rabbi David Ellis.

Since last May when Howard and I met Rabbi Ellis, he has continued to send us wonderful emails and Youtube videos about Jewish life in the Maritime Provinces of Canada. And then I read his article about the incomparable Sandy Koufax and the equally incomparable Ann Waldbaum and how each had made their mark on Jewish life. I am so appreciative of my fortuitous and unexpected meeting of Rabbi Ellis, and I am proud to think that I played a role in reconnecting him with the Denver Jewish community and a glimpse of Jewish life on the old West Side.—*Tilly Rollin*.

After the article was read by many people, Ann Waldbaum’s son Arthur, the doctor of the three sons, called me in appreciation of my letter. We will certainly keep in touch. I spoke about Tilly Rollin, but he wasn’t sure who she was. But then he rethought it. He sent the follow note to her:

Of course I remember you Tilly. You were my first New Year’s Eve date when I was a freshman in College at CU boulder and I think the party was at my apartment. We must have also seen each other at Hillel house because I was there all the time and

my future wife and I were cooks at Hillel for their kosher kitchen for several years. I have not seen Mark in many many years. However Gerry Lanes is my brother because my parents took him in as a foster child from Cuba and we grew up together. We are still very close and although he lives in Florida we see each other frequently. We were just on a trip together to South America. He has 3 children and 1 new granddaughter. My wife, Irit, and I were married in 1969 in Israel. We have 2 children and 4 grandkids. It is great that your mother is still with you. My Mom passed away 7 years ago but she had 97 wonderful years. We did enjoy immensely the article by Rabbi Ellis and I spoke with him finally last week. Your letter is great too. I cannot believe that we have not run in to each other all these years. If you want to meet for coffee sometime let me know. —*Artie*.

What a wonderful story of people who had not seen one another in years.

And so I became a part of connecting Jews together. And advertising the Maritimes. I am trying to get a contingent from Denver to come up and travel around with me to our communities—prospects may be good.

My experience has privileged me to be able to connect dozens of persons around the region and elsewhere every day—with an email, a phone call, a verse from the Bible, a book suggestion, a contact for a committee, an article on Judaism. I do not bother to note them to anyone else; some say I should.

To me if the author of the world records them in his book, and a Yom HaZikaron, a day of remembrance is made each day for many persons—that is fine for me. ☺

WHY CAN'T YOU JUST BE YOURSELF?

BY RABBI CHANAN CHERNITSKY, DIRECTOR, CHABAD LUBAVITCH OF NEWFOUNDLAND

The question is powerful. Perhaps it even makes us a bit uncomfortable.

The real question is: “who are we?”, I.E. what defines us? What makes us be who we are? Which part of us can we point to and say “ah, this is where it’s all coming from”?

This is what makes us Jewish. This is what makes us feel that there’s so much more to us

than just working and just being.

It’s our Neshama (soul). That dormant, G-dly powerhouse, that the One Above infused in us at the moment we were born. When our Neshama is nurtured and we are in tune with our Neshama, sky’s the limit.

Naturally inclined to fulfill the divine will, the Neshama inspires us to go to shul, put on

Tefilin, etc. We go into troubleshooting mode once reality hits us in the face. Temptations, distractions.... So many things that keep us busy and disturb us from tuning in to our real selves.



CONTINUE ON PAGE 40 >

SHALOM BAYIT—PEACE IN THE (JEWISH) HOME

BY RABBI YOSEF GOLDMAN, SGOOLAI ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE, FREDERICTON



In our daily prayers, we end the Amida (the reason I am not calling it Shmoneh Esreh, is because it applies also to the services on Shabbat and Yom-Tov when there are ‘only’ seven blessings) service with the prayer for peace. I believe the reason the Rabbis who created our service put this at the end, is because of the expression: “ACHARON ACHARON—CHAVIV” (the last one is the most favoured). The word Shalom in Hebrew also means completeness & wholesomeness, so it really does make sense that this is the last thing we pray for... For many people who have gone through divorce, myself included, the term Shalom Bayit is not a very positive one, but I would like to bring a new & positive outlook on it. Also, I believe that this can teach us more about the Jewish concept of keeping the peace with each other, married or not.

Rabbi Ze'ev Zeltzer Z"L wrote a book of Jewish beliefs according to the Maharal of Prague, and he tells the following story. One day a man came to the Rabbi's office and had a very strange request: ‘I am asking that the Rabbi does everything in his power so that I can get divorced from my wife’. ‘what did your wife do to you that is so bad?’ asked the Rabbi in total shock. ‘my wife doesn't properly take care of the cleanliness and tidiness of our home, and I can't stand it any more. I am very sensitive to having a clean & tidy environment’. After all the attempts of the Rabbi to dissuade the man had failed, and the man kept coming back to the office over and over again, the Rabbi invited the man to come with his wife to the Rabbi's house later that day, promising to take care of matters

there. The appointed time was set for 4 pm that day, and at 3 pm, the Rabbi came home and asked the Rebbetzin to help him “turn the house upside-down” with the promise that he will explain later. And so, in a joint effort, the Rabbi and his still quite shocked wife, managed to really make a mess. They made sure that there wasn't one straight painting on the wall, that there was dirt everywhere, piles of dirty and broken dishes in the kitchen, and into this unbelievable mess came the poor couple at exactly 4 pm! The Rabbi asked the couple to have a seat (if they could even find two chairs that didn't have anything on them), and while they were waiting, the bewildered husband could not believe his eyes. He had never seen such a BALAGAN (as they say in Hebrew), such neglect, compared to this, his house was a shiny palace... when the Rabbi came to sit with them at the table, the man mumbled something like: ‘em, Rabbi, I am sorry I wasted your precious time, please see my request as no longer applicable’. Let us try to imagine the aftermath of this story. When the couple left the Rabbi's house, the man must have apologized to his wife saying how wonderful she is. And I can imagine that both the man and his wife gossiped about how they “happened” to be visiting the Rabbi, and what a disaster it is etc. The Rabbi was aware that this will happen, and was even willing for his good name to be shamed, for the sake of Shalom Bayit! I believe this is the true way of the Torah. The Talmud gives us two examples (or instances) of how G-d broke the Torah Law in order to keep the peace between a husband and wife. The first case is concerning our

For-father Abraham and our For-mother Sarah. The Sages in the Talmud (Tractate Bava Metzia 87a) point out that when Hashem admonishes Abraham for Sarah's laughter (after hearing the good news that she will have a baby boy) the verse says: “why did Sarah laugh, saying I am too old” (Genesis 18:13). The truth is that Sarah said that “my husband is too old” in the previous verse; so, G-d lied to Abraham in order for them to have peace. The second example is from Parashat Sotah. When G-d says that a woman whose husband suspects her of being unfaithful should drink the ‘cursed waters’, the scroll with G-d's Holy Name written on it is immersed in the water until all the ink is dissolved in the water (Numbers 5:23). Under normal circumstances, we are forbidden to erase even one letter from G-d's name, this is why the Sofer (Scribe) immerses himself in a Mikvah before writing Hashem's Name in the Torah Scroll—EVERY TIME!!! Because, we are not allowed to erase G-d's Name, even to fix a mistake in the Torah! But, for the sake of peace between a jealous husband and his wife, G-d forgoes His Honour and tells the Cohen to erase His Name!

We have an obligation to “walk in G-d's ways”, so what I learn from this is that in order to make peace, and maintain good and peaceful relationships with our fellow human being, we must “erase” and forget bad things, hurtful words and hard feelings. Only then are we promised the true redemption, speedily in our days, Amen! ☺

< CONTINUED FROM PAGE 39

There's a beautiful verse in Isaiah 43:21. Hashem takes pride in His Jewish nation and says about them “This nation that I created for Myself; they will recite My praise”.

At first glance, the verse seems to be implying that G-d's nation is special because “they will recite My praise” (I.E. observance of the Torah and the Mitzvot). However, some of the major commentaries explain that this verse is stating two separate things: 1. G-d takes pride in the Jewish nation

(“This nation that I created for Myself”), independent of 2. “they will recite My praise”. In other words, G-d takes pleasure in the very existence of a Jew, regardless of his or her level of observance! What the verse is telling us is that one will inevitably lead to the other. The natural pull of the Neshama is so strong that it can overcome any obstacle in its way.

The word “Mitzvah” is usually translated as “commandment”, but in truth it means a lot more than just that. The word “Mitzvah” comes from the word “Tzavta”

which means connection. A Mitzvah isn't just a commandment from Hashem. A mitzvah is an opportunity for us to connect with the Infinite.

So what are we waiting for? Let's take every opportunity that we have and connect!

Have a healthy winter! ☺

A RIVER RE-IMAGINED: NEW CURRENTS

BY RABBI RAYSH WEISS, PH.D. RABBI, CONGREGATION SHAAR SHALOM

Can we ever step into the same river twice? This is the question the great, late-6th century BCE philosopher Heraclitus poses. He ultimately concludes that our lives and all around us are in a constant state of flux. Indeed, our lives and the very environment we inhabit are characterized by ongoing, dynamic change. As we now read through the book of Exodus, we are reminded yet again of this lesson through the subtle, cautionary tale of Pharaoh's attempts to stay in the same river, both figuratively and literally. As Pharaoh continues to oppress the Israelites relentlessly, we read of some of the plagues that God leveled against Pharaoh and the Egyptians as a challenge to Pharaoh's hard heartedness. And so there was blood, frogs, lice ... you know—"a few of my favorite things"—and what became obvious was Pharaoh's inability to let the people go or even fully realize what was happening around him. One Torah verse, a prelude to the fourth plague reads—"and the Lord said to Moses, 'Early in the morning present yourself to Pharaoh, as he is coming out of the water, and say to him, 'Thus says the Lord: Let my people go that they may worship me!'" (Exodus 8:16). What is interesting is the

commandment to meet Pharaoh at the water. Presumably he will be emerging from a bath in the river. Strange that he goes back into the water so soon after the river was blood and teeming with frogs, the first plagues. Pharaoh apparently convinced himself that the river was safe now and that the danger had moved elsewhere. Yet the river was not safe, not because it was teeming with frogs, but because wherever Pharaoh went he could not hide from Moses' moral message. Pharaoh wanted to believe that the problem was solved simply because the symptom went away. This is short-sighted, of course, and an indication that Pharaoh was hardly the great leader he pretended to be and much less a god on earth. Self-deception, seeing what we want to see, is an inevitable aspect of the human condition. We often face great challenges, as individuals and collectively, but we do not always want to truly see the evidence of those challenges right before our eyes. Like Pharaoh, we go back to the water—that is, our old habits of heart and mind—as the course least resistance. We deceive ourselves into thinking nothing has changed and that we can maintain a comfortable status quo. It is just so easy to pretend that the world has not changed and

so hard to admit that new realities demand a new way of being.

This little detail, Moses meeting Pharaoh at water's edge, tucked into the larger story, reminds me that Pharaoh is best understood not only as an evil villain, but as a tragic figure ... one who simply did not understand the world changing around him until it was too late. Great leaders help the world move forward by confronting and naming hard truths and work towards constructive solutions. While we may not rule empires or civilizations as significant as that of Egypt, we are morally and spiritually conscious people who can strive to grow in our perceptions and understanding, refusing to retreat into a comfort zone which requires no sacrifice, empathy, or ethical reflection.

Pharaoh going back into the water is such a profound image—a man unwilling to see and unable to change. As the story unfolded, Moses' message of a people's right to be free is vindicated by history.

May we merit to enjoy liberation and redemption speedily in our days, and may we have an active hand in achieving that freedom. ☺



THE RADIANCE OF SHABBOS IN MONCTON

BY REBBETZIN FRIMET YAGOD, CONGREGATION TIFERES ISRAEL, MONCTON, NB

Shabbos! Just the word conjures up the beautiful memories of our wonderful Jewish Day growing up on Bannockburn Avenue in Toronto. The smells of the delectable dishes, the beautiful Services, the warmth of family and friends and even trudging through knee high snow to get to Shul.

Is Shabbos ONLY for the bigger cities and Jewish Epicenters? After all, there is a myriad of restaurants/take out places, a plethora of Shuls and Yeshivas to pick from, Jewish Youth Programs, 2 Neptune and the Baycrest Complex for Seniors, and any type of Torah Lecture and Study Group to choose from.

Shabbos is the gift G-d gave us at Mount Sinai that has rippled and dominoed through the generations for 3331 years. Such a magnanimous and heirloom gift can't just be

relegated to mass gatherings. There are many who claim that without a Kosher Butcher, a Challah Bakery, official youth programs, three full Minyans and a Beit Midrash to learn in on Shabbos. Afternoon, they can make a full Shabbos in a small community. Besides—who sings Shabbos Zemiros (the special Shabbos Songs) that are in these places like we would get in the major Chassidic centers? They haven't seen Moncton!

As the sun begins to set in Moncton on Friday Afternoons and candles are lit, the radiance of Shabbos begins to settle in our little community. The melodious Lecha Dodi that is either led by our wonderful Gabai or esteemed Rabbi ushers in this beautiful day. Families gather together to enjoy the three Shabbos Meals replete with

a myriad of delicious courses that are infused with the Shabbos spice and of course, home baked Challah. One has to come to Moncton to hear the beautiful Shabbos Zemiros with Niggunim (melodies) that is heirloomed from the Baal Shem Tov himself. The symphony of song in our little Shtetl is amazing!

Shabbos is not dependent on outside programs. It is what we do in our homes. We may not be able to get basics like grape juice and meat in town but it doesn't deter those who revere this special day. We learn how to make the grape juice and find who can ship the meat. Children learn how to cherish this special day based on how we, the parents, put forth the effort to make it happen. One can experience the radiance of Shabbos even in little town Moncton! ☺

SOLIDARITY CONTINUED

BY RABBI YAKOV KERZNER, BETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE, HALIFAX



The Jewish community was recently heartened by the show of solidarity exhibited by the people of Halifax, government representatives and clergy from all faiths after the recent tragic shooting in Pittsburgh. No matter our religious or political differences, the common humanity we share rises to the surface in troubled times. It was also encouraging to see doubling or tripling of normal attendance at our shuls on the Shabbat following the horrible event. The encouragement soon diminished when the numbers returned to normal the following Shabbat. An unacceptable normal. Are those feelings of solidarity so fleeting? Is our awareness of the fragility of our community so absent from the consciousness of the members of our diminishing population? Why, in the mind of the average Haligonian, is our main challenge those sick, demented shooters and not the desperate requirement that every Jew make a commitment to establishing a Jewish future in Halifax.

Recently, we finished the Book of Genesis. A book, supposedly written to create Jewish pride; relates the story of paternal favoritism, fraternal jealousy, unbounded hatred and

attempted fratricide followed by revenge. That is the theme that rounds off the story of our forefathers and their glorified children. The family that will become the foundation of the Jewish People is torn apart by a total lack of solidarity. Hatred, indifference and lack of communication threatens the family of Yaakov with total destruction. Not exactly the message we want our children to learn or the model for a future unified nation. Yet, the book ends on a somewhat positive note. The brothers, still distrustful of one another, may not be depicted as The Brady Bunch; but they still remain brothers. Understanding that all of their differences will not disappear, they come to the conclusion that a family can not allow themselves to be defined by those differences but, rather, by the bond of brotherhood. When push comes to shove, which often happens in families, they are there to defend each other and commit to a lifelong promise of solidarity. Joseph and his brothers are not only the sons of Yaakov, their father; they become the Bnei Yisroel, the People of Israel who will live and die as one.

I was once struck by the account of an elderly gentleman who shared with me his method of

Nichum Aveilim, consoling mourners. As is traditional, he would visit widows and their family during shiva. It was his follow up that made his consolation more meaningful and touching. When the superficial display of solidarity dissipated and a deeper mourning took hold, he would show up at a widow's door with flowers or pastry on Friday afternoons. It was no longer prescribed words of consolation or participation in a minyan that he offered. It was his simple presence and a commitment to alleviate the numbness of solitude following the end of the formal shiva. He fully understood that empathy and solidarity should not be a fleeting gesture or the mere fulfillment of an obligation. It must be an ongoing responsibility.

Barebones survival is not enough. To succeed, we need to thrive. Tragedy should not be the force that unites us. Our survival and continued success must be infused with an enthusiasm for Jewish life. As individuals and a community, we must commit to live and experience a full Jewish life with all that entails. ☺

BLIND FAITH OR LOGICAL CONCLUSION

BY RABBI MENDEL FELDMAN, CHABAD LUBAVITCH OF THE MARITIMES

In Parshat Yitro (which we will be reading shortly) we read that the Jewish people accepted the Torah with the words, *na'aseh v'nishma*—**we will do, then we will understand** (Exodus 24:7). Their commitment to keeping God's Torah was not in any way contingent upon their understanding why they should do so. They were ready to do whatever G-d would command, irrespective of whether or not it made sense to them.

At first glance, this seems to fly in the face of all we know about Judaism. It is not a religion of blind faith. We define reality by using our mind. Our heart might tell us what "feels good," but it doesn't define truth and reality. Our emotions often blind us from seeing reality. So how could the Jewish people, at this seminal moment of history, seemingly subjugate themselves to mindless faith? It goes against so much of what Judaism holds dear.

Let us examine the logic underlying this approach to Mitzvot observance. The function of

man's soul is not completely different than the function of the body, there are parallels in their functionality. In order for the body to function and be healthy it requires regular intake of air/oxygen and food consumption. No amount of thinking, speaking or studying about these elements can substitute for the actual intake of air and sustenance; on the contrary, to deny the actual intake of these required elements will only weaken its mental capacity of thought and concentration.

Accordingly, it is obvious that the proper approach to ensure the health of the body is not by way of study first and only then practice, but rather to eat, drink and breath, which in turn also strengthens the mental capacity of study and concentration.

So too, in the case of the Soul, the elements which it requires for its (spiritual) sustenance are best known to its Creator. At Sinai G-d revealed to us that the air/oxygen and nourishment for the well being of our Soul is....Torah and Mitzvot.

The Jews who stood at Sinai knew without a shadow of a doubt that there was a God; they experienced a national revelation and heard G-d speak to them directly. They reasoned, quite logically, that if G-d is telling us an atom bomb is going to explode, we don't need to understand how it works. We'll run first and ask questions later.

Hence, the declaration *na'aseh*—**we will first do, v'nishma**—**then we will understand**. If G-d says that pork is spiritual poison, (you will see nothing, feel nothing—but it will slowly eat away at your soul), then the **logical** conclusion is to refrain from eating it. And if G-d says that Shabbat guarantees a spiritual infusion into every week, then let's embrace it.

So, as we hear the Ten Commandment in Shul, let us too declare in our hearts, *Na'aseh V'nishma*, will practice a little more each day, (even if we don't yet understand how it works) and in the meantime let's strive to learn and understand whatever we can. *Based on the teachings of the Lubavitcher Rebbe of Righteous Memory.* ☺



The Atlantic Jewish Foundation

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Scholarships will be awarded on financial need, merit, and on the availability of funds.

Submitting a scholarship application does not confirm automatic receipt of a scholarship.

Priority will be given to first-time applicants. Scholarships are only available to residents of Atlantic Canada.

Applications available at: theajc.ns.ca/scholarships

The Noa & Sarah Heinish Scholarship

Throughout their lives, Noa and Sarah Heinish devoted themselves to the betterment of their community, their house of worship and the state of Israel.

Passover of 1943 found Noa and Sarah assisting in the preparation of a Seder for hundreds of young Jewish servicemen stationed in Halifax before shipping out to Europe.

At the end of WWII, Noa was one of a group of interpreters who met the ships which brought Holocaust survivors from Europe to the shores of Halifax. Speaking in Yiddish, he helped them transfer to the trains which took them to family members waiting their arrival in upper Canada.

Noa Heinish was one of the founders of Shaar Shalom Congregation and served as its first president.

Together with Sarah they lent their support to every arm of the congregation.

Sarah Heinish was an active member of Women's League, Hadassah, Neptune Theatre, the Soroptomists and the Nova Scotia Institute for the Blind. Both Noa and Sarah gave generously of their time and resources in the support of Israel Bond drives, United Jewish Appeal, Camp Kadimah and other groups and were leaders in the Canadian Jewish Congress. For many years they operated a successful clothing business on Gottingen Street in downtown Halifax which closed in 1972.

To carry on their good works, the Heinish family established the Noa and Sarah Heinish Foundation. This charitable foundation has provided endowments supporting Jewish educational and health care institutions in Canada and Israel. A portion of the funds has been allocated to the Atlantic Jewish Foundation to provide an annual merit scholarship for a student from the Maritime Jewish Community to study in Israel.

Noa and Sarah Heinish Foundation Trust—\$1,000-\$2,000 each. One scholarship per year for study in Israel.

The Miasnik-Rein Trust

A limited number of scholarships of \$2,000 each are available to worthy students, one or both of whose parents profess the Jewish faith. The scholarship is open to students of the Atlantic Region for the purpose of establishing or continuing exposure to their Jewish heritage by means of an organized Jewish experiential education program that includes study, travel, community service, or other suitable activities. Examples of appropriate programs include Holocaust Education tours, organized Israel trips, Jewish teen tours, Jewish summer programs etc. If you are unsure about the eligibility of a program, please contact Naomi Rosenfeld at nrosenfeld@theajc.ns.ca for more information.

Miasnik-Rein Trust—\$2000 each. Maximum 5 scholarships per year.

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