

Shalom

CONNECTING THE ATLANTIC JEWISH COMMUNITY



SPRING 2018

Camp Kadimah Reunion

New Feature! Recipes

David Korn Nominated
for RBC Award

CELEBRATING
ISRAEL'S 70TH
ANNIVERSARY



Atlantic Jewish Film Festival

AN ATLANTIC JEWISH COUNCIL PRODUCTION



NOVEMBER **15-18** 2018
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

JOIN US FOR OUR 5TH YEAR!

SATURDAY EVENING > BUDAPEST NOIR, 2017

Hungarian with English subtitles, 95 minutes.

A hard-boiled reporter investigates the brutal murder of a prostitute, leading him into the dark underworld of 1930s pre-Nazi Hungary, in the stylish thriller BUDAPEST NOIR.

A politically-charged tale of corruption and betrayal, this richly atmospheric murder mystery will leave rapt audiences guessing until its surprising climax.

Saturday, November 17 | 7:30 PM

Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21

Tickets include the reception to follow,
celebrating our 5th AJFF!

UPDATES AT **AJFF.ca**



SHALOM MAGAZINE

President

MICHAEL ARGAND

Executive Director

NAOMI ROSENFELD

Editor

EDNA LEVINE

Contributing Editor

JOEL JACOBSON

Design

MEGHAN RUSHTON

Advertising

EDNA LEVINE

SAMIHA TAMANNA

Address all correspondence
including advertising enquires to:

EDITOR, C/O SHALOM

ATLANTIC JEWISH COUNCIL

5670 SPRING GARDEN ROAD SUITE 309

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA B3J 1H6

TEL. 902-422-7491 | FAX 902-425-3722

ELEVINE@THEAJC.NS.CA

ATLANTICJEWISHCOUNCIL@THEAJC.NS.CA

www.theajc.ns.ca

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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.

Shalom

SPRING 2018

VOL. 43 | NO. 1

IYYAR 5778



18



29



ON THE COVER

The Knesset,
by Tom Forrestall



This beautiful, original watercolour **The Knesset**, 14" x 22", from the series 35 Days in Israel is available for purchase from the AJC: **\$4,100** framed (plus delivery).

Tom Forrestall is one of Canada's most acclaimed and exciting realist painters. Forrestall was born in Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia in 1936. In 1965, he held his first solo show at Roberts Gallery in Toronto and has since continued to show in galleries and museums across Canada. He completed a large outdoor piece for Expo '67. He was elected a member of the Royal Canadian Academy in 1973.

"Watercolor has been with me since my earliest days of painting and has always been the most enjoyable side of my painting experience; allowing me to work while I travel throughout my own country and abroad... The watercolors I did in Israel are, I feel, some of my finest efforts. I was honored and delighted for the opportunity to work and travel throughout this beautiful country. The sights and people of the land will continue to inspire me for years to come."—Tom Forrestall, March, 2011

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From The Desk Of **MICHAEL ARGAND** President of the Atlantic Jewish Council

The AJC has been busier than ever these days planning new programs and initiatives to help strengthen and unite our Jewish community. I'd like to highlight some of these initiatives that stood out to me over the past few months:

THE HALIFAX COMMUNITY CAME TOGETHER OVER MISHLOACH MANOT

In February, dozens of Halifax community members—teens, Hebrew school parents, families, Beth members, Shaar members, and more—came together to bake, pack, and deliver more than 45 Mishloach Manot bags to Jewish seniors living in the Halifax area!

Inspired by their post-Israel trip assignment of educating their fellow Halifax JWRP participants about Purim, two amazing women from our community, Marcia Kohler and Jennifer Jacobson, took it upon themselves to organize this community-wide project. This included instructing participants to bring kosher pre-packaged items to an educational Purim lesson at Marcia's home, working with the Jewish teens involved in JOLT (our local Jewish teen programming) to help prep the bags, encouraging volunteers to help out with the Beth's annual hamentashen bake, and organizing more than a dozen volunteers who personally delivered each of the bags. Kol Hakavod everyone!

WE WELCOMED MARY HORROCKS, PJ LIBRARY® PROGRAM OFFICER WITH THE HAROLD GRINSPOON FOUNDATION

In late February, our community welcomed Mary Horrocks, our PJ Library® Program Officer, for her first ever visit to Nova Scotia. During her time here, Mary toured the sites and chatted with PJ Library® parents at our first ever PJ Library Parents program at the Clay Café in Halifax. Our community has benefited so greatly from our partnership with the Harold Grinspoon Foundation and it was such a pleasure to have Mary here with us in person!

THE AJC HELPED OUT WITH 9 DIFFERENT YOM HASHOAH COMMEMORATIONS ACROSS THE REGION

Every year, the AJC is very proud to sponsor the Yom HaShoah ceremonies in St. John's, Sydney, Halifax, Charlottetown, Moncton, Saint John, and Fredericton. In addition, this year, we also sent Rabbi Ellis to participate in a Yom HaShoah commemoration in Bass River, NS and Naomi to speak at a meeting of the West Nova Scotia Regiment Memory Club on Yom HaShoah in Kentville, NS (see picture). For such a small organization, the breadth of our Holocaust Education initiatives and reach is incredibly remarkable. In particular, I was very moved this year by the words of Allan Rosenfeld, the keynote speaker at the ceremonies both in Halifax and Sydney, who spoke about his experiences as the child of Holocaust survivors.

JOLT WRAPPED UP ANOTHER YEAR OF SUCCESSFUL TEEN PROGRAMMING IN HALIFAX!

Just finishing up its second year of programming, JOLT, or "Jewish Outreach Leadership Training", has seen Jewish teens getting together in Halifax on a regular basis during the school year for tikkun olam projects, Jewish experiences, and social outings. Led by an outstanding group of grade 12 and university student volunteers, JOLT has breathed new life into our Jewish community teen programming. Kol Hakavod to everyone involved!

SHABBAT PROGRAMMING BROUGHT PJ LIBRARY® FAMILIES TOGETHER

Thanks to a very generous engagement grant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, we saw young Jewish families forming strong social connections as they learned about and enjoyed the magic of Shabbat both through larger community programs and more intimate home-hosted Shabbat dinner. It's safe to say this PJ Library® Shabbat programming initiative was a huge



PHOTO: Michael Argand, AJC president, at the Yom HaShoah service, Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21, presents Joey Lecker-Evans with his Memorandum of Personal Responsibility from the Asper Foundation for completing the Asper Foundation Human Rights and Holocaust Studies program.

success—echoed by the fact that we now have more than 70 families from across Atlantic Canada enrolled in our PJ Library® program! We are excited to bring what we learned from this initiative in Halifax to the rest of the region next year.

ISRAEL TURNED 70!

All across Atlantic Canada, we waived Israeli flags and danced in circles as we celebrated the 70th birthday of our Jewish state. Here in Halifax, the AJC recognized this amazing milestone with two different events: the first was a combined Yom HaZikaron/Yom Ha'atzamut ceremony which paid tribute to famous Jewish and Israeli music. Each song was performed by local community members and involved a variety of instruments. Our second event was an Israel-themed kid's carnival! Israeli music blasted as everyone feasted on an Israeli-style dinner and went through a series of activities lead by the teens involved in JOLT.

As always, thank you to my fellow AJC board members, our long-time AJC donors, our AJC staff team, and countless community volunteers who made all of this (and more) possible! 🌟

From The Desk Of NAOMI ROSENFELD

Executive Director



In his recent talks at both the Halifax and Sydney Yom HaShoah ceremonies, my father spoke about the story of his parents, my paternal grandparents. They were both Holocaust survivors, sole survivors of their respective families, who met on their way to an outpost of the Jewish Congress in Western Poland as they both searched fruitlessly for surviving family members. Within two years, they were married with their first child, living at a displaced persons camp in Germany, and trying desperately to save up enough money to be able to move somewhere far away and start their life anew.

However, just at this time, my grandparents were approached by two men raising funds for the war going on in what, at that time, was the fledgling state of Israel fighting for its existence. Without hesitation, my grandparents decided to give these men every penny they had saved over the past two years. To them, after everything they had been through, the simple idea of the state of Israel—a Jewish state, a place where Jews even had the possibility to fight to defend themselves—was so miraculous, so inspiring, that they didn't think twice before supporting it in literally every way they could.

You can only imagine my grandmother's joy in watching Jewish communities across the world celebrate Israel's 70th birthday last month, including the many celebrations we had right here in Atlantic Canada.

Yet, in the wake of these celebrations, it is apparent that connecting the next generation of Jews living in the Diaspora to Israel will not be an easy task. Gone are the days of my grandparents where the simple existence of Israel was miraculous enough to inspire a connection. Instead, we find ourselves in a world where most of the Jewish community has never known a world without Israel.

HOW CAN WE ENSURE THE NEXT GENERATION OF JEWS WILL BE CONNECTED TO ISRAEL?

Here at the AJC, we are working to fulfill this goal in three ways:



PHOTO: Naomi Rosenfeld at a meeting of the West Nova Scotia Regiment Memory Club on Yom HaShoah in Kentville, NS

1. ENCOURAGING EVERYONE TO VISIT/ EXPERIENCE ISRAEL

Nothing strengthens one's connection to Israel more than being there. Which is why here at the AJC, we're doing everything we can to encourage and subsidize trips to Israel. This includes organizing trips such as the JWRP trip we took last fall and other community missions, funding and coordinating Birthright Israel for young adult ages 18-32, and providing scholarships for a number of other experiences including Biluim Israel, the Maccabi games, semesters abroad in Israel and more. If you know of anyone in Atlantic Canada even remotely interested in going to Israel, send them our way and we'll find an experience that works for them.

2. BRINGING ISRAELI CULTURE AND ARTS TO ATLANTIC CANADA

All consumers and producers of arts and culture know that these things have the power to both unite communities through a common language and to provide crucial insights to the heart and soul of any given place. All the more so when it comes to Israeli arts and culture. That's why we aim to bring as much Israeli arts and culture to Atlantic Canada as

possible through Israeli food, art, film, photography, music, or dance, and more. One need not look further than the Israeli dancing at Camp Kadimah or the music of our recent Yom HaZikaron event to see its impact.

3. BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH ISRAELIS

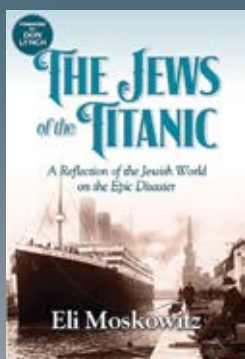
Nothing fosters a stronger or more powerful connection to Israel than having real, long-lasting relationships with Israelis. That's why we try to include Israeli participants on every mission we organize—including Birthright Israel and JWRP. We also subsidize Israelis from our partnership region to spend the summer, every summer, at Camp Kadimah—forming lifelong friendships with children from across the Maritimes. And, we're working to try and bring an Israeli *shaliach* here to Atlantic Canada for several months in the fall.

I am confident that with the continuation and growth of these sorts of initiatives, the next generation of Jews in Atlantic Canada will feel just as connected to Israel as my grandparents did that day in their displaced camp, if not more! 🇮🇱

If you're interested in learning more about the basis of our philosophy on Israel education, please visit www.theicenter.org/aleph-bet.

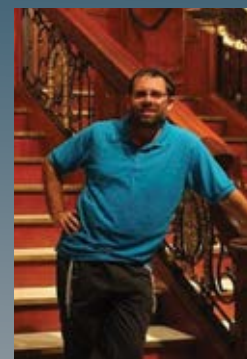
THE JEWS OF THE TITANIC

by *Eli Moskowitz*



Special Event

Sunday, June 24th, 2018 at 2:00
Maritime Museum of the Atlantic
1675 Lower Water Street, Halifax.



During an era when millions of Jews fled the pogroms of Eastern Europe, the Titanic sailed on her maiden voyage. At the time, she was the largest and most luxurious ship ever built and many of her 2,200 passengers were Jewish. At 23:40, April 14, (28th of Nissan 5672) the Titanic swiped an iceberg and sank within two and a half hours. Most of her passengers lost their lives. The sinking of the Titanic was one of the worst and well known maritime disasters of the 20th century. The entire world mourned the Titanic. The grief was universal and shared by people of many nations and religions.

Eli Moskowitz's book, now translated into English, focuses on the lives and deaths of the Jewish passengers who sailed on the Titanic. It covers various Jewish aspects of the voyage and of the sinking, keeping kosher, the Agunot dilemma and Jewish burial. The book outlines the life story of the passengers and the effect the disaster made on world Jewry. This book is the result of a long research on the subject, including an attempt to compose a unique and complete list of all the Jews who sailed on the Titanic, and identifying many of them who were previously unknown.

Eli Moskowitz was born in Jerusalem, Israel. He has a B.Ed in Education and an M.A. in Jewish History. He is an educator by profession and a Titanic researcher in his spare time. He has been fascinated by the Titanic for decades. *The Jews of the Titanic*, originally written in Hebrew, is his first book. Eli will be visiting Halifax as he has been invited to launch his book at a conference hosted by the Titanic International Society and the Titanic Society of Atlantic Canada.

Eli's presentation is co-sponsored by the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic and the Atlantic Jewish Council. Copies of his book will be available for purchase at the event and Eli will be happy to autograph them.

From The Desk Of EDNA LEVINE

Director of Community Engagement



The Halifax premiere of the award-winning Hungarian film “1945”, based on the short story “Homecoming” by Gabor T. Szanto, screened to a full house on International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Director Ferenc Török created suspense and tension using black and white film to capture the unsettling post-war period in Hungary, exposing the villagers’ guilt and fears when two Jewish Holocaust survivors arrive, with baggage, at their local railroad station. This program was presented in partnership with the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21.

Building on our annual Christmas Day volunteer partnership with Spencer House Seniors Centre in Halifax we continued to strengthen our community through increased volunteer engagement. A new initiative this winter supported Out of the Cold, a Halifax community organization which since 2008 has provided shelter, meals, support, and a community drop-in space for people who are homeless or precariously housed during the coldest months. Our volunteers and partners—Hillel Atlantic, the Shaar Shalom’s Tikkum Olam committee and members of the local Shambhala community—provided over 200 hot meals, sandwiches/bagged lunches and snacks. Spencer House Seniors Centre generously provided the use of their kitchen for food preparation. The dedication and commitment of our community volunteers, and outreach partners, ensures our continued support to Out of the Cold in 2019.

The Canadian Jewish Experience (CJE), an exhibit celebrating Canada from the viewpoint of the country’s Jewish communities, embarked on a yearlong Atlantic Canadian tour last fall. Project leader Tova Lynch, Ottawa, continued to provide her support with a wonderful result, and the exhibit will be in Saint John, NB throughout the summer as well as at the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21, Halifax. The AJC owns a copy of CJE, please contact me to schedule a showing.

70 Years of Remembering and Building: Holocaust Survivors and the State of Israel was the theme for this year’s Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Memorial Day) commemoration. The program in Halifax was organized in partnership with the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 and presented an insightful reflection by keynote speaker Allan Rosenfeld, son of two Holocaust survivors and author of Holocaust Lumber. Contributions from the 2017 Asper Foundation Human Rights and Holocaust Studies program students included several readings and their receipt of the program’s Memorandum for Personal Responsibility, written by Dr. Israel Asper z”l, to “remind students that they have a personal responsibility for the world community”.

Eli Moskowitz, Israeli author of *The Jews of the Titanic*, recently translated into English, will be in Halifax this June for the International Titanic Society Conference. Moskowitz is interested to connect with the local Jewish community and a special presentation of his work has been organized with (and at) the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic on Sunday, June 24, please see the opposite page for details.

Planning is underway for the 15th annual Holocaust Education Week (HEW) in Halifax, October 21—November 2, presenting programs to challenge, awaken, and encourage conversation. Events for educators, students and the general public will be offered with support from the Azrieli Foundation, University of King’s College, Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21 and the Montreal Holocaust Museum.

The 5th Atlantic Jewish Film Festival (AJFF) opens November 15, screening international award-winning films for 4 days. To enhance the moviegoer experience special guest speakers are invited to engage with the audience before and after select films. Following the success of last year’s first Sunday family program, the 5th AJFF presents the family-friendly film “The Samuel Project”, 2017, USA, starring Hal

Linden. The film focuses on the relationship between Eli, an outcast teen, who connects with his isolated grandfather for the first time and discovers he has a surprising past when he makes his grandfather the subject of an animated art project for school. Make sure to bring your tissues to this not-to-be-missed film! The AJFF relies on community sponsorship as well as the efforts and commitment of many community volunteers—including the returning chair Lynn Rotin, and the organizing committee, Phil Belitsky, Rosalind Belitsky, Jon Goldberg, Anna Hazankin, Linda Law, and Peggy Walt—who work throughout the year to ensure filmgoers an engaging line-up of films, relevant programming and speakers. Please support the festival, save the date, and join us for an exciting festival weekend! Updates at: AJFF.CA.

Next summer: The first comprehensive art exhibition of the Adler-Berman Collection will be presented in July 2019 at the Chase Gallery in Halifax. David Adler and his son Adam (Halifax) discovered hundreds of paintings and photographs behind the walls of their family’s home in New York. Works of the three Jewish American artists, who exhibited in some of the major museums and galleries in the USA, will provide viewers with a rare glimpse of Jewish immigrant life before and after the Great Depression. Special guest speakers, academics and other experts will be presented to compliment and enrich the exhibition experience. 5

NEW IN THIS ISSUE

Recipes (see page 28)

Do you have an
original/family recipe
to share? Please send to
elewine@theajc.ns.ca



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Israel

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CIJA REPORT

CIJA AND CJHSD CALL FOR FORMAL ST. LOUIS APOLOGY

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



Canada is a place where everyone is welcome. Each year we open our doors to thousands of refugees seeking security and hundreds of thousands of immigrants, without distinction to ethnicity or religion. Our multiculturalism is not only one of our strengths but also one of the key attributes that define us as a nation. As Canadians, it's who we are, but our home and native land has unfortunately not always been the welcoming place it is today.

In 1939, the MS St. Louis, an ocean liner carrying European Jews seeking refuge from Nazi Germany, crossed the Atlantic. After its more than 900 passengers were denied admission to both Cuba and the United States, in a final effort to find safe haven outside Europe, they turned to Canada for help.

Sadly, the asylum they so desperately needed was not found on Canadian shores. All hope was lost when the Government of Canada ignored its citizens' calls for compassion and refused to welcome a single passenger of the St. Louis. The ship and all aboard had no choice but to return to Europe. While some were able to find sanctuary in other European countries, 500 passengers were forced to return to Germany, hundreds of whom were subsequently murdered in the Holocaust.

During the 1930s, there was a global unwillingness to admit Jewish refugees fleeing Nazi Germany, a policy that proved fatal for many.

Though other countries around the world certainly share responsibility for this egregious injustice, Canada's record was among the worst in response to the crisis. Our highly restrictive policy toward Jewish refugees from Europe was even marked by the now-infamous phrase "none is too many."

This policy reflected an unfortunate era during which Jews faced extensive social and institutional bigotry. In Canada, Jews were subjected to discriminatory quotas restricting admission to universities, banned from numerous social clubs and corporations, and even denied entry to some public parks.

At the unveiling of Canada's National Holocaust Monument last year, Prime Minister Trudeau recognized this dark chapter of Canadian history. This was an important milestone since, as a country, we must recognize our past mistakes to ensure that—now and in the future—we stand for what is right.

CIJA and the Canadian Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Descendants (CJHSD) are calling on the Government of Canada to take the next important step by offering a formal apology in the House of Commons to the victims of the St. Louis.

Since it does not require the government to incur fiscal liability for its actions, some may question the value of such an apology. But

CIJA Report continues on page 9 >

CAMPUS NEWS

BY LINDSAY KERR, DIRECTOR OF HILLEL AND NEXT GENERATION ENGAGEMENT

Hillel's winter term was another busy one!

We continued hosting our monthly Shabbat dinners in Halifax and even added some themed dinners. Our most highly reviewed was the Korean themed menu which we served on the opening night of the Olympics. We even had Olympic rings challah! We also hosted our biggest event of the year—The Second Annual Purim Masquerade Ball. This event was a huge success once again, drawing approximately 130 people including The Honourable Andy Fillmore, MP for Halifax, and our special guest for the evening. Halifax's final program of the term was the opportunity to hear from Noam Gershony, a former IDF helicopter pilot who survived a crash and went on to win the gold medal in wheelchair tennis at the London 2012 Paralympics. Our chapter in St. John's celebrated Purim together and joined members of the local Havurah for their Pesach celebrations. Rabbi Michael Skobac of Jews for Judaism visited the Jewish community in St. John's this spring as well. During his trip he made time in his schedule to meet with some students on campus.

Compared to last term, this term we upped our service game with a few different projects in both chapters. In Halifax we collaborated with the Atlantic Jewish Council's existing partnership with *Out of the Cold*, a community-based, volunteer-run winter shelter that provides safe accommodation to people experiencing homelessness in Halifax.

Part of their operation includes having baked goods to give to people as they arrive at the shelter each day. Hillel Halifax gave chocolate cookies for one day, and hamantaschen, traditional Purim cookies another day.

Our biggest service project of the term was a swab drive *Gift of Life* (www.giftoflife.org) where we asked people on campus if they'd consider swabbing their cheeks and joining the Gift of Life registry. Only 30% of people who need a stem cell transplant will find one within their families. This leaves 70% of people turning to registries like Gift of Life to seek out a match. Although we were in competition with other Hillels for the total number of swabs, the real goal was just to add new names to the registry. Throughout our drive we had approximately 25 people swab and register!

Our final service project in Halifax was a swap and drop for *Good Deeds Day*—an international day of service for Jewish communities around the world. We collected clothing, canned goods, and small items for apartment set up which were then taken to Adsum for Women and Children, a local organization that offers a range of services and support to women, families, youth and trans* persons during periods of homelessness. We were one of many Hillel's around the world to participate in this day and it is great to know we are part of something bigger than just us.



LINDSAY KERR

Each year Memorial University of Newfoundland offers a Skillshare Series, a “by students, for students” series of classes facilitated by the Student Volunteer Bureau”. This spring our St. John's chapter participated by way of Justin Tobin leading a class on Judaism. He shared slang words, music, and challah with his audience. 🥰



1



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PHOTOS: (1) The Second Annual Purim Masquerade Ball; (2) Hillel students pictured with Lindsay, at the Gift of Life service project.

< CIJA Report continued from page 8

there is something much more significant on the line. A formal apology, with all-party support, will demonstrate to Holocaust Survivors and their families that Canada regrets its fateful rejection of Jewish refugees prior to WWII. And, perhaps just as important, it will signal that our remarkable country will never again lack compassion for refugees in grave danger and seeking our

help—including for Jews facing antisemitism.

If you, like me—and millions of Canadians across the country—agree that the Government of Canada should offer a formal apology for its fateful decision to turn away the Jewish refugees aboard the St. Louis, you can still join those who have signed our letter to Prime Minister Trudeau and Canada's federal party leaders. Visit www.cija.ca/st-louis.

We can't re-write history, and there's no magic “undo” button that can erase the mistakes of our past. But, if we join in defense of our Canadian values and pledge always to uphold truth, correct injustice, and demonstrate compassion, there is no limit to what we as a nation can achieve. 🌟

LETTER:

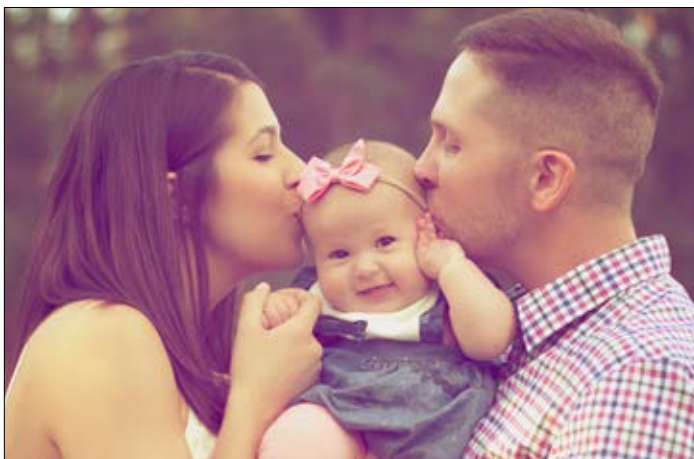
All Nations Should Recognize Jerusalem as Israel's Capital

BY MORRIS GIVNER

Throughout the ideologies of Christianity and Islam, there are substantive ideas, values and customs that originated in Judaism. President Trump is to be commended for his insight and exceptional courage in recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's Capital. According to scholars, Abraham, the Founding Father of the Jewish People went to Jerusalem in 1738 BCE. In 866 BCE, King David established Jerusalem as Israel's Capital. In 423 BCE, the Babylonians conquered Israel and exiled the Jews. In 70 CE, the Romans destroyed the Jewish Temple. In 312 CE, Christians expelled the Jews from Jerusalem. In 638 CE, the Muslims conquered Jerusalem. In 1099, Christians returned to Jerusalem, defeated the Muslims and killed all the Jews in the City. In 1517 CE, Turks conquered Israel and Jerusalem. In 1917, the British conquered Jerusalem. In WWII, 1939-45, Germany and her very willing collaborators exterminated six million totally innocent Jewish men, women and children for one reason only—they were Jews. In 1948, the UN recognized The State of Israel. Immediately, 5 Arab armies invaded Israel with the stated intention to completely destroy Israel. Israel survived but lost Jerusalem to Jordan who systematically destroyed all synagogues and desecrated Jewish graves. Following their defeat, Arab nations expelled 850,000 Jews (although many had ancient roots which preceded Mohammed by over 1000 years), stole their properties, murdered their men, raped their women and humiliated their children. The State of Israel should make legal claims at The International Court at The Hague—for appropriate reparations from all Arab nations responsible for the unjustifiable expulsion of Jews from their native lands. In 1967, after winning the Six Day War, tiny and democratic Israel was able to unite Jerusalem for the first time since the Roman Conquest. Today, the UN should not only reaffirm Jerusalem as the Capital of Israel but should create a special broad investigative commission which would hold public hearings on the shameful and criminal silence, collusion and tacit approval as Jewish citizens of Arab nations were singled out by their own governments for criminal prosecutions, imprisonment, torture, murder, ethnic cleansing and illegal financial and economic penalties and ultimately the expulsion of 850,000 of totally innocent Jewish men, women and children from their homelands for one reason only: they were Jews. This all followed the UN sanctioned reincarnation of The State of Israel in 1948.

Source: *Simpletoremember.com* | Morris Givner is a retired Professor living in Halifax, N.S., Canada.

Editor's note: Shalom magazine welcomes letters from readers, please send to: elevine@theajc.ns.ca



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PJ Library® NEWS

BY **LINDSAY KERR**, DIRECTOR OF HILLEL AND NEXT GENERATION ENGAGEMENT

PJ Library®, created by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, is a program for young kids which focuses on both literacy and Jewish life. Registered families receive one Jewish themed book or CD per month and get to bring Judaism into their home while spending time together. This year, the AJC received a grant to expand our PJ Library® portfolio from just books to actual community programming. These programs are welcome to any Jewish families with young children whether they are registered with PJ Library® or not. We continued to offer family programming at 3 new locations with 2 new programs. In February we hosted a parent's night at the Clay Cafe where we were joined by Mary Horrocks, our program officer, from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. So often at programs parents are so focused on their children, we wanted to give them an opportunity

to interact with each other, without their children there. We expanded to Bedford for our make and take Havdalah workshop, and will be ending our programming the way we started, with a kids Shabbat Dinner at the Halifax Independent School in May. We've continued facilitating our home hosted Shabbat meals over the last few months. It's been so exciting to see the strong social bonds forming as people open their homes to other families.

It has been amazing to watch families continue to connect at these programs and we know we can and will continue to provide meaningful Jewish programming for our young families. If you would like to enroll your family in PJ Library®, you can email me at lindsay@theajc.ns.ca for more information! ☺

PHOTO: Children decorating their craft project at the PJ Library® workshop.



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pjlibrary.org

Please email Lindsay Kerr (lindsay@theajc.ns.ca) for more information.

We have an exciting announcement to make... WE'RE EXPANDING PJ LIBRARY!

The Atlantic Jewish Council is thrilled to offer **PJ Library®**: a program that provides children in Atlantic Canada with a FREE high-quality, expert-selected, age-appropriate, kid-tested (!) Jewish book every single month.

Thanks to a generous donation to our **UJA Campaign**, and a grant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation, we are thrilled to announce that, effective immediately, we are raising our **PJ Library®** age limit from 5 and a half to 8 years old!

That means that if you have, or know of a family that has, any child at home aged 8 or younger, they are now eligible to enroll in **PJ Library®**!



CAMP KADIMAH NEWS



We are getting ready for an amazing summer in Barss Corner in 2018! On July 1st, we will be welcoming over 300 campers from around the world, all proudly coming to the best place on earth!

BY SARAH ATKINS, CAMP DIRECTOR

It's the summer of celebration! 75 years for Camp Kadimah and 70 years for Israel! Each week this summer we will be celebrating a different aspect of camp that we love or a different part of Israel that we connect to. We are a part of a new initiative with the iCenter for Israel Education that focuses on our relationship with Israel called *Israel@Camp*. Through this initiative we will be re-imagining our Israel programming and how we collaborate with our Israeli staff to have intentional integration of Israel into our everyday life at Kadimah.

VISITING DAY

We are really looking forward to welcoming alumni and friends of Kadimah on our Visiting Day, July 29, 2018. Prospective parents, please feel free to come and visit on that day as well, the camp will be bustling! If you can't make it on Visiting Day, please be in touch with us to find out more about registering for our Pre-Gibbie Day.

PRE-GIBBIE DAY

Giborim is our youngest section for campers aged 7-9 years. This year, Pre-Gibbie Day will be held on Tuesday, July 31, 2018 between 10:30a.m. and 3:00p.m. at Kadimah. Kids between 6-9 years come to camp for the day to participate in "a day in the life" at camp. While the kids are participating in the exciting programs we offer, parents can get a tour of camp and ask any questions they may have. Please contact us if you are interested! office@campkadimah.com

2019 REGISTRATION

Registration for summer 2019 will begin on July 29, 2018! Please visit our website to register (www.campkadimah.com). Register early to make sure your campers have a spot for 2019!

MARITIME STAFF

We can already feel the excitement of the summer through all of the incredible staff who will be living, working, and enjoying with our campers at Kadimah. We are so pleased to have so many Maritimers on staff this summer: Zach Novack, Robyn Budovitch, Jonah MacDonald, Ethan Goldsmith, Peter Svidler, Zane Brown, Jacob Suissa, Yael Gazit, Kass Palter, Leah Collins, Liran Kazatsker, Karin Reznikov, Jessica Pink, Mark Myer, Sean Shvartzman, Bessie Lecker-Evans, Sharon Shteinberg, and Max MacDonald to name a few! We are very fortunate to have such capable and positive role models for our campers. Our staff strive to make every day at Barss Corner a meaningful and fun experience.

KADIMAH-IN-THE-CITY (KITC)

We are happy to have having our next Kadimah In The City event on Sunday, May 27th at Ground Zero Climbing Gym in Dartmouth from 4-6pm. We are really looking forward to seeing our campers and staff one last time before we are all together at camp!

SOCIAL MEDIA

To keep up with all of the exciting things happening in the city before camp and during camp, check out our Facebook page or our Instagram account! ([Facebook.com/campkadimah](https://www.facebook.com/campkadimah)) Don't forget to check out our daily photos and weekly videos posted on our website throughout the summer (www.campkadimah.com).

We wish you all a wonderful summer and we look forward to celebrating with you at Camp Kadimah! ☺



BY PHIL DAVID, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A few months back, as roles were shifting at Kadimah, I got the chance to become part of the upcoming CK75 Celebration team and I was blown away by the level of activity happening behind the scenes.

At the helm of the organizing committee, Karen and Howard Conter & Gloria and Steven Pink, have been hard at work for months planning what is sure to be a major highlight in our camp's decades-long history.

It is hard to believe it's been 25 years since our last milestone anniversary and even harder to fathom that we are just weeks away from #75. At the time of this writing, over 300 people have already purchased tickets for the CK75 event taking place in Halifax and in Barss Corner between July 27-29.

From our trailblazing alumni in the 1940's—we hope you will be able to participate in what is sure to be an historic occasion for our camp. Space is limited and we encourage you to book sooner than later since Halifax's Pride Week will also be coming to a close that weekend.

Simply visit our dedicated website (www.kadimah75.com) to review details of the weekend events; purchase tickets; and to take advantage of great deals on flights and hotel rooms.

DID YOU COME ACROSS "THE BRIDGE"?

As we strive to improve how often and what we communicate with our alumni, I want to offer a huge shout-out to Rachel Budovitch and Michael Freedman for publishing the 2nd edition of "The Bridge", our semi-annual



newsletter which is designed to keep generations of alumni connected. Please visit our website (www.campkadimah.com/the-bridge) to read the first two editions and catch up on all that is Kadimah. Stay tuned for Edition #3 this summer.

KADIMAH SPRING JOBS PROGRAM: YEAR 2

GFor all our Shalom readers who went to camp as staff, you may remember that ‘quiet period’ between the end of university exams and pre-camp when it was so tough to get a job (unless your parents ‘made’ you work in their deli in downtown Sydney as mine did). In today’s world, the importance of those jobs for students to build their resume’s has intensified beyond what many of us would have ever thought.

That is why we launched the Kadimah Spring Jobs Program on our website in 2017—a job-matching program in which staff can post their resumes while Kadimah alumni and parents who have hiring decision rights in their organization can search for temporary employees prior to pre-camp to help finish projects, conduct background research or get tasks done that never seem to come off your “To Do” list.

Please let us know if you can offer temporary, contract or project work for our industrious staff and we’d be glad to connect you.

Visit our website at campkadimah.com/job-board-home or you can contact me at info@campkadimah.com and we’ll set up a time to chat to help our incoming staff.

RENTALS AT KADIMAH

From weddings to school groups and alumni camps to family reunions, Kadimah is well positioned to offer one of the most unique rental spots in the region during our shoulder seasons before and after camp.

With 35 pristine acres nestled on Lake William just over an hour from Halifax, a broad range of indoor and outdoor facilities and a menu that is second-to-none, if you know of a group, association, company or wedding party looking for a retreat venue, please contact the camp office. I am pleased to be working with Kadimah alum and Halifax native, Myrna Yazer, on our Rentals program which is really starting to take shape.



SPRING CLEANING

With the upcoming camp season coinciding with many families’ annual Spring cleaning ritual, we always include a reminder to members of the local community to reach out to the camp office before discarding gently-used items like furniture (couches, love seats), sports equipment, electronics like flatscreen TV’s, projectors and screens, musical instruments and the like. What may be out of style in your home is often considered a luxury or much-needed item at summer camp so please connect with us.

CHARITABLE GIVING AT KADIMAH: NEW PROJECTS

We are so excited to see new projects unfold at Kadimah this summer with some additional surprises in the works at the time of publication.

THE WATER PARK: Thanks to the Star Family of Montreal for its donation over the summers of 2017,



2018 and 2019 to create our new waterpark which will literally evolve just outside the swim docks. We know the days of the old red slide (circa 1960s to 1980s) are long gone so we are ecstatic about introducing a new slide (with no splinters!) and a host of other structures that will be sure to make General Swim more fun than ever.



commodation in the “Doctor’s Cabin” during their stay at camp over the years. Many of our former doctors have given a generous financial gift to camp to help us refurbish their old accommodations.

We’ve heard for years (they might argue ‘decades’) from our medical professionals—*“We love coming back to camp but wouldn’t it be nice to spruce up the Doctors’ Cabin a little bit”*. Well, we have listened.

THE DOCTORS CABIN: We also want to thank many of our former doctors who braved week or two’s ac-



A beautiful new outside reading porch has just been completed and now the work starts inside to transform the cabin into more of a home away from home for our visiting professionals. If you wish to be part of the donation team—medical school experience or not!—please reach out to me at info@campkadimah.com.

THE DRIVE TO 75

We have more projects in the hopper we’ll reveal as we get closer to CK75 so stay tuned.

In the meantime, if you are considering options for your annual giving on a one-time, monthly or larger gift basis, we are always interested in understanding what your charitable goals are. Please let us know your interests and we’ll contact you to set up a more formal conversation.

In the meantime, you may submit a donation of any personally meaningful amount to www.campkadimah.com/donations and you will get an immediate tax receipt.

THE DRIVE TO 75

Kadimah has been in the fortunate position of being full the last two summers, but with that comes the need for a little more advanced planning as we get ready for summer, 2019. Registration for 2019 will open on Visiting Day (July 29) and if the trend from the last two summers holds true, we expect spaces to be gobbled up quickly.

If you are interested in learning more about Kadimah, arranging a tour—or joining us for Pre-Gibbie Day on July 31 (in partnership with PJ Goes to Camp)—please reach out to Sarah at office@campkadimah.com to coordinate the details so your children don’t miss the opportunity to experience a summer in Barss Corner.

And that’s it for this update. We can’t wait to see you all down in Halifax and Barss Corner this coming July at CK75. Join us and see what all the excitement is about! 5

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CAMP KADIMAH TEAPOT

The Teapot and the Bridge—Camp Kadimah Icons

BY JOEL JACOBSON

Memories of Camp Kadimah's iconic landmarks will flood back to alumni gathering in late July to commemorate 75 years at the venerable summer home for hundreds and hundreds of children.

- The Bridge crossing Lake William that separated the girls' side from the boy's side, and naturally, the girls from the boys and vice versa.
- The original Dining Hall, with its low ceiling that captured the aromas of Ma Bromberg's and later Goldie Yanofsky's scrumptious, to many, cuisine.
- The Lake, with its ever-present leeches that did not dissuade campers from attending the daily, late afternoon General Swim, eagerly anticipated after a busy day of sport, arts and crafts, song and dance, drama, scouting and other activities.
- The Rec Hall, still standing and in constant use, with its dim lighting that made seeing the basketball hoop a challenge, the slippery floors that made stopping on a dime an impossibility, the very hard benches set up for viewing dramatic and musical presentations.
- And the Sports Field, with its trees in the left field portion of the softball configuration that created a challenge for anyone trying to catch a fly ball ricocheting among the branches, and with the Rec Hall roof beckoning a well-hit softball, a target for many of the sluggers who thought they could reach their goal.

However, who from the 1940s and 1950s can forget THE TEAPOT where, each after-supper, throngs of kids lined up to receive canteen—a chocolate bar, pack of gum, bottle, yes, in those days, bottles, of soda, or other sweet treat that was the perfect conclusion to a busy day.

The Teapot, originally built with a commercial message—DELICIOUS SALADA TEA—was erected for the annual Guides' Meet, a gathering of sportsmen from Nova Scotia and the Maritime provinces, and the New England states.

The meet was owned and operated by the Lake William and Sherbrooke Sporting Club Ltd. The sportsmen competed in outdoor events such as fly casting (fishing), diving stunts, skeet and trapshooting, canoe racing, log rolling, moose calling, plus entertainment activities such as bands, choirs, orchestras, campfire singsongs, and even vaudeville acts.

The Guides Show started in the early 1930s and ran until 1944 when Camp Kadimah's founders rented the Lake William site from the Sporting Club for two years before buying the location for \$10,000 in 1946.

The Teapot was located on the "boys' " side, just behind the softball backstop of the sports field. It lasted until the late 1960s when, aging less than gracefully, it crumbled and fell apart.

By then, of course, campers didn't need the daily sugar pick-me-up as many arrived fully stocked with candy from home on opening day.



THE BRIDGE: The Bridge spanning Lake William circa 1936—as taken from an original 1936 Guides Meet brochure provided by Kadimah alumnus Harold Medjuck.

LOG ROLLING: A sporting venture enjoyed by many in the 1930s into the 1960s.

CANOE RACING: A competition always enjoyed by Guides and now Kadimah campers.

THE TEAPOT: An icon at Kadimah from 1946 to the late 1960s, it was built for the Guides Meet in the early 1930s. Original Post Card provided by Harold Medjuck.

And when that ran out, a stock-up on visiting day carried everyone through the last couple of weeks of camp.

The Bridge and High Tower was built by the Sporting Club to join the two sides of Lake William. With regular repairs, refurbishing and strengthening, the Bridge still stands today. The High tower, from which a few daring divers entered the swimming area, but normally used as a lookout by lifeguards and staff to ensure the safety of the swimmers, also remained through the years, although also braced.

Of course, there are many other historic sites at Kadimah—Point Cabin, the Pavilion, the Bonfire Site, outdoor basketball and hockey court, Indian Falls and other hiking locations, even the Office and the Infirmary—all of which will bring back memories.

The 75th celebration weekend will be a time to share those memories, from decades long past to more recent times.

Hope to see you there! ③

Joel Jacobson loved attending Camp Kadimah from 1946-48 and 1952-60—camper, counselor and head staff.



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CAMP KADIMAH REUNION

JULY 27–29 2018

KADIMAH OUR SECOND HOME...

Who said you can't go home again?

Camp Kadimah is celebrating its 75th birthday, and we are going home July 27-July 29 at Pier 21 and at Kadimah on visiting day.

The weekend is looking to be amazing! A blend of nostalgia, memorabilia and just a wonderful time to catch up with old and new friends.

We are planning a Kadimah-style Shabbat dinner for Friday night and a special tribute to Evy Dubinsky Carnat for her legacy of music with the Carnat and Dubinsky family performing.

A sing-song with songs from all the decades. Tributes to the directors and camp chairmen will take place. And of course the memorabilia room—a look back to 75 years in pictures.

Saturday morning we will have Shabbat services at the Westin Hotel led by our own alumni—kiddush following.

We have arranged that our registered alumni can tour Pier 21 at a discounted rate. And at 2:00 pm there will be a private Jewish

tour led by a Pier 21 docent and Celie Heinish Halzel who arrived in Halifax in 1948 through Pier 21 and was lucky enough to also attend Camp Kadimah.

Saturday night will feature a reception and buffet supper and a social featuring the band “Big Fish.” And of course a musical video presentation “through the years.”

We have a few surprises up our sleeves so hope you will be there to share in a fantastic weekend. Finally, a visit to the camp on Sunday—for those that haven't been here in a long time get ready for lots of physical changes but the Chevra and Ruach will be just as you remembered.

Please call or email if you have any questions. This is a very busy weekend for the city of Halifax and hotels and cars are booking very quickly, so don't hesitate, register now so you will not be left out. Not just alumni but friends of Kadimah are very welcome to join us in the celebration of 75 years of Camp Kadimah. A big shout out to all our volunteers and our sponsors Universal Properties,

Southwest Properties, Westin Hotel and the Nova Scotia Government.

Now, I would like to share a very special letter we received from Sharron Ross and send a big thank you to Sharron and her family for this beautiful tribute!

Camp Kadimah played a pivotal role in Norman Ross' life. He started at four years old and had his fifth birthday at camp. Camp Kadimah also played a huge role in his Jewish upbringing and also allowed him to make lifelong friends that still enjoy each other to this day.

So just as Camp Kadimah is celebrating 75 years, so is Norman.

Myself, my children, Jonathan, Renee and Derek along with our precious grandchildren Alex, Darah and Sam, thought it would be the most meaningful and appropriate way for us to celebrate this momentous occasion for Norman and Camp Kadimah by sponsoring the Memorabilia Room for all to enjoy over the weekend.—The Ross Family

Hope to see you at Kadimah 75!—Gloria & Steven Pink Karen & Howard Conter

ARE YOU ALREADY THINKING ABOUT CAMP KADIMAH 2019!

Summer 2019 registration* opens July 29 (Visiting Day) and we expect to fill quickly. We invite Atlantic Canadian families to join us at one or both of our 'open house' events this summer on July 29 and 31. Tour camp, ask questions and immerse your child in the *Kadimah Experience*.

1. Visiting Day 2018

Sunday, July 29
11:00 am – 4:30 pm
- All are welcome

2. PJ Goes to Camp: Pre Gibbie Day 2018

Tuesday, July 31
10:30 am-3:00 pm
- For families with children ages 6 to 9
- Visit campkadimah.com/PreGibbie



We strongly encourage all families interested in Kadimah 2019 to register online during the week of July 29.



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*Limited Scholarships available

DAVID KORN NOMINATED

FOR THE RBC TOP 25 CANADIAN IMMIGRANTS OF 2018 AWARD

David Korn is a retired civil engineer. After completing his education, Korn began working for the federal government in the Maritimes. In his position as a project manager, he managed the construction of major post offices, wharves and other infrastructure projects. Eventually, he began working with Parks Canada, acting as the chief engineer for the \$20 million major restoration of the Halifax Citadel from 1977-1985. In this capacity, in 1981, he was sent by Canada to Venice in Italy to participate in a UNESCO-sponsored course, teaching state of the art historic restoration techniques of masonry structures. He then used this experience to help with the emergency restoration of the Canadian Parliament Building in Ottawa from 1994-1997.

Since arriving in Halifax in the early 1990s, he has been a passionate educator about the Holocaust, frequently talking about his experiences in schools and at community events. Korn loves music and singing, and has sung many memorial prayers and tributes as part of Holocaust commemoration programs. Korn has also worked continually with the Atlantic Jewish Council to ensure that all Holocaust survivors in-need in Nova Scotia have restitution from the Conference on Jewish Materials Claims Against Germany to help cover the cost of their care as they grow older.

Since arriving in Halifax in the early 1990s, he has been a passionate educator about the Holocaust, frequently talking about his experiences in schools and at community events.


On a national level, Korn represents Atlantic Canada with Canadian Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Descendants (CJHSD), a grassroots organization founded in 1999 to advocate on behalf of its members and represents Canadian survivors at the Jewish Material Claims Conference. The CJHSD is an independent organization affiliated with the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA), a national, non-partisan, non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of Jewish life in Canada.

As a board member of this organization, Korn has been instrumental to the process of building a national Holocaust monument in Canada, and more.

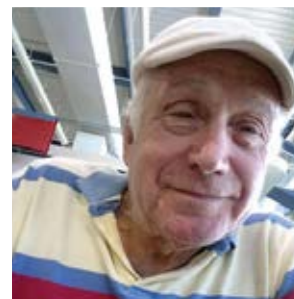
Korn was born in a Jewish family in 1937 in what is now the Czech Republic. In 1938, one year after the Nazis invaded the Czech part of Czechoslovakia, his parents decided to take him and his brother Jacob and move in with relatives in Slovakia. However, in 1942, when the Nazis started deporting Jews from Slovakia to death camps across Europe, his parents sent their boys into hiding with a farmer in a nearby village. The farmer kept the two boys for one month until deciding it was too dangerous to continue doing so. Eventually, relatives decided to hide the two boys in an evangelical Lutheran orphanage in Slovakia where they remained for the rest of the war. Korn later learned that his parents were deported and murdered in Auschwitz not more than one week after putting the boys in hiding.

After the war, he and his brother Jacob were placed into the care of an uncle and aunt who took them back to Czechoslovakia. While at first, the family prospered, eventually they lost everything under communism and he and his brother Jacob ended up in orphanages both in France and in Israel.

Korn graduated from the Technion, Israel's Institute of Technology and completed graduate studies in engineering in Montreal where he focused on the design of hydroelectric dams. In 2001, he was honoured in the Canadian Parliament along with 30 other Holocaust survivors by the Government of Canada.

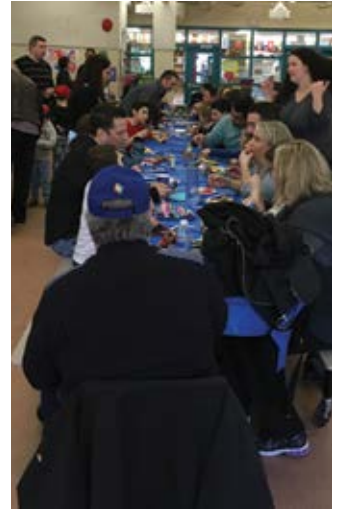
David Korn, Halifax, is married with two children, a lawyer and a medical doctor. 

Reprinted with permission from Canadian Immigrants magazine, a division of Metroland Media Group. The finalists will be announced on June 21, 2018: www.canadianimmigrant.ca



CELEBRATING ISRAEL'S 70TH ANNIVERSARY

This year the Halifax Jewish community Yom Ha'atzmaut family carnival was held at Basinview Drive Community School in Bedford. With an Israeli inspired menu, carnival games, crafts, and Hebrew music, families celebrated Israel's 70th birthday in style. The carnival drew approximately 200 people speaking English, Hebrew, Russian, and more. We loved having everyone join us for this exciting celebration and are looking forward to putting it on again next year.



YOM HASHOAH

Photos by: Frank H. Scheme Photography



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PHOTOS: (1) Michael Argand, AJC president, greets Mayor Mike Savage and the Hon. Lena Metlege Diab, Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Minister of Immigration, at the Holocaust Memorial Day commemoration service at the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21; (2) Holocaust survivor Natan Nevo lights a memorial candle; (3) The Asper Foundation Human Rights and Holocaust Studies program students lead the audience in the singing of Ha-Tikvah; (4) Allan Rosenfeld, right, keynote speaker, son of two Holocaust survivors and author of Holocaust Lumber, with daughter, Naomi Rosenfeld, AJC executive director, and Michael Argand, centre, AJC president.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS FOR OUT OF THE COLD



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PHOTOS: (1) The Shaar Shalom's Tikkun Olam committee organizers Greg Hirsch and Andrea Hilchie-Pye, left, joined with Rabbi Raysh Weiss, right, and volunteers (l to r) Adrienne Benoit, Andy Fagan, Esmé Hirsch, Alexander Hilchie-Pye, Katrina Hurley, Devorah Rose, Nancy Cieplinski and Gregory Shepshelevich at Spencer House Seniors Centre to prepare and deliver hot meals to Out of the Cold, a Halifax community organization which since 2008 has provided shelter, meals, support, and a community drop-in space for people who are homeless or precariously housed during the coldest months; (2) Volunteers Dave Hansen, Allisan Tucker and Vicki Lipkus prepared a double batch of sandwiches and delivered bagged lunches to Out of the Cold (pictured at the Spencer House Seniors Centre kitchen).

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AROUND OUR REGION : FREDERICTON

FREDERICTON NEWS

BY AYTEN KRANAT

Children in the chedar class baked a variety of hamentaschen for the Purim holiday which they took home. The Passover holiday centered around the discussion and activities of the "four questions". Of course. The favourite part of the Seder was the searching for and the finding of the Afikoiman. The children have been learning some Israeli dancing and practicing Barachot during snack time. After Yom Ha'atzmaut, they are now looking forward to Shavuot.

On behalf of the Jewish community, a thank you is extended to Alexander Shaulov for having us partnering with the Federal Volunteer Income Tax Initiative. This is the second year of our participation in this program under Alex's leadership.

Thank you to Dr. Israel Unger and his committee for once again organizing the Holocaust Commemoration Ceremony.

Shelley Stephens welcomes her sister Rhoda Daouine (nee Budovitch) for Passover from Moncton and celebrated the 2nd Seder with family.

Mazel Tov to Alex and his family on his graduation from UNB Fredericton's Faculty of Law. We wish him well as he returns to Montreal to further his career.

Mazel Tov to Marni Gelkopf and Yosi Lazarev on their engagement and upcoming wedding in August.

Wish Mazel Tov to their parents Dr. & Mrs. Gelkopf and Mr. & Mrs. Lazarev and families.

Sadly, our community has lost a number of its members from our Fredericton community over the last few months.

Our condolences to Valerie Chippin, daughter, Natalie (Sid) Lipkowitz, son Seth (Linda) Chippin, sister, Betty Rosenzweig and their families on the passing of beloved husband, father, father-in-law, sister, grandfather and uncle, Bernard(Mike) Chippin (z'l).

Our condolences to Gordon (Alice) Chippin, Marilyn (Seymour) Kaufman, David (Gail) Chippin, Arthur (Janet) Chippin, sister Betty Rosenzweig and their families on the passing of beloved father, father-in-law, brother, grandfather, great-grandfather and

uncle, Harry Chippin (z'l).

Our condolences to Arnold (Judy) Budovitch, Steven Budovitch, Howard (Rachel) Budovitch and their families on the passing of their beloved brother, brother-in-law and uncle, Mitchell budovitch (Z'l).

Our condolences to Jason (May) Budovitch, Amy (Greg) Feldman and their families on the passing of their beloved father, father-in-law, and grandfather, Mitchell Budovitch (z'l).

Our condolences to Bracha Goldman, son Rabbi Yosef, brothers Lionel(Anette) Goldman, Barry (Debbie) Goldman, sisters Judith Goldman and Esther(Jeremy) Shapiro and their families on the passing of beloved husband, father, father-in-law, brother, brother-in-law, grandfather and uncle, Macky Goldman(z'l).

Message from Shelley Stephens, Sisterhood President, Sgoolai Israel Synagogue:

Our Annual Passover Seder was held on Friday night, March 30, 2018 with Rabbi Yosef Goldman and Shaindy Goldman, sponsored by Sisterhood, Sgoolai Israel Synagogue. It was well attended with over 30+ people enjoying the evening. Guests as far away as Israel, Woodstock, Toronto and Maine joined us. We welcomed Rabbi's son, Netanal Goldman, my cousin Morton Allen Cohen, Eli and Rina Goldman. The community took part in reading the hagaddah. I want to thank all of my volunteers who assisted in bringing this event together, many hands behind the scene make light work. Special thanks to our Chef, Aggie's Catering and to the Knights of Columbus who have participated for several years. ❧

CAPE BRETON NEWS

BY **BARRIE CARNAT AND SHARON JACOBSON**

Having both been away for quite a while, Barrie and I are collaborating on our Local News...

Regarding the amusing urgency of the e-mail requests my husband, Stanley, would send out this past winter as to who will be attending services for the upcoming Saturday, there is usually a 3-4 day countdown, which is like following the antics of a comic strip; 3 days to get the requisite "TEN", and then another day to find out who is bringing what for the Kiddish Lunch. The Pareve Menu reflects chef specialties—Inez Schwartz's chopped herring salad, Faye David's salmon salad, Ralph Medjuck's tuna salad, and is it Barrie Carnat or Eleanor Yazer who brings the egg salad to replace (Paula) David Ein who is busy chopping up divots in Florida? Moe Liefbakes the chalah when he is not smoking the salmon and Warren Zisseron usually brings something from Marilyn's kitchen while Martin Karrel may bring something of Margaret's culinary efforts. Stanley picks up the fruit tray from Sobey's because they cut it so well...

Indeed our weekly synagogue service exhibits all the Joy, Confusion & Heart of Gilligan's Island and its small band of survivors!
Verse 1 :

The mate is a mighty e-mail man,

The skipper, brave, and sure,

10 members set to shul each week

For a 2 hour tour; a 2 hour tour...

Verse 2 : *The weather started getting rough*

The tiny shul was "frost"

If not for the courage of the fearless crew

The Minyan would be lost

The Minyan would be lost...

Get the picture?

Now, Gilligan's boat (whose name I shall change from the "Minnow" to the "Minyan") could be set aground by the vagaries of weather, or one's uncharted weekly plans. However, driven by the rousing cries of the 1st Mate (Stanley J), the Skipper too (Martin C.), the Millionaire & his Wife (who are they?), the Movie Star (Inez S), the Professor (Barrie C/Joe C) and Marianne (Eleanor Y)—services, miraculously took place on yet

another fateful Shabbat morning!

Other regulars have washed ashore in our cast of characters:

Sandra (the Doctor); Martin (the Businessman); Beth Sheila (the Birder); Warren (the Psychologist); Ralph (our Retiree); Tootsie/Faye (our Grand Dame); Ron (the Publisher); Sharon (the Educator); Moe (the Baker); Leon (the Songwriter) and Shayna & Darren (the Young Working Couple). If I have missed any other Winter Birds, do let me know...

The resilience and humour of our "Congregation" survivors must embody in some small way the spirit and indomitability of our Holocaust survivors and their families. Far more serious, this heartbreaking saga in our history still reverberates with incredulity.

It never ceases to surprise and amaze me when the date for Yom HaShoah arrives, and the greater non-Jewish community is instrumental in organizing a Holocaust Memorial Service. They believe this tragedy must serve as a model for educating all citizens, young and old, on the danger of scapegoating the "Other".

For many years, Diane Lewis, a local teacher has been heading this committee which includes, Sharon Columbus, Betty Shore, Shirley Chernin, Barrie Carnat, as well as many others from the greater non-Jewish community.

This year Naomi Rosenfeld's dad, Allan presented his book, Holocaust Lumber. He told his story from the point of view of a child of holocaust survivors. His mom is in her 90's, like most holocaust survivors today. Soon, if not now, it will be very difficult to find any still alive and able to be transported around the country to tell their story. Dr. Rosenfeld's list of Lumber Rules was poignant. His perception of how the brutal inhuman experience that befell his parents impacted and manifested itself while growing up is revealed. Nothing was wasted; professional education was paramount; and, never, ever challenge a survivor; these are a few I remember. Many people found his talk illuminating.



PHOTOS: (1) Mark Eyking, Member of Parliament for Sydney—Victoria with Martin Chernin honouring Temple Sons of Israel on behalf of the Canadian Government; (2) Members of the Cape Breton Regional Police Service lighting memorial candles; (3) The Boularderie Lakeview Choir with Choir Director Joella Foulds accompanied by Carol Ann MacDougall performing at Sydney's Yom Hashoah Commemoration.

A candle-lighting ceremony followed with members of the Cape Breton Regional Police Service. MP Mark Eyking presented an award to the Temple Sons of Israel for its contribution to the greater community. Martin Chernin accepted this award and also recited the Kaddish.

The Boularderie Lakeview Choir under the direction of Joella Foulds sang "Let Their Be Peace On Earth" and Ella Dubinsky, accompanied by her mother, Beth and the Choir led the audience in the always fitting "We Rise Again", written by her dad, Leon.

At the bottom of the programme, these words:

The opposite of Love is not Hate
It is Indifference...

Cape Breton News continues on page 22 >

< *Cape Breton News continued from page 21*

I had a mesmerizing conversation with our gal, Friday, Wendy Ross.

It was about the Love Story of her mother, the late Dena Cohen Ross and her father Ivan Ross who sadly passed away June 23, 2017.

Ivan was born April 30, 1924 in a family of 10 from Haileybury, Ontario which is 3 hours north of North Bay. While hitchhiking to Kingston to join the navy in 1941, he was dropped off by a truck driver in Toronto.

Starving, he went to the nearest restaurant which happened to have a Mogen David on the window. Not knowing what this meant, he ordered a hot pork sandwich! "Who is this wise guy?" The proprietor wondered.

Soon he discovered this kid was simply a gentle young man who did not know what Kosher meant... he directed him to the appropriate establishment. Ivan enjoyed telling that story.

Upon arriving in Sydney, via Halifax, he went to Cohen's Confectionary, (later to become Ike's Delicatessen in the early 50's). The tiny gal behind the counter accepted his offer to buy her a cup of coffee and that was the beginning of a tale of love between Ivan and his "dearest, darling Dena".

She studied pediatric nursing at the Montreal Jewish General. He went to war. He was part of the crew on the HMCS Prescott, an escort convoy. He saw The Battle of the Atlantic; Wendy says he saw too much for a boy of 17.

The hidden romance of Dena and Ivan resulted in an elopement in 1943/4 while he was on Leave in Montreal. They married again, after Wendy's bubby prompted his conversion to Judaism. They had 3 children: Pam, Wendy and Kim; 7 grandchildren (Andrew, Kerry, Aidan, Matthew, Becky, Leanne and Evan); and 5 great-grandchildren (Cole, Liam, Zachary, Olivia and Leigha) "Poppy" as he was affectionately called was adored by his Family. He was a role model for them. He played Bridge up to his last days, was a great cook, having diligently watched his mother-in-law, Becky Cohen prepare all her Jewish delicacies. He made a decadent Crepe Suzette!

He even taught cooking in Adult Education classes.

His work life included—the operator of Cohen's Confectionary, naval emissary, a guard, many years with Eastern Light & Power and CN and even bar-tending for Sam Dubinsky.

The couple travelled after retirement and when Dena became ill, he was a devoted caretaker.

The collection of love letters left behind is a testament to their life together and inspiration for a play that will be written one day.

Ivan Ross died in his daughter's arms. His legacy lives on in their family.

Unfortunately, I must add that Ivan's son, Kim died the night before his father's funeral. He was 65 years old. Wendy believes that his heart was broken.

Kim was called The Fish. He was an extraordinary swimmer.

He came from a family of swimmers. His grandmother, mother, sisters and the grandkids apparently share the gene. He loved the outdoors, taught people to swim, was good with figures, worked for CN and was an army diver! He loved his Dad.

Passover, the family and friends gathered around a beautifully set table, the wine glasses, the Seder plate. For many of us this is our favourite holiday. But for the Cape Breton Jewish community it presents challenges. The local stores no longer stock matza or kosher for Passover foods. When I asked my son "Are you coming here or will I go to Toronto?", his reply, "It's easier for one person to fly rather than five". Thus many of us were away, while some former community stalwarts are of an age where it is no longer possible to prepare a Seder.

Fortunately Shayna and Darren Strong stood up for the cause, and once again invited the community to their home for the seders. People attended both seders. The tradition of Dora Goldman's gefilte fish continues, now handed down to the third generation. Another way that we keep the candle burning, here in Cape Breton. 5

PEI NEWS

BY ERNEST SCHLEICHKORN

Pesach 2018.

A community second Seder was held on the 2nd night, March 31. Approximately 25 people in attendance. Attendance was less than normal due to PEI Spring break and Easter break coinciding. Keeping things on a positive note "it's quality that counts not quantity". Kudos to Rosalie Simeone & Leo Mednick. Rosalie for organizing and Leo for doing the lion's share of the set-up, purchasing supplies, especially the wine, doing much of the cooking, and leading the sear. These two are also past presidents of the PEIJC.

Next big event of notoriety was Yom haShoah memorial service. Thanks go out to Rosalie Simeone and Sandra Ireland for

organizing. This year our guest speaker was Dr Israel Unger.

Dr Unger recanted how he survived by spending 2 years hiding in the attic of a mill in Poland with his family consisting of his parents, brother and two aunts, along with three family friends, nine people in all, moved into a tiny attic room for the duration of the war. They had food supplies for 3 months, then survived on flour & barley making pita bread and barley soup for the remainder of the two years.

Following poem was read by Catherine Martin who is a graduate of the Asper Holocaust Studies program 2008 >

PEI News continues on page 23 >

Keep the Candle Burning

*During the Holocaust,
the world lost all its color*

It looked like a black and white horror movie

There was no script, actors or camera director

*And the action that happened was real
all the time.*

Despite the color-less world, something shined

It slowly brought back color to the world

It helped to restore faith to people's hearts

There in the distance a candle flickers.

*Bringing warmth to the world with
its little light*

*Showing others hope and love can still
be found*

*And now, we must teach future generations
Teach them on how to keep the candle burning.*

MONCTON NEWS

BY NANCY COHEN

Moncton's annual Holocaust Memorial Service took place on April 15. One hundred and fifty people gathered to remember and pay tribute. The service began with the lighting of six memorial candles by six of our children who had recently had, or would soon have their bar/bat mitzvah. Our guest speaker was Sonia Thon, Professor of Linguistics and Literature at Acadia University. Sonia's mother Elsa Thon is a Holocaust survivor who lives in Toronto and the author of the book "If Only It Were Fiction" published by the Azreili Foundation. Sonia's very informative and moving talk called "If Only It Were Fiction: The Duty of Memory" described her mother's experience, the burden that many children of survivors often feel, and the responsibility of the next generation to carry on the legacy of remembering the past, passing on that memory and educating current and future generations. Many thanks to the AJC for their help in bringing this speaker to Moncton.

A beautiful concert featuring the Goldenberg Duo was held on April 25. The sanctuary of Tiferes Israel made a lovely setting for the delightful music of Susan Goldenberg on violin and her brother William on piano. This enthusiastic duo has dedicated their lives to performing music around the world, and pay many of their own expenses to bring their concert to small communities. To quote one of the attendees, Wayne Harrigan, "from the opening notes of Mozart's Sonate in e Minor to the closing ones of lively Klezmer and Yiddish folksongs, we enjoyed a wide variety of pieces." The concert was well attended by Moncton music lovers. It was held in memory of Myer Rabin



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PHOTOS: (1) Susan and William Goldenberg performing at Tiferes Israel; (2) Dr. Sonia Thon, guest speaker at the Holocaust Memorial; (3) Francis Weil and Nancy Cohen at the Holocaust Memorial; (4) the audience at the Goldenberg Duo concert at Tiferes Israel; (5) Susan Goldenberg, Francis Weil and William Goldenberg.

who was coordinating their visit to Moncton when he passed away. As President of the Moncton Community Concert Association Myer was influential in bringing professional concerts to Moncton.

Thanks to generous donations from some of our members the shul has recently been able to make some much needed purchases. Our social hall got a facelift with the purchase of 150 new chairs made possible by a donation from the estate of Sara Gergely. A beautiful new Megillah was made possible with a donation made by Sheldon and Sharon Rubin, and Nicole Druckman and Jack Haller. Donations by David Rinzler and John Flanagan have allowed many improvements in the kitchen and mikvah.

On February the community gathered together for the bar mitzvah of Bryson Rinzler-Johnston, son of Shawna Rinzler and Andy Johnston, and grandson of David and Carole Rinzler. Everyone was proud of how well Bryson read his maftir and chanted the haftarah. A delicious lunch followed the service where Bryson led the congregation in the Kiddush. Mazel tov to all!

OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO:

David Cohen, his wife Carolyn Baer and their two daughters Arianne and Rachel on the passing of their mother and grandmother Kay Cohen on January 2 at the age of 99. The love of family and friends was paramount in her life and she is remembered for her kindness to all who knew her.

Linda Coleman and her children Jason (Tanya) and Riva on the death of their husband and father Harry "Arkie" Coleman on January 28. Arkie was born in Moncton and lived his entire wife here. Arkie was known as a loving family man who lived for his wife and children.

Mazel tov to Darlene and John Flanagan. Their daughter Colbi is graduating from Saint Mary's University with her BA in Commerce. Their son Jonathan will receive his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of New Brunswick. Jonathan will soon be taking part in the Birthright tour to Israel. ☺

< PEI News continued from page 22

Underlying message is remember the atrocities that were committed, and keep our hopes up, and to respond to the rise in antisemitism, so that events such as this never occur again. ☺

PHOTOS: (1) Community Passover Seder; (2) Catherine Martin reading the poem "Keep the Candle Burning", picture with Rosalie Simeone; (3) Yom HaShoah Candle lighting: Winston MacGregor, PEI JC pres. and guest speaker Dr. Israel Unger open the PEI Yom haShoah service with the lighting of the 6 candles to remember the six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust; (4) Ariel Kleinman-Alarco, matzo afikoman finder.



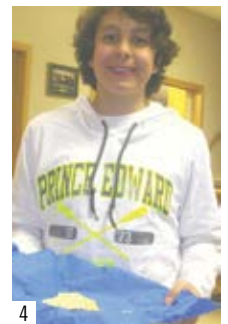
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SAINT JOHN NEWS

BY SUSAN ISAACS LUBIN

Our snowbirds are all arriving back, but our weather has not welcomed them to Spring! Soon, we hope.

During the winter, Saint Johners celebrated Tu B'Shevat with a kiddish of fresh fruits after Services. Purim was a cause to celebrate with costumes, reading of the Megillah by Haim Aharon and Joe Arditti and good food.

Mazel tov to John Vinizer on the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah. John is the son of Anna (our Hebrew school teacher) and Ilan Vinizer. Anna was fortunate to have sister join her for this celebration. Mazel tov to Julia Goldin and Alexei Saviliev on the birth of their first child—a healthy baby boy. And a hearty Mazel tov to Dr. Anna Barnea Isaacs and her husband, Dr. Yitzhak Isaacs on passing their Dental qualifications for Canada and we are happy to say that the two and a half years it took them was worth the effort, and they are both working in their chosen field.

Our sincere condolences go out to the family of the late I.J. Davis (Issie). Issie was

a businessman throughout his adulthood in Saint John, and our oldest member. Issie was fortunate to have five wonderful children who, despite living far away, were extremely attentive.

Our condolences also go out to the family of the late Dr. Lewis Freedman. Lew was a family physician to many a Saint Joyner. Lew lived in Saint John all his life until he retired from practice and moved to Toronto to be closer to his children and grandchildren.

Our Annual General Meeting was held and a new Board of Directors was elected. Bruce Washburn was re-elected as President. We are fortunate that we have four Israeli residents who have shown interest and have become members of our Board.

A memorial and celebration was held for Israel Memorial Day, and Independence Day. Esti Gilad Bar Levy produced a very moving slide show for Memorial Day, which was followed by a concert featuring a band and soloists from the music school "Rock of Ages".

In June, we will be participating in the first international cultural event. This will be taking place on Harbour Passage Boardwalk, and will feature booths from various countries. We are looking forward to being a part of this.

We have again acquired the services of Matt Goldberg to conduct our High Holy Day Services. Matt's parents will be joining him in Saint John, and his father will again blow the Shofar.

The Jewish Historical Museum presented their annual Holocaust Memorial Service to a packed audience. Unfortunately, our guest speaker could not fly out of Toronto due to weather, but we were fortunate to have Cheryl Furan, a history professor at UNBSJ, who has gone on 'The March of the Living, fill in. 5



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PHOTOS: (1) Alma Bar Levy entertaining for Israel Independence Day Celebration; (2) Preparing for John Vinizer's Bar Mitzvah; (3) Tu B'Shevat goodies; (4) Children at Purim 2018!

REPORT FROM SAINT JOHN JEWISH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

BY KATHERINE BIGGS-CRAFT, CURATOR

Yom Hashoah

The annual commemoration of the Holocaust was held on Monday, April 16th with about 100 people in attendance, mostly from outside the local Jewish community and many who come to this event every year. Dr. Cheryl Fury, Professor of History from UNB Saint John was our speaker. She spoke about her tour to the camps as part of the educator's component of the March of the Living and her meeting with survivor, Vera Schiff. Mrs. Schiff was taken to Theresiensadt where she was able to work in the camp hospital and participate in the musical performances staged for the Germans and visitors to the camp. Dr. Fury noted that as the eyewitness survivors are becoming fewer each year, it is increasingly important for others to bear witness in their place.

We would like to thank all those who participated in the program. Dr. Elizabeth McGahan, President, Saint John Jewish Historical Society chaired the event. Lorie Cohen-Hackett, vice-president, thanked our guest speaker. Students from the Holocaust Study Group—Jillian Coggan, Lina Helfrich, Rebecca Flood and Sarah Unger, led the singing of *O Canada*. The Rev. Thomas Graham led a moving and meaningful invocation, while Rev. Terrence Chandra led the recitation of the 23rd Psalm. Phillip Bloom, assisted by Amos Friling led the Memorial Prayers and Mourner's Kaddish. The memorial candles were lit by Dr. Cheryl Fury, Bruce Washburn, Neil Franklin, Shemer Ben Meir, Shiran Daniel, Sarah Unger, Jillian Coggan and John Vinizer. The program concluded with the singing of Hatikvah, led by Hila Aharon.

Holocaust Study Group

This is the 18th year in which the Saint John Jewish Historical Museum has invited students in grades 11 and 12 to participate in the Jewish Holocaust Study Group. Twenty students from five schools registered for the seven day-long study sessions which began



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PHOTOS: (1) Dr. Cheryl Fury; (2) Amos Friling and Phillip Bloom; (3) Bruce Washburn; (4) Shemer Ben Meir; (5) Shiran Daniel; (6) Lorie Cohen-Hackett, Dr. Cheryl Fury, Dr. Elizabeth McGahan

on January 29 and run to May 7. The first sessions included a tour of the Museum, an overview of Jewish religion, culture and history, the role played by Canada in the Holocaust and listening to and commenting on survivors' stories. Dan Elman introduced the students to Jewish philosophy and the history of anti-Semitism. Invited guest speakers shared their personal experiences with the Holocaust including Dr. Cheryl Fury, Professor of History, UNB Saint John and Holocaust survivors, Dr. Francis Weil and Dr. Israel Unger.

At the end of the program, the participating students will be given a book donated by the Azrieli Foundation to encourage them to continue to study the Holocaust and share messages of tolerance and understanding.

Spring Variety Concert

The Museum will be holding The Sixth Annual Spring Variety Concert on Thursday, May 10. The lineup for the evening includes the Saint John String Quartet, the Melos Trio, Ari Snyder, Maureen Stackhouse, Maureen Beckwith, Luan Salmon, David Dow, Mary Louise Belyea and others. We are fortunate to have so many talented performers willing to share their time and talent in support of the Museum's summer activities. We are also grateful to the Board of Grace Presbyterian Church who have graciously allowed us to hold the concert in their beautiful sanctuary.

Tickets for the concert are available from the Museum, from Board members and at the door on the evening of the concert for only \$10.00 each.

Exhibits

The new exhibit for the summer is on loan from the Atlantic Jewish Council. *The*

Canadian Jewish Experience highlights Jewish history and accomplishments from across Canada. The themes include immigration, business, military service, politics, sports, arts and culture, justice and exceptional people. We will be adding information from the history of the Jewish community in Saint John to the exhibit to give it a local flavour and connection.

Other exhibits for the summer are "Immigration", "No Place Like Home", "From the Cradle to the Grave", "Starting a New Life: Holocaust Survivors in New Brunswick", "Exceptional Men and Women", and "Habonim, Hadassah and Hope: Building a Jewish Homeland". The Shaarei Zedek Synagogue is also open for visitors.

The Museum will open for the summer season from May 14 to November 2. Regular hours are Monday to Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and during July and August we will also be open on Sundays from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. We are looking forward to meeting many visitors to city, including those who come by cruise ship and former Saint John residents and their families.

Library

With the support of a grant from the Saint John Community Arts Board, the Museum will be redeveloping the existing library into a more user-friendly space. This will include a review and reclassification of the books on hand and creating a process allowing the books to be borrowed by community members. Special events and activities will also be planned—check our Facebook page for notices when these events are to take place. ☺

NEWFOUNDLAND NEWS

News from the far east

BY **RABBI CHANAN** AND **TUBA CHERNITSKY**, CHABAD LUBAVITCH OF NEWFOUNDLAND

February 12th marked our first anniversary since moving to St. John's. What a ride! Thank G-d it's been great and this is only the beginning. We have great plans for the future, stay tuned.

Just before Purim was the last installment of the popular Kids in the Kitchen program. It's scheduled to begin again in September after school resumes.

The Mexican themed Purim Fiesta was absolutely fantastic. We started off with the traditional Megillah reading followed by a scrumptious tortilla buffet. We ended off the evening with a drum circle run by Bernadette Gentry from "Release Your Rhythm Drum Circles". Everybody had a blast!

As we were getting ready for Passover we welcomed to the world our daughter Chaya Mushka. She was well behaved and let us do all the cleaning and cooking on time for the Seder!

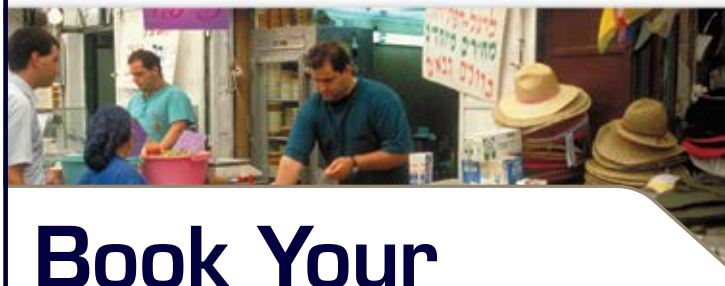
The yearly community Seder was just beautiful. There were people from diverse backgrounds sitting together and celebrating their heritage. The Seder was dynamic and spiced with meaningful, thought-provoking insights that helped us appreciate the ancient customs of the Seder.

As we write this article we are preparing for our yearly Lag B'omer BBQ. We are already praying for nice weather!

Sunday May 20th and Monday the 21st this year, we will be celebrating the holiday

of Shavuot, in which we commemorate the receiving of the Torah on Mount Sinai. Please join us on Sunday the 20th at 3:30 PM for the reading of the Ten Commandments followed by an ice cream buffet and a special children's program.

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.



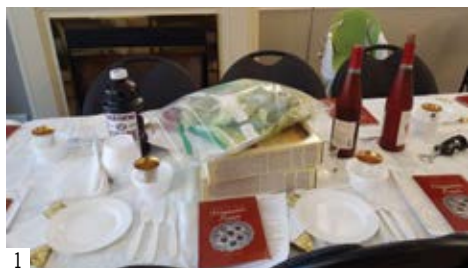
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NEWFOUNDLAND NEWS PHOTOS



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PHOTOS: (1) Chabad Lubavitch Passover Seder; (2) Rabbi Chanan Chernitsky reads the Megillah; (3) Children preparing crafts; (4) Purim Fiesta!

JEWISH COMMUNITY HAVURA OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

BY KATHERINE SIDE AND RUTH NOEL

The Jewish Community Havura, in cooperation with the Canadian Jewish Experience, displayed the exhibition, *Celebrating Canada—The Jewish Experience* at the Arts and Cultural Centre in St. John's. It was displayed in a prominent location, and was seen by many visitors to the building.

With support from the Atlantic Jewish Council, the Jewish Community Havura's held its annual Holocaust Memorial event. This year's event was held on April 15, 2018 and Dr. Robert Katz, Professor of Visual Arts at the University of Maine at Augusta was our guest. Dr. Katz screened his video installation, *Were the House Still Standing*, which weaved together the testimony of sixteen Holocaust survivors and liberators using video, large-format photography, audio, and text to ensure that their memories will endure and be shared with future generations. There were dignitaries from all three levels of government present, as well as representatives from various churches and other religious organizations.

Dr. Katz also gave a talk about the installation, *Were the House Still Standing* in room 4022, Science building at Memorial University, which was open to the public. Dr. Katz has spoken previously about his art at the Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, University of Oxford, England and his installation was commissioned as part of the permanent collection at the Michael Klahr Centre, Holocaust and Human Rights Centre at the University Maine (<https://hhrcmaine.org/who-we-are/michael-klahr-center/>). Dr. Katz also joined Havura members in their bi-weekly Shabbat service and dinner.

The Havura community was pleased to welcome Naomi Rosenfeld, Executive Director, Atlantic Jewish Council to Newfoundland. Naomi attended the community's Purim party and met with members of the Board. The Purim party that Naomi attended was a highlight of 2018. We had a large crowd, almost 70 people and was a lot of fun. Each year, the story of the Megillah involves more and more community members, as actors and as an appreciative audience. The children, who'd met the previous week to bake hamentashen, provided lots to eat, as did one of the members of the community who made falafel for all. Children took home a mishloah manot and many of those who attended also took home some of our abundance of hamentashen. Many thanks to the members who coordinated the event and helped to make the evening a success!

Thanks, too, to those who coordinated the Passover order and ensured that matzah arrived on the island prior to Passover. Seders were celebrated in many of our members' home in St. John's.

We continue to meet together as a community, throughout the year and welcome visitors. 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 by telephone, 709-834-7866. 5

PHOTOS: (1) Candle lighters from the Jewish Community Havura: Elizabeth Siegel; Jacob Siegel; Ruth Gili Noel; Daniel Taieb; Paula Struk-Jaia; Steven Ellenbogen; (2) Robert Katz, guest speaker; (3) The person pictured at the podium, (and in the image with Paul and Lisa Bendsza), is Jewish community Havura President, Steven Wolinetz; (4) The musicians are Paul Bendsza (clarinet), Lisa Bendsza (flute), and they played "Lullaby for a Lost Child for Clarinet and Flute" composed by Paul Bendsza. PHOTOS: (5-7) Community Purim celebration!

Photos 1, 2, 3 & 4 by: Ray Penton

Photos 5, 6 & 7 by: Brad Gibb



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GIVNER'S SMALL RED RIVER-MATZO MEAL PANCAKES

I had left over cooked Red River cereal and decided to create a new recipe.

- > 3/4 C cooked Red River cereal
- > 1T brown sugar
- > 1/2 C matzo meal
- > 2T baking soda
- > 1T chia seeds
- > 1T olive oil
- > Dash of Salt
- > 2T apple cider vinegar
- > Dash of white pepper
- > 1 shredded onion

Combine and stir above mixture vigorously in glass bowl.

Prepare a rectangular Pyrex baking dish lined with silicone parchment paper.

Place tablespoon scoops of the above mixture onto the rectangular Pyrex baking dish.

Flatten each scoop with the bottom of a coffee cup.

Bake for 60 minutes in a preheated 350F oven.

Enjoy as you savour a healthy Jewish small pancake!

**MORRIS GIVNER IS A RETIRED PROFESSOR
LIVING IN HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA**

*Do you have leftover
Matzah Meal from Passover?*



BLACK MAGIC BROWNIES

RECIPE FROM ZINGERMAN'S BAKEHOUSE

BY AMY EMBERLING AND FRANK CAROLLO | PHOTO BY ANTONIS ACHILLEOS

CHRONICLE BOOKS/OCTOBER 2017

- 1 Preheat the oven to 350°F [180°C]. Spray a 9-by-13-in [23-by-33-cm] pan with nonstick cooking spray.
- 2 In a double boiler, melt the chocolate and butter. Set aside.
- 3 In a medium bowl, combine the pastry flour and baking powder. Mix with a whisk to eliminate any lumps of flour and to distribute the baking powder evenly.
- 4 In a large mixing bowl, combine the eggs, sugar, salt, and vanilla. Beat with a whisk until well combined and aerated, about 5 minutes. If you are using a stand mixer, use the whisk attachment on medium speed for this step. Add the melted chocolate/butter mixture to the egg mixture and whisk to combine evenly. Stir in the dry ingredients, using a rubber spatula. If using a stand mixer, use the paddle attachment for this step and mix on a low speed.
- 5 If you are making Black Magic Brownies, you are done mixing and can move to Step 6. If you are making Magic Brownies, toast the walnuts. Place the walnuts on a sheet tray in a 325-degree oven for 10 to 15 minutes, or until they're a deep golden brown. Let cool. Add the toasted walnuts to the batter and mix gently simply to distribute them evenly, then go to Step 6. For Buenos Aires Brownies, see the directions that follow.
- 6 Pour the batter into the prepared pan. Carefully spread it to the corners of the pan in an even layer. Bake for 40 to 45 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted in the center is clean.
- 7 Remove from the oven and cool on a cooling rack for at least an hour. Cut into 12 squares, using a sharp knife to avoid crushing the top. Chilling the brownies before cutting may help the squares look more beautiful, but they taste better at room temperature.

BUENOS AIRES BROWNIES

- 1 Warm the dulce de leche slightly, on the stove or in a microwave. This will make it more spreadable. Place two-thirds of the brownie batter in the pan and spread evenly to cover the bottom. Spread the dulce de leche out evenly over this layer of batter. Top with the remaining brownie batter and spread to cover the dulce de leche. Sprinkle the top with Demerara sugar. If you like sweet and salty desserts, also sprinkle with a little sea salt.
- 2 Bake for 45 to 55 minutes. Cool and then enjoy. These cut more easily if they are refrigerated.



BLACK MAGIC BROWNIES

- > Chopped unsweetened chocolate
1 cup + 1 Tbsp 195 g
- > Unsalted butter 3/4 cup
+ 2 Tbsp 195 g
- > Pastry flour 1^{1/2} cups 218 g
- > Baking powder 1 tsp
- > Large eggs 4
- > Granulated sugar 2^{3/4} cups 540 g
- > Sea salt 1 tsp
- > Vanilla extract 2 tsp

MAGIC BROWNIES

- > Walnut pieces 1^{1/4} cups 150 g

BUENOS AIRES BROWNIES

- > Dulce de leche 3 cups
+ 6 Tbsp 546 g
- > Demerara sugar for sprinkling top
- > Sea salt for sprinkling top (optional)

ZINGERMAN'S BAKEHOUSE by Amy Emberling and Frank Carollo (Chronicle Books, October 2017), shares 65 meticulously tested, carefully detailed recipes in a beautiful hardcover book featuring more than 50 color photographs, illustrations and behind-the-scenes stories of their phenomenal business in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

AMY EMBERLING grew up on Cape Breton Island, NS in a Jewish home enjoying standard Jewish fare like brisket, rye bread, pickled herring and Matzoh Ball Soup. Amy Emberling is a Managing Partner at Zingerman's Bakehouse.

CARL ELLER: A MAN OF JEWISH WISDOM

BY RABBI DAVID ELLIS, AJC REGIONAL CHAPLAIN

In 1963 my family moved from Colorado to Minnesota. At that time, playing football for the University of Minnesota was Carl Eller. He was a consensus All-American.

During the winter the Minnesota football team took on some local high school and junior high coaches in a basketball game. Carl played center, as his team prevailed.

Over half-time I got his autograph; I still have it around somewhere.

Carl, of course, went on to be one of the outstanding players in the N.F.L. and was voted into the Hall of Fame in 2004.

He had his share of troubles over the years. He was the victim of racism—one professor rejected a paper he had written, claiming he was not smart enough to have written it. He had a bout with substance abuse, but over the years became a counselor and helped others.

He is still around. You can see some videos of him on YouTube.

As the president of the N.F.L. Retired Players Association, he runs a program of special advice to young players.

It is, that before you even go onto the field, start planning what you're going to do when you no longer play football.

For a football career is a hazardous prospect. It may not last long. If it does, a player will likely have injuries and health disabilities, often severe, for the rest of his life.

Your career, Carl has said, it can go by so fast, you lose track of it, and it is over before you know it.

Certainly a worthy prescription.

But I thought about it. Hey, Carl, you are not just talking about football. Are not all of our lives like that? Do we not all get distracted with trivialities? Should we not be looking in our teens, 20s and 30s, what we will be doing in our 60s and 70s?

More than that, did you know, Carl—that your words are echoed in the writings of the Jewish tradition?

The lofty final chapter 12 of Ecclesiastes (Kohellet) begins with the rousing words—Z'chor bor-e-cha bi-mei ba-chu-ro-te-cha... remember your creator in the days of your youth...“So appreciate your vigor in the days of your youth, before those days of sorrow come and those years arrive of which you will say, “I have no pleasure in them”; before sun and light and moon and stars grow dark, and the clouds come back again after the rain.

When the guards of the house become shaky, And the men of valor are bent, And the maids that grind, grown few, are idle, And the ladies that peer through the windows grow dim, And the doors to the street are shut—With the noise of the hand mill growing fainter, And the song of the bird growing feebler, And all the strains of music dying down;...”

The midrash, the traditional Jewish expansion of scripture, says that the imagery refers to the human body and its loss of power—of sight, of hearing, of movement, of chewing and digesting. The time will come for it all. Are you prepared? Did you plan to get there?

So what about football altogether? Should one even get into it?

Mike Ditka, another Hall of Famer who would have bumped into Carl many times over the years, has a grandson who is pro caliber. But Ditka told him—don't go into it; it's not worth it.

I will let Carl and his players association figure it out. For me the greatness of Carl Eller is not his rugged tackles and sacks on the field, but his gentle and thoughtful wisdom about life, which very much accords with my Jewish tradition. 5

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BLEE AYIN HARAH—NO EVIL EYE

BY RABBI YOSEF GOLDMAN, SGOOLAI ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE, FREDERICTON

Our Rabbis taught us in the Talmud that one of the most beautiful things about the Hebrew language is that there is a numerical value for each letter. Rabbi Akiva even reveals to us that this can be a method (one of Thirty Two different ways) to learn and understand certain laws. By the way, his contemporary, Rabbi Yishma'el, did not consider Gimatria (numerical value) as a tool for discerning the Law, and only lists Thirteen ways [which are read every morning before the Services (P. 48 in the Artscroll Siddur)]. As an example to support Rabbi Akiva's opinion, the Talmudic Sages asked: "what is the minimal amount of time required for a Nazirite who did not specify how long their oath is for"? The answer they give is—30 days, since the numerical value of the word YIH'YEH (in Numbers 6:5) is 30!

We, the Jewish People, in the State of Israel and around the world, are celebrating this spring the amazing miracle of G-d, of 70 years of independence! The letter corresponding to this number is the Hebrew letter AYIN (literally meaning an eye). I would like to suggest that we can only truly appreciate the State of Israel, if we have a 'good eye'. It is very easy for us to see the negative, and with the amount of media that we are exposed to today, we always hear about all the terrible things that are going on in the world, and especially in Israel, where there is a news broadcast every half an hour! The saying in English is that "good news does not sell papers". But, I believe that it is our obligation

to make a special effort to find the good in the Holy Land.

When the twelve men who Moses sent to see the Promised Land returned from their forty day mission, the word/verb that repeats itself over and over again, is "we saw". All the 'spies' saw the exact same things in the land that they 'toured', but their interpretation of what they saw, is what made all the difference. Most of the men (ten of them) conveyed to the People of Israel the message that: 'even G-d cannot help us against these giants'; while Joshua & Caleb said: 'Hashem showed us these things in order for us to understand that most of these so called 'advantages' of the Canaanites—are really weaknesses'. For example, Rashi tells us (in his commentary to Numbers 13:19) that Moses wanted to find out if the People in Canaan were living in walled cities or PRAZIM (a word that we recognize from the Book of Esther, which means 'out in the open'). The spies reported that the walls were so tall & strong, that we will not be able to conquer them; but Moses wanted them to understand that if such strong people live in walled cities,—this means that they are afraid, and don't trust their own strength.

It is very easy, when you are wearing a white shirt, to see a dark stain, but it is our job to be able to see the 99.999999% of the good and beautiful, instead of what is dark & dirty! One of my sister's Rabbis died about fifteen years ago after having cancer which caused him to be blind in one eye. When people would ask him how he was doing? He would answer:

"blee ayin hara" (kein ayin hora—without the evil eye). As funny (or morbid) as this answer was, he really could not see anything wrong with his health, and therefore, could not see anything wrong with people, places or things! He truly believed that 'all is for the best'—HAKOL L'TOVAH!

The Torah Portion which we read about these spies (Parashat Sh'lach), concludes with the commandment of the Tzitzit/Talis, which teaches us: "and you shall see it (the light blue string knotted up with the white ones)... so that you will not stray after your heart and your eyes" (Numbers 15:39). It is not a coincidence that these are the colours of the flag of Israel, and we shall continue carrying these colours high & proud!

May we merit to follow (and learn from) Caleb and Joshua who said "the land which we toured—is very very good" (Numbers 14:7). ☺



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FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

BY RABBI RAYSH WEISS, CONGREGATION SHAAR SHALOM, HALIFAX



We just recently celebrating Israel's 70th birthday. How perfect that this momentous milestone of our people's homeland coincides with the time of the year when we read from the book of Leviticus, whose content seems oddly suited to the occasion. If we were to try to reduce the book of Leviticus to a single statement, a good contender would be its famous line:

"Be Holy, for I am Holy, the Lord your God." (Leviticus 19:1)

Many commentators have tried to fathom the meaning of the directive "Be holy." What exactly does "being holy" entail? How can one be or become holy? Is G-d informing us that we will be holy or is G-d assigning us a mission to become holy?

The greatest commentators have interpreted the meaning of "holiness" in a variety of ways. One school of thought, whose most prominent member was Rabbi Yehuda ha-Levi, the great 11th century Spanish poet and philosopher, considered holiness an inherent quality, unique to the people of Israel (and to the land of Israel). By virtue of birth into the right nation, one was insured a ticket of entry into the club of the righteous.

The other school of thought, whose most prominent representative was the Egyptian jurist and philosopher Rambam (Moses Maimonides), did not believe that "Holy shall you be" was descriptive. Rather, it was a command requiring hard work indeed! It emphasised the fact that this was not a commandment in and of itself, but an obligation to undertake and fulfill all of the other commandments. As Maimonides explains in the introduction to his *Sefer haMitzvot* (the Book of Commandments):

For God's injunction, "Holy shall you be," "and you shall sanctify yourselves and be holy" are injunctions to fulfill the entire Torah, as if saying: "Be holy by fulfilling all that I am commanding you, and careful in all that I asked you to be careful about."

Yeshayahu Leibowitz, the great 20th century Jewish/Israeli philosopher,

unquestionably a follower of the Rambam, not only adopted his opinion, but severely critiqued the results likely to follow from adhering to Yehuda haLevi's school of thought:

"Holy shall you be," while a most exalted and lofty commandment, may also be an extremely dangerous belief. It could, and was indeed was, erroneously and occasionally willfully, interpreted to mean that the very nature of the people of Israel imbues them with holiness. This perception releases the Jewish/Israeli individual from responsibility and grants a misplaced sense of confidence. Being holy is a directive, a purpose, an obligation; an assigned task and program. It is not a given! Understanding the concept of holiness as a quality rooted in the very nature of the people, rather than as a role and a mission imposed on the people of Israel, turns faith into idolatry."

Holiness, according to the Rambam, and even more explicitly, according to Yeshayahu Leibowitz, is not an automatic lottery prize. It is the undertaking of an arduous task. Both the Rambam and Leibowitz believed that the directive does not refer to any particular commandment, and there is no one, single commandment that imbues holiness more than another. However, is it merely coincidental that after this injunction there is a long list containing one of the most beautiful and moral corpus' of law that have ever been given to mankind?

The corpus of law in Leviticus 19 describes a society in which the stranger is respected, and justice is maintained; particularly on the fringes of society. A society that does not know exploitation and plundering, hatred or revenge; a society in which grudges are not held. Where gossip and shaming is absent and where business is conducted ethically. Where converts are held in esteem; a society permeated through and through with faith.

The connection between the injunction to remain holy and between social directives teaches us that holiness does not stem from sacrificing lambs or praying in the Temple



PHOTOS: (Top) Rabbi Raysh Weiss playing saxophone at yom haAtzmaut celebration, Halifax 2018. (Bottom) Dancing at the AJC YhA celebration.

(nor by meditation, solitude or other spiritual tools). Holiness is attained by fashioning a just society; one filled with compassion and humanity; a society that knows how to balance between those in the center and those on the sidelines.

And what does the above have to do with Israel Independence Day?

The injunction to "be holy" reminds us, the Jewish people and our beloved Jewish homeland, the state of Israel, that we still have our work cut out for us. While we naturally must celebrate Israel's worthy achievements over the past 70 years, give thanks and rejoice in what already exists, we must also shoulder the responsibility that Leibowitz's reading of this commandment implies. The gift of Israel's birthday is a mirror; one that helps us check out how we look, year after year. It shows us how we treat the weak, how we embrace the convert, how we ensure the worthiness of our scales of justice, as both a society and as a people. I believe this message rings true not only for the citizens of Israel. It holds true for each and every society; while beckoning anyone to whom Israel is important to participate in the act of *Tikkun Olam* (repair of the world). 5

REMEMBERING THE PAST TO APPRECIATE THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE

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

We were privileged this past week to witness the 70th Birthday of the State of Israel. For those of us who grew up as the generation after the Holocaust and who were blessed to here the words of Rav Goren A”H “HaKotel Biyadainu” (“The Kotel is in our hands!”) and hearing him blow Shofar, it was almost like a dream come true. It was as if the words in Shir HaMa’alot that we sing every Shabbat and Yom Tov became alive “Hayinu k’cholmim” (We were like dreamers.)

Israel is the land that G-d promised to our Forefathers. Our parents’ generation saw the beginning of “Vishavu Banim Ligvulam” (and your children will return to their borders”, Yirmiyahu-Jeremiah 31:14). with the declaration of the State of Israel in 1947. Our generation witnessed the restoration of the Kotel and the proliferation of Jewish Education throughout all of Eretz Yisrael. We have witnessed the breakthrough technologies that truly have made “the desert bloom” (Yesh-ayahu—Isaiah 35:1) and see Israel grow to be

a light unto the nations with their disaster relief corps. We have viewed the wonderful videos of Israel as a leader in Medical and High Tech technologies. With all these miracles, should we continue to mourn the destruction of the Beit Hamikdash on the 9th of Av with the other fast days of the 10th of Tevet (when the Babylonians put a siege on Jerusalem for close to 3 years), and the 17th of Tammuz (when the Babylonians breached the walls of Jerusalem)?

We, as the Jewish Nation, commemorate Holidays where miracles took place as far back as 3330 years ago (Pesach-Passover). We celebrate Chanukah which is 2,157 years ago and Purim which happened 2441 years ago. Why celebrate something so far back? The answer to this question lays in a true story that took place in the times of Napoleon. Napoleon had come to a Synagogue where he saw people mourning the destruction of the Temples on the 9th of Av. He couldn’t believe the anguish he was seeing. He had

even promised the congregants that he would restore their Temple. He then proceeded to ask “how long has it been since your Temple was destroyed?” Upon hearing 1800 years ago, Napoleon declared “Any people who can mourn like this for something that was destroyed 1800 years ago, surely will merit to have it rebuilt.”

The key to our present and future lays in our respect and commemoration of the past. Through this remembrance, we can fully appreciate the miracles that we are witnessing and will IY”H witness with all the new innovations and growth that will take place in the Land of Israel. It is therefore crucial to educate our children not just with the connection to the Land of Israel but must also celebrate the Holidays and observe the Fast Days so they will fully come to appreciate Israel in its full glory. Only through the past can we appreciate the present and the future.

Have a wonderful summer! ☺

A 49 DAY JOURNEY

BY RABBI CHANAN CHERNITSKY, DIRECTOR, CHABAD LUBAVITCH OF NEWFOUNDLAND

The beautiful holiday of Passover is behind us and Shavuot is upon us. What connects these two holidays?

The mitzvah of Sefirat Haomer, counting the Omer. We count 49 days from the offering of the Omer (The barley offering brought on the 2nd day of Passover in the times of the holy temple, in Jerusalem) until Shavuot, in which we celebrate receiving the Torah.

Why do we count these days? Well, the Torah commands us explicitly to count 7 complete weeks, in Leviticus 23:15. Why? For this there are several explanations. The foremost being that this shows how excited the Jewish people are to receive the Torah. They are so excited that they count down the days just as a child counts down the days

until his next vacation. “Didn’t we receive the Torah already?” You might ask. The answer is that every year, on Shavuot, we receive the Torah in a renewed sense.

Chasidic philosophy discusses how we all possess 2 souls within us. We have a G-dly soul whose sole (no pun intended) interest is to do what G-d wants and stay far away from anything that goes against His will. So why don’t the mitzvot come naturally to us? Why is it that sometimes we are just “not in the mood”? That’s because we also have an animalistic soul. So called due to its decision making process being based on instinct and emotion instead of intellect and reason. This soul is interested in self-serving pursuits and instant gratification.



The flipside is that we have the ability to harness the excitement and enthusiasm of the animalistic soul and use it in our observance of Judaism, allowing us to do the Mitzvot with alacrity and zest.

How? The counting of the Omer. This is a 49 day refinement process meant to purify every aspect of the animalistic soul.

Make it count! ☺

THE TORAH AND THE DESERT

BY RABBI MENDEL FELDMAN, CHABAD LUBAVITCH OF THE MARITIMES



The Torah portion “Bamidbar” (in the desert), is usually read in preparation to the festival of Shavuot (on the Shabbat that precedes it).

What is the connection between (“Bamidbar”) a desert and the holiday of (Shavuot) receiving the Torah.

The Midrash gives several reasons as to why G-d chose to give the Torah to the Jewish people in the desert.

1. A desert is an abandoned space that has no designated owner, it belongs to everyone equally. So too, the Torah is not the exclusive property of an elite group of individuals. It is the inheritance of every Jew; every Jew is equally entitled to learn and study the Torah.
2. A desert is free of any distractions that comes with an established civilization, similarly, we must not let anything distract us from our dedication to the Torah and its values. Additionally, the Torah is relevant and applicable in every generation and in every place one may find himself.
3. The Torah was given to us in the desert—a lifeless and dangerous place—to teach us that the Torah empowers us to transcend all obstacles that may arise enabling us to transform even a desert into a hub of life.
4. A desert is a place devoid of life. There is no water readily available in a desert and little can grow there. This teaches us that although one may be destitute (as a desert) one still has the obligation to follow the directives of the Torah.

As the holiday of Shavuot approaches may we internalize this message, with true dedication to the Torah, its principles and values. 5

HALIFAX AT A CROSSROADS

BY RABBI YAKOV KERZNER, BETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE, HALIFAX

A great debate existed in religious circles at the birth of modern Zionism. Should we wait for G-d to fulfill His promise of our ultimate redemption and the ingathering of the exiles. Would forcing the redemption constitute a lack of faith or had G-d granted us the opportunity to begin the messianic process and anticipate our redemption. Over a century of unbelievable passion and hard work and 70 years of wars and struggles have proven the correctness of the Religious Zionists. Never, since the destruction of the Second Temple, have our own actions done more to shape the destiny of the Jewish people. We are no longer the passive recipients of others' actions. We have proven that we can initiate, create and shape our own future. G-d has many avenues to direct history and our fate. It is now apparent that one of those paths is the freedom he grants us to make our own decisions, to make tough choices and to envision our own future.

Israel has taught us a valuable lesson. The future is not a theoretical construct existing in our minds, it is not just an ideal that we wish for or a hope residing in a future unscripted chapter. Rather, the future is in our own hands. We need G-d's help and His

guidance; but G-d relies on our determination and perseverance in the present to bring the promise to fruition. THE FUTURE IS NOW! Now is the only time and the only tool available for us to make a change in the future.

Halifax is at a crossroads. We are at a critical juncture in the history of our Jewish community. There is a lot of talk and fear of what the future holds for Judaism in Halifax. Whoever I talk to and everywhere I go there is concern about the direction in which we are headed and the future prospects of our well established but increasingly fragile community.

We are asking ourselves some tough questions. How do we envision the future? What are our hopes and dreams for the next generation? There is much concern about finances, buildings, infrastructure, our youth and our traditions. All very important questions. But, although we are planning for the future we are forgetting about the present. The future can not just be a financial plan bundled with hope, dreams of salvation and even a strong faith in G-d. It can not just rest with spread sheets and architectural drawings. THE FUTURE IS NOW! If we want Jewish

activity in the future, if we hope for Jewish spirit in the coming years, if we desire our next generation to be one of Jewish involvement; then we have to focus on the here and now. We have to be involved now. Not just planning for the future but building a strong present. We need communal involvement in Jewish life, in Jewish institutions; we need active synagogue life, we need Jewish social events, Jewish activities for our youth, and most importantly, a thriving, living Jewish spirit alive in the PRESENT. The future will only be assured if we live a Jewish present. The FUTURE can only be a product of a vibrant NOW.

Halifax is blessed with a rich Jewish past, a dedicated community and a strong Jewish identity. There are many of us who are working tirelessly to ensure a strong Jewish future. The path to that future lies in the present. Remembering the past will benefit the future only if it is coupled with the present dedication to our traditions, loyalty to our existing institutions and a vision for our future which includes a vibrant living Jewish present. 5



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