



EDMONTON Jewish NEWS

Publication Mail Agreement Number: 40050628

Volume 30, No. 07

Visit us online at edmontonjewishnews.com

September, 2019



*Best wishes for
good health and happiness
in 5780 and may we flourish
like the seeds of a pomegranate...*

Cover art: Pomegranates by Alex Handman

B'nai Brith Canada uncovers anti-Semitic rhetoric in Edmonton

(EJNews) - B'nai Brith Canada is a successful watch dog for anti-Semitic incidents across Canada. Their vigilance is making a positive difference in identifying when incidents occur and bringing them to the attention of decision makers. Their efforts are also increasing awareness about anti-Semitism within the general community.

Last month an Edmonton imam was prevented from leading prayers at a local community centre after B'nai Brith Canada drew attention to his hateful rhetoric from the pulpit and online.

Sheikh Shaban Sherif Mady, who claims to be licensed by the prestigious al-Azhar University in Egypt, told congregants in March that "international Zionism" was behind ISIS, the recent terrorist attack on two mosques in New Zealand, and "all terrorism." He followed this up with another sermon in June in which he added, "We know that Jews do not like Islam or the Muslims."

B'nai Brith notified the Killarney Community League Hall, which was renting space to Mady for Friday Muslim prayers. The Hall responded by discontinuing his rental arrangement at the end of July. The Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues (EFCL), of which Killarney is a member, has reminded its other members of their obligation to prevent their properties from being used for hate speech.

The Hate Crimes Unit of the Edmonton Police Service is investigating Mady's conduct as well.

"We applaud the Killarney Community League Hall and the EFCL for doing the right thing and demonstrating real leadership on this issue," said Michael Mostyn, Chief Executive Officer of B'nai Brith Canada. "There can be no room for hate speech in our communities, even when cloaked as religious dogma."

Mady also has a troubling record on social media. In 2014, he shared a post predicting that, on Judgment Day, "the Muslims will kill the Jews." In 2018, he stated that "The mission of the Muslim Brotherhood - to expel the Jews and restore the al-Aqsa Mosque - has not ended." The post is notable because Mady identifies himself as a

supporter of the Muslim Brotherhood.

Mady has previously been the subject of controversy over his sermons. In 2016, according to the Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI), he asserted that Jerusalem "will only be regained through blood" and falsely described Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah al-Sisi as a "Jewish Zionist" as an insult. Mady also claimed that Vatican City would be conquered by Muslims.

The EFCL and Killarney Community League received a letter from B'nai Brith complaining that Mady's services were hateful and discriminatory in nature and referred Killarney and EFCL to several links including ones on YouTube that were filmed while renting the hall.

In a statement, Laura Cunningham-Shpeley, Executive Director of the EFCL responded, "The type of language that Mady was using in his YouTube broadcast services is at odds with articles 3, 9 and 11 of our EFCL Code of Ethics. Working together, the EFCL and Killarney Community League discussed the rental and how best to proceed. Ultimately, the Community League decided to stop renting their space to Mady."

On August 30, B'nai Brith Canada was also successful in bringing to light a Liberal Candidate's hateful rhetoric. Shortly after the disclosure, the Liberal Party ousted the candidate.

Hassan Guillet had been the Liberal Party's nominee for the riding of Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel in Montreal until the decision to disqualify him on August 30 by the party. Earlier in the day, B'nai Brith exposed a series of anti-Israel and anti-Semitic comments made by the former candidate over the past few years.

The comments included the praising of a Hamas-allied activist who had been serving prison time in Israel, as well as a claim that U.S. President Donald Trump's son-in-law was manipulating American foreign policy in favour of Israel because of his Jewish background.

The Liberal Party swiftly revoked Guillet's candidacy and issued a statement that read, "The insensitive

Na'amat hosts YEG retreat



Na'amat Edmonton hosted an amazing 'in-city' leadership retreat.

comments made by Hassan Guillet are not aligned with the values of the Liberal Party of Canada."

"Justin Trudeau and the Liberal team are strongly opposed to anti-Semitic, hateful, racist, Islamophobic, homophobic, sexist remarks and any form of discrimination," the party said. "The Liberal Party condemns all forms of discrimination, and we always expect our candidates to do the same."

B'nai Brith and other Canadian Jewish organizations were pleased that the Liberals acted quickly to remedy the situation.

"We applaud the swift reaction by the Liberal Party, to the deplorable comments of Mr. Guillet, following our public release," said Michael Mostyn, Chief Executive Officer of B'nai Brith Canada. "It sends a clear message that Canadians will not tolerate political candidates with these types of hateful and bigoted attitudes."

Liberal members of parliament have also distanced themselves from Guillet.

"For past 4 years, the Liberal Party has been a steadfast friend of Israel and has taken a strong stand against anti-Semitism in Canada and around the world. Mr Guillet does not represent these values," Toronto's York Centre MP Michael Levitt tweeted on August 30.



JFS EDMONTON

Jewish Family Services is pleased and excited to introduce Jann Beeston as our new Executive Director.



Jann has worked in nonprofit leadership for 30 years, including as Executive Director at Volunteer Alberta followed by a term with Alberta Reads Network growing engagement and developing a social enterprise framework.

She values Alberta's nonprofits as pathways to inclusion, civic engagement and quality of life in Alberta and is delighted to join JFS, whose values align with her commitment to supporting individuals in building their capacity to participate in society, the economy and democracy.



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UJA Campaign kickoff features acclaimed Yiddish songbird

By Deborah Shatz

The Edmonton UJA Campaign kicks off September 19, with *Hip, Heymish and Hot...* at the Citadel Theatre. The event will feature Yiddish songbird Eleanor Reissa in what is sure to be an unforgettable evening.

Eleanor Reissa is one of the world's most renowned interpreters of Yiddish music, and an award-winning theatre artist.



Yiddish singing sensation Eleanor Reissa

“Join us for a delightful evening celebrating gems of Yiddish music and humor,” said Susan Schiffman, Edmonton Jewish Federation Director of Development.

“You don't need to understand Yiddish to appreciate the joys and warmth of this unique, soulful language. The program includes passionate folk songs, classics of the Second Avenue Theatre, and touching expressions of love, piousness and protest. You'll laugh, cry and realize you understand more than you thought.”

The community is thrilled to have Eleanor Reissa perform Yiddish “soul music” in Edmonton. There will be

an appetizer reception at 6 pm and the show will begin at 7 pm.

In music and theatre Reissa has been on the forefront of keeping Yiddish alive and vibrating - from Tony Kushner's invitation to read “Where the wild things are” in Yiddish at the star studded *Celebration for Maurice Sendak*, to revitalizing Yiddish theatre in NYC when she was artistic director of the Folksbiene.

A Brooklyn-born daughter of Holocaust survivors, The *New York Times* said that Eleanor's work as a “leading singer of Yiddish songs is a tribute to her family's resilience.”

These days she collaborates with exciting new bands as well as solo concerts. The *Los Angeles Times* called her “a terrific stage presence with a sure sense of storytelling through song and dance, she has made Yiddish her mission. Sometimes she translated, often she didn't -- there was no need.”

In discovering and presenting the gems of Jewish culture, she has become one of its most precious ones!

In an article published in the *New York Jewish Week*, Reissa writes that Yiddish, is often referred to as the mother tongue. One of the reasons for that, she explains “is that it has a warmth, a love, a heart that seem to be part of its linguistic DNA.

“Join us for a delightful evening celebrating gems of Yiddish music and humor,” said Susan Schiffman, Edmonton Jewish Federation Director of Development.

“For example, there are these diminutive suffixes for most nouns — “l” and “aleh” — as in fis (foot), fisl (little foot), fisaleh (smallest foot), which immediately identify how beloved this object is. Everyone has a foot (a fis) – normal sized and undistinguished. Perhaps a spring lamb has a small, tasty foot (a fisl) — if you're a carnivore. But your grandchild has a foot that you kiss and adore (a fisaleh). These Yiddish suffixes can be attached to nearly every noun, including chairs, lips, hearts, beds, noses, and then these objects take on an especially beloved feeling.”

“Yiddish was my first language,” elaborates Reissa.



Victim advocate Sherri Wise

“My parents, Holocaust survivors, spoke it at home as did their few friends and remaining relatives. For me, Yiddish is literally a language of home and hearth (even though our hearth was the kitchen stove); of love and humor, tears and safety.”

Reissa will be performing in Edmonton, accompanied by New York-based Jerry Korman on piano. Korman has served as Music Director for The National Dance Institute for over twenty years. His work has taken him around the world, as well as to Lincoln Center, the Kennedy Center, and the White House.

The UJA kickoff event will also include special guest, Sherri Wise, from the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver. Sherri, a survivor of a terror attack in Jerusalem, is a passionate advocate for victims of terrorism.

The Jewish Federation of Edmonton is presenting this exceptional event on September 19, 2019. Admission is \$20 for UJA members and \$38 for non-members. Seats are limited and must be purchased in advance by calling (780) 487-0585 ext 207 or at jewishedmonton.org. No tickets will be available at the door. An appetizer reception will be held at 6 pm and the show will start at 7 pm.

Happy New Year!



Shanah
Tovah

from

Alberta's
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HIP, HEYMISH
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Publication Mail Agreement No. 40050628

Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses to: Circulation Department:

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E-mail: ejnews@telus.net

Tel: (780) 421-7966

Volume 30, Number 07, September 2019

PUBLISHER / EDITOR: Deborah Shatz

ADVERTISING: Daniel Moser

FOUNDING PUBLISHER: Barry Slawsky

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Next Deadline: October 3, 2019

Preparing for the holidays

By Rabbi Steven Schwarzman



Rabbi Steven Schwarzman

The 1966 movie, *The Russians Are Coming! The Russians Are Coming!* was a comedy where a Soviet submarine ran aground on a small New England island, causing comic alarm in the midst of the Cold War. Now that we are in the days leading up to Rosh Hashanah, we might be forgiven for shouting, maybe even with equal panic, *The High Holidays Are Coming! The High Holidays Are Coming!*

Perhaps we never really feel ready for the holidays, not in terms of the practical preparation, and not in the spiritual realm, either. We may find ourselves caught off guard when we begin contemplating the themes of the season: repentance, life, and our roles in the world as people and as Jews.

We can use the month of Elul, leading up to Rosh Hashanah, to get ourselves ready, or as ready as we can be. As Rabbi Alan Lew, z"l, wrote, the period of preparing really begins in the summer, and culminates with Sukkot.

But for most of us, the hard-core work of teshuvah begins on Rosh Hashanah and ends on Yom Kippur.

Condensing the period of repentance into ten days like that may make it more intense than it needs to be. After all, teshuvah is not about achieving perfection. It's about getting back on course with our lives. It's not a superhuman effort; it is, by definition, a very human effort.

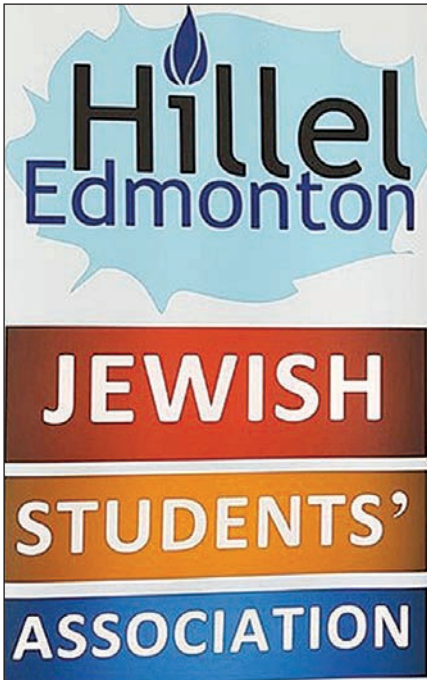
Maimonides teaches us how we can do this. The first step? Simply recognizing that we have gone astray and sinned, both against G-d and our fellow human beings. Sounds easy, perhaps, but we all know people who can't seem to see what they're doing wrong. And those people include each of us.

The next step is to sincerely regret what we have done wrong, and to stop doing it. The regret might come easy, but the behavioural change can be harder.

The third step is to confess and apologize and make amends for what we have done. Rambam teaches that confession and apologies are best done publicly, which makes it very hard, though effective. And apologies for our sins against other people can't be made to G-d. We have to go to those we have hurt and apologize to them.

And the true test, Rambam says, is when we are

Hillel at University of Alberta



Once again, Hillel Edmonton participated in the Clubs Fair at the University of Alberta. For more information about activities for Jewish students on campus visit Hillel Edmonton on Facebook.

presented with similar circumstances after we have done all the previous steps. Will we succeed in holding back from doing that same sin again? If so, then we have successfully completed the process of teshuvah.

On one level, all we have to do for the holidays is go to shul for a while, and prepare and enjoy the holiday meals. On a deeper level, we are given the chance to reconnect with the best, purest parts of our souls, and through this process, also reconnect with our friends and families, and with G-d. What's not to like about that?

True preparation for the holidays is really preparing ourselves to live better lives. It can be hard to do, but it's not scary. Let the new year come, and may it bring blessings. And if we do our prep work, we can add to the blessings, for ourselves and for all the people we interact with in our families, in our community, and in the world.

Shanah tovah!

Rabbi Steven Schwarzman is the spiritual leader of Beth Shalom Synagogue in Edmonton.

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August 14, 2019

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Canada's Election 43

By Steve McDonald



Steve McDonald

As the non-partisan advocacy agent of Canada's Jewish Federations, CIJA cannot be involved in partisan political activities. However, CIJA can and does mobilize Jewish Canadians to exercise their democratic rights. As a part of this effort for this fall's election, we have published a policy guide to highlight some of the issues that impact our community – with the goal of empowering grassroots activists to make an even greater impact.

This year's Election Guide (which may be found at cija.ca/election43) is a great conversation-starter for those who wish to connect with their local candidates. It addresses policy proposals across a range of topics. To name just five, this includes:

Combating antisemitism. Given the global rise in antisemitism, we are urging the federal government to devote resources to police hate crime units, provide financial support to help places of worship and day schools offset the costs of security personnel, and implement a national strategy on online hate and radicalization.

Supporting Israelis. We are advocating for MPs from all parties to stand with Israelis – our close democratic allies – when Israel is threatened by terrorism or singled out in discriminatory votes at the UN. We are also calling on the government to expand research and innovation ties between Canada and Israel.

Tax amendments to strengthen communities. We are calling for tax credits to recognize the value of volunteering for charities and help parents offset the costs of children's overnight summer camp.

Make Canada more accessible for people with disabilities. We are advocating for federal investments in affordable housing for people with developmental disabilities, as well as reforms to the Disability Tax Credit to make it more inclusive and accessible.

Countering terrorism and the Iranian threat. We are calling for a parliamentary inquiry into Canadians and global terrorism, with a focus on providing support for Canadian victims of overseas terrorism and holding accountable Canadians who have travelled overseas to join terror groups.

CIJA's Election Guide highlights community's priorities

VOTING RESOURCES FROM ELECTIONS CANADA

The next federal election takes place on October 21, 2019 which coincides with the Jewish High Holy Day of Shemini Atzeret. To read about your voting options and to access a range of useful resources related to the Election 43, visit the CIJA Election Hub at cija.ca.

We are also urging the government to ensure diplomatic ties with the Iranian regime are not renewed until there are concrete improvements in Iran's behaviour.

These are just a few examples of our multi-faceted policy agenda. I encourage you to visit cija.ca/election43 to read the Guide. My hope is that it will inspire you to get involved in the election and engage your local candidates.

The next federal election takes place on October 21, 2019 which coincides with the Jewish High Holy Day of Shemini Atzeret. To ensure our community is aware of all voting options, CIJA will be relaying important information from Elections Canada regularly between now and election day.

CIJA Board Co-chairs Joel Reitman and Jeffrey Rosenthal issued this guide for the Jewish community of Canada:

To access a range of useful resources related to the Election 43, please visit the CIJA Election Hub at cija.ca.

There are several optional ways to cast a ballot in the federal election:

To vote by mail, you must register online before October 15 at 6 p.m. Once registered, you will receive a special ballot kit with instructions on how to submit your ballot by mail.

You can vote at any Elections Canada office from the day after the election is called until 6 p.m. on October 15. Normal office hours are Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday, noon to 4 p.m.

You can vote by Advance Poll. Polling stations will be open from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm between October 11-14.

Information about the location of your advance polling station will become available once the writ drops in a few weeks.

You can vote on campus. Elections Canada offices will be open on many post-secondary campuses across the country for five days about two weeks before election day (October 5 to 9). On-campus voting offices will be open on Sunday from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. and Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Information about the location of these voting locations will become available once the writ drops in a few weeks.

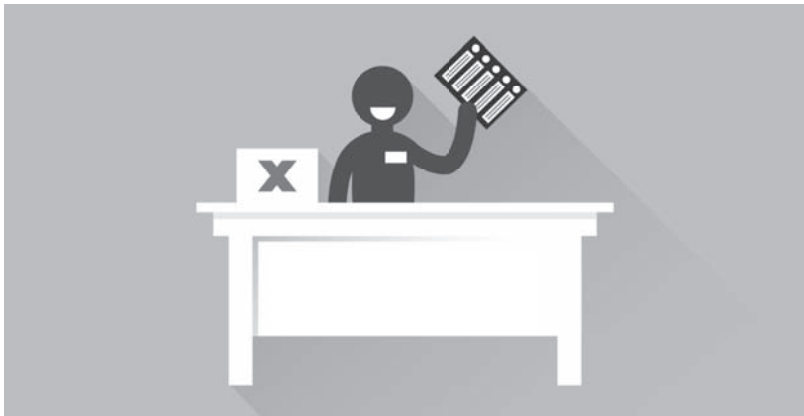
Elections Canada Voting Kiosks are being planned, in consultation with Jewish Community leaders, as an additional voting opportunity. The Voting Kiosks will be arranged on or around October 10. This will provide additional services for voters observing Jewish holidays on the fixed election date. Any elector can register and vote by special ballot at these locations. Contact your Returning Officer or visit elections.ca to find voting locations near you, including the location of these Voting Kiosks.

CIJA has working closely with Elections Canada to ensure that you know the voting options available to you.

If you have any questions, email info@cija.ca.

Steve McDonald is Director of Policy & Strategic Communications at CIJA, Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs.

FEDERAL ELECTION / ÉLECTION FÉDÉRALE FALL 2019 / AUTOMNE 2019



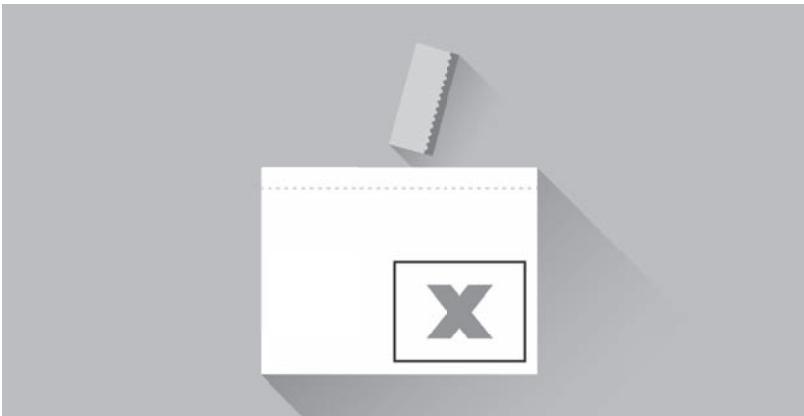
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Ways you can vote

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Mixed messages of inclusivity this summer

By Deborah Shatz

This summer the Edmonton Jewish community was honoured to receive three top cultural awards for the Israel Pavilion at the Edmonton Heritage Festival. At the same time as we were celebrating inclusivity and cultural acceptance, several disturbing and unrelated incidents took place in our city.

First, an imam was spreading hateful anti-Semitic rhetoric online and out of an Edmonton Community League (see story page 2). Then a white swastika was spray painted across a field of grass near Northgate Mall.

A third incident occurred when the *Edmonton Journal* published a cartoon that had anti-Semitic overtones. The cartoon, by Malcolm Mayes, was depicting the Capital One hacker as an old man reminiscent of stereotypic Jewish caricatures from the Nazi Germany era. A number of community members who are subscribers to the *Journal* complained and complaints were also lodged by the Jewish Federation of Edmonton and Honest Reporting Canada.

In their letter to the editor, complaining about the cartoon, Susan and Murray Lieberman wrote: “Malcolm Mayes’ cartoon depicting a stereotype of a Jew in the latest hacking scandal of Capital One was offensive and unwarranted. It is reminiscent of cartoons in Nazi Germany preceding the Holocaust.

“The perpetrator of the hacking crime was a young, blond female. Mayes had no reason to perpetuate stereotypes of a minority group. The lack of oversight for this cartoon gives us reason to question the editorial staff of the *Edmonton Journal*.”

Jewish Federation of Edmonton also lodged a formal complaint to the newspaper.

In a letter to Managing Editor Dave Breakenridge, JFed President Steve Shafir wrote, “We are disgusted with Mr. Mayes’ cartoon, with your tacit approval of it in your willingness to publish it, or, alternatively, we are astonished by your willful blindness if you did not see the harm that this cartoon would cause.

“The *Edmonton Journal* should be ashamed for being used as a platform for hatred and intolerance.”

“Mr. Mayes is no stranger to us. We wrote to you on May 15, 2018 regarding a cartoon that he had drawn that was also anti-Semitic and anti-Israel. While our letter at that time was published by you, our request to meet with you went unanswered.

“It is unfortunate and sad that the *Edmonton Journal*, a nationally recognized newspaper, is being used by Mr. Mayes to spread anti-Semitism. Statistics Canada continually reports that the Jewish community is the most frequently targeted minority community in Canada when it comes to hate crimes. Publication of anti-Semitic material drawn by Mr. Mayes only perpetuates and allows antisemitism to further flourish.

“When antisemitism occurs, it harms not only the Jewish community, but it attacks Canadian values. For this cartoon to be published in the days leading up to Heritage Day, when we, as Albertans, celebrate our multiculturalism and our diversity, is a slap in the face of what Canadian society holds so dear. Antisemitism hurts everyone, not just Jews.

On August 9, 2019, the *Edmonton Journal* issued the following public apology in an effort to make amends for its having published the antisemitic cartoon by Malcolm Mayes:

“Last week, on Aug. 1, the *Edmonton Journal* ran an editorial cartoon depicting a shadowy figure in a wallet next to the words “Data hacker” in relation to the breach of customer information at Capital One.

“It has since been pointed out that the image of the person bears resemblance to anti-Semitic tropes prevalent in some anti-Jewish propaganda. This resemblance was entirely unintentional, but given that association, the *Edmonton Journal* apologizes for the publication of the cartoon.

“We are re-examining the procedures we have in place to vet editorial content to avoid future such occurrences.”

The public apology was followed by a meeting between Edmonton Jewish Federation leadership – CEO Debby Shochor, President Steve Shafir and VP Shane Asbell – and Dave Breakenridge (Managing Editor), Bill Mah (Opinion Editor) and Malcolm Mayes (Cartoonist) to discuss the anti-Semitic nature of the cartoon.

Team Aldan wins the Cup



Second ranked Aldan played third ranked Good Luck Socks in the finals and won 49-12!!! Yasher Koach to everyone.

According to Shafir, the meeting went well. “We reiterated our displeasure regarding the cartoon that was published by the *Journal*. They advised that while the drawing of the cartoon in the form published was inadvertent, they understood the consequences of the publication. Both Mr. Breakenridge, on behalf of the *Edmonton Journal* and Malcolm Mayes apologized for any harm that was caused. We accepted their apologies.

“We provided the *Edmonton Journal* with some information regarding the history of antisemitism in cartoons. They advised that they would review the information provided and that they were aware of the history.”

After discussion, the *Edmonton Journal* committed to provide training to their staff regarding issues so that they would be more aware of anti-Semitic tropes should they cross their desks in the future. They also said that they would meet with the Jewish Federation of Edmonton from time to time as either the Jewish Federation or the *Edmonton Journal* see fit. They also committed to run an Op-Ed in the near future regarding the effect that their cartoon had and to provide further information to their readership on steps taken to make sure that this does not happen again.

“We believe that our meeting went well,” concluded Shafir, “and we look forward to working with the *Edmonton Journal* to make sure that this does not happen again and to hold those responsible to account should this occur in the future.”



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Best Wishes for a sweet and healthy New Year. Shana Tova!



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Shana Tova 5780

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This summer, JNF Canada sponsored an amazing Educators Mission to Israel to help inform teachers about modern day Israel.

JNF Canada plants a different kind of seed

"I feel that I've really been seen for the first time," declared Hannah, a student at Beit KKL-JNF Canada House in Nazareth.

Jewish National Fund of Canada has always been at the forefront of helping the land of Israel transform its bleak deserts into beautiful blooming green forests and lush parks. But now JNF Canada is planting a different kind of seed; we are deeply committed to supporting both Israel's land and its people.

This high holiday season, JNF Canada is raising funds to help build the Beit KKL-JNF Canada House in Sderot, to help close the educational achievement gap and foster academic success and empower periphery youth.

“We believe that every child has the potential to achieve great things no matter where in Israel he or she was born, and that our role is to make the resources required for this available to them,” said Avi Musan, KKL-JNF Houses Director.

“The houses will be open to every teenager who wants to succeed, and we will provide them with all assistance so

that they can develop their capabilities. This is a one-of-a-kind anchor that is unparalleled in the State of Israel.”

The Beit KKL-JNF Canada House in Sderot, the city closest to the Gaza border, will serve as an after-school education, empowerment, and enrichment center for high school students from Sderot and its surroundings, who will be provided with the necessary tools and skills for academic and personal success.

The building will be fortified, protecting students and staff from rocket and mortar attacks and will also be accessible to people with disabilities. Its design will be invitingly clean and bright, with large windows to let in natural light, colorful wall illustrations, and open spaces, creating an environment and ambiance unlike that of a school.

The Beit KKL-JNF Canada House will be surrounded by a courtyard for outdoor studies and comprise learning spaces of different sizes and relaxation areas equipped with a variety of educational and multimedia resources to

encourage creative learning based on the edutainment model of informal education.

The House will be divided into classrooms, a multipurpose hall, meeting room, patio, kitchenette and a unique experiential learning hub. The classrooms are designed to contain small learning groups, except for one large classroom (that can be divided into two), and a computer lab with the latest equipment. The multipurpose hall will be used for workshops, lectures, performances and film screenings. The hub is an open space with poufs, armchairs, sofas, and video game consoles.

“We hope that each of the participants will start believing that not even the sky is the limit for them. The young people are enthusiastic and motivated to be partners in this process,” noted Omer Harpaz, director of the Upper Nazareth house.

Join JNF and help impact the lives of Sderot's youth and help reduce prevailing social and educational disparities that will ultimately create a healthier society.

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Celebrate potential on Rosh Hashana



Rabbi Zolly Claman

By Rabbi Zolly Claman

I'll never forget it. I brought her on a walk to get some beautiful Jerusalem air. We passed by a lady that we knew from the neighborhood, she worked as a secretary in a nearby medical office. "May I hold her?" she asked, I obliged and passed her my daughter who was born 4 days prior. Our friend made eye contact with the new life and was moved to tears.

Thinking that my daughter represented something she never got to have of her own, I sensitively inquired, "do you have children of your own?" She negated my concern, "yes, yes...I do." Then she explained what moved her, "it's just...she has her whole life in front of her, it's so beautiful."

Rosh Hashana, the spiritual new year, is a sophisticated day. There are many aspects and angles to appreciate.

It is the day of judgment, the day that we coronate the King and the day that we hear the Shofar. There is another aspect that I'd like to bring to light - potential. Rosh Hashana is the day that we celebrate potential.

Why is the day of judgment on the first day of the year? Shouldn't we be judged on the last day of the year prior? When Judaism tradition teaches that Rosh Hashana is the day of judgment, what it means is that it is the day of investment allocation. G-d peers at your past, but more importantly envisions your potential. Based on the spiritual projection of the individual, there is a divine investment made.

It is a day that we internalize that it matters far more who you will become than who you have been, and who you are committed to being than who you are. On Rosh Hashana we celebrate the path ahead, the road-not-yet-discovered.

What moved our friend on the streets of Jerusalem is the beauty of holding pure potential. Our 4-day-old may not

YEG Na'amat leaders



Workshop leader Gail Baillie, with Na'amat City President Darlene Bushewsky, National President Doris Wexler-Charow and Tikvah President Maya Feldman at the Edmonton Na'amat Leadership Retreat.

have accomplished anything yet, but appreciating that all her joy, struggles and success are ahead of her is profound and powerful.

May G-d make the divine investment in each and every one of us and may we all be written in the book of life – set for a sweet new year, full of laughter, joy, health and togetherness.

Zolly Claman is Rabbi at Beth Israel Synagogue in Edmonton.

Perfect gluten-free apple cake

By Rachel Pattison

(JTA via The Nosh) -- In recent years, it seems that more and more of my family members and friends have developed food allergies and food intolerances. This can make it difficult to determine what to serve at holidays and family events. So a gluten-free, dairy-free apple cake for Rosh Hashanah is a delicious way to celebrate the holiday while also suiting everyone at my table.

Nut allergy? You can absolutely leave out the walnuts here.

My preferred gluten-free flour to use is Bob's Red Mill Gluten-Free 1-to-1 Baking Flour, which can be used as a direct substitution for all-purpose flour and doesn't require additional thickeners such as xanthan gum.

Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup coconut sugar or brown sugar
- 1 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 large eggs, room temperature
- 2/3 cup honey
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 1/2 cups gluten-free baking flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon allspice
- 3 apples, peeled, cored and chopped into 1/4-inch pieces (I recommend using a mixture of green and red apples)
- 2/3 cup walnuts, finely chopped (optional)
- Unsweetened plain almond milk (optional)



Directions:

Preheat oven to 325 F. Grease and lightly flour a 9-inch bundt pan (nonstick, if you have one).

In a stand mixer, beat together the sugar and olive oil. Beat in the eggs, then the honey and vanilla. Turn off the stand mixer.

In a separate large bowl, stir together the gluten-free flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, salt and allspice.

Turn the stand mixer back on, and very slowly add the flour mixture to the wet ingredients. Use a spatula to scrape down the sides of the bowl, ensuring that all the ingredients become well incorporated.

Fold in the diced apples and walnuts. If you find that the mixture is too thick, you can add some almond milk, 1 tablespoon at a time, not to surpass 1/4 cup.

Pour the batter into the prepared bundt pan and bake in the oven for 1 hour. Check the cake at the 50-minute mark. It is done when a toothpick inserted comes out clean. Once done, allow the cake to cool in the bundt pan for 15 minutes. Then place a cake plate on top of the bundt pan, and while holding the pan and the plate together, very carefully flip the bundt pan so the cake lands directly onto the cake plate.

Allow the cake to cool completely and then dust lightly with confectioners' sugar. Serves 6-8.

Rachel Pattison is a healthy food blogger living in LA. You can find more of her recipes at www.littlechefbigappetite.com.)

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Edmonton is proud to host the NCJWC Convention: Nov. 16-18

By Regan Treewater-Lipes

Edmonton has much to be excited about! This year's National Council of Jewish Women of Canada's Convention will be held in the City of Champions from November 16-18, 2019. Jewish women dedicated to social change from chapters in Toronto, Barrie, Winnipeg, and Vancouver will be making the journey to our northern capital for two and a half days of exciting annual meetings, project planning and collaboration, compelling guest speakers, community presentations, scrumptious kosher eats, and the opportunity to meet new socially engaged Jewish women.

In the words of National President Debbie Wasserman: "NCJWC has a rich history spanning more than 122 years in Canada. Today NCJWC is still strong, concentrating our efforts on the pillars on which we began – service, education and social action."

NCJWC's Edmonton Section President Jodi Zabłudowski and her team have put together a packed line-up to welcome delegates from afar, as well as local ladies from our own Jewish community as well as from Calgary. Following Shabbat on November 16, organized transportation will pick up participants from the West Edmonton Mall's Fantasyland Hotel and tour some of Edmonton's key Jewish sites, ending at the Jewish Drop-In Center located downtown. There, local NCJWC members will welcome their visitors over dinner and exchange ideas from across the country.

"We are so looking forward to hosting the NCJWC Convention in Edmonton. The women from the different sections of NCWC are dynamic and engaging," commented Zabłudowski.

On Sunday morning, delegates will have the opportunity to discuss their activities during the NCJWC Annual General Meeting before the much-awaited Community Luncheon.

"Discussions will be lively, and we hope to accomplish a lot, in addition to having fun," Zabłudowski elaborated.



Christina Tsipora Reboh



Francie Nobleman



Ruth Nolan

NCJWC Edmonton invites women from across the Jewish community, even if they are not affiliated with the organization, to come, partake and enjoy the afternoon's festivities. At only \$36 a ticket, this kosher catered lunch, with inspired guest speakers, is an event not to be missed! Tickets can be purchased on Eventbrite and registrants just have to search NCJWC Community lunch to purchase a ticket. Thanks to the generosity of the Edmonton Jewish Community Charitable Foundation, this luncheon is able to take place and it will be one of the highlights of the weekend of festivities.

The Edmonton Section of NCJWC has, in the past, supported WIN House, a local women's shelter. Some in the community might remember the children's book drive that took place in the summer of 2018.

"Yes, NCJWC is a force, continuing to work tirelessly to promote social justice, freedom, equality and tolerance, while engaging in meaningful projects to impact our communities," Wasserman commented.

In preparation for November, Zabłudowski and her team are delighted to announce that WIN House's top leadership will be attending the luncheon, and speaking to guests about the work being done in Alberta to elevate the status and security of women. Additionally, there will be an opportunity to hear from representatives of the Alberta Council on Women's Shelters.

In recognition of their tremendous contributions to the Jewish community, NCJWC Edmonton is proud to announce that it will be honouring the achievements of three local women who have gone above and beyond to improve the world around them. Christina Tsipora Reboh will be presented with an award for her contribution to young leadership, Francie Nobleman will be recognized for her tremendous work in community engagement, and NCJWC Edmonton's lifetime achievement recipient will be Ruth Nolan. Organizers hope that women throughout the community will come together on November 17 to honour these incredible Jewish women.

For delegates, dinner Sunday evening will be hosted by Chabad. NCJWC's attendees from across Canada will have the chance to meet the Chabad Rebbetzins and hear about the dynamic endeavors that have been, and will continue to, enrich Edmonton's Jewish community.

Following a morning and early afternoon of final meetings on Monday, NCJWC Edmonton will bid farewell to its sister chapters and embark on another year of meaningful projects.

According to Wasserman, "Through our collective energies and enthusiasm, NCJWC will continue to thrive. We are committed to making a positive impact. This drive, coupled with our members' enthusiasm, shall propel us into the future to meet and take advantage of opportunities that are set before us."



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Connect with a blast of Shofar

By Rabbi Gila Caine

Sounds not words.

The new moon of Tishrei (which we later learned to call Rosh Hashanah) holds one of our most ancient rituals, the blowing of the Shofar “... In the seventh month, on the first day of the month, you shall have a sabbath, a commemoration with horn blast, a sacred convocation...” (Lev. 23:24).

The “horn blast” here in English is a translation of “Zichron T’ruah” (the horn blast of remembrance, or, remembering the horn blast). It’s interesting to note that the most ancient name for this festival is “Yom Zichron T’ruah” – the day of remembering the loud blast.



Rabbi Gila Caine

OK, but how do we know that these horn blasts (T’ruah) refer to the Shofar? Some learn it from “And you shall send round a blasting ram’s horn, in the seventh month on the tenth day, on the Day of Atonement, you shall send round a ram’s horn through all your land” (Lev. 25:9). In Hebrew this reads as: Shofar T’ruah. So, from the Shofar of Yom Kippur we learn about the Shofar of the festival on the New Moon of Tishrei. But the horn sound of Rosh Hashanah is not just about sound, but also about memory and with it rises the question, why are we using a shofar to remember?

If you’ve ever blown a shofar, you might remember not just the feel of it in your hands and the sounds it makes, but also the smell of the animal horn as you bring it to your lips. Rabbi Arthur Green says of the Shofar: “While the liturgy of Rosh Hashanah is perhaps the most eloquent and poetic of the year, the raw emotion of the season (“Thank you for bringing us alive to this time! Give us another year to live!) is so elemental and primitive that it is better expressed by these unrefined cries of the horn than by words of

great poets” (Green, These are the words, p. 204).

Rabbi Green touches upon something extremely important in our understanding of the liturgy of this day, echoing the words of the piyyut Un’taneh Tokef - “And a great shofar will be sounded, and a thin whisper of sound will be heard.” These are the two most important elements of the ritual of the New Moon of Tishrei, and all the music and poetry and words are paths leading us to the great sound of shofar and to moments of silence in between.

A few days ago, I was visiting a new mother and her tiny baby girl, and we were trying to imagine how does this little baby perceive the world. The mother suddenly asked, “What will she remember of this time in her life when she grows up?” That’s a great question - how do you remember before being able to give words to your experience? Some say we don’t, other say we remember something in the very depth of our consciousness, while others say we remember in our body.

I would like to suggest that the sound of Shofar is supposed to throw all of us back to exactly that primordial moment – before words and a structured understanding of reality. On Rosh Hashanah we should focus all our energy into remembering the beginning moments of the world, and of our own life. This festival offers us an opportunity to revisit a time when nothing was polluted or hurt yet.



Rabbi Gila Caine visited Talmud Torah School and blessed the new school year with the staff and students at the Early Learning Centre.

A time when we could rest and explore and feel totally connected to all that was around us. To go there, we need something to tug at our memory (Zicharon) a blast of sound (and smell....) calling up ancient moments of our existence, and this has to be something stronger than words, something calling us from beyond grown-up and elaborate language.

To begin the New Year, find time to at least go and hear the Shofar, give yourself the gift of experiencing that ancient wild call. It might help you remember where you came from, where you are going and for what reason you are alive today.

May we all be blessed with a Healthy, Peaceful and Happy New Year.

Gila Caine is the Rabbi at Temple Beth Ora in Edmonton.

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Venturing into the adventure of a lifetime

By Charleen Glaun

At last I was on the plane to Israel. Was this really happening? I had waited so long for this day and here I was, after 32 years, finally returning.

Arriving at Ben Gurion Airport, I proceeded to go through the security check-in. The first question asked of me was, "What is the purpose of your trip?"

"I'm coming on Sar-El," I replied.

"What is Sar-El?" the security person asked.

"Volunteers for Israel," I said, a little surprised he did not know about Sar-El. (This may be the case for some of you, too, so I explain it below.)

I waited for his reaction, but there was silence. I blurted out, "I've been away for 32 years and this is my first trip back."

He looked up from examining my passport and said, "What took you so long? Welcome back!"

I smiled and said to myself, "This is going to be the best adventure of my life! Thank you, G-d, for getting me here safely."

Once I had my luggage, I found the sunglass stand where volunteers typically meet, and Sar-El's facilitator, Pam Lazarus, an expat who had made aliya 17 years ago. Since its founding in 1987 by General Davidi, volunteers come from around the globe for one to three weeks' stint on an army base. Qualifications include a love of Israel, being of sound mind, a clean bill of health, physically fit, and able to carry your own luggage. You do not have to be Jewish. There is a registration fee and the flight to Israel is paid by the volunteer. Weekends are the responsibility of the individual. While on the base, each person is assigned a room, which they will typically share with one or more persons, and is given three meals a day. Some bases will even organize a free day trip to somewhere of interest.

I was assigned to a medical supply base near Tel-Aviv. This base does not have soldiers on it but rather reservists and fulltime employees.

Upon my arrival at the base I was given my army uniform. The correct size is not high on the priority list, as I discovered. I spent the next three weeks in a very roomy pair of pants, which I held up with a belt, a khaki T-shirt and shirt, and an army jacket. I felt so proud wearing this uniform!

Then it was time to see where I was going to live for the

next while. I had a roommate for my first four days, but had the space to myself for the remainder of my stay. Women are housed on the upper level of a two-storey building. Both floors have a washing machine. (Apparently this is quite a luxury and not the norm.) All rooms have an air-conditioning/heating system and basic storage units. Three shower stalls delivered hot water at all times. I was at the Hilton of army bases! (I found out from my representative in Toronto that the living quarters on the base were newly renovated.)

A typical day is as follows. Breakfast in the main dining room is at 7:15 a.m. At 7:45 a.m. we meet up with our 19-year-old madrichot in the courtyard for the raising of the flag and the singing of the national anthem, and then we get news from within Israel and abroad. Then it is off to work until midday, when we make our way to the dining hall for lunch.

This base is the main military medical base in Israel and also the primary depot. Every 18 months, medical military units drop off complete medical supplies. They then pick up new and replenished supplies for the next 18 months, which are divided between bases. Medical supplies with expiry dates between 6-18 months are used first in hospitals and emergency rooms, while supplies with a 6-month expiry date are utilized for training purposes and donations to third-world countries. Medical kits are made up for many applications, such as atomic and biological chemical kits, combat doctors, and combat medics.

I had a great boss, who patiently explained exactly how to do things. Israel is a first-generation Sabra, whose family emigrated from Bucharria. He never stopped thanking us for our service, as did many Israelis I met off the base. They are so grateful for the volunteers' service. This, in turn, was so gratifying for us, knowing we were making a difference by giving back just a little to the country. It was an even better feeling when medical backpacks were returned to us with medical supplies unused!

The workday ends at 4 p.m., when you are free to do whatever you like within the confines of the base. You are not at liberty to leave it, other than at the end of the



Charleen Glaun with her Sar-El Madrichot.

workweek. Dinners are eaten early. Thereafter, the madrichot hold discussion groups or show movies. By 9 pm, most people are ready for bed.

Weekends we may go anywhere in Israel as long as we are at the Tel Aviv's main train station on the Sunday morning at 9:30, when the volunteers are taken back to their base. At present there is a hostel in Tel-Aviv specifically for Sar-El volunteers' weekend stay. Accommodation is free, with meals included. This is a great alternative for those who are on a tight budget. It is not fancy, but central to Tel-Aviv's hub and the beach.

One tends to forget one is in a country in a constant state of war. The zest for life is unbelievable, which I noticed on my weekends in Tel-Aviv. The bustling traffic; people sitting at coffee shops and in restaurants; shopping at the Carmel Market; youngsters speeding down busy main intersections on their electric scooters; hip-looking men and women walking along the beautiful promenade with their dogs; beachgoers laughing and listening to music; picnickers on the lawn with little children frolicking nearby; buskers entertaining the passing throng. What a beautiful, perfect picture it painted in an imperfect world.

Three weeks went by in a flash and soon it was time to return to Toronto. I looked for any reason that would enable me to stay, but as the saying goes, all good things must come to an end. But it doesn't have to end here; I will return to Israel. In fact, I am already looking at calendar dates.

I would highly recommend Sar-El for anyone who loves Israel and wants to do something so worthwhile. Israel will welcome you with open arms and she will thank you.

To learn more about how you can experience your own do good, feel good, adventure of a lifetime, go to toronto@sarelcanada.org

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This month's update from Talmud Torah School



Talmud Torah School staff and students enjoyed their summer holidays but they are happy and excited to be back at school. Pictured above on the first day of school are Natalie Soroka, Executive Assistant of TT Society, Irene St. Savard TT Early Learning Centre (ELC) Director, Osi Goldsand ELC Program Coordinator as well as students from the TT ELC and Grades KG to 6.

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Talmud Torah Society

Rosh Hashanah Flower Fundraiser
To Support 2019-20 Grade 6 Shabbaton



The Talmud Torah Society is selling bouquets of flowers for Rosh Hashanah. The proceeds from this fundraiser make it possible for our Grade 6 class to spend a weekend with their counterparts from Vancouver, Richmond, and other communities, learning and celebrating Jewish life as they prepare to graduate from TT. It's the culminating activity of their time at our school!

For only \$40, you'll get a lovely bouquet delivered to your Edmonton-area friends or family just in time for Rosh Hashanah 5780, which begins at sunset on Sunday, September 29.

Order your flowers by Monday, September 16 and we'll deliver them by Rosh Hashanah. Go to www.talmudtorahsociety.com or call 780-481-3377 to place your order.

Shana tova ! שנה טובה



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Selling your Property: A realistic approach



Daniel Starkman

By Daniel Starkman

After choosing the right Realtor "one that suits your needs best," it is imperative in our current market, to have the right attitude with respect to the pricing of your property. Proper pricing during the first 2 to 3 weeks of the listing is paramount to achieving a sale in today's competitive market.

I would like to share with you some statistical data which reflects our current market - as of June 2019:

The average median price of single-family dwellings was \$394,500 which represents a decrease of 4.30% from June 2018.

The average median price of a condominium was \$217,500 down 4.5% from the same period last year.

The average median price for duplex or row houses was \$325,000 representing a decrease from June 2018 of 4.25%.

The Good News:

I am pleased to report an increase in sales in Edmonton of 11.5% for the month ending July 2019 as compared to July 2018. While sales rose it is interesting to note that the number of new residential listings dropped 10% from July of last year to July of this year. Consequently, the overall inventory in Edmonton dropped nearly 14% from July of last year to this year. All residential listings in Edmonton averaged 62 days on the market, year over year.

Even as inventories shrink, I am of the view that a proper sales price realistically reflecting current market

conditions, especially during the first 2 weeks of the listing period, is the best way to achieve interest in property leading to a potential sale of that property.

Our resource-based economy impacts attitudes of consumers. In a tough competitive market, proper pricing of your property is the single most important element leading to an early sale. I remain optimistic that prices will continue to remain reasonably stable and that buyers will be encouraged to proceed with purchasing new properties as they see the high inventory levels beginning to shrink.

Wishful thinking will not lead to a sale. Proper pricing will. When dealing with a prospective Realtor, always request a current market analysis as a pre-condition to any listing. It is the market analysis which will assist you in establishing a realistic price.

I take this opportunity to wish you all a Shana Tova.

Daniel Starkman is the owner/operator of Starkman Realty Ltd. He can be reached at (780) 863-0778 or starkmanrealty@rogers.com.

שנה טובה ומתוקה

The working parents' collective apology on Yom Kippur

By Shira Zemel

(Kveller via JTA) – Like so many of you, I'm a working mom trying to juggle it all — my kid, my job and, you know, my life. For the High Holidays, I was inspired to write a working parents' version of the *Ashamnu*, an alphabetic acrostic of our collective transgressions, which is part of the public confession we recite during Yom Kippur.

This year, 5780, I strive to acknowledge my wrongdoings, to do better by my little guy and my family, and to forgive myself and others more.

For the sin of not acknowledging mistakes, and not asking when we need help, and not meaningfully apologizing as much as we should.

For the sin of talking about how busy we are.

For the sin of trying to control everything, even when we know that's totally impossible and frustrating.

For the sin of being distracted and not giving our children our full attention.

For the sin of having no energy at the end of a long work day to truly connect or play with our kids.

For the sin of forgiving in others for what we can't find a way to forgive in ourselves.

For the sin of giving more attention to our professional work than to our kids.

For the sin of not doing everything we can to help: for not using every extra ounce of energy, every extra penny, every extra waking moment to do what we can for children separated from their families at the border.



For the sin of Instagram: spending too much time on it, and for only showing all that is beautiful and fun instead of the hard, everyday truths.

For the sin of judging other parents and the decisions they make for their kids and families. (I'm still so upset with myself for judging that mom who had her toddler with her at Target at 11 p.m. — more likely she had no other time to run those critical errands, and no one to watch her child.)

For the sin of thinking we know best.

For the sin of lamenting the easier days before we had kids.

For the sin of making excuses.

For the sin of saying "no" so often.

For the sin of overprogramming, overscheduling, and overindulging our children.

For the sin of prescribing our children's interests by allowing capitalism to dictate what toys and clothes we purchase for them. (Really, why is the doll aisle so pink? And why are dinosaurs a boy thing?)

For the sin of questioning the intentions of others instead of assuming everyone is doing the best they can.

For the sin of resisting when sometimes it's easier to just say yes. (But also: ¡vive la resistance!)

For the sin of keeping our heads down looking at our screens.

For the sin of too much television and not enough conversation.

For the sin of undermining how hard we work when we obsess over how we can do better.

For the sin of not voting and not vaccinating. (#sorrynotsorry — I have strong opinions that neither of these are OK choices.)

For the sin of wanting more instead of being content with what we have.

For the sin of xenophobia — something that I abhor in others but fear I may practice in small and unknowing ways.

For the sin of yelling.

For the sin of thinking about parenting in terms of zero days (losing) or 100 days (winning) — when we know many days are just going to be a 40 degree day, and that's OK.

May the gates of repentance be open to us all. G'mar Chatima Tova!

Shira Zemel is a working mom in Washington, D.C., where she directs youth leadership development at the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. She and her husband have a 2-year-old son.

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May the sound of the shofar herald a year of happiness for you and your families

Shana Tova from the Slawsky Family



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Beth Israel golfing at the Links

By Stan and Rosemary Kitay

On Sunday August 25, 51 golfers participated in the Beth Israel 2019 Golf Tournament at The Links Spruce Grove.

The winners, with a team score of 63, consisted of Shane Asbell, Alex Bernstein, Paul Deutsch & Rick de Jong. The team of heroes consisted of Steve & Jan Huard-Lazanik and Mel & Liz Orenstein.

Individual Awards were as follows:

Ladies Longest Putt: Lindsay Logodin.

Ladies Longest Drive: Rosemary Kitay.

Ladies Closest to the Pin (par 3):

Jan Huard-Lazanik & Liz Orenstein.

Men's Longest Putt: Rick de Jong.

Men's Longest Drive: Leor Benjamin.

Men's Closest to the Pin (par 3): Asher Pertman.

What an amazing day - great weather, plenty of sunshine without a sign of rain! Players were wined and dined from beginning to end with candy, fresh fruit, libations, salami sliders (at Zal's Kosher pop-up deli) and coffee with doughnuts. The atmosphere was amazing and regardless of talent level, everyone had a great afternoon.

Where else would you experience a golf game following a bowl of hot and tasty cholent! Nourishment and soul food at its finest.

Alas no-one won the \$10,000 hole-in-one prize.

Our profound gratitude goes to all who participated in the tournament, hole sponsors, donors and attendees at the dinner. Our sincere thanks also to all the volunteers who gave up their Sunday afternoon to help nourish and hydrate the golfers. Your generosity and dedication to the event and Shul are sincerely appreciated. The fundamental success of an event is attributed to its volunteers. You are all exceedingly appreciated.

To quote Rabbi Claman (aka Rabbi Zolly McIlroy): "Volunteering increases life expectancy."

To add, he emphasized that "true happiness is found when we forget about the question, 'How can I benefit' and replace it with 'How can I contribute?' To volunteer is to use the unique talents that each individual has & apply them to the betterment of the community."



The tournament concluded Monday evening, August 26, with a dinner, silent auction and prize giving. A delectable dinner was catered by Lauren Baram. Many thanks to you and your assistants for preparing the meal, as well as the stunning presentation.

All the items for the silent auction were generously donated by the community. No purchases were made using Shul funds, and 100% of the proceeds will go directly to youth programming at BI. Sincere thanks as well to our volunteers for setting up the auction items and tables so professionally, hall décor and registration.

The entire event was a resounding success not only from a financial perspective but also from the friendships and camaraderie imbued.

It was an honour for us to co-chair this event, made even more special witnessing everyone's generosity and willingness to participate in every aspect of the tournament. It truly was a heartwarming experience.

For those who were unable to participate this year, we will be back and hope to make the next tournament even bigger and better. Stay tuned!!

Kol HaKavod and Yasher Koach to everyone.



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through the 2019 High Holy Days

Rosh Hashanah

EREV ROSH HASHANAH
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

Shacharit.... 8:00 am
Candle Lighting.... 6:58 pm
Mincha & Maariv.... 7:00 pm

ROSH HASHANAH (DAY 1)
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Shachris....8:00 am
Ha'Melech....8:25 am
Kids Program....10:30 am
Drasha and Shofar....10:00 am
Mincha & Tashlich....4:45 pm
Ma'ariv....7:30 pm
Candle lighting....7:52 pm

ROSH HASHANAH (DAY 2)
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

Shacharit....8:00 am
Ha'Melech....8:25 am
Kids Program....10:30 am
Drasha and Shofar....10:00 am
Mincha....6:45 pm
Ma'ariv....7:45 pm
Havdalah....8:03 pm

Yom Kippur

EREV YOM KIPPUR
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8

Selichos & Shachris....6:45 am
Mincha....4:30 pm
Candle Lighting....6:35 pm
Kol Nidrei....6:40 pm

YOM KIPPUR

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

Shachris (Yizkor)....8:00 am
Ha'Melech....8:25 am
Kids Program....10:30 am
Mincha & Ne'ila....4:45 pm
Shofar, Ma'ariv &
End of Fast....7:45 pm
Kiddush Levana....8:00 pm



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Preserving the substance and memory of Jewish Poland

By Regan Treewater-Lipes

As the summer of 2019 comes to a close, I have many extraordinary experiences to reflect upon. This year, I was given the extraordinary opportunity to participate in the Auschwitz Jewish Center's (AJC) Faculty Fellows Program. Since 2000 the AJC, an affiliate of the Museum of Jewish Heritage – A Living Memorial to the Holocaust (MJH) in New York City, has invited an annual cohort of diverse academics to Poland to further research efforts dealing with Jewish memory preservation and global Holocaust awareness. Among our ranks this year were ten graduate students and one Faculty Fellow, representing the United States, Canada, and Israel. I was honored to be chosen to take part.

The program began in the latter half of June with three days of introductions, orientation, and presentations at MJH in New York City. The Museum currently houses an exceptionally informative and moving exhibition titled, "Auschwitz. Not Long Ago. Not Far Away." As Fellows, we were granted exclusive access and were able to tour the three floors of expertly curated artifacts privately – a powerful beginning for each of our journeys.

Our time in New York was facilitated by the Museum's Director of International Programs, Yael Friedman, a 2013 alumnus of the Fellowship herself. Now responsible for administrating the program, Friedman guided us through intensive discussion sessions, meetings with top researchers in the discipline of Holocaust Studies and introduced us to survivors who generously entrusted us with their highly personal stories. We were fortunate to meet with three survivors in New York and another in Krakow. For me, these face-to-face encounters were extremely poignant – each testimonial reminded us all that our collective research efforts continue to be vital.

The program continued with a week of study in Krakow and the opportunity to attend the city's annual Jewish Culture Festival in the Kazimierz District – the historic Jewish quarter. The festival attracts people from all over the world and offers patrons the chance to take part in artistic workshops, hear lectures delivered by international Jewish studies scholars, sample Jewish inspired cuisine, and listen to lively musical performances in an open-air venue.

For me, the most memorable part of the Jewish Culture Festival was meeting Dr. Deborah Lipstadt, Dorot

Professor of Modern Jewish History and Holocaust Studies at Emory University. Lipstadt is the author of *Denying the Holocaust* (1993), *History on Trial: My Day in Court with a Holocaust Denier* (2005), and *The Eichmann Trial* (2011). Lipstadt is not only one of the most influential Jewish history scholars of our era, but also a leader in battling the detrimental proliferation of Holocaust denial.

Although Krakow's Jewish Culture Festival has been criticized by some as being an inauthentic, I was personally struck by the diverse crowds that were attracted by the event. It was my second time attending, and I see many of the efforts of the festival as sincere attempts to revitalize understanding and appreciation of Poland's Jewish history. This Fellowship highlighted that there are currently serious endeavors being made within Poland by both Jews and non-Jews to preserve the memory and substance of Jewish Poland, and to combat selective and revisionist historical narratives. In Warsaw we met with Joanna Fikus, Director of Exhibitions at POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, to learn about how one thousand years of Polish-Jewish life is being commemorated and preserved within a traditional educational model.

From a more pop-cultural angle, we were introduced to the founders of Mi Polin, a Jewish run company specializing in original Judaica. Mi Polin is currently pioneering an ongoing project to preserve traces of mezuzot from pre-war buildings. Their team travels throughout Poland to find physical signs of mezuzot, they then take molds of these indentations and cast them in bronze. These bronze casts are subsequently fashioned into new mezuzot as a reminder of Poland's pre-war Jewish world. Their mezuza project has been so successful that Mi Polin artists have created mezuzot from casts taken in Ukraine, Belarus, Romania, and even one from Morocco.

The majority of our Fellowship activities took place in and around the small town of Oswiecim where the AJC is based. The AJC's modest museum and archive is housed in the town's only surviving synagogue. Tomek Kuncewicz, the Center's Director, and Maciek Zabierowski, the Center's Manager of Education and Special Projects, are the guardians of the remains of a Jewish civilization in a town that once boasted a Jewish population of close to 60% of the total inhabitants. Although the town of Oswiecim presents as provincial and ordinary, it is more commonly



Dr. Regan Lipes with Natasha Doyon, Dr. Deborah Lipstadt, Micaela Procopio and Kiara Day.

known by its more notorious German name – Auschwitz. This was my third visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau. Each time I stepped onto the stained earth of this site was deeply emotional and profoundly painful. However, this past summer's experience was far more powerful than I could have ever imagined. Our time at both the work camp and extermination camp sites was facilitated by Pawel Sawicki, Press Officer for the Auschwitz Memorial. Sawicki managed to give voice to the victims and impart the history in a way that has been forever seared into my mind and soul. In conjunction with the four survivor testimonies we were privileged to hear, our time with Sawicki helped to fuse together the knowledge acquired throughout our program in a way that provided scholarly context, historical resonance, and space for moral reflection.

The AJC's Fellows and Faculty Fellows Program provides eleven leaders of future scholarship a unique and in-depth opportunity to meet the world's foremost names in the discipline, gain first-hand experience with how tangible history is being preserved, confront contemporary philosophical questions surrounding morality and ethical conduct, and finally, to ensure that the magnitude of the Holocaust is never forgotten or misrepresented. Tikkun olam is a part of everything I do – as a scholar and humanitarian. What this Fellowship provided, I believe, has made me a more insightful researcher and effective educator – but also, a better global citizen.

Jewish identity and shared cultural generational trauma ensure that 'we will never forget.' However, for the academic community, encouraging more comprehensive Holocaust education within different disciplines will serve to uphold the moral and ethical ideals of the humanities: acceptance, tolerance, and the pursuit of social justice. Sadly, as our numbers of survivors dwindle, it is up to educators like the remarkable people I met this summer, to be the guardians of memory and testimony – with all its painful honesty and stinging truth.

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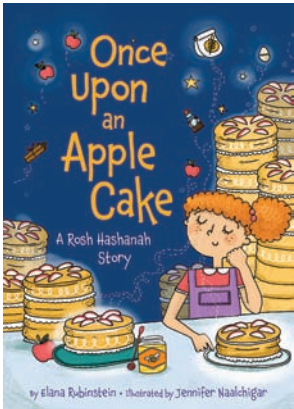


Six new children's books for the Jewish New Year

By Penny Schwartz

(JTA) -- Six engaging and fun reads for kids of all ages are among the highlights in the crop of new High Holiday books for children. They seize the spirit of the Jewish holidays and the excitement and anticipation of beginning anew, reflecting on the past, and celebrating the warmth and joy of Jewish traditions with family and friends.

The Jewish New Year begins on the night of Sept. 29. Once Upon an Apple Cake: A Rosh Hashanah Story
By Elana Rubinstein; illustrated by Jennifer Naalchigar
Naalchigar Apples & Honey Press; ages 7-10



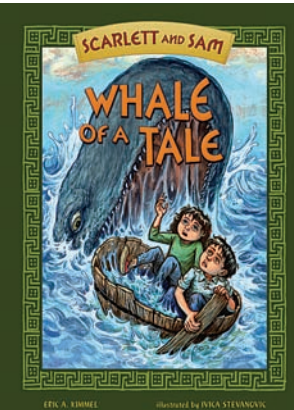
In this humor-filled, heartwarming chapter book, readers meet Saralee, an endearing 10-year-old Jewish girl whose cute-looking nose possesses the unusual superpower to sniff out scents and flavors. As Rosh Hashanah approaches, Saralee, whose family owns a restaurant, is excited to bake her zayde's (grandfather in Yiddish) popular apple cake with a mystery ingredient that even Saralee can't figure

out. Trouble lay ahead when a new family opens a restaurant and threatens to take over the apple cake business.

When zayde bumps his head, he temporarily forgets the secret to the cake. Will Saralee rise to the occasion, bake the perfect cakes and win a contest judged by a famous food critic? More than anything, Saralee wishes that her grandfather returns home from the hospital for Rosh Hashanah.

The cartoon illustrations by Jennifer Naalchigar add zest to Rubinstein's efforts. The recipe is included at the end of the book.

Whale of a Tale
By Eric A. Kimmel; illustrations by Ivica Stevanovic
Kar-Ben; ages 6-10



Travel back in time in the third installment of the Scarlett and Sam Jewish-themed chapter book series for older readers by Kimmel ("Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins"). The lighthearted adventure begins when the brother and sister twins offer to take their Grandma Mina's centuries-old carpet to be cleaned at the local rug shop. Engrossed in conversation with their mysterious ride-

hailing service driver, Jonah, they forget to take the prized carpet with its aura of magic that their proudly Iran-born grandmother brought with her as she fled tyranny in her country.

Suddenly they find themselves transported to Jaffa in ancient Israel amid carpet sellers in the shouk (market). They stow away on a ship, where they reunite with Jonah, who they learn is the biblical prophet. The stormy caper shines with references to the biblical tale, as the kids and Jonah go overboard and are swallowed up in the slimy belly of a big fish (is it really a prehistoric shark, they fear?). With fierce determination, the clever kids prod the reluctant Jonah to travel to Nineveh, to be faithful to G-d and justice, and to speak out to the ruthless Assyrian king.

Ivica Stevanovic's animated illustrations embellish the drama.

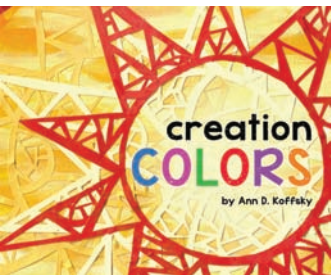
Shanah Tovah, Grover!
By Joni Kibort Sussman; illustrated by Tom Leigh
Kar-Ben; ages 1-4



Join Grover, Big Bird and other beloved Sesame Street characters as they welcome Rosh Hashanah with honey and apples, a shofar, and a festive meal with songs and blessings. Joni Sussman's simple verse is perfect for reading aloud to little ones and for preschoolers eager to read on their own, paired

with veteran Sesame Street artist Tom Leigh's delightful, colorful illustrations.

Creation Colors
By Ann D. Koffsky
Apples & Honey Press; ages 2-5



In this gloriously illustrated picture book of papercut art, Koffsky ("Judah Maccabee Goes to the Doctor") presents young kids with the biblical story of Creation through the prism of color: from separating light from dark to the bubbling blues of the water, to the yellows of the sun, and the stripes and spots of the animals. After G-d created the first two people, a world full of people of all shades and hues followed. And then, on the seventh day, G-d rested.

This simple, lyrically told story is perfect for Simchat Torah, the joyful festival at the end of the High Holidays that anticipates the start of the new cycle of the weekly Torah reading that unfolds with Genesis.

Jackie and Jesse and Joni and Jae
By Chris Barash; illustrations by Christine Battuz
Apples & Honey Press; ages 3-8

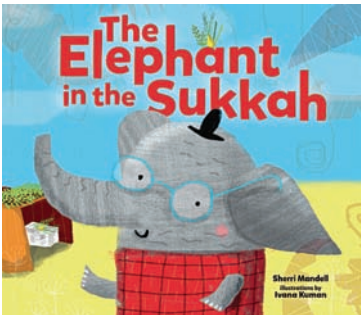


On a crisp fall day, four good friends stroll hand in hand toward the river clutching small bags of sliced bread. The diverse group is following their rabbi and neighbors to tashlich, the custom during Rosh Hashanah

of tossing crumbs or other small objects into moving water to symbolically cast away mistakes from the past year. Kids will relate as the friends recall misdeeds, like when Jae shared Jackie's secret.

Chris Barash's lovely rhyming verse comes to life in Christine Battuz's cartoon-like drawings in warm autumn tones of browns, orange and green. On the closing page, the friends are seen from behind, walking home, again hand in hand -- a palpable reminder of the power of asking for and extending forgiveness, a theme central to the High Holidays.

The Elephant in the Sukkah
By Sherri Mandell; illustrated by Ivana Kuman
Kar-Ben; ages 3-8



Nothing will get between a young boy named Ori and Henry, a lively elephant who once was a circus star but now is sent to a farm for old elephants where no one sings or has fun. When Henry wanders out one evening, he is

enchanted by the joyful music and singing he hears from the Brenner's family sukkah. After a few nights, he even learns the Hebrew words.

Young Ori hears Henry singing along outside the sukkah and is determined to find a way to bring the animal inside to fulfill the mitzvah of welcoming guests. The boy's surprising solution shines with kid-friendly inventive thinking.

Kids will chuckle at illustrator Ivana Kuman's double-page spread as Henry, in his red-checked shirt and small black cap, tries every which way to squeeze into the sukkah. On an author's page, readers discover that the out-of-the-ordinary idea of elephants in a sukkah crossed the legalistic minds of the Talmud's rabbis.

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