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# Pomegranate

NEWS, VIEWS AND SCHMOOZE WITH THE CALGARY JEWISH COMMUNITY



[jewishcalgary.org](http://jewishcalgary.org)



## A MESSAGE FROM ADAM SILVER

The summer is well underway, and I hope you and yours are enjoying the warm weather and the slightly slower pace. Many of us have remained quite busy, winding down activities from the previous months, attending Stampede events and gatherings, and planning for the fall. Even still, with the long days, bright sunshine, open skies, and summer activities, we are still finding time to reconnect with our families, one another, and ourselves. There are also many children in our community who are enjoying an opportunity to make new friends and try new things at summer camp – day or overnight. Some of us may also take this opportunity to find a bit of respite from our work and volunteer commitments, replenishing our energy and clearing our minds for when things become busy again in September.

However, just because the summer is here doesn't mean we aren't still thoughtful about our Jewish lives, our self-improvement, and our kindness toward others. Some Jews follow a custom of studying *Pirkei Avot* (Ethics of Our Fathers) each *Shabbat* throughout the summer months from the *Shabbat* after *Pesach* right through *Rosh HaShanah*. There are variations to this practice, but all involve completing this focus of

study for at least one cycle, if not more. *Pirkei Avot* contains learnings and thoughts connected to ethics and interpersonal relationships.

We recently reviewed Chapter Six as part of the summer schedule, and I would like to focus on one particular piece, notably:

*One who learns from his fellow a single chapter, or a single law, or a single verse, or a single word, or even a single letter, he must treat him with respect.*

– *Pirkei Avot*, 6:3

That is, one who learns from another person, from a whole chapter to a single letter, should appreciate the wisdom that is shared and the time that is given.

While this chapter is centrally focused on the Torah, I would like us to apply some leeway and to consider any time, wisdom, and care shared by another person with us as extremely valuable. It is not uncommon for us to dismiss small learnings as simple, or to consider short engagements with another person as less than meaningful. However, as teacher or student, one might never know the true value of a small insight or a short and focused moment with someone else. As such, we should always be willing to listen and learn, and to share our knowledge and time.

Jewish Calgary continues to benefit from the wisdom, care, and generosity of the matriarchs and patriarchs who have built our community. It continues to be vibrant and strong thanks to the efforts of many others who continue to nurture and steward it. We are a community of growth, learning, dedication, pride, and compassion. Most importantly, we are a community of individuals who lift up one another, recognizing we are so much better and greater than the sum of our parts.

This summer, let's all continue to be filled, and rejuvenate for the year to come. Let's power one another through the sharing of our wisdom and time, and let's all continue to aspire to a Jewish Calgary that can reach even greater heights!

Wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable August!

B'Shalom,

Adam Silver  
CEO, Calgary Jewish Federation

Building an inclusive community is a priority. Contact us and we will make every effort to meet your needs.

## Heartland Tour

MUSEUM OF THE HIGHWOOD

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14

Leaving from the Paperny Family JCC at 1:00PM

Join Keshet for a tour of the Highwood Museum

Plus, enjoy High River's murals, Maggie's Café, and more!

For more information contact **Karina Szulc** at [karinas@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:karinas@jewishcalgary.org) or 403-444-3158.



## SPUDS & SUDS

On July 8 – for the first time in two years – elected officials, staffers, and community builders came together for the annual Spuds & Suds event in celebration of The Calgary Stampede. Guests schmoozed, noshed on great food and drink, and built meaningful connections with one another and our community. This event was made possible in partnership with Calgary Jewish Federation, CIJA (Centre for Jewish and Israel Affairs), CJPAC (Canadian Jewish Political Affairs Committee), and The Jewish Federation of Edmonton. Sincere thanks to our partners and the attendees who made this event possible.



TOGETHER  
WE ARE A COMMUNITY

All activities on this page are made possible by your gifts to Federation's annual UJA Campaign.

From May 27 to July 17, **Here to Tell: Faces of Holocaust Survivors** ran for free at Glenbow at The Edison. This educational and commemorative photography exhibit featured 39 images of living survivors and 122 images of deceased survivors, held up in the hands of their descendants – all with a connection to Calgary. *Yasher Koach* to the many talented volunteers and professionals, and courageous Holocaust survivors who brought this exhibit to life. Special acknowledgement to Calgary Jewish Federation's Holocaust and Human Rights: Remembrance and Education Co-Chairs, Marnie Bondar and Dahlia Libin, who were the creators and executive producers behind the project. For those who missed the exhibit, you can still purchase the book at [heretotell.com](http://heretotell.com). Pre-purchased books will be available for pickup in November at The Edison.

If you are a survivor or descendant who would like yourself or your loved one featured in the upcoming *Here to Tell* digital gallery, submit your information at [heretotell.com](http://heretotell.com) or email [holocaustedu@jewishcalgary.org](mailto:holocaustedu@jewishcalgary.org) for more information.

