

THE JEWISH STANDARD

ROSH HASHANAH 5784



Street in the Old Quarter of Jerusalem Watercolour by Lionel S. Reiss

Best Wishes for Rosh Hashanah

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Reflections on Rosh Hashanah

There can be no minimizing the tragedy inherent in human existence. We are never far from the impact of misfortune. Each year millions of human beings pass by the wayside in one way or another of the various means by which life is brought to an end.

If a sense of uneasiness is understandable in our personal lives, it is also reflected in the dark blots which affect our fellow Jews and, indeed, all of mankind. No Jew is exempt from the pain felt as Jews and others count the victims of the latest terrorist attack. The continued acrimony among nations, the harrowing thought that there are diabolical men far removed from complete sanity who relish the prospect of a nuclear holocaust, the poverty and suffering of hungry and homeless refugees around the globe are all potentials of political and human disasters. Meanwhile, the defacing of synagogues, the desecration of tombstones, the fiery rhetoric from the likes of Kanye West, Bella Hadid,

Roger Waters and Robert F. Kennedy Jr., and the spreading of antisemitic leaflets and posters by the Goyim Defense League are grim reminders that even in seemingly comfortable environments, the poison of anti-semitism has not been eradicated and that racists must be constantly ferreted out and vigorously fought. While "irrational fears" may be unwarranted, Jews know that they must be vigilant in their defence against those who believe that it is their bounden duty to help the world "smite the Jews."

The disasters which press down inexorably on all of mankind, Jew and non Jew, seem to deny optimists any convincing arguments for their views. But it is not in the nature of man to give up lightly the struggle for self-preservation and the vision of an abundant life. The immediate future may inspire a spirit of foreboding. We have no choice, however, but to persevere in the hope that 5784 will, even in this uncertain world, bring us some measure of happiness.

THE WORLD IN REVIEW

NEWS OF THE RECENT PAST IS REVIEWED

By NOAH FREEDMAN

Accused of Going To Israel

Sylvia Santana is a Michigan state senator whose district includes the heavily Arab Muslim population of Dearborn. She recently joined several of her fellow senators on a visit to Israel. Her presence infuriated many of her constituents. "The news about Santana's visit to Israel", wrote Osama Siblani, publisher and editor-in-chief of the Dearborn-based *Arab American News*, "shocked and angered the Arab American community.

Santana's visit constitutes a slap in the face to the Arab American community who has been supportive and respectful of the senator.

Sensing a political backlash Santana was quick to apologize. "I recognize my presence on this trip has sparked anger and disappointment...For this, I truly apologize, seek your forgiveness and hope that you will understand that I had no malicious intent." She told her voters that "she should have 'exercised more discretion' before going on the trip. Not good enough for most

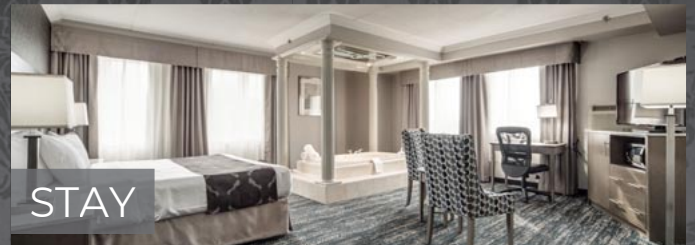
in the Arab community who told her in no uncertain terms that there was "no excuse."

Santana's district overlaps with the notorious anti-Israel and antisemitic Democratic Rep. Rashida Tlaib. Tlaib was a featured speaker at a recent art show in Detroit which advocated Israel's destruction. The Handala Coalition, a group

of organizations advocating for Palestinians, sponsored the May 30 show at Detroit's Swords Into Plowshares Peace Center and Gallery. Among the figures honored with artwork was Khader Adnan, 45, an imprisoned terrorist in Israel who died on May 2 following an 86-day hunger strike. He had spent eight years in

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FDR SAID “NO” AT BERMUDA

U.S. PRESIDENT LED THE ABANDONMENT OF THE JEWS

By RAFAEL MEDOFF

The name “Bermuda” conjures up a variety of images. Tourists think of it as a tropical vacation site. Scientists ponder the disappearance of ships in the Bermuda Triangle. But for those concerned with the history of the Holocaust, Bermuda is remembered as the site of a notorious U.S.-British conference that was organized for the ostensible purpose of rescuing Jews from Hitler, but instead abandoned them.

In early 1943, fol-

(Dr. Rafael Medoff is director of The David S. Wyman Institute for Holocaust Studies, in Washington, D.C., and author of more than 20 books about Jewish history and the Holocaust.)

lowing the Allies’ verification of the Nazi genocide, some British parliament members and church leaders began pressing for rescue action. To appease the growing clamor, the Churchill and Roosevelt administrations announced they would hold a conference to address the crisis.

The island of Bermuda was chosen for the

gathering. Nahum Goldmann, cochairman of the World Jewish Congress, suspected the remote setting was selected so “it will take place practically in secret, without pressure of public opinion.”

Jewish organizations asked permission to send representatives to the conference; their request was rejected. They sent the

State Department a list of proposals for rescue action; the memo was ignored. Jewish congressmen met with President Franklin D. Roosevelt to suggest rescue steps, “but the answer to all of [our] suggestions was ‘No,’” according to Congressman Daniel Ellison (R-Maryland).

American Jewish groups were alarmed that U.S. Congressman Sol Bloom (D-New York) was chosen as a member of the

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LITTLE HAS CHANGED SINCE CJC WAS DISBANDED

MULTIPLE CASES OF DÉJA VU FACE THE JEWISH COMMUNITY TWELVE YEARS LATER

By JACK SILVERSTONE

In the modern era, the now defunct Canadian Jewish Congress struggled with huge problems facing Jews worldwide and sometimes right here in Canada. Some of these issues like the fate of Jews in Syria were successfully resolved with the exodus of the entire Jewish community. This rescue was largely orchestrated by the extraordinary volunteers who headed up the CJC Jews in Arab Lands Committee. One can only imagine the fate of Jews in Syria had they been caught up in the brutal civil war that erupted there in 2011.

CJC disbanded in July 2011, via a di facto merger with the Canada-Israel Committee to become

Jack Silverstone was the executive vice-president of CJC from 1985 to 2003. - The Editor

the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs. While we believe CIJA and B'nai Brith Canada are doing a good job advocating on the important issues of the day, CJC had a cache that neither of these organizations have been able to replicate.

There is a reason why CJC was recognized as the Parliament of Canadian Jewry. As our former president, the late Irving Abella wrote in *The Globe and Mail* in 2019, "the CJC was Canada's first national ethnic organization, and for many years the only democratic one in North America; its leaders were elected by rep-

resentatives of all the Jewish all the Jewish communities and organizations from coast to coast. It became the model for successive waves of immigrants from places like Italy, Poland, Hungary, China and Japan to create their own organizations.

It began as an organization for Canadian Jews, but soon after its founding became an organization for all Canadians who needed its help. Throughout its history, the congress was in the forefront of epic battles for human rights, equality, immigration reform and civility in this country. It stood arm-in-arm with Indigenous

people in Canada fighting for their rights and dignity, with Canadian Sikhs demanding their right to wear turbans at their jobs and in Legion halls, and with a host of minority groups making their way in Canada. To each of them, the CJC has been a mentor, sharing its expertise and experience.

Many of the issues that occupied the efforts of CJC are still very much alive. Thus, CJC was a leader in the successful struggle to free the Jews of the former Soviet Union. Sadly, today all these years later, Jews in Russia and Ukraine, while no longer prisoners, find themselves

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ATTENTION HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

If you are a Holocaust survivor who has not received any compensation payment (either from the Claims Conference or German or Austrian governments), please call us immediately. You may be entitled.

The Claims Conference has negotiated the following liberalizations of criteria to compensation funds with the German government.

HARDSHIP FUND – SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENT Jewish Nazi victims eligible for the Hardship Fund have been approved for annual Supplemental Payments of approximately €1,200 in 2023 through 2027. If you already received a Hardship Fund Supplemental Payment (meaning payments over the two years of €2,400), you don't have to apply again. You will only need to provide Proof of Life. Please register with Paneem for the 2023 payment (you will need to do this every year through 2027). You will hear from us to validate via Paneem. If you have moved, or don't hear from us, please contact us. If you have never applied, the deadline for the 2023 payment is December 31, 2023.

Holocaust survivors who were previously ineligible to receive the Supplemental Hardship Fund payments because they received one-time German government payments (for example from Länderhärtefonds) are now eligible to apply for the supplemental payment.

Survivors who receive a German or Austrian pension for persecution during the Holocaust (BEG, Article 2 Fund, Regional Specific Program (RSP), Austrian Victims Pension (Opferausweis)) are not eligible to receive the Hardship Supplemental Fund Payment.

NEWLY APPROVED OPEN GHETTOS: Jewish Holocaust survivors who were persecuted in the open ghettos identified below, for at least three months, may be eligible for a monthly pension from the Article 2 or CEE Fund:

- In Romania, survivors persecuted in Bucharest, Adjud, Beiuș, Blaj, Caracal, Dumbrăveni, Făgăraș, Hațeg, Luduș, Mediaș, Nălaț-Vad, Oravița, Păclșa, Pitești, Șarmașu, Sighișoara, Târnăveni, Tinca, Turnu Severin, Arad, Braila, Brasov, Buhusi, Călărași, Deva, Dorohoi, Fălticeni, Huși, Ilia, Lugoj, Ploiești, Podul Iloaiei, Sibiu, Suceava, Târgu Frumos, Timisoara, Turda, Alba Iulia, BaCau. Barlad, Botosani, Buzau, Costanta, Craiova, Focasn, Galatz, Harlau, Iasi, Pascani, Piatra Neamt, Roman, Romanicu Sarat, Stefanesti, Targu Mures, Targu Neamt, Tecuci, and Vaslui, between August 1941 and August 1944;
- In Bulgaria, survivors persecuted in Dobrich, Kazanlık, Kürdzhali, Lovech, Nevrokop (a.k.a. Gotse Delchev), Nikopol, Plovdiv, Popovo, Preslav, Provadiya, Turgovishte, and Yambol (Jambol), between September 1942 and September 1944. In addition, all pension recipients who were in one of the open ghettos in Romania or Bulgaria named above and born after January 1, 1928, may be entitled to a one-time payment from the Child Survivor Fund administered by the Claims Conference.

Note: Jewish Nazi victims from these open ghettos in Romania and Bulgaria may also be entitled to a pension from the ZRBG (Ghetto Pension). This pension is not administered by the Claims Conference. Please contact a German embassy or consulate near you or <https://www.germany.info/us-en/service/07-Pension/ghetto-financial-compensation/920638>

CHILD SURVIVOR FUND In addition to the other eligible applicants listed above, the Child Survivor Fund may also provide a one-time payment to those who are among the One Thousand Children amounting to €2,500 (approximately \$2,500) per person. Approximately 1,400 children were forced to leave their parents behind when they were rescued from Nazi Germany and Nazi-occupied countries and taken to the United States. Please contact us to learn the details of eligibility.

PAYMENT TO SPOUSES OF DECEASED ARTICLE 2/CEE FUND BENEFICIARIES

The Claims Conference will provide payments to eligible spouses of deceased recipients of the Article 2, Central and Eastern European (CEE) Funds. A spouse of an Article 2/CEE Fund beneficiary may, upon the death of the Article 2/CEE Fund beneficiary, be entitled to receive payments for up to 9 months, paid in three quarterly installments, if the following conditions apply:

1. The spouse is alive at the date of the payment; and
2. The spouse was married to the Article 2/CEE Fund beneficiary at the time of death of the Article 2/CEE Fund beneficiary; and
3. The Article 2/CEE Fund recipient passed away at any point while he or she was receiving a payment from the program.

The spouse of a Holocaust survivor must be alive at the time of each payment. Other heirs, including children, are not entitled to receive any payment. To download an application from our website, please go to: www.claimscon.org/apply

The German government established a similar program for surviving spouses of monthly Holocaust compensation pensions made under German Federal Indemnification Law, other German federal compensation laws or governmental programs, (sometimes referred to as Wiedergutmachung), for Holocaust survivors who passed away January 1st, 2020 or later. For more information, please check with the BADV or download the application from the BADV

website at <https://www.badv.bund.de/DE/OffeneVermoegensfragen/UebergangsleistungenEhegattenNSOpfer/antrag.html>.

REGION-SPECIFIC PERSECUTION (RSP) PENSION A pension program was created for survivors, who currently do not receive pensions who were, for at least three months in: (i) the Leningrad Siege (ii) persecuted in Romania or (iii) hiding in France. Income/Asset criteria of the Article 2/CEE Funds apply. Meeting the RSP persecution criteria shall entitle a survivor to a payment from the Child Survivor Fund if the age criteria (born in or after 1928) is met.

For more information, contact:

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TRAVEL TALES

HELPFUL HINTS FOR THE JEWISH TRAVELLER

By MIKE COHEN

LOVING MY TIME IN OTTAWA: As Canada's capital, Ottawa is the perfect place to experience some of the country's best attractions, celebrations and flavours in one welcoming city. With its unique blend of urban and rural beauty, year-round outdoor activities, and vibrant neighbourhoods, the Ottawa region is best explored over three days or more. Even if you live in Ottawa, I hope you enjoy reading what I have to share.

THE BROOKSTREET HOTEL: Since opening in 2003, the Brookstreet Hotel in Kanata has gained notice as a luxury property renowned for outstanding dining, incredible entertainment, luxurious accommodations, inspired green initiatives and world class golf and fitness facilities. The locale hosts many Jewish weddings and receptions. While in Ottawa we had a chance to visit the hotel, enjoying a delicious lunch on the patio at Perspectives Restaurant. We spent some quality time at the lovely outdoor saltwater pool and I was in heaven in the jacuzzi. When rain cut our date of leisure in half, we were invited back a few days later to resume the pool experience. The Brookstreet has 276 rooms and suites spaced across 18 floors. Plans call for the hotel to build a second tower. There is now some 30,000 square feet of flexible

meeting space, featuring 25 meeting rooms, including three large ballrooms, an outdoor pavilion and the Newbridge Foyer which boasts floor to ceiling glass window. The hotel is located at 525 Legett Drive. For more information log on to <https://www.brookstreethotel.com>, <https://www.marshesgolfclub.com> or call 1-888-826-2220.

DINING OUT: There are so many wonderful choices for dining out. From my most recent trip, here is my culinary report. The historic York on William (YOW) building, which encompasses Starling Restaurant & Bar and Apothecary Cock-

(Please turn to page 18)

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MONTREAL BORN LAWYER JACQUES SHORE MAKES HIS MARK IN OTTAWA

JACK SHORE HAS HAD A REMARKABLE CAREER

By MIKE COHEN

I first met Jacques Shore over 30 years ago when we worked together at Canadian Jewish Congress. We reconnected last year when he released a children's book called *Sleep, My Baby*. Most recently, a Ukrainian edition was launched by Simon and Schuster and Save the Children.

Born and raised in Westmount, Shore is absolutely one of the most remarkable people you will meet in Ottawa: a prominent lawyer, author, Member of the Order of Canada, father/grandfather, community activist, volunteer and co-owner of the two year professional base-

team called the Titans. And this is merely a short list.

Shore is a partner in Gowling WLG's Ottawa office, a member of the firm's Advocacy Group, and past leader of the firm's National Government Affairs Group. That is where I sat down and met with him on my recent visit to the nation's capital. The prior evening, I attended my first Titans game at Ottawa Stadium, and I was quite impressed with the product on the field.

This is the Titans' second season of operation, playing out of a beautiful 10,000 seat venue. The 16-team independent league also has representation

from Quebec City and Trois-Rivieres.

The team has three Jewish owners - Shore, former Winnipeg Mayor Sam Katz, his nephew Regan - as well as the Ottawa Sports and Entertainment Group, whose executive chair and managing partner is also Jewish in Roger Greenberg.

Ottawa's baseball history dates as far back as 1898, when the Eastern League's Ottawa Wanderers took the field in the nation's capital, just 29 years after the British North American Act was adopted in 1867, creating the Dominion of Canada with four provinces; Quebec, Ontario,

New Brunswick and Nova Scotia

The Titans were granted entry to the Frontier League for the 2021 season, but COVID-19 restrictions postponed those plans. Shore was originally brought aboard to provide legal advice. "After several months it was clear there was an opening for me to become part of the ownership group and I embraced that," he said. "My goal from the start is to help ensure the success of this franchise."

It seems that there is no end to the good work Shore can do, such as Operation Abraham. That is an

(Please turn to page 24)



Shana Tovah

Wishing you a bright and sweet year. May the New Year bring blessings upon you and your loved ones for happiness, health and prosperity.



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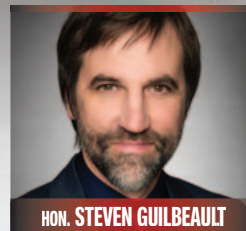
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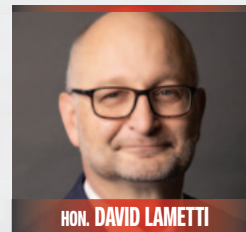
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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 3)

prison for terror-related offenses.

Rabbi Asher Lopatin, executive director of the Jewish Community Relations Council for the Metropolitan Detroit area, responded to the politician by saying “Everyone should go. It's the holy land. Whether you like whose the state now, maybe you preferred it when it was under the Ottomans or the Crusaders or the Romans, but whoever it is, everyone should visit.”

Self Proclaimed First Rabbi Of Riyadh

Rabbi Yaakov Israel Herzog lives in Riyadh. Despite the restrictive laws in the country Herzog has

opened the first Chabad Movement house designed to serve what he claims are the thousands of Jewish expatriates living there.

“There are many Jewish expats coming to the Kingdom to work”, he says. He estimates that some 15,000 Jews now work in Saudi Arabia on different employment contacts although that number has not been verified.

There was this perception, says Herzog, that his work would be forbidden in a country where public displays of non-Islamic religious practices are still prohibited. “After I aligned myself with what I wanted to do, and the current situation in Saudi Arabia and

(Please turn to page 21)

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American delegation to Bermuda. Bloom was a staunch defender of FDR's harsh policy toward Jewish refugees; Jewish leaders feared Bloom would serve as "an alibi" for the administration's claim that rescue was impossible. Assistant Secretary of State Breckinridge Long wrote in his diary that he chose Bloom because the congressman was "easy to handle" and "terribly ambitious for publicity."

The Bermuda gathering opened on April 19, 1943, which coincided with the first night of Passover and the outbreak of the Warsaw Ghetto revolt against the Nazis. The British and U.S. governments decided beforehand that in their discussions, there would be no emphasis on the plight of the Jews, nor would they adopt any policies that would benefit Jews in particular.

FDR SAID "NO" AT BERMUDA

(Continued from page 4)

Nearly every rescue idea that was raised was shot down. The U.S. refused to use trans-Atlantic ships to transport refugees, not even troop supply ships that were returning from Europe empty. The Roosevelt administration also rejected any increase in the admission of refugees to the United States.

The British delegates refused to discuss Palestine as a possible haven, because of Arab opposition. They also rejected negotiating with the Nazis to release Jews, on the grounds that "many of the potential refugees are empty mouths for which Hitler has no use." Their release "would be relieving Hitler of an obligation to take care of these useless people," a senior British official asserted.

The delegates also dismissed the idea of shipping food to starving Jews as a violation of the Allied blockade of Axis Europe, even though Allied leaders previously made an exception for German-occupied Greece and sent food there.

In the end, the Bermuda conferees spent a large amount of time on very small-scale steps, such as evacuating 5,000 Jewish refugees from Spain (who were not in immediate danger) to the Libyan region of Cyrenaica.

After twelve days of basking in the tropical sunshine, the delegates adjourned without achieving anything of significance. The two governments kept the proceedings of the conference secret rather than admit how little they had accomplished.

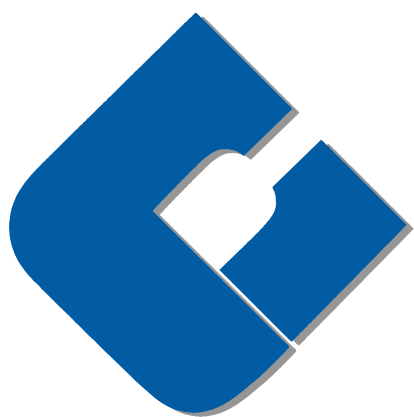
The failure of the Bermuda conference provoked the first serious public criticism of U.S. refugee policy. A large advertisement in the *New York Times*, sponsored by the rescue advocates known as the Bergson Group, was headlined "To 5,000,000 Jews in the Nazi Death-Trap, Bermuda was a Cruel Mockery."

Rep. Emanuel Celler (D-New York) charged that the delegates in Bermuda had engaged in "diplomatic tight-rope walking," at a time when "thousands of Jews are being killed daily." In a slap at Congressman Bloom, Rep. Celler characterized the conference as "a bloomin' fiasco."

The editors of *The New Republic* charged that Bermuda revealed "the bitter truth" that the U.S. and Great Britain were unwilling to save "these potential refu-

(Please turn to page 16)

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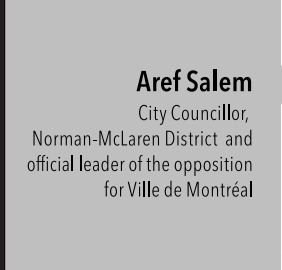
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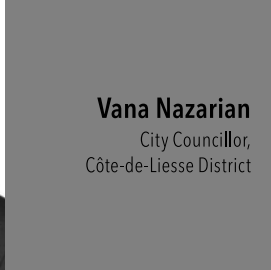
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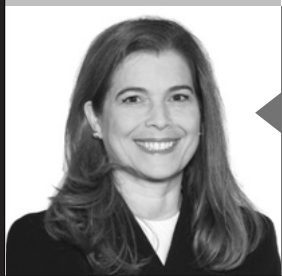
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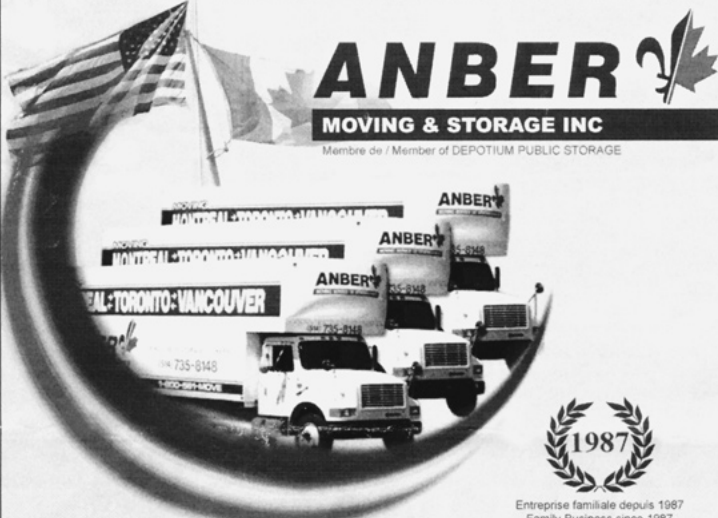


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FDR SAID "NO" AT BERMUDA

(Continued from page 14)

gees from murder....If the Anglo-Saxon nations continue on their present course, we shall have connived with Hitler in one of the most terrible episodes of history."

Bermuda galvanized some mainstream Jewish leaders to speak out more forcefully for rescue. Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the Synagogue Council of America, charged that "the victims are not being rescued because the democracies do not want them, and the job of the Bermuda conference apparently was not to rescue victims of Nazi terror but to rescue our State Department and the British Foreign Office from possible embarrassment."

Even the chief British delegate to Bermuda, Richard Law, later acknowledged that Bermuda was a "façade for inaction."

Historians have come

to view the Bermuda conference as one of the era's most vivid demonstrations of the Roosevelt administration's abandonment of the Jews. The many books and films about America's response to the Nazi genocide devote ample space to the Bermuda failure—with the notable exception of the recent Ken Burns documentary, "The U.S. and the Holocaust," which for some reason never mentioned Bermuda at all. Perhaps one day, some interviewer will ask him about that.

An Eyewitness Account

The day the Bermuda conference concluded, April 30, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency published an extraordinary eyewitness account of Nazi atrocities against Jews in the Polish city of Lvov.

A 40 year-old bank employee named Arthur

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Rotenstroikin described how he and other Jews in Lvov were "lined up and machine gunned," but "I fainted and fell to the ground before a bullet hit me and thus escaped death." Late that night, he "crawled from the mound of the dead and returned home."

Rotenstroikin recounted a wide range of Nazi outrages in Lvov, from young Jewish boys "forced to beat their parents," to Rosh Hashana worshippers compelled to spread Torah scrolls on the ground "and dance upon them." He also

detailed the mass murder process: executions of tens of thousands of Jews in a nearby forest where "the cries of the victims could be heard for miles," and mass deportations to the Belzec death camp.

Within a year, "only 10,000 Jews were left of [Lvov's] original Jewish population of 160,000," Rotenstroikin reported. Among the murdered were his own wife and two year-old child. His harrowing testimony offered a heartbreaking eyewitness counterpoint to the Allies' farce of a conference in Bermuda.

LITTLE HAS CHANGED

(Continued from page 6)

in precarious situations as they face the terrible uncertainty created by war and civil strife.

The pursuit of Nazi war criminals in an effort to bring them to justice is now all but over as more than 75 years have passed since the end of the Second World War. Tragically, there has been no lack of war criminality and crimes against humanity since then. In a bizarre and perverted twist of morality and law, some of the transnational vehicles such as the International Criminal Court that were put in place to counter horrific behaviour by individuals and nation states have become venues for anti-Israel machinations.

Worry continues for the sizeable Jewish community in Iran living as they do under an oppressive and violent theocracy. Meanwhile the small Jewish community in Tunisia is under stress. The country is not stable and unlike neighbouring Morocco where the Jewish community remains safe and respected and where the government is forging close ties with Israel, Tunisia remains hostile to the Jewish state. On May

ninth of this year two Jewish visitors as well as three local security personnel were killed in an attack on a synagogue. The CJC had an extraordinary volunteer in Judy Feld Carr who headed our Jews in Arab Lands Committee and orchestrated the dramatic rescue of so many Jews from Syria.

Regrettably the transmission of antisemitic and anti-Israel propaganda has grown exponentially with the emergence of social media and similar nefarious efforts. At the same time, traditional anti-Semitic manifestations both from the extreme right and left have certainly not abated.

CJC fought tirelessly against anti-Israel boycotts. Today this pernicious form of economic and psychological warfare persists and is making odious inroads in the areas of culture and academia. This virus will not succeed, but it must be rigorously and tirelessly countered.

Finally on the domestic front the struggle for minority rights continues. In this regard, we recall the extraordinary coalition of

(Please turn to following page)

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LITTLE HAS CHANGED

(Continued from preceding page)

the Jewish, Italian and Greek communities in Québec when faced with the referendum on independence in 1995. With the current threats of Bill 2 (secularism) and Bill 96 (language), perhaps such a coalition should be re-established?

We were also able to draw strength from our small Jewish communities from coast to coast which CJC nurtured recognizing their historical and political importance. These smaller Canadian centres continue

to have a vital role to play and merit meaningful support.

These were some of the many issues that preoccupied the lay leadership and staff of Canadian Jewish Congress throughout the last century and into this one. Unfortunately, many of the problems persist albeit in modified forms. It is appropriate then to recall the wisdom of the Sages who declared that we are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are we free to abandon it.

conveniently located next to the Byward Market at 700 Sussex. That is just steps away from Parliament Hill. The restaurant is open seven days a week, serving lunch, dinner and brunch on weekends. When we planned our return summer trip to the Nation's Capital, this was the first dining establishment on our list. It was a beautiful evening to once again experience their spacious patio, which is completed covered by a tent-like structure and umbrellas. Log on to www.metropolitainbrasserie.com. Lavender Grill and Lounge opened in the Byward Market in the summer of 2022, the vision of owner Reza Khakbaz. He and his team have certainly taken advantage of the connection, from the décor to the coloring of some of the drinks like my blackberry smash tea mocktail, a com-



AT ITS RECENT Annual Meeting, the Cummings Centre has announced a new slate of officers to serve on its Board of Directors for 2023-2025. Gloria Steinberg was named President of the Cummings Centre. "Cummings is a unique programming and community service Centre that encourages all to optimize both physical and mental well being," said Gloria. "I believe that when working supportively, Cummings has the power to enhance and extend its impact on the lives of seniors in Quebec and far beyond." The Cummings Centre's mission is to empower and enhance the quality of life of adults aged 50 and over by providing dynamic and innovative programs, social services, and volunteer opportunities in a vibrant, respectful, inclusive and compassionate environment. Visit cummingscentre.org or call 514.343.3510

TRAVEL TALES

(Continued from page 8)

tail Lounge, represents a must visit. The latter are part of a multiple-dining concept featuring a rooftop terrace and street-level patio and located in one of

the oldest buildings in Ottawa, dating back to 1875. Log on to www.starlingottawa.ca. In 2022 I made my first visit to the Metropolitan Brasserie in Ottawa

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bination of blackberry and Earl Grey tea. The menu contains a touch of Dubai and Iran, two countries where Khakbaz has lived. But make no mistake, the items to choose from are all very familiar from steaks to pasta. Lavender Grill and Lounge is located at 47 Clarence Street. Opening hours are 5 pm to midnight Wednesday to Friday and 11:30 am to midnight Saturday and Sunday. For more information call 613-569-6605 or log on to www.lavendergrill.com. On Elgin Street you will find a supper club called Marzitelli, which also has a super weekend brunch. Marzitelli is located at 350 Elgin Street. Log on to www.marzitelli.ca. Finally, we have to mention Al's Diner in a popular spot on Clyde Street that serves breakfast and a whole lot of other menu items all-day long. Besides an array of breakfast items, the regular menu consists of items like pizza, wings, burgers, salads, fish and much more. They offer quick pick up and delivery and you can order online at www.alsdiner.ca.

Future editions of *The Jewish Standard* will provide more information on where to dine in our nation's capital. For more details on what to do and see while you are in Ottawa readers can log on to www.ottawatourism.ca.

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SPECIAL EDITION

Les portes du Centre sont toujours ouvertes. Venez nous rejoindre en personne, en ligne ou à domicile. Rencontrez d'anciens amis, faites de nouvelles connaissances, apprenez une nouvelle compétence ou redécouvrez un hobby. Nous avons quelque chose pour tout le monde. Et si vous préférez les cours en ligne, nous sommes là pour vous.

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THE CUMMINGS CENTRE, SERVING THE 50-plus community, makes it fun and easy to connect and get involved. Fall and winter program offerings range from fascinating speakers to hands-on workshops and countless ways to keep your brain and body active, plus ways to socialize and volunteer. Whether you join us in person at our Westbury campus or prefer to participate from the comfort of your own home or any of our off-site locations, we've got you covered. For more information on our exciting activities visit cummingscentre.org/programs

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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 12)

Islam in general, I realized that with the Jewish people they won't have a problem...We basically looked at the current Saudi law book, and we tested the waters." He describes himself on LinkedIn as a "Rabbi and entrepreneur", specializing in acquisitions, as well as religious circumcision and interfaith dialogue. On X he calls himself "the rabbi of

Saudi Arabia" and "the rabbi of the Arabian Peninsula".

At present Herzog operates out of rental facilities where he hosts prayers and provides holiday meals (with grape juice instead of alcohol). But his goals are much greater. We "want to build a proper center, a proper mikvah ritual bath, a synagogue, a

day school for children, and whatever a Jewish person in the kingdom would need in order to have a fulfilling Jewish life." Herzog admits he hasn't reached everyone but he remains undaunted, encouraged by the "nice turnouts" to the various events.

Says one observer: "One man isn't waiting for peace to become official".

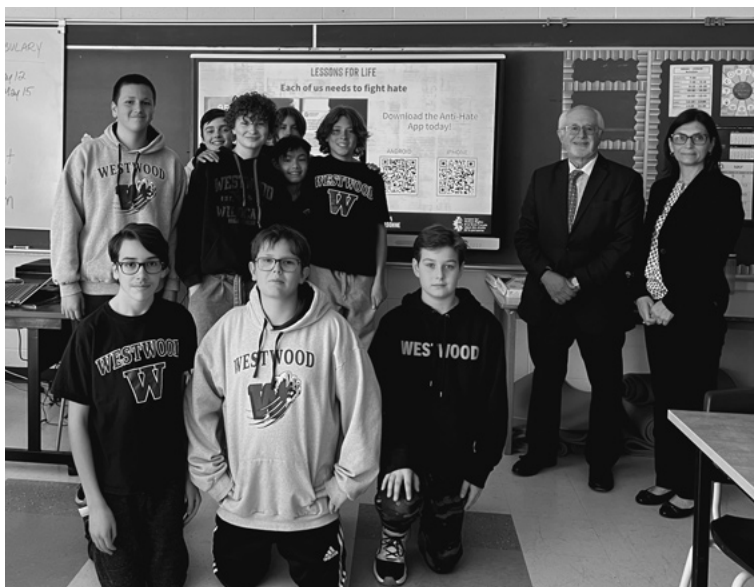
Australia Shifts Stance on West Bank

Since 2014 Liberal/National Coalition governments in Australia have avoided using the words "occupied" and "occupation"

when referring to the west Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza. But the Labor government, under Anthony Albanese has changed course. Australia will now refer to these entities as "Occupied Palestinian Territories."

The opposition center-right, which under Tony Abbott, Malcolm Turnbull and Scott Morrison, took a more nuanced stance in the mid-East conflict decried the change in policy. Former Attorney General George Brandis, told a Senate hearing that the phrase "occupied East Jerusalem" was "freighted with pejorative implications

(Please turn to page 24)



A VISIT TO ST. LAZARE: SINCE BEING APPOINTED as the director of B'nai Brith Canada in Quebec, Henry Topas has been busy. One of his objectives continues to be speaking to students in the public education system. One such visit was to Westwood Junior High School off island in St. Lazare, at which time he spoke to every Grade 7 class. "Your presence and engaging presentation made a tremendous impact on our students, and we are truly thankful for your efforts in educating them about the importance of combating acts of antisemitism and hate speech in our community," reads a letter from the school administration. "Having individuals like you from the community come and share their knowledge and experiences is invaluable to fostering a positive school culture. Your skillful ability to capture the attention of the students throughout your presentation was wonderful, and they were genuinely engaged by your stories and insights. By highlighting the presence of hate speech in our area, you effectively conveyed the significance of remaining vigilant and proactive against such acts." (Please see page 23 for more on B'nai Brith's Quebec Region activities.)

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THE B'NAI BRITH CANADA QUEBEC REGION REPORT



The third annual Chip Away at Hate Classic Golf Tournament took place on August 21 at the prestigious Beaconsfield Golf Club. This event provided vital funds to support B'nai Brith Canada's League for Human rights team in Quebec. Thanks to the Bissell Family Foundation, the Baazov family and a number of corporate sponsors and donors, it played an important role in helping to fight antisemitism, racism and bigotry by offering needed assistance as well as valuable resources and information to the victims.

"We don't have to explain how serious a problem this has become and B'nai Brith Canada's vigilance in this area is of paramount importance to our community," said Henry Topas, the Quebec Regional Director for B'nai Brith Canada.

The Chip Away at Hate Classic served as B'nai Brith's major fundraising event this year in Quebec. Special guests included Consul General of Israel Paul Hirschorn, Canadiens great Peter Mahovlich, NBA

superstar and Montreal Alliance General Manager Joel "Doc" Anthony and SAQ Single Malt specialist Benoit Clement.

In addition to a round of golf at one of Quebec's most magnificent golf courses, the day was complete with both food and drinks of all kinds on the course and ended with a luxurious cocktail dinatoire. There were also raffle prizes and many silent auction packages to bid on.

BEAUTIFUL: Save the date! On October 31, the Segal Centre in Montreal will be hosting a special performance of Beautiful: The Carole King Musical. If you haven't seen this show, which tells King's early life story and features her greatest hits, get ready for a treat! Organized by Ronnie Roter and the "Beautiful" Women of Montreal, the event will raise funds to support B'nai Brith Canada's crucial work in human rights and community advocacy. Mark the date in your calendars and get ready to make memories.

PUTTING ON THE FREEZE: Last year, B'nai

Brith Canada persuaded a Montreal venue to cancel French rapper Freeze Corleone's show on account of the overt antisemitism in his lyrics. His content has previously glorified the Nazi regime, evoked offensive antisemitic stereotypes, and implied admiration for Hitler. Corleone is set to release a new album on September 11 of this year. Many consider the date choice to be intentional - and given the history of anti-Jewish sentiment in his music, it's hard to imagine it could be pure coincidence. He is also slated to appear December 4 at The Olympia, a 1300-seat venue in Montreal. In a letter to the venue's management, Marvin Rotrand, national director of B'nai Brith's League for Human Rights, wrote that Corleone "exploits and abuses his platform to espouse a particularly virulent form of antisemitism." Streaming platforms have taken action by removing his songs, and back in 2020, Universal Music terminated his contract. We urge our national venues to deny him any further invitations to tour in Canada.

BILL 96 WEBINAR:

B'nai Brith Canada hosted Quebec stakeholders for a virtual discussion on how best to collectively approach the challenges with Bill 96. This call centered around networking, collaboration and strategy towards Bill 96 and how to coordinate various efforts to combat the bill. The event, marking the first anniversary of the law, was moderated by Marvin Rotrand of B'nai Brith Canada's League for Human Rights. Speakers included human rights lawyer Julius Grey, Côte Saint-Luc Mayor Mitchell Brownstein, Topas, English Montreal School Board Chair Joe Ortona and Andrew Caddell of the Task Force on Linguistic Policy. "Notwithstanding the official role of protecting French, the purpose of this law is simply to remove English. French is not really in danger anymore," Grey stated. "Bill 101 had some justification, but this present law doesn't protect French. What it is, is simply a reduction of English services." For more information on how to get involved with B'nai Brith Quebec, call 514-733-537



B'nai Brith CEO Michael Mostyn addresses the audience as Marvin Rotrand looks on. Ronnie Roter and Diane Antonelli join former Habs great Peter Mahovlich.

B'NAI BRITH HOUSE AND CHATEAU B'NAI BRITH OFFER WONDERFUL PLACES TO LIVE

Between the affordable housing crisis and the continually rising cost of living, many people across Canada are struggling to make ends meet. Vulnerable populations, especially older adults, are particularly impacted by these social issues.

Affordable housing projects, like the 95-unit B'nai Brith House in Côte-Saint-Luc and the 129-unit Chateau B'nai Brith, make it possible for older adults to live comfortably and safely with a strong sense of community.

B'nai Brith House

B'nai Brith House opened 17 years ago at 8000 Cote St-Luc Road, at the corner of Westminster, steps away from public transportation, pharmacies, grocery stores and restaurants. The residents there feel they have a weight lifted off their shoulders. Living in a clean, well-maintained

building with appliances in their apartment, laundry on each floor, utilities included in their rent and a nutritious kosher meal served weekdays, this all takes away a big mental load. For those nervous about making the change of moving to a residence, worry not. The warmth, friendliness and support of the staff, management, security and fellow residents make newcomers feel right at home.

Since its founding by Ted Greenfield and the late Gerry Weinstein, with continuing support from the Baazov Family, B'nai Brith House has been putting "the social" in social housing for seniors. The residents are encouraged to participate in the large repertoire of programs available, including tai chi, yoga zumba, poetry, board games, bingo, discussions, concerts, BBQs, movies, birthday parties, lectures,

outings, religious services and more. These programs are vital in creating bonds between residents, as well as reducing rates of social isolation and depression.

Diane Fenster moved into B'nai Brith House a year and a half ago after her husband passed away. "It is a very nice place to live," she said. "I have enjoyed meeting new people. There is a nice social atmosphere, from our weekday lunches to the programming they organize. Once a month they hold a joint birthday party for everyone who celebrated and that is something we all look forward to."

Chateau B'nai Brith

Chateau B'nai Brith, located at 7171 Côte St-Luc Road (adjacent to the Côte St. Luc Shopping Centre), opened in 2019. It is named after Eric and Naomi Bissell, who gave the lead donation of \$1 million to the project.

Both buildings now fall under the management umbrella of Caldwell Residences, overseen by Executive Director Harvey Charlap. Monica Margolis and Julie Eskenazi serve as program directors and Irina Dekhter is the director of recreation services.

Chateau B'nai Brith offers the same activities and benefits. Moshe Engler is the chef. These are wonderful locations for residents to celebrate special occasions. There are also optional outings organized for residents.

Each unit is subsidized to people over 65 whose income and assets are below an established threshold.

Chateau B'nai Brith is presently at capacity. However, if you are interested in an apartment at B'nai Brith House, please contact Pam Fagen at 514-481-7171 ext. 1801.



Residents at B'nai Brith House(left) and Chateau B'nai Brith enjoy a variety of activities

OTTAWA'S JACK SHORE

(Continued from page 9)

advocacy group which has been working to resettle vulnerable Afghans since the Taliban recaptured the country in August 2021. Shore is a co-founder of the initiative along with another partner at his firm, Lewis Retik. As Shore told *The Hill*

Times newspaper, thus far they have directly brought a dozen families to Canada and have helped facilitate 1,500 refugees evacuating Afghanistan. The group was also responsible for arranging for hundreds of travel documents to facilitate ref-

ugees' border crossings.

With extensive experience in both the private and public sectors, Shore practices in the fields of administrative law, federal regulatory affairs and negotiations focusing on trade and procurement issues, nuclear energy and environmental issues, corporate governance, national security matters, and cultural policy, as well as lobbying legislation, government affairs and government advisory work. In addition to his law practice, he has also

served on the firm's national external management committee.

Shore has played an active role in developing professional legal activities internationally and, specifically, in the U.S. and Central and Eastern Europe. He speaks English, French and Polish, and has a functional knowledge of German. Shore is a published author of many articles on law and public policy, as well as three children's books.

What a remarkable man indeed!

WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 21)

which is neither appropriate nor useful". The decision, added Simon Birmingham, the opposition's foreign affairs spokesman, has "nothing to do with advancing a two-state outcome".

The Zionist Federation of Australia and the Executive Council of Australian Jewry also criticized the change, calling its language "inaccurate, ahistorical and counterproductive."

**Canada "No"
Israel "Yes"**

The Chinese government recently expressed its displeasure with Canada by removing it from its list of accepted travel destinations for groups. Israel, however, has made the list.

Travel between Israel and China came to an



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abrupt halt during COVID. The recovery has been slow despite the efforts of Tourism Minister Haim Katz and Chinese Ambassador to Israel Tsai Ron. The recent decision from Beijing should help bring Chinese group tours back.

Also helping is the increase in the number of flights between the two countries. Direct flights to Israel from Beijing and Shanghai have been available since 2016 but soon direct flights from Shenzhen will also begin.

China is also committed to taking part in the 2024 International Tourism Fair in Israel.

Dispute Over Elongated Nose

Netflix's Leonard Bernstein biopic starring Bradley Cooper has been greeted less than enthusiastically in some quarters. The controversy has nothing to do with Bernstein's music or the star's acting ability.

What bothered some was the prosthetic nose worn by the non-Jewish Cooper. "This isn't about making a non-Jewish actor look more like Leonard Bernstein", said Joel Swanson, a Jewish history PhD student at the University of Chicago. "It's about making

a non-Jewish actor look more like a Jewish stereotype."

Writing in *Newsweek* Malina Saval and Jess Sneider argued: "A note about noses: not all Jews have the same one. This is insane to have to point out in 2023, but here we are. The ubiquitous ethnic stereotype about the hooked 'Jewish nose' is rooted in a medieval societal attempt to ostracize, dehumanize and demonize Jews—to turn Jews into witches. The physiological existence of a 'Jewish nose' has always been—and always will be—a pseudo-science."

But the film and Cooper have their supporters. Bernstein's three children issued a statement in response to the backlash: "It happens to be true that Leonard Bernstein had a nice, big nose. Bradley chose to use makeup to amplify his resemblance and we're perfectly fine with that. We're also certain that our dad would have been fine with it as well."

Baby Sarah Finds Sanctuary in Odessa

Two week old Baby Sarah was born to a Jewish mother in the besieged Ukrainian city of Zaporizhia. Unfortunately, her mother
(Please turn to following page)

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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from preceding page)

suffered physical wounds and emotional trauma and is unable to care for her child.

Sarah has found a home in the Mishpacha Orphanage in Odessa. "We received a request from the Chabad emissaries in the city of Zaporizhia", said Rabbi Nahum Amtroy and his wife Dina...Sarah is joining our extended family and with the help of God we will provide her with warmth and love just like we do other children."

Sarah is the sixth infant sent to the Mishpacha Orphanage. "We have experienced many upheavals since the outbreak of the war," adds Igor Shadkin, head of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Southern Ukraine....We strive to provide them with a warm and loving home, a safe place for their bodies and souls."

Names and Events In The News

Bernardo Arévalo will be sworn in as Guatemala's "Hebrew speaking president" in early 2024. He and his father, who was president between 1944,

and 1948, have both spent time in Israel...Paul Cohen is the only Jew living in remote Greenland. He and his wife have lived there for 22 years...The new president of Paraguay, the conservative Santiago Pena, has fulfilled a campaign promise and moved his country's embassy back from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem...Hunter Biden led a prayer for justice at his nephew Jayden Cohen's bar mitzvah at the Etz Chaim synagogue in Marietta Georgia...Sammi Cohen, the director of Adam Sandler's bat mitzvah film, "wants Jewish kids to feel seen and celebrated." The director hopes the recently released Netflix film will appeal to a younger audience more than the original novel did. "We just wanted this to feel like a modern telling of a story," said Cohen.

Jane Benzaquen, a 70-year-old woman from Belgium, is going to court to prove her claim that she is the daughter of the late King Hassan II of Morocco. Benzaquen, who holds both Israeli and Belgium citizenships, maintains that the prince had an affair with her mother Freha in the early 1950s when she was 17.

(Please turn to page 31)

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UNITING STUDENTS AGAINST ANTISEMITISM

SUBMITTED BY DANIEL KOREN,
FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
ALLIED VOICES FOR ISRAEL

Allied Voices for Israel (AVI) unites students of all backgrounds against anti-Jewish hatred. AVI offers a multi-faceted approach to Israel advocacy and education by empowering a new and diverse cohort of Israel advocates at high school and university campuses across Canada.

Through allyship programs to Israel, educational workshops, media fellowships, and other advocacy programs, AVI is inspiring a new generation of students to change the narrative around Israel. By embracing our peers, we will establish a movement of students working together to achieve strength in numbers and create a more just society.

AVI offers a variety of flagship programs as well as resources, access to high-profile speakers, and a suite of educational workshops that give students the tools to build meaningful coalitions and understanding of regional conflicts in

the Middle East, how to refute misinformation from anti-Israel students and professors, and serve as vocal and proactive Ambassadors for peace, coexistence, and human rights. We also offer interactive campaigns for our students to meaningfully engage in dialogue with their peers on campus.

AVI strongly believes that coalition-building is essential to combating anti-Jewish hatred and all forms of bigotry on campus. We believe in real allyship – meaning that no student should ever need to renounce an integral part of their identity (such as Jewish students being forced to denounce their support for Israel) to be considered an “ally.”

Recently, students representing 10 college and university campuses came together for an AVI Summer Retreat in Keswick to learn about allyship, Jewish indigeneity to Israel, and more.

Students of all back-

grounds joined us, representing 10 college and university campuses such as University of Toronto, University of Windsor, Carleton University, Western

University, McGill University, George Brown College, and others.

Students took part in interactive workshops on

(Please turn to following page)

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UNITING STUDENTS

(Continued from preceding page)

tallyship, coalition-building, the harmful effects of the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement, the indigenous Jewish connection to Israel, and how to identify and combat anti-Jewish hatred on campus.

Students had many questions about Israel and Jewish indigeneity and gained several valuable new skills. It was quite the experience.

"I am pleased to report that nearly 90% of participants said the workshops made them feel more confident and likely to advocate for Israel and engage in allyship on campus," says Koren. "Additionally, all students reported that their knowledge of Israel increased."

"The spirit of the event as well as the information provided equipped us as allies in a meaningful and nuanced way," said one student.

AVI will be gathering similar metrics and data

from students for its upcoming Common Ground program to Israel beginning on December 27th. If readers know a student who may be interested in becoming a Common Ground Ambassador and joining AVI in Israel this winter, please encourage them to apply today!

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ISRAEL'S NATAN LEVY IS JUST THE THIRD Israeli to compete in the UFC. He does not hide his Jewish identity. Recently he invited "Ben", a follower of the antisemitic and Holocaust denier Nick Fuentes to a fight in Los Vegas, even offering to pay for Ben's gas. "I wanted to teach him a lesson that when you spread Holocaust denial or other hate about the Jewish people online, it's not okay," he said. For Ben, Fuentes is supposedly just a "revisionist", someone merely trying to further Christian values in the United States. Meanwhile the fight lasted for two rounds with Levy pinning Ben both times. At the end of the second round Ben can be heard saying "I'm sorry". He admits he "needs to be more well researched". He had better be. Levy gives him a warning. "This one wasn't that painful. The next one will be twice as painful".

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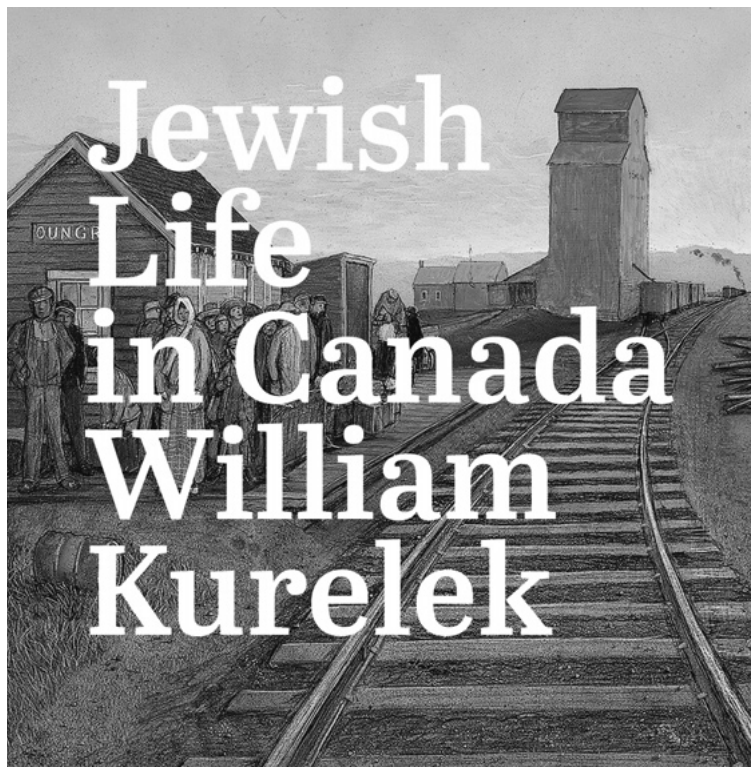
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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 26)

A judge in Rhode Island has ruled that a New York congregation can evict tenants from the historic Touro synagogue...A court in Tennessee has ruled that a Jewish couple can sue the state after a foster care agency denied them services

because they are Jewish...A Liverpool couple Elaine and Phillip Marco died in their cars during recent flooding. Their Mercedes Class 189 vehicle had become submerged in flood waters and they both died after being taken to hospital.



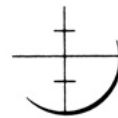
WILLIAM KURELEK (1927–1977) IS A BELOVED figure in Canadian art, a revered Ukrainian Canadian painter whose works express his deeply felt immigrant experience and his compassionate vision of humanity. Many of his richly detailed, jewel-toned works reflect memories of his hard-scrabble childhood in Manitoba; others his sometimes apocalyptic ruminations on a darkening world. His suite of paintings titled *Jewish Life in Canada* was made to honour his friendship with the Toronto art dealer Avrom Isaacs, who offered the artist a framing job at his gallery before discovering his employee's remarkable creative gifts. A devout Roman Catholic, Kurelek intended *Jewish Life in Canada* as a gesture across the cultural divide, implicitly demonstrating his open-mindedness toward Canadians of cultural and religious backgrounds different from his own. Copies of the book can be purchased through Goose Lane online: <https://gooselane.com/JewishLifeInCanada>. The book can also be purchased through most local independent bookstores or at amazon.ca, thriftbooks.com and biblio.com

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