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KOL ECHAD

Kol Echad is the official publication of Forestdale Heights Lodge, B'nai Brith Canada.

It is published five times a year.

We welcome all articles and letters from members of the Lodge and their spouses.

All material submitted is subject to editing.

The editor may consult with members of the bulletin committee regarding suitability and editorial decisions.

All opinions expressed in Kol Echad are those of the individual writers and do not reflect the views of either Forestdale Heights Lodge or B'nai Brith Canada.

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MILESTONES


FHL wishes a Happy Birthday to:

Michael Pacter	March 9
Marc Pollock	March 12
Ray Moscoe	March 22
Elizabeth Bloom	April 4




If you have any memorable moments in your life (or the lives of your children and grandchildren) you wish to share with the Lodge, please send announcements to jelijo@sympatico.ca.





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PRESIDENT'S PEN

Ruth Pupko

I look forward to reading and enjoying the Passover/spring bulletin, as it symbolizes the end of a long winter and the promise of trees and flowers blooming all around us. It feels like we are waking up from a long deep sleep and energized to welcome every day full of zest and abundant energy. Pesach is about cleaning your kitchen from top to bottom, from eating different foods, but most of all, it is about gathering with family and retelling the miraculous story of Exodus. As a young girl, I will never forget being with my grandparents, uncles, aunts, and cousins and falling asleep on the chairs since the Seders went through the wee hours of the night. Let us share our freedom with everyone in the world, and may they experience our way of life.

The Purim party and the elections will most likely be over by the time you read this article. Debbi and I will deliver hats, gloves and socks to Beth Tzedec for their Out of the Cold program, and a report and pictures will also be in this issue.

My three exercise classes keep me busy, as does my weekly visit with my aunt at Baycrest and meeting the girls at Kiva's on Thursday right after the class. Of course, what is a class without food and good friends? On that note, thank you so much for the beautiful birthday surprise at Ba-Li Laffa, and I look forward to many more Lodge dinners/social times.

On behalf of Aaron and myself, we wish you all a very healthy Pesach and may Hashem give you all strength to continue all the traditions and the good work you do in the community.

CONFIDENTIAL REPORTING ANTI-HATE HOTLINE



B'nai Brith Canada operates the country's only Anti-Hate Hotline combating anti-Semitism and racism. If you have been the victim of an antisemitic incident, we encourage you to fill out the form at <https://bit.ly/3irmAAz> or call our toll-free Anti-Hate Hotline at 1-800-892-BNAI (2624).



EDITOR'S DESK

Jeff Rosen

As Chanukah 2022 ended in December, I naturally began to think of – what else – Passover 2023. That, of course, always draws amusing comments from my family. This time, though, it was not about the holiday itself, but the current issue of Kol Echad and our annual Passover Greetings. After reaching out to our members and political representatives at all levels of government, I am proud to report that the state of our bulletin remains extremely strong.

This year's greeting campaign, which started as the new year was dawning, has resulted in our greetings from politicians in Toronto and Markham, federal and provincial cabinet members, and MPPs in the GTA. I am proud to report that this is the most successful holiday greeting campaign Kol Echad has ever undertaken. It lifts my spirits and renews my hope for Forestdale Heights and this publication.



Then again, I am amazed that this Lodge has remained so successful since COVID restrictions pushed us into a new virtual mode. In 2020, I wondered if this new virus would mean the end of FHL. Yet we have endured and adapted to the changing times. The new online reality allows members to participate in meetings wherever they are. So congratulations to everyone who continues to make this FHL a success.

Kudos also go to our president, Ruth Pupko, who has steered our Lodge through these uncharted waters. Unlike her predecessors, she had no roadmap for leading the Lodge. After three years, I would have thought she would welcome a break from the president's podium. After talking with Harvey Silver, chairman of the board of governors, though, Ruth has agreed to stay for another term.

It will not be business as usual for the next executive, though. Then again, there is never anything "usual" for members of our executive. The coming season, 2023-2024, will see the Lodge helmed by co-presidents, something FHL has never tried before. Joining Ruth will be our long-time treasurer, Debbi Silver. I have no doubt they will bring out the best in each other and will bring honour to the Lodge. I wish them luck.



Now that the greeting campaign is over, I find my thoughts turning to the festival. We say, "Why is this night different from all other nights?" However, I'm not just thinking of how it differs from other nights, but how the holiday has changed over my lifetime.

My first memories of Pesach are of attending Seders at my Bubbie and Zaidy's house on Charleswood Drive. Their four kids and all the grandchildren would gather for a somewhat solemn ceremony (no one said a word when my grandfather ran the Seder). There were so many grandchildren that a separate children's table was set up in the living room. It definitely was fun.



Eventually, it was too much for my grandparents, and the show was moved to my parents' home. Furniture was moved, tables added, and we comfortably accommodated everyone. At least for a time. My oldest uncle's family eventually split off on their own, and Seders were split between my mother and her sister. That is, until my aunt's growing family finally had to say their goodbyes. By then, Lisa and I were ready to carry the torch and run a family Seder.

Our first year was interesting. We had moved into our house the previous year and needed to prepare for the holiday. So, off we went to Honest Ed's, where we loaded up on two sets of everything. Just thinking about those times brings a smile to my face. When the time came to plan the Seder, my job was easy. I was to supervise our three-month-old daughter, who was crawling by then, while Lisa and our moms brainstormed in the kitchen about who would prepare the various dishes.

After participating in so many family Seders over the years, it was finally my turn to sit at the head of the table and lead the proceedings. It was both an honour and very humbling.

Since then, our parents have left us. Still, we feel their presence and remember the good years with them. Others have joined us over the years as our family grew. That also has modified our celebrations.

Wherever the Seder table was that I sat at over the years, including one in North Battleford, Saskatchewan, the Passover story has remained the same. We are one people who have overcome numerous obstacles over the centuries and come out stronger each time. Now, let's eat.

From my family to yours, I wish you a Chag Pesach Sameach.



AT A GLANCE

FHL will hold Zoom meetings on the second Tuesday of each month in 2023.
Start time: 7:00 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings: March 14, May 2, June 13
All dates are

Kol Echad schedule for the 2022-23 season

May / June – Spring Issue

Deadline: April 10

July / August – Summer Issue

Deadline: June 10

COVER ART



It's that time of the year again. Pesach or Passover begins on Wednesday, April 5, with the first Seder, and concludes on Thursday, April 13.

The week after, Yom Hashoah is commemorated on April 18. Yom Hazikaron is April 25, and Yom Ha'atzmaut is the following day.

Before all that, though, we celebrate Purim starting the evening of Tuesday, March 7.

Chag Sameach!

(Jordana Rosen photo)




FHL EXECUTIVE 23-24

On January 10, Harvey Silver, chair of the board of governors, convened a Zoom meeting of the Lodge's slate committee, comprised of all active past presidents.

The following people were slated to serve on the executive for 2023-2024.

- Co-Presidents – Ruth Pupko, Debbi Silver
- Senior Vice-President – Eddie Arkin
- Vice-President – Ray Moscoe
- Treasurer – Debbi Silver
- Financial Secretary – Lisa Rosen
- Recording Secretary – Marilyn Arkin
- Chaplain – Stewart Indig
- Trustees – Albert Ohana, Carl Zeliger

The slate was formally presented at the February nominations meeting, and Harvey asked if anyone else was interested in serving on the executive for the coming year. Those nominated will be officially elected at the March meeting.

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FEBRUARY MEETING

Allocations, nominations and the Lodge constitution dominated the Lodge's second Zoom meeting of the year as 12 members gathered online to discuss the state of affairs for Forestdale Heights Lodge.

As well as Lodge President Ruth Pupko, those in attendance on Monday, February 13, included Zoom moderator Stewart Indig, Harvey & Debbi Silver, Albert Ohana, Carl Zeliger, Ray & Rosalie, Moscoe Marilyn & Eddie Arkin and Jeff & Lisa Rosen. It should be noted that three members who were on vacation were able to participate by meeting this way.

Allocations were on the agenda, and funds were allocated to several worthwhile charities. Donations were also made to B'nai Brith Canada for Purim parcels and the Pride of Israel Food Bank.

Carl reported that the Lodge will again be running its popular Purim Megillah reading program with Rabbi Jay Kelman on Monday, March 6, at 6:30 p.m. Volunteers are asked to come 30 minutes before the program begins at 4300 Bathurst Street.

It was also agreed that the Lodge will once again have a summer BBQ. The date and location are to be announced.

The Lodge will once again be helping out at the Toronto Marathon this year, to be held on Sunday, May 7. In the past, our Lodge was in charge of the first water station at Harlandale Avenue, just north of Yonge & Sheppard. The start time for volunteers to set up is 6:00 a.m. We are usually finished by 9 a.m.

The Lodge also passed a constitutional amendment allowing us to hold meetings with a minimum of nine members present. Previously a quorum constituted 12 members in good standing.

The next meeting of Forestdale Heights Lodge was scheduled for Tuesday, March 14. There will be no meeting in April due to Pesach.

Jeff Rosen



CVS

Hello there,

On a cold, grey, damp morning, Debbi Silver and I brought three bags full of hats, gloves, socks, and scarves. Imagine not having these essential items on these cold days! Beth Tzedec and Beth Shalom operate the Out of the Cold shelter program, which provides refuge, hospitality and emergency shelter to 175 of Toronto's homeless. Meals are provided, as well as clothing distribution and breakfast to 60 overnight guests. Anyone who attends their shelter receives a bagged lunch and a subway token.

Our Lodge has always provided warm clothing to various charities and groups, and this CVS program will always be dear to us, and I know that we will always be there for our community.

Thank you to my Lodge members for making this happen. Special thank you to Debbi for shopping with me and for driving in all weather conditions.

Ruth Pupko



CVS



PASSOVER FOOD DRIVE

The Passover Food Drive was born in 1983 when members of the National Council of Jewish Women of Canada Toronto observed that there were members of their community in need of food during Passover.

The Passover Food Drive specifically helps address food insecurity for Pesach.

Seniors, Holocaust survivors, families

and newcomers to Canada are provided Kosher for Passover Food that they would otherwise be unable to afford.

As you know, the cost of food has increased significantly, and the demand is ever more significant. National Council recently received a new large list of almost 800 people who are Holocaust survivors who are in need. The organization is challenged to provide for this additional group but does not want to leave them behind. This would increase our total to approximately 3,000 boxes.

When we have additional food items, NCJW always gives them to other kosher food banks, and nothing goes to waste. We purchase the majority of the food from suppliers.

The organization is stretched very thin given the increased costs and the increased number of recipients, and we hope people will consider the Passover Food Drive.

If you would like to help pack boxes on March 12, contact

Gail Crystal

Co-Chair Passover Food Drive

National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, Toronto

Passover Food Drive

Cell: 416-712-9567





TALKING POINTS

Debbi Silver

The weeks are just flying by.... Passover is on our doorstep. My mother always said to me, "Don't blink because you will miss everything."

Our granddaughter, Zoe, just turned 18 years old. September means she will be going to university. This past month (January) was a very anxious time for many secondary school students. This was the first time they had to write exams. Prior to the pandemic, most of the teens were in public school. Our two grandchildren felt nervous about it. Hopefully, this is behind us, and life will go on somewhat normally.

Speaking about grandchildren, one of ours was chosen to go on the March of the Living right after Passover. We are so proud of Jaime. This will be an experience of a lifetime. Although both of our families didn't have family in Europe at that time, the heartache doesn't go away. It is so important for all of us to remember the Holocaust. I read in the obituaries almost daily that a survivor has passed away.

REMEMBER!

Now, onto the Lodge.

By the time you read this, our elections would have taken place. Mazel tov to all who were elected. Ruth and I are looking forward to being co-presidents. We have always worked well together. As a matter of fact, we took two big bags of mittens and hats down to the Beth Tzedec Out of the Cold project.

A big thank you to Carl for organizing the Purim program at 4300 Bathurst. After three years, it was a pleasure to reconnect with our friends. As always, Rabbi Kelman and his family did an amazing job of the Megillah reading.

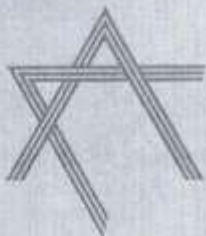
If any of our members has a project or an allocation to discuss, please contact Ruth (905) 709-2675 or myself (289) 597-5780. We are always open to giving our fundraising dollars to charity.

I look forward to seeing all of you either in person or virtually.

Harvey and I wish everyone a very healthy and happy Passover.

(Kol Echad file photo, Purim 2017)





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PERSPECTIVES



A father said to his daughter, “You just graduated; this is a car I bought a while ago. It is a few years old. But before I give it, take it to a car dealer in the city and sell it. See how much they offer.”

The girl returned to her father and said: “They offered \$14,000 because it looks very old.”

The father said: Hold it and take it to the second-hand car dealer.

The girl returns to her father and says: “The pawn shop offered \$144 because it is a very old car, and lots of investments are needed to drive it again.”

The father asked his daughter to join a passionate car club with experts and show them the car.

The girl drove the car to the passionate car club, turned and said to her father: “Some people in the club offered me \$144,000 because it is a rare car in good condition, with great capabilities and super difficult to find.”

Then the father said, “I wanted to let you know that you are not worth anything if you are not in the right place.”

If you are not appreciated, do not be angry, that means you are in the wrong place. “Don’t stay in a place where no one sees your value.”



COMMUNITY

B'nai Brith Canada and Tropicana Community Services join forces to fight hunger and strengthen communities

B'nai Brith Canada recently formalized a special collaboration with Tropicana Community Services, an organization that focuses on helping individuals of Black, African and Caribbean heritage. The partnership is rooted in the shared goal of helping communities in need. As part of the partnership, B'nai Brith's Emergency Food Box Program provides its excess nutritious food items to Tropicana Community Services, which redistributes the food through its Harvest Share Food Security Program.



“The impact of this partnership is significant. Many families and individuals who might otherwise go hungry have been able to access healthy food options, thanks to the collaborative efforts of B'nai Brith and Tropicana Community Services” said Chery Landy, B'nai Brith Director, Community Engagement. “Both organizations have learned from one another and worked together to create more sustainable, community-led solutions to issues of food security and social support.”

[Click Here to Volunteer for our Food Program](#)



COMMUNITY

Canada's Only Anti-Hate App

Amidst the rise of antisemitism and hate, B'nai Brith Canada continues to provide the country's only anti-hate mobile app. This app allows the public to instantly report a hate incident and all the pertinent details involved, as well as share photos or video of the incident.

"One of the consistent themes that have been expressed by people who have seen or experienced hate on Canadian streets or online is that it has been challenging to report certain incidents in real time," says Michael Mostyn, Chief Executive Officer of B'nai Brith Canada. "We are proud to be the only Canadian organization to offer an easy-to-use anti-hate mobile app available to anyone.

"We encourage everyone to keep the app on their phone, so that if you ever need to report hate or antisemitism, you are ready to."

[Click Here to Download The App](#)



COMMUNITY



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

B'nai Brith Canada requires volunteers for two-hour shifts to work as greeters and B'nai Brith Ambassadors at bingo halls.

ALL COVID-19 PROTOCOLS WILL BE FOLLOWED

The bingo revenue allows us to provide services such as emergency food boxes to hundreds of seniors who are food insecure, housing to many Holocaust survivors and clothing and other necessities to the most vulnerable in our community.

We need your assistance and ask anyone who can volunteer to contact Cheryl Landy at (416) 633-6224, ext. 134 or e-mail volunteer@bnaibrith.ca for more information.



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A happy and healthy Passover to all.
Cathy & Stewart Indig & Family

Happy, healthy & safe Passover.
May 2023 bring us all a better year.
Sincerely,
Honey and Albert & family

Eddie and Marilyn Arkin wish our friends and our family a healthy and happy Passover.



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Wishing all members and their families a happy, healthy and meaningful Passover holiday.

Carl and Debby Zeliger & Family

The Kates Family extends to its FHL family its best wishes for a

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Marc, Rachel, Seth, Eve and Joelle

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Happy
Passover
Chag Pesach Kasher Vesame'ach

MELISSA LANTSMAN

MP | THORNHILL

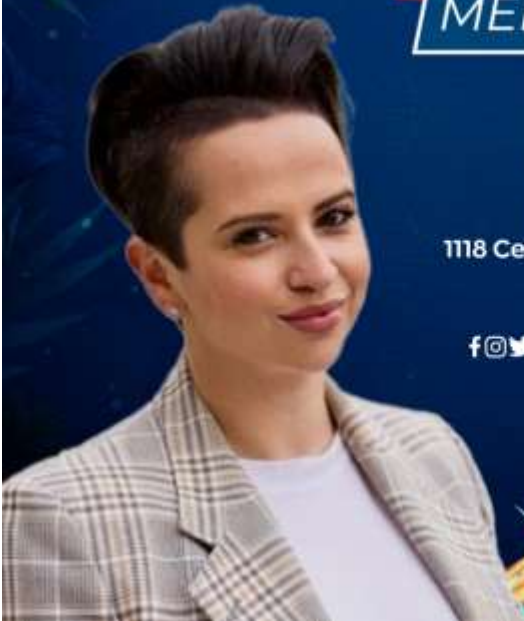
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Hon.

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Happy Passover
Chag Sameach





Chag Pesach Sameach!

HAPPY
PASSOVER

Hon. Marco Mendicino P.C., M.P. for Eglinton-Lawrence

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*From my family to yours,
wishing you a Happy Passover!*

חג פסח שמח



Ontario

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A message to Forestdale
Heights Lodge members

Wishing you and yours a
healthy and happy Passover





Keith Irish

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Happy
PASSOVER

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Mayor's Passover Reception at Toronto City Hall with Consul General of Israel Idit Shamir, former Senator Jerry Grafstein and Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl.



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Sending warm thoughts
and blessings as you
gather at the Seder
to celebrate
with those you love.



Happy Passover 2023
Ruth and Aaron



Ira & Paula Kuchinsky

Wish a very
Happy Passover
to our friends
& fellow
Lodge members

Wishing everyone peace,
good health and
happiness.

The Silver Family

*Debbi, Harvey, Lisa,
Mark, Shawna, Zoe,
Jaime and Ezra*



SOCIAL

We came, we socialized, and we fressed, and the rest (as they often say) is commentary.

On Monday, January 16, 13 members of Forestdale Heights Lodge gathered at Ba-Li Laffa on Bathurst Street for a post-post-Chanukah gathering. It was fantastic seeing everyone again, face to face, unhindered by the computer screens we use to conduct monthly meetings. We caught up on each other's lives and enjoyed delicious meals. Not only was the food good, but the portions were plentiful, so large that many of us left the restaurant with leftovers for another dinner (or lunch).

To top it off, we celebrated Lodge President Ruth Pupko's birthday with chocolate cake for dessert.

Thanks go to Albert Ohana for organizing the evening and getting the cake.

Like all get-togethers, this one ended the same way. Once one person decided to call it a night, it was the signal to say our goodbyes. It was a great way to start the year, and hopefully, we will be able to meet in person more often in 2023 rather than meet virtually. *(photo on next page)*

Jeff Rosen

To all our Lodge sisters,
brothers and their families,
we wish you health,
peace, prosperity and
all the joys of Passover

*Raymond and Rosalie Moscoe
& Family*



SOCIAL



We would like to wish
all members of FHL
a very happy Pesach

Chag Sameach!

*Jeff, Lisa
and Jordana Rosen*

FOOD SENSATIONS

MATZO SCHNITZEL

Ingredients

2 eggs

Cayenne pepper

1 teaspoon sweet paprika

½ teaspoon garlic powder (or 1 roasted garlic clove)

½ teaspoon kosher salt

½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

½ cup potato starch

2½ cups matzo meal or 6 pieces matzo, broken and pulsed in a food processor until the consistency of breadcrumbs

Optional: lemon zest, chopped flat-leaf parsley, chopped chives, or chopped cilantro

1 pound chicken breast fillets

Schmaltz or high-heat oil for frying

Directions

1. In a medium bowl, combine eggs, spices, salt, and pepper.

2. Set out four large plates on your counter. In the first plate, pour potato starch. On the second plate, pour out some egg mixture. In the third plate, pour out approximately 1 cup of matzo meal and mix with lemon zest, chopped parsley, chopped chives, or chopped cilantro (if using).



Continued on next page



3. Working with each piece of chicken individually, dredge in potato starch, coat in egg mixture, and then fully coat with matzo meal. Place the prepared piece of chicken on the fourth plate. You can prepare all pieces ahead of time; if you must stack them on the plate, put a piece of parchment paper or wax paper in between the layers.
4. At this point, you can fry the chicken or freeze it. If freezing, seal tightly in plastic wrap or wax paper and put in a resealable bag. Use cardboard to keep everything flat while freezing.
5. Heat 1 to 2 tablespoons schmaltz or high-heat oil in a large frying pan. A splatter guard is helpful to have on hand. Lay pieces in a pan, making sure they don't touch. Resist the urge to move the chicken around while it is frying — this will prevent the coating from fully crisping up. Instead, let it sit on each side until the coating has become crispy and detaches on its own from the pan. Allow approximately 5 to 7 minutes per side, then flip. Keep heat at medium so the inside can cook and the outside becomes crisp but not burned.

<https://jamiiegeller.com/recipes/matzo-schnitzel/>



EGG ROLL FILLING

Ingredients

3 onions	4 cups bean sprouts
4 ribs celery	3 tbsps. soy sauce
2 tbsp. oil	Salt, garlic powder and pepper to taste
2 lb. ground beef	

Directions

Chop and sauté onions and celery in oil until wilted. Add beef, salt, garlic powder and pepper to the pan and mix well. Add bean sprouts and soy sauce (you can use more or less, according to your taste). Cook for five minutes with the lid on. It can be eaten without egg roll wrappers. Serves 6 to 8 as a main dish.

Always a favourite in the Rosen household!



FORESTDALE FUNNIES

Deep in the back woods of Tennessee, a hillbilly's wife went into labour in the middle of the night, and the doctor was called out to assist in the delivery. Since there was no electricity, the doctor handed the father-to-be a lantern and said, "Here, you hold this high, so I can see what I am doing." Soon a baby boy was brought into the world. "Whoa there," said the doctor, "Don't be in such a rush to put that lantern down. I think there's another one coming."

Sure enough, within minutes, he had delivered a baby girl. "Hold that lantern up, don't set it down. There's another one," said the doctor. Within a few minutes, he had delivered a third baby. "No, don't be in a hurry to put down that lantern. It seems there's yet another one coming," cried the doctor.

The hillbilly scratched his head in bewilderment and asked the doctor, "You reckon it might be the light that's attractin' em?"

WHAT I THOUGHT BEING A MOM OF BOYS WOULD LOOK LIKE.



WHAT IT'S ACTUALLY LIKE.



FORESTDALE FUNNIES

Moses was sitting in the Egyptian ghetto. Things were terrible. Pharaoh wouldn't even speak to him. The rest of the Israelites were mad at him and making the overseers even more irritable than usual, etc. He was about ready to give up.

Suddenly a booming, sonorous voice spoke from above:

"You, Moses, heed me! I have good news and bad news."

Moses was staggered. The voice continued:

"You, Moses, will lead the People of Israel from bondage. If Pharaoh refuses to release your bonds, I will smite Egypt with a rain of frogs."

"You, Moses, will lead the People of Israel to the Promised Land. If Pharaoh blocks your way, I will smite Egypt with a plague of Locust."

"You, Moses, will lead the People of Israel to freedom and safety. If Pharaoh's army pursues you, I will part the waters of the Sea of Reeds to open your path to the Promised Land."

Moses was stunned. He stammered, "That's.... that's fantastic. I can't believe it! But what's the bad news?"

"You, Moses, must write the Environmental Impact Statement."

What was the name of the Secret Spy for the Jews in Egypt? Bondage, James Bondage.

How many Pharaohs does it take to screw in a light bulb? One, but he won't let it go.

An exhausted Mrs. Cohen to her best friend: You know Zelda, I've been working so hard doing all the preparations for Pesach. Do you want to join me now, and we'll have our four glasses of wine earlier than usual?





HARMONY

Rosalie Moscoe

The pandemic has messed up a lot of Passover Seders – too many people in a small space around a crowded table. Yet many families persist in having large Seders. Some pay the price of sickness afterwards. With aging relatives (including me), we need to be mindful of these large gatherings. While it may not be as much fun to have just a few sitting around a table, Seders can still be meaningful and enjoyable. It's all about attitude. We've had Zoom Seders during the heart of the pandemic, and it worked out fine! There still was a feeling of camaraderie, telling jokes and singing songs while going through the Haggadah. Passover is still Passover, no matter what!

I liked the times of making charoset with my granddaughter when she was little, and her helping to set the table getting ready for not only a meaningful service, but a good meal! I still recall all the fun times as a child at my aunt's house, the table burgeoning with relatives, some seated on bridge chairs to accommodate many. Sometimes the tables would extend from the dining room into the living room in her small house. We enjoyed all those fun times, but they are forever gone. However, I'm happy to be left with those fond memories.

For a few years, just before the pandemic, our family was invited to a cousin's home, and we had a wonderful time with mostly her extended family. She parcelled leftover food for everyone. During the pandemic, she did not make Seders, but made food for us all! She just arrived one day with chicken soup, brisket, or chicken and all the trimmings and homemade cake for dessert. She performed this mitzvah for all her relatives. (She had a big freezer and cooked for a couple of weeks before Passover!) But truly, what she really has is a really big heart!

At one Seder of a relative, I recall a large dog roaming under the Passover table! It still was a meaningful, fun, and freilech Seder lasting late into the night. Many people do not have large families anymore, and we need to include those who are alone or don't have children. Those who do have children often find themselves isolated as those children live elsewhere, often in faraway cities or in other countries. .
.changing times.

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Ray recalls each year when, as a child, he helped his mother change all the dishes lugging the regular dishes downstairs to the basement and bringing up the Passover dishes. Of the four children, he was the main one who helped. Also, he loved going to Kensington with his grandmother, picking out a good chicken, and watching it get slaughtered and packaged. Then, they walked home with his grandmother's prize tucked under her arm. She spent the rest of the day plucking out feathers!

Whatever you do at Passover, perhaps go to a shul for Seders, enjoy time with friends, or still have large family Seders, we wish you and yours a happy, healthy Passover!





AS I SEE IT

Marc Kates

There is an unwritten rule in our house that, unfortunately, is usually broken. The rule is, “You can’t talk about the second P-holiday, until the first P-holiday is over.” Of course, this refers to the holidays of Purim and Pesach. The first P-holiday is fun for both adults and kids, but the second P-holiday requires a lot more work, planning, and, of course, more money.

The rule-breaking usually starts with the disclaimer, “I know I shouldn’t be talking about the second P-holiday, but....” It’s nearly impossible not to, when planning for the second P-holiday begins the moment the Passover dishes are put away for the year. In our household, there is a list called “Passover 2023” that is put away with all the dishes from Passover 2022. The list contains “Items We Have” and “Items We Need.” It also includes a list of notes in the margins that evaluate the products we were able to purchase one year, but, as a tradition unto itself, one can no longer find those products the following year. Brand X mayonnaise is better than Brand Y mayonnaise, but definitely don’t buy Brand Z mayonnaise. Never buy the special kosher for Passover dish detergent, you know, the one that looks like liquid bubble gum, when, according to the COR Guide, any dish detergent with an OU is considered kosher.

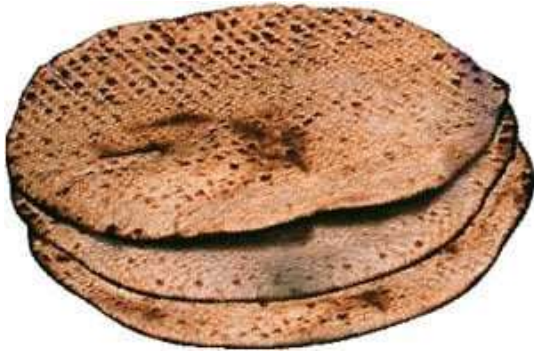
There is also the inevitable game of “Hide and Seek” that comes with looking for specific kosher for Passover products. I’m not usually a jam eater, but if I’m going to buy jam, I insist on raspberry jam with seeds. No, not the raspberry spread or jelly, but good old-fashioned raspberry jam with seeds. I usually sigh and lament the late Miracle Mart’s own raspberry jam that came in a funky bottle and found its way to Miracle Mart store shelves around the holiday.



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Then, and perhaps most importantly, there is discussion around brands of matzah. Never has such a boring, plain, and thoroughly bland item provoked so much discussion. After all, there are only two ingredients in matzah: flour and water.



How can we justify spending a fortune on this necessary item, when the “best of the best” is still a dull, tasteless square cracker?

There is also another game of chance that we play, but the stakes are higher at Passover than a game of dreidel at Chanukah. Are there going to be any unbroken shmurah matzahs in the box when we sit down on Seder night?

The only award that we bestow at Passover is the title of the food item we believe is “Good enough to pass as a regular chametzdik dish.” Items that receive this title are indeed praiseworthy. As it says in the Haggadah, “*Harei ze meshubakh.*”


So, beyond the Halachik Four Questions that we pose around the Seder table, by the time the first cup of wine is poured, we are well aware of why this night is different from all other nights. We will try harder to adhere to the rule of not discussing the second P-holiday before the conclusion of the first P-holiday.

Wishing you a happy and healthy Pesach,

Marc Kates

ALLOCATIONS

As of March 1, Forestdale Heights Lodge has made the following allocations for 2023

1. Hill House Hospice
 2. Imagine a Cure
 3. Kayla's Camp
 4. United Chesed of Toronto
 5. Beit Halochem Canada
 6. Magen David Adom Canada
 7. Covenant House
 8. Neshama Hospice
 9. Fred Victor
 10. Ezer Mizion
- 

LOOKING BACK



**First
Loblaws,
511 Yonge
Street,
1919**

Fr. & Loblaw Toronto stores 1912? 1919 (from 1911-1912) #1220
City of Toronto Archives, File# 12205-10246-103220

**Steinberg's,
Bathurst and
Shepherd,
1960s**



LOOKING BACK



City of Toronto Archives, Series 381, s0381_00015_d6207-3

1949
Yonge Subway Construction



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