

Forestdale Heights Lodge, B'nai Brith Canada

KOLECHAD

March 2019

Adar I/Adar II 5779

Volume 17, No 7



COVER ART

Don't the hamentashen look great? It won't be long now. Purim starts the evening of Wednesday, March 20 and concludes Thursday March 21. With Purim on the radar, that means it's about a month until Pesach. Time to start cleaning out those cupboards.

TRIVIA

The name of March comes from Martius, the first month of the earliest Roman calendar. It was named after Mars, the Roman god of war, and an ancestor of the Roman people. March's birthstones are aquamarine and bloodstone. These stones symbolize courage. Its birth flower is the daffodil. Daylight Savings Time starts on March 10 and spring arrives on March 20.

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PRESIDENT'S PEN

Stewart Indig



Well, once again I have been slated to serve as your President. It is my pleasure to continue to lead the Lodge. I predict that this will be my last year in this position. Surely, you people must be getting tired of me. If I act as if this is my last term, I will strive to accomplish some of the ideas and actions that I have been trying to establish. It goes without saying that I cannot accomplish anything alone. All Lodge members must contribute. What am I referring

to? The answer my friends is to bring in new members. Our Lodge needs to expand our membership base to replenish that which we have lost. We have lost one to two members a year due to death. We definitely are not getting any younger. We are, however, getting wiser. I know that I have gotten wiser by acknowledging that I cannot do everything alone. I need help. I need your help. Am I preaching to deaf ears? I hope not. You all enjoy the social aspect of the Lodge. You all have friends. It makes great sense to me to bring your friends out to a Lodge social event. They may even have fun as well. The more people we have the more social events we may be able to hold. More members mean new blood and new ideas. We all know that we need it. What will it take to get it?

The truth is that you all agree with me. The trouble is that you all want someone else to step up. You have all done your time. That is probably the reason I have been President so long. If you have not figured it out yet, I do not give up. I will do what it takes to keep the Lodge going. It is such an easy job as the Lodge really is doing well. We have lots of CVS programmes and great social programmes. My only pet peeve is that I want to see more Lodge members. With more members, we can get better. We can go from being great to being superior. In my mind, we are already a superior Lodge. Whoever takes over next year will have an easy job. If I perceive it, I will achieve it. I just need your help in making this a reality. I do not think I am asking too much of you. Give me what we need and I will stop nagging.



KOL ECHAD

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

It is published 10 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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Stouffville, Ont.

AT A GLANCE

March 11	MEETING CANCELLED
March 20	Purim Programme
April 8	Elections, Speaker, Dinner Meeting
May 5	Toronto Goodlife Marathon
May 13	Dinner Meeting
July 7	52 nd Annual Installation

All Dates Subject to Change

Dinner at 6:30; Meeting at 7:15
Dinner Charge: \$10

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PESACH GREETINGS

To all members of Forestdale Heights Lodge:
This year we will be running Pesach Greetings in the April issue of Kol Echad. Greetings will be \$5 each (just one size).

Deadline to put a greeting is March 5.

Please send wording for your greeting to
jelijo@sympatico.ca.

Cheques (made out to Forestdale Heights Lodge) or cash can be sent to Jeff Rosen, 150 Harris Way, Thornhill, Ont. L3T 5A8. Payment can also be made at our April meeting or done by direct deposit. Contact Jeff to set it up.



EDITOR'S DESK

Jeff Rosen



On January 18, I received a request from the University of Toronto Scarborough's student newspaper, *The Underground*, to write an opinion piece on the Ontario government's decision to eliminate mandatory student fees. It is reproduced here in full.



As part of their efforts to put more money into the pockets of hard-working taxpayers, our provincial leaders are going down a road that will not only hurt our institutions of higher learning but will affect the students who attend them. According to news reports, Ontario's Progressive Conservative government has decided to eliminate mandatory ancillary fees, which go towards supporting a wide variety of non-academic activities around campus, such as student government, campus clubs and student newspapers, like Scarborough's student newspaper, *The Underground*.

This ill-considered move may sound good in theory, but its long-term repercussions will affect not only universities but also the very people they mean to help. You see if students are allowed to pick which non-academic activities they wish to support, many of these operations may wither and cease. Unfortunately, for many students, it is so much easier to think short term - to keep those few extra dollars in their own pockets.

What our elected leaders do not realize is that the purpose of universities is not simply to attend classes, soak up information and eventually leave with a degree in hand. I realize that some students choose this narrow path. However, university can and should be so much more. It is a place to explore new ideas, new ways of thinking, and to become involved in the world outside the classroom.

My own life was shaped not by what I learned in class, but through participation in the college newspaper. It shocks me to think that if I was a student today, this government action could result in my life taking a very different path.

Back in 1977, I started my post-secondary education at what they then called Scarborough College. I had no idea what lay ahead in my future but knew that I wanted to do more than to simply go to class and take notes.

Continued on next page

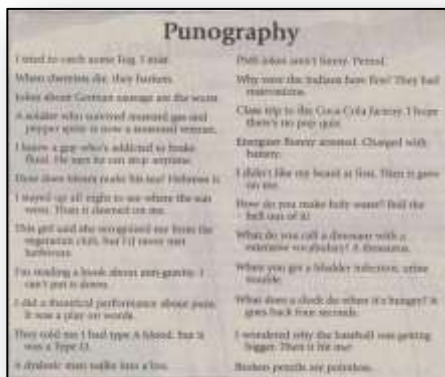
I had always loved to write and to interview people. I figured the college newspaper was my best option. I contacted the editor of *Balcony Square*, Scarborough's student paper, and asked if I could write an opinion column. The details of what transpired are unfortunately lost in the annals of time, but the editor had no problem with my request. As a result, my first-ever newspaper column, *ScarboroView*, was born.

I continued writing it for four years while attending Scarborough. Eventually, I was elected to *The Varsity's* board of directors.

That did it; my life was on course. After U of T, I went off to Sheridan College for a diploma in journalism before heading west to work at several newspapers in Saskatchewan. Time and circumstances eventually brought me back to Toronto, where I landed a job as a reporter at the largest Jewish newspaper in Canada. Times changed, as did my life, and they promoted me to news editor and later put me in charge of the paper's first website.

Nothing lasts forever, and today, after 32 years as a journalist, I am now sitting on the sidelines. I realize that if Scarborough's student newspaper had not been there back in 1977, my life's journey would have been very different.

Without continued funding for *The Underground*, you may cut a future journalist's journey short before it gets off the ground. Alternatively, it may be your own journey that you are short-circuiting. That is certainly worth a few of your hard-earned dollars.



SCARBORO VIEW

By JEFF ROSEN

ScarboroView is a bi-monthly personal opinion column covering events in the university, the political scene and in the sports world. Letters regarding this column should be brought to the Balcony Square office.

Once again, our friendly government officials have stepped in to protect us from ourselves. This time it is the municipal government and the new by-law that prohibits smoking in public places. On the surface, it appears to be a great law for the protection of non-smokers. Down deep, it is nothing more than "Big Brother" government infringing on our civil rights. This is just one more unenforceable law that will clutter up the law books. The law is not even an equal one. It gives restaurants the option of allowing smoking or setting up small sections for smokers.

I am a non-smoker, but I believe in civil rights. Enough is enough. We have laws making us wear seat-belts, laws regulating where we can and cannot drink, and laws protecting us from supposedly dangerous foods such as saccharine. Where will it all end? Slowly our rights are being removed. Eventually, this smoking law could extend to all areas of life, so that anyone found smoking would be fined. Or would they change that to a prison term? We had all better wake up before it is too late and 1984 rolls around.

**Balcony Square
Column 1
October 18, 1977**

NOMINATIONS

A meeting of Forestdale Heights Lodge's Slate Committee was convened on Wednesday, January 16 at 11 Townsgate #315. The following individuals were nominated at our February meeting. Elections will be held at our April 8 meeting.


President:	Stewart Indig
Senior Vice-President:	Ruth Pupko
Vice-President:	Harvey Silver
Treasurer:	Debbi Silver
Recording Secretary:	Eddie Arkin
Financial Secretary:	Jeff Rosen
Chaplain:	Harvey Silver (un-elected position)



Purim 5779

On Wednesday, March 20, Forestdale Heights will be hosting its annual Megillah reading at 4300 Bathurst Street. The programme will commence at 7:50 p.m.

Volunteers are requested to be there at 7:30. If you are coming, please RSVP to Stewart Indig at stewart.indig@gmail.com.



JOIN THE B'NAI BRITH COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER SERVICES COMMITTEE TORONTO

Help us support our community. As a member of our CVS committee, you will have the opportunity to get involved in the planning and development of various initiatives, including:

Clothing Donation
Programs

Fundraising

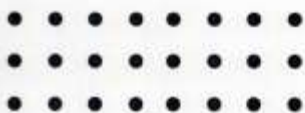
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FEBRUARY MEETING

FHL President Stewart Indig welcomed nine other members to the Lodge's first meeting of 2019 on Feb. 11, introducing Robin Grossman, (at left) Community Outreach and Programming Co-ordinator for B'nai Brith Canada. Grossman said that BBC is reaching out to lodges in an effort to set up a CVS committee to bring in volunteers for different projects. Indig then asked VP Ruth Pupko to chair the meeting. [Jeff Rosen photos]



More photos at kolechad.ca/feb19.htm





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FOOD SENSATIONS

CHICKEN CUTLETS BRUSCHETTA STYLE

INGREDIENTS

Chicken cutlets (or any part of the chicken)

Seasoned Corn Flake crumbs (bread crumbs will work)

1 onion

1 can Aylmer Accents Original with celery, green pepper & onions (Used two cans with six cutlets)

Flour

1-2 Eggs



PREPARATION

Dip chicken pieces in flour, then egg. Coat with the crumbs.

Fry up your onions in a little oil until nicely browned.

Place chicken pieces in oil to get them a beautiful golden colour.

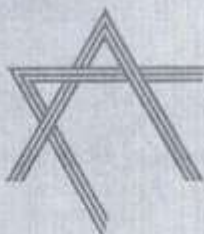
Once all chicken is browned, place in a baking dish and cover with sauce.

Cover and bake 30-40 minutes (a little longer does not hurt).

Remove, eat and enjoy.

The result is a beautifully layered piece of chicken, with tangy tomatoes on top, a golden crispy coating and tender chicken in the centre.





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GOOD & WELFARE

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

Birthdays

Michael Pacter	March 9
Marc Pollock	March 12
Ray Moscoe	March 22



COMING UP

Join us on Monday, April 8, when our guest speaker will be Mitch Unger, president of Safeguard Protection Systems, who will address the timely issue of home security.

Unger entered the security field in 1983. He worked alongside the biggest names in security in his early years and developed a vast knowledge in all aspects of security, from alarms to video to lighting. With an engineering background, Unger also started custom designing the electronics and systems for special projects used by Canadian and American government agencies, as well as for businesses, homes and large complexes. He has lent his expertise to the Canadian military at CFB North Bay, the Ontario Securities Commission and venues like the Pantages Theatre.

Unger's 35 plus years' experience in the field has helped him design wireless surveillance equipment used in many large corporations as well as in the elevators of the CN Tower, and many office complexes around the world.

With this experience on the technology end and having worked with law enforcement in the development of these technologies, he has a unique perspective and looks at securing people and property a little differently. Sometimes, something as simple as trimming a bush and turning on a light can secure a home or business.

A decorative wavy line at the bottom of the page, consisting of a thick black line and a thinner grey line, both curving across the width of the page.

AS I SEE IT

Marc Kates



Equality and equity are not synonymous terms. However, many people mix these terms up. Equality is giving and treating everyone the same, and equity is giving people what they need in order to be successful. It would be nice if everyone was treated the same, but the truth is that we don't start off from the same spot. Being exposed to different schools within different school

boards has opened my eyes to this problem.

In the Durham District School Board, for example, every grade 7 student is presented with a Chrome Book computer courtesy of the Board. This is later replaced with a new Chrome Book in Grade 10. While middle school students in Grade 7 are all online and virtually paperless, students in the Toronto District School Board are dealing with a whole other set of circumstances.

Instead of receiving free computers, students in the TDSB are dealing with more practical concerns.

I had the opportunity to work in schools that are nearly a century old. Instead of modern well-equipped classrooms, students are dealing with 100-year-old school infrastructure that is deteriorating and in disrepair. Without access to computers, teachers in the TDSB have to rely on photocopying, which puts strains on a school's overall budget as money is being spent on office supplies, not on technology, not to mention the environmental costs. While DDSB students learn to navigate using the latest technology and apps, students in the TDSB make do with shared technology. As a result, they are not keeping pace with their peers in Durham.

Continued on next page



Is this fair? The simple answer is no. A student living anywhere within the Province of Ontario is required to follow the Ontario curriculum and is bound by Ministry guidelines, but the access to a good education should not be based solely on one's geography. (There are even more challenges for students who reside in rural areas.) The issue comes down to funding. The provincial government needs to rely less on equality and more on equity. The future of our province depends on it.



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HARMONY

Rosalie Moscoe




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TALKING POINTS

Debbi Silver

Today is Thursday, February 7, and I am writing this article for the March Kol Echad. I am sitting here and wondering what to put down on paper.

What comes to mind is, that 20 years ago, February 16, my mother passed away and Mel Lastman called out the troops that year. As it happens, Harvey had to shovel out the driveway at the beginning of January so that we could get to my mom's apartment to take her to Branson Hospital. To top it off, the roads weren't even plowed. These kinds of memories will stick around your entire life. Milli, we are always thinking about you.

My daughter, Lisa, writes blogs on just about everything. The other day she quoted from Beth Tikvah's Rabbi Grover. Here is the last part of his excerpt:

"None of us knows where life is taking us.

Life is more meaningful and fulfilling when we take chances.

Don't wait for something to happen or you will miss something greater than you expected.

When life knocks you down, you have to get back up."

Forestdale Heights Lodge has always played a big part in our family. Community service is the most important project for Harvey and me. We have enjoyed going to many activities together including the Purim programme at 4300 Bathurst, the Blue Door Shelter and our meetings. The Lodge has been a lifeline for us.

Last week, Harvey, Ruth Pupko and I went to the Blue Door Shelter in Newmarket to deliver much-needed clothes to the residents. My friend, Esther, accompanied us and took the accompanying picture on the next page. Jeff has printed the list of items many times in the bulletin. They are very needy residents. Please, if you have anything on the list, let Jeff or Harvey know.

Harvey and I are enjoying our condo very much, especially during that latest snowfall. However, there is only so much winter we can take. So on March 9, we'll be heading south to Miami to board a cruise. We are really looking forward to the excursion.

That's it for March. We hope to see you soon.



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CVS – BLUE DOOR SHELTERS

Blue Door Shelters provides safe, supportive emergency shelter and service for people who are homeless or at risk. Forestdale Heights Lodge remains committed to assist this organization. We are asking members to bring toiletries when they come to monthly meetings.

 Items in Need & Accepted	
<p><u>Toiletries</u> toothpaste toothbrushes disposable razors shaving cream shampoo deodorant tampons/pads</p>	<p><u>Housewares & Linens</u> towels blankets/comforters twin/double size sheets pillows dishes (plates, bowls, coffee mugs) cutlery</p>
<p><u>Footwear</u> Winter boots Running Shoes men's work boots (steel toe)</p>	<p><u>Infant Items</u> baby formula (+ iron & without iron) baby wipes baby bottles diapers - size 3, 4, 5 & 6 & pull-ups</p>
<p><u>Clothing</u> socks underwear-boxers/briefs clothing men's belts spring/fall jackets infant clothing/blankets men's winter gloves & hats winter coats</p>	<p><u>Gift Cards</u> Grocery Stores-Superstore Wal-Mart Mark's Work Wearhouse Gas Stations Movies (Famous Players) Tim Horton's, McDonalds, Pizza etc. YRT/Viva bus tickets</p>
<p><u>Miscellaneous Items</u> napsacks, sport/duffe bags</p>	<p><u>Non-Perishable Food</u></p>
<p>NEW items only please</p>	<p>All items for men, women & children unless otherwise specified</p>



Purim Sameach!



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