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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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www.kolechad.ca

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### **NEW IN THIS ISSUE:**

Good & Welfare is now **Milestones** complete with additional information. Let us know what is happening in your life and it will go into this revamped column.

Page 4

**Blog\_FHL:** A new interactive column where we ask members, well, everything!

Page 24



# COVER ART



Is it that time of the year again, time to get out our best clothes for synagogue, time to plan and prepare for the upcoming High Holidays?

How will it differ from the past two years? Will we return to shul or take part in on-line services?

This year, Rosh Hashanah runs from September 25-27, followed by Kol Nidre on October 4 and Yom Kippur the following day, October 5.

Eruv Sukkot is October 9. Simchat Torah begins the evening of October 17 and concludes the following day.

Chag Saymayach



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# President's Pen

Welcome back, everyone! The summer break was definitely needed as it gave us more time to celebrate the outdoors and be with our families. We certainly can't complain about the beautiful weather we are having. Hopefully, this will continue into the fall, and maybe we will have a mild winter. It was great to be at my nephew's birthday party, niece's 30th birthday, and to celebrate

my brother's (Michael) and sister-inlaw's (Esther) 40th anniversary. My sister and brother-in-law (Liliane and Gary Budd) will also be celebrating their 50th anniversary. It was just last August when Albert and Honey celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with family and friends. Special milestones were also celebrated with friends once the patios were open.



Two years ago, I mentioned that my neighbours are friendly and look out for each other. The same goes for all the Forestdale Heights members. Our annual BBQ will be held on August 14, and it will be exciting to meet in person once again. We will still hold the monthly meetings via Zoom as we renewed the contract for another year. This will come in handy when we have bad weather. At the moment, we don't know about future in-person meetings.

September 13 is the first meeting of the year, and there will be much to discuss; plans and decisions will have to be made for the year. Your input, ideas, and hard work kept the Lodge thriving for so many years, and we will have many more. The Lodge is known for CVS and community service work, and I look forward to working together again.

Aaron and I wish you a year filled with prosperity, happiness, and good health and may HaShem give us the strength to continue with all our good work.

Shanah Tovah.



# MILESTONES (FORMERLY GOOD & WELFARE)

### FHL wishes a Happy Birthday to:

Marla SpergelSeptember 8Rosalie MoscoeOctober 4Carl ZeligerOctober 12Eddie ArkinOctober 22



### FHL wishes a Happy Anniversary to:

Jeff & Lisa Rosen September 21 – 36 years Harvey & Debbi Silver October 28 – 55 years CONGRATULATIONS

\* \* \*

### **Condolences**

FHL extends condolences to the family of John Komlos, who passed away on August 17. John was a long-time member of Forestdale Heights Lodge.

### Mazel Tov

FHL wishes a special belated happy anniversary to Michael and Carol Pacter, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 2.

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**.





# AT A GLANCE

Zoom meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of each month in 2022. Start time: 7:00 p.m.

Meetings will resume on Tuesday, September 13, followed by November 8 and December 13.

There will be no meeting in October due to the Jewish holidays.

While the Lodge will maintain Zoom meetings, we will hold occasional in-person meetings.

All Dates Subject to Change

### Kol Echad schedule for the 2022-23 season

November / December - Chanukah Issue

Deadline: October 10

January / February - Winter Issue

**Deadline: December 10** 

March / April - Purim/Pesach Issue

**Deadline: February 10** 

May / June - Spring Issue

**Deadline: April 10** 

# EDITOR'S DESK

Here we are at the start of Forestdale Heights Lodge's 55th season and Kol Echad's 21st. While I wasn't here when the Lodge took its first steps in the world, I was not only part of this bulletin's first issue, I was also instrumental in its creation and in naming this baby. If it had been a child, I would probably have been there to cut the umbilical cord and give Kol Echad its first slap as it drew its first breath.

Come to think of it, I did just that, designing the issue and coordinating all aspects with our then-partners in Don Mills Lodge. Unfortunately. partnership fell by the wavside. However, not only did Kol Echad, the offspring of our trial marriage survive. but like most children, it continued to prosper. Members grow and advertisers were obviously pleased with what they saw and continued to help it reach maturity.



If this publication were an American child, it would now be considered an adult, able to drink legally. I realize Kol Echad is not an actual person, but if it were, I'm glad it would have a Canadian passport. The world has become too dangerous with the Russia-Ukraine war, political instability in Israel and the United Kingdom, and an increase in random violence in the United States. While Canada is far from perfect, given all the options, I'm glad Kol Echad resides in this country. Given a choice, I would still choose it as my home over any other country.

Enough about me (although I'll get back to that). Even before this Lodge's publication drew its first breath (or published its first issue), we were chronicling the life of Forestdale Heights and its members in The Horizon. It's strange now to even type that name, but for years before and after I joined the Lodge in 1991, it was associated with all things related to FHL communications. There really should be some way to honour its past while boldly continuing into the future. It is something to think about as we start a new year.

Continued on next page

That is what we are about to do. After a fantastic summer that took my family to Niagara Falls for an amazing wine tour, to Buffalo to visit with family, and north to Peterborough to cruise through the locks, I'm ready to commit to another year helming this fantastic publication. The question some may ask is, "Why?"

The simple answer is that I believe in what we are doing here, both in the Lodge and in Kol Echad. I marvel that despite the pandemic, Forestdale Heights has been able to keep going, holding virtual meetings every month. Not only has the Lodge met, but most of its meetings have been quite productive, and new ideas and programs have emerged from our discussions. At the same time, Kol Echad has maintained its schedule, coming out with a new print issue every other month since COVID-19 surfaced. It's an accomplishment no one should take for granted, especially since most other lodge publications have been forced to shut down.

We keep going, though, and will continue to do so, as long as everyone supports our endeavours. That means I need everyone's feedback and guidance as we plunge into the 2022-23 season.

So, stay with us. You won't be disappointed.

At this special time of year, Lisa, Jordana and I would like to wish you a healthy and happy new year.

Shanah Tovah.





# Perspectives



With schools restarting, we feel it's time to examine:

The true value of teachers?

Some people think they're winners. The ones who make the most money, who are movers and shakers of industry, or those who help those people. Do you think there's more to life than that? Read this and see what you think.

The dinner guests were all sitting around the table discussing life. One man, a CEO, decided to explain the problem with education. He argued, "What's a kid going to learn from someone who decided his best option in life was to become a teacher?"

To stress his point, he said to another guest, "You're a teacher, Bonnie. Be honest. What do you make?"

Teacher Bonnie, who had a reputation for honesty and frankness, replied, "You want to know what I make?"

(She paused for a second and then began...)

"Well, I make kids work harder than they ever thought they could. I make a C+ feel like the Congressional Medal of Honor winner. I make kids sit through 40 minutes of class time when their parents can't make them sit for five minutes without an iPod, Game Cube or movie rental.

Do you really want to know what I make?"

(She paused again and looked at each and every person sitting at the table.) **Continued on next page** 

"I make kids wonder. I make them question. I make them apologize and mean it. I make them have respect and take responsibility for their actions. I teach them how to write, and then I make them write. Keyboarding isn't everything. I make them read, read, read. I make them show all their work in math. They use their God-given brain, not the man-made calculator. I make my students from other countries learn everything they need to know about English while preserving their unique cultural identity. I make my classroom a place where all students feel safe and secure. Finally, I make them understand that if they use the gifts they were given, work hard,



and follow their hearts, they can succeed in life."

(Bonnie paused one last time and then continued.)

"Then, when people try to judge me by what I make, I can hold my head up high and pay no attention because they are so ignorant. You want to know what I make? I make a difference in all your lives, educating your kids and preparing them to become CEOs, doctors and engineers.

What do you make, Mr. CEO?" His jaw dropped, and he went silent.

Don't educate your children to be rich. Educate them to be happy, so they know the value of things, not the price. Share this if you agree.

# **KOL ECHAD ADVERTISING**

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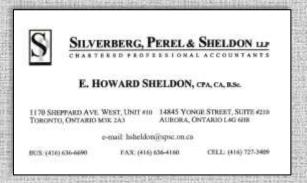
I heard Netflix and Yahoo are merging. They're moving their HQ's to Jerusalem and calling it Net 'n' Yahoo.

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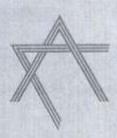


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# TALKING POINTS

By the time this Kol Echad comes out, summer will be just about over, and fall is on its way!

The summer seemed to go by quickly. Two of our grandchildren were in camp for seven weeks, and one went with our son and daughter-in-law on a road trip to Maine, Cooperstown, Cleveland and Chicago. Our summer was spent

going to doctors, relaxing in the sun, seeing friends, etc.

Life has been different for us since Harvey had surgery last March. He is having issues with his back and knees, so he hasn't been walking very well. We are awaiting

a decision to find out if he is a candidate for back surgery. We have enjoyed our time meeting with neighbours outside. Our favourite pastime is watching Blue Jay games. Hopefully, they will make it to the wild card position. We really miss going down to the Rogers Centre and watching them "live."

The sad part of life today is that COVID is still showing its ugly face. We know so many people who have contracted it a second time.



Our daughter was supposed to leave for a cruise on August 5, departing from Quebec City and going through New England.

Her friend got COVID, and, thus, the trip was cancelled. On the other side of the coin, she is meeting a friend in Vancouver and going on an Alaskan cruise. So COVID is here, and we all should keep our guard up.

I'm looking forward to our year in Forestdale Heights Lodge. We had our BBQ at Stewart and Cathy's home. No surprise, it was a great success. Thank you to the Indigs for hosting this event. I'm sure Ruth has been thinking about projects for us to partake in.

That's it for now.

Hope to see you at the first meeting via Zoom. We wish all of you a very healthy and happy New Year.

Fondly,

Dehhi



# שנה טובה ומתוקה!



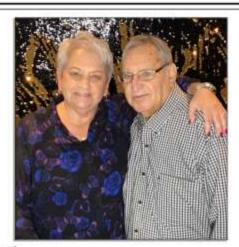


# Ruth & Aaron Pupko

Wishing all our family and friends a Happy, Healthy New Year



# Shanah Tovah



The Silver family wishes everyone a very Healthy and Happy New Year

Harvey, Debbi, Lisa Mark, Shawna, Zoe, Jaime & Ezra



Ray, Rosalie and family wish our dear sisters and brothers Shanah Tovah!

# Best wishes for a Happy & Healthy New Year Carl & Debby Zeliger



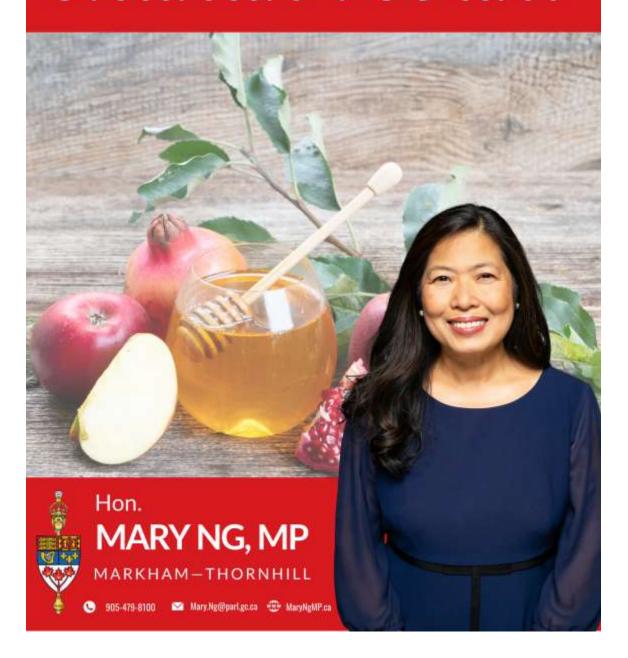


We would like to wish everyone a year of health and happiness.

May the world be a better place in the coming year.

Jeff, Lisa & Jordana Rosen

# Shanah Tovah!



A heartfelt message to **Forestdale Heights** Lodge members.

Wishing you and yours a healthy and happy Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

May you have a good and sweet new year.



## **Keith Irish**

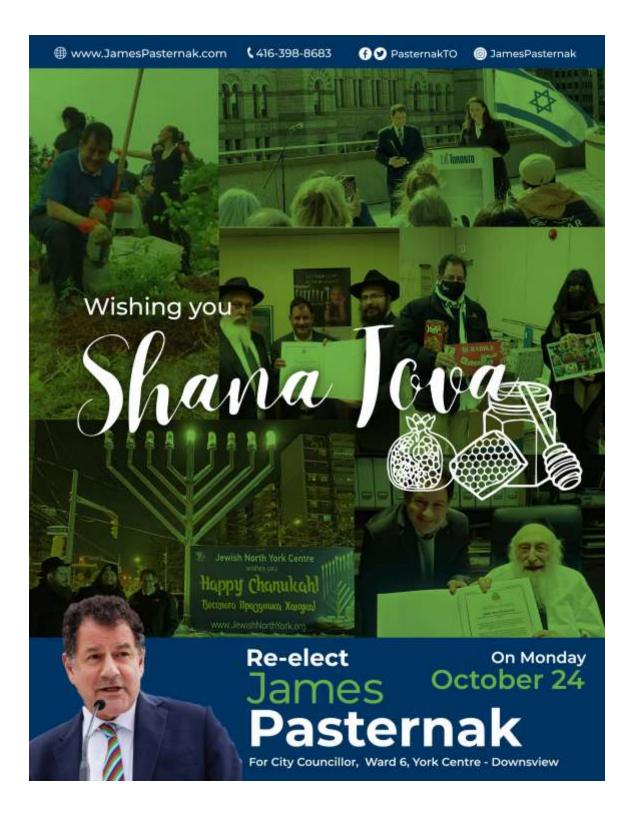
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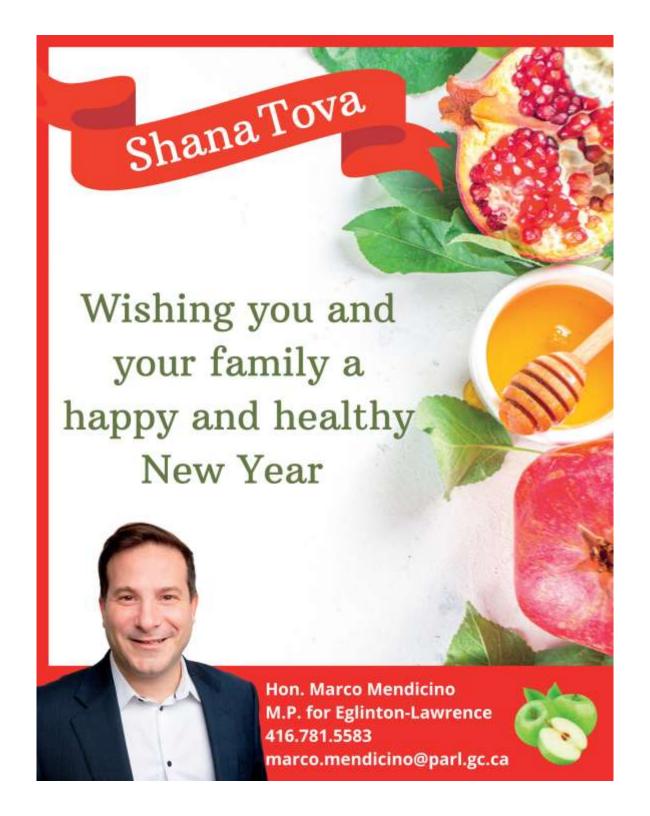


■ @KeithIrish1 OKeith.Irish









# Ira & Paula Kuchinsky



Wish our
Friends & fellow
Lodge members
a Sweet & Happy
New Year

Shanah Tovah

Wishing the FHL family a happy, healthy, and sweet new year

שנה טובה



Marc Kates, Rachel Spitzer, Seth, Eve, and Joelle





Shanah Tovah

Wishing everyone a healthy and happy New Year filled with love and joy.

The Indig and Levy families

Shanah Tovah to all our Family & Friends

# Eddie & Marilyn Arkin





Wishing you all a very Happy and Healthy New Year Honey & Albert Ohana & Family

The Executive of FHL would like to wish all Members and their Families a Healthy and Happy New Year

May 5783 finally bring peace to Israel and all Mankind

Shanah Tovah

# SOCIAL



For over the past two years, members of Forestdale Heights resorted have turning on their computers and logging into a Zoom window for all their gatherings. Finally. on Sunday, August 14, Lodge members came together mingle and chat in person as we held our first summer BBO since 2019.

The mood was electric as we reunited at the home of Stewart and Cathy Indig for a delicious dinner prepared by chef Stewart. As well as our hosts, those in attendance included Lodge president Ruth Pupko, Eddie & Marilyn Arkin, Ray & Rosalie Moscoe, Harvey & Debbi Silver, former Lodge member Lloyd Lindsay, my wife, Lisa and me.

It all felt the same, so familiar, yet we were aware of the new rules. Everyone was reminded to wear a mask if they had to use the facilities inside the Indig's home. Cathy and Stewart handled and served all food to members. As well, Stewart alone took all the duties at the grill.

Still, no one was complaining. Everyone was thrilled to come together for the socialization and, of course, the delicious food.

It all started as it usually does with veggies, salami, hot off the BBQ, and the Indig's famous punch. After we had enough of the hors d'oeuvres, Cathy served a delicious dinner consisting of a choice of chicken or salmon, potatoes and salad. It was later finished off with dessert and coffee.

### Continued on next page





Afterwards, we sat around, just chatting and catching up on what was happening in our lives and the new rules society faces. Most likely, a few thought that the evening would never end. However, shortly after 8:00 p.m., one person rose, saying they had to leave. Like most functions, once one person goes, it starts an orderly wind-down process. Everyone started to say their goodbyes, thanking the Indigs for again hosting a great summer social function.

The 2022 BBQ was over and, like others in the past, a true success. Unfortunately, as we now head into the 2022-23 season, the Lodge is returning to online Zoom

meetings, so we'll have to wait a while before our next get-together.

Thanks to all those who helped plan the evening and make it great.

Report & Photos by Jeff Rosen For more photos, go to <u>www.kolechad.ca/bbq22.htm</u>



# BLOG FHL

Introducing Blog\_FHL, Kol Echad's new communications column. In each issue, we will ask members to submit information on their favourite places and things in life. You can answer as many or few questions as you like. Responses will be published in the following issue.

### To start:

- What's your favourite ice cream shop?
- What's your favourite spot for breakfast?
- What's your favourite park?
- Book recommendations?
- What's your favourite movie or theatrical production?
- ➤ What's your favourite decadent treat? Where do you get it?

Please send responses to <a href="mailto:jelijo@sympatico.ca">jelijo@sympatico.ca</a>.

We will include your name with responses unless you prefer to remain anonymous.

\* \* \*

To start off our new column, Rosalie Moscoe sent in her favourite choices. We welcome all members to send in their own favourites.

- **Favourite movies:** The Lone Ranger, 2013 and Back to the Future, 1985;
- **Favourite decadent treat:** Chocolate Zucchini Bread from Sweets from the Earth, found at health food or grocery store;
- Favourite Parks: Cedarvale Park, beside my condo building and High Park;
- **Favourite book**: The Prophet by Kahlil Gibran. *Rosalie*



# FOOD SENSATIONS

### Melt-in-Your-Mouth Rosh Hashanah Brisket

By Miriam Szokovski

https://bit.ly/3zIj4es

### **Ingredients:**

3 lb. first-cut brisket

2 tbsp. paprika

2 tbsp. garlic powder

2 tbsp. dried chives (optional)

1 tbsp. salt

2 large Spanish onions

½-cup balsamic vinegar

½-cup honey

### **Directions:**

Slice the onions in rounds. Place them in the bottom of a baking dish.

Combine the paprika, garlic powder, chives and salt in a small bowl. Cover the brisket with the spice mixture. Pat it in gently until the meat can hold no more.

Place the meat on top of the onions and put it into the oven at 400° F for 1 hour.

Take the pan out of the oven, add the balsamic vinegar and honey, and cover the baking dish tightly. Return the pan to the oven, lower the



temperature to 250° F, and cook for another 4 hours until the meat is fork tender—meaning a fork goes in with almost no resistance. Cooking time will vary, depending on the size and thickness of your brisket, the type of pan you use, and your oven, so make sure to use the fork test.

Approximately once an hour, take it out and turn the meat, so both sides get equally moist. (If you're busy, you can skip the turning; just make sure to turn it once, about halfway through.)

Refrigerate the meat until completely cold (preferably overnight), then cut in thin slices against the grain. Return the sliced meat to the sauce. Reheat in the oven, or over a low flame. Serve with the onions and sauce.

Yields: Approximately 40 thin slices.

# FOOD SENSATIONS

### **Apple Noodle Kugel**

By Miriam Szokovski

https://bit.ly/3oDm2dJ

### **Kugel Ingredients:**

12 oz. fine egg noodles ¼-cup oil 6 apples, peeled 6 eggs

**Topping Ingredients:** 

½-cup cornflake crumbs ½-cup sugar ½ tsp. cinnamon

### **Directions:**

Cook and drain the noodles, and mix in the oil.

Grate the apples and squeeze gently to drain the liquid.

34-cup sugar 1½ tsp. cinnamon 1½ tsp. kosher salt



Add the eggs, sugar, cinnamon and salt to the apple mixture. Then add the mixture to the noodles. Stir to combine.

Pour mixture into a  $9'' \times 13''$  baking pan or a round springform pan. If you're not using a springform, line the pan with baking paper.

Mix the crumb topping in a small bowl and sprinkle over the kugel. Bake covered at 350° F for 50 minutes, then uncovered for another 10 minutes. Remove from oven and let kugel cool completely before covering to prevent the topping from getting soggy.

Serve warm or at room temperature.

Serves: 12



# HARMONY



For the past four months, I've been working on my legacy project of a children's music website. So now, with Rosh Hashanah, just around the corner, I'm pleased to say it's done and online – new beginnings for a New Year. The internet hardly existed when I recorded my three Jim and Rosalie records in the '80s. Now digital music can go around the world in a single click.

In the late 80s, Jim Duchesneau and I lost our bid for a TV series as the host TV station folded. My work felt unfinished. After a few years as a solo singer/performer, I returned to school. Eventually, I started a new career that was also a lifelong passion: health, wellness, and nutrition consulting. But after I retired, my music roots were calling.

I've brought out one compilation album – my own songs from the twice Juno nominated Jim and Rosalie albums, such as "Mommy, Get off the Phone. (Daddy, too!)", "Listen to Me," "Andrea the Astronaut!" and "I'm Still O.K." This digital album has been renamed *Journey to My World*.



My second album, *Imagination Station*, is my solo album. It includes eight of my own songs, such as "Pterodactyl Rock," "I-Can-Do-It-Train," and "I Wish I Could Be." The album takes children on a fun adventure of time travel. Quiet time is also included in this album with six lullabies – some updated traditional songs and some original tunes, such as "Little Star."

So why did I write these songs? Many of them came from the mouths of my own children. It includes tunes such as "Mommy, get off The Phone." Children often dislike waiting for their parents to put down the phone. One teacher told me the song changed her life. Her little girl would cry when she heard that song – which was very unusual. However, it turned out the child felt ignored when mommy was on the phone. The teacher said she cut down her phone time, and everyone was happy.

### Continued on next page



"Listen to Me" is another song inspired and sung by my son, wanting to be heard about his troubles with friends. "Two Sailors in the Tub" is about my kids playing pirates in the bathtub as they sailed the seas, throwing soap bombs against the door. But then, the irate parents (Ray and I) got angry at the mess! But the kids answered, "didn't you ever have a bath when you were little, and you liked to laugh?" Of course, that softened us up – once the children cleaned up the mess.

"Pterodactyl Rock" is about a dinosaur who loved rock and roll music because dancing was inside his soul. However, his peers told him he was

lazy and bad; simply put – he was bullied by his fellow dinosaurs! Finally, all the dinosaurs joined in the dancing! "Andrea the Astronaut" is about a little girl who wants to become an astronaut. However, at 15, when Andrea persisted – her parents disapproved. But eventually, they agreed, and at the end of the song, a grown-up Andrea, wearing her white space suit, blasts off to the stars! The moral – we can work towards and achieve our goals with determination!

I love to write songs from a child's point of view, to give them their say. After all, once upon a time, I too, was a kid! My songs and lyrics can be found on my website, <a href="https://www.rosaliemoscoe.com">www.rosaliemoscoe.com</a> on Spotify, Apple Music, Amazon and YouTube. Perhaps, in some way, you can think of Rosh Hashanah as a new beginning.

Shanah Tovah and good health to all!



#### 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 <a href="https://bit.ly/3irmAAz">https://bit.ly/3irmAAz</a> or call our toll-free Anti-Hate Hotline at 1-800-892-BNAI (2624).

# FORESTDALE FUNNIES



A weasel walks into a bar.

The bartender says, "Wow, I've never served a weasel before. What can I get you?" "Pop," goes the weasel.

\*\*\*

Not to brag, but...

I just went into another room and actually remembered what I went in there.

Sure, it was the bathroom, but still.

\*\*\*

I'll never forget the look on the cashier's face when she scanned the packet of birdseed and I asked her how long does it take for the birds to grow once I plant them.





# FORESTDALE FUNNIES



One day, three men were hiking and unexpectedly came upon a large, raging, violent river. They needed to get to the other side, but had no idea how to do so.

The first man prayed to God, saying, "Please, God, give me the strength to cross this river." Poof! God gave him big arms and strong legs, and he was able to swim across the river in about two hours, but only after almost drowning a couple of times.

Seeing this, the second man prayed to God, saying, "Please God, give me the strength ... and the tools to cross this river." Poof! God gave him a rowboat, and he was able to row across the river in about an hour, but only after almost capsizing the boat a couple of times.

The third man had seen how this worked out for the other two, so he also prayed to God, saying, "Please God, give me the strength and the tools...and the intelligence... to cross this river." And poof! God turned him into a woman. She looked at the map, hiked upstream a couple of hundred yards, and then walked across the bridge.

Jack was coming out of shul one day, and the rabbi was standing at the door as he always did to shake hands.

### THINGS I AM NO LONGER INTERESTED IN

- 1. Driving at night
- 2. Driving in the winter
- 3. Getting on a scale
- Arguing with idiots
- Being "fashionable"
- Going to the gym
- 7. Kale
- Wearing clothes that don't stretch.
- 9. Counting carbs
- Caring about what other people think about me.

# As I See It



Welcome to a dying community" were the words that were spoken by a member of the Curação Jewish community, as we made our way to kiddish following Friday night Shabbat

services in the Mikvé Israel-Emanuel shul. The synagogue was designated a UNESCO

World Heritage site in 1997. Built in 1732, it is famous for being the oldest synagogue in continuous use in the Americas. What a sad statement, I thought. Here I was in the present, standing in such a beautiful and



special space, yet all I could hear and see was the past. The shul's story began long ago, and can trace its roots back to the expulsions from the Iberian Peninsula in 1492 and 1497. The congregant explained that most of the next generation of Jews left the island to pursue better opportunities in the United States or Holland.

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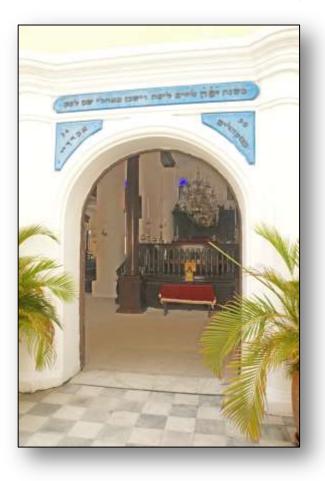


I compare the shul in Curação to our own here in Toronto. My shul is certainly not beautiful to look at, but it knows that its efforts need to be invested in the future,

and built on a strong foundation and legacy. We are a people who know our history well, and we also know what happens when that continuity is broken or no longer valued.

We cannot only lament what once was, but have to strive for the future's needs as well. "Why live in Toronto?" we often wonder. The list of putting up with X, Y, or Z, be it the Eglinton Crosstown construction, or housing prices, continues to grow. Ultimately, it all boils down to the "Jewish factor." Yes, often dealing with the *mishigas* of the Jewish community drives me batty, but what is the alternative? Do I want my kids to lead a Jewish life? If so, then the decision is made for me.

As we look towards 5783, we don't know what that future will hold. We pray for a future of health, happiness, prosperity, and of course, peace. We live in uncertain times, where war and disease are ubiquitous, and a sweet and happy new year should be more than just a High Holiday greeting.



May we merit the unity and healing we all so desperately pray for. As the famous 1970s Israeli song "*Ba'shana Ha'ba'ah*" says, "You will yet see, you will yet see, how good it will be, next year."

Shanah Tovah.

[Jeff Rosen photos]

# **LOOKING BACK**



David Duncan House, 1905

**Courtesy of Toronto Public Library** 

Baldwin Collection of Canadiana https://bit.ly/3IlHayw

# LOOKING BACK



Bayview Avenue, looking north from Eglinton Avenue East, 1910

**Courtesy of Toronto Public Library** 

Baldwin Collection of Canadiana https://bit.ly/3BzYAFP

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# CHANUKAH GREETINGS

We go from one fall issue to another with more greetings. The next issue of Kol Echad, the November/December issue, will include our Chanukah Greetings issue.

Prices for greetings are as follows:

- Two-line greeting Complimentary
- Quarter page \$20
- ➤ Half page \$40
- ➤ Full page \$100

The deadline for all greetings is October 1, 2022. Please send greeting details and payment (if required) to Jeff Rosen at <a href="mailto:jelijo@sympatico.ca">jelijo@sympatico.ca</a>.



# FINAL THOUGHTS



One evening my mother made dinner after a hard day's work. She put a plate of eggs, salad and burnt toast in front of my father.

I immediately noticed the burnt toast... And, I was waiting to see if he was going to complain about it, but my father started to eat them, smiling and asked me how I spent my day at school.

My mom apologized to my dad for the burnt toast. I will never forget his response to her: "Honey, I love burnt toast!"

Later, when I went to bed, and my dad came over to kiss me goodnight, I asked him if he really liked the burnt toast.

He hugged me and said, "Your mother has had a difficult day, and she is really tired. She went out of her way to prepare this meal for us. Why blame her and hurt her? Burnt toast never hurt anyone, but words can be very painful!"

We have to know how to appreciate what others do for us, even if it's not perfect, because it's the intention to do well that counts and no one is perfect.





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