



CONGREGATION HABONIM OF TORONTO
BULLETIN

5 Glen Park Avenue · Toronto · Ontario · M6B 4J2

Vol. 64 | No. 2 | April 2017 / Iyar 5777

Schedule of Services and Events

Mon April 10		Passover - First Seder
Tues April 11	7 pm	Passover - Congregational 2nd Seder - registration required
Tues April 18	10 am	Passover Yizkor service, Aufruf of Oliver Berg & Emma Freed
Fri May 12	8:15 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat
Sat May 13	off site	Bat Mitzvah of Samantha Blackstein, daughter of Noah Blackstein & Wendy Geller
Sat May 27	10 am	Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Kahn, son of Leah Lepofsky & Michael Schipper, Greg Kahn & Olivia Benavides
Sun May 28	7:30 pm	Left vs Right: The Battle for Israel's Soul (Ticket required. See flyer.)
Thurs June 1	10 am	Yizkor (2nd day Shavuot)
Sat June 3	10 am	Bar Mitzvah of Lyle Kruger, son of Ruth & Stuart Kruger
Sat June 10	10 am	Bar Mitzvah of Joseph Weinerman, son of Asher & Amanda Weinerman
Tues June 13	7:30 pm	Annual General Meeting
Fri June 16	6:30 pm	Potluck Kabbalat Shabbat
Sat June 17	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Louie Bryant Son of Susan Abramovitch & Michael Bryant
Sat June 24	10:00 am	B'not Mitzvah of Abby & Sarah Ginsburg, daughters of Liane Ginsburg & Morris Neal
Sat June 24	4:30 pm	Bat Mitzvah of Zara Spiegel, daughter of Anne Shin & Neil Spiegel

All congregants are welcome to attend Shabbat morning and afternoon services when there is a Bar or Bat Mitzvah.

Mazal Tov on Recent Simchas

- ❖ Liz Goldstein & Gary Gluckman on Emily's Bat Mitzvah
- ❖ Odette Soriano & John Monger on Simone's Bat Mitzvah
- ❖ Jill Presser & John Duffy on Simone's Bat Mitzvah
- ❖ Marie & Neil Finkelstein on the marriage of their son Jonathan to Natasha Moscovitch

מזל טוב!

**NOTICE OF
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2017 (AGM)**

For Congregation Habonim
Tuesday, June 13, 2017 at 7:30 pm
5 Glen Park Avenue

With gratitude:

After ten years serving as a director and six years as president, Ted Rechtshaffen will be retiring from the board after the AGM. We thank Ted heartily for the countless hours he has dedicated to Habonim. Ted's contribution has been invaluable in leading our successful building campaign and planning the construction of the new synagogue. Fortunately for the Congregation, he will stay involved as a member of the Building Committee.

We would also like to thank Shelly Haber and Paula Schipper. Shelly will be retiring from the board after six years as director. With tenacity, Shelly made important strides in improving the governance of Habonim by organizing the governance, human resources and finance committees of the Board. Paula retires from the board after five years of service. She has overseen the publication of the Bulletin since 2014.

Our future leadership:

Subject to confirmation by the new board of directors in June following the AGM, the Governance Committee is very pleased to announce its nomination of Joni Smith as Habonim's new president and Lauren Black and Joel Kwinter as vice presidents. We are very grateful for their willingness to serve in these important positions.

We need your help to find new directors:

The Governance Committee is seeking three new directors to replace our three retiring directors. It hopes to find candidates with skills related to human resources, communications, accounting and finance, fundraising or procurement. Younger members of the Congregation should not hesitate to volunteer and are encouraged to do so. The by-laws state the preference to have one director who is under 35 years old and one director who is under 30. If you are interested in learning more or discussing the opportunity, please contact Stephen Halperin, Chair of the Governance Committee, at shalperin@goodmans.ca or at 416-597-4115.

You may also nominate candidates for election as directors:

In addition to nominations proposed by the Governance Committee, members may also nominate candidates for the board. Any member may nominate himself or herself or other members. Each nomination should be submitted to Ted Rechtshaffen, President, at tedr@tridelta.ca, **no later than May 13, 2017**. Nominations should include a short biography of the person nominated.

By-Law changes:

The Board has approved the following by-law amendments to be presented to members at the AGM for confirmation, which will only come into effect (if confirmed) following the AGM:

- Instead of one vice president, one or more vice presidents may be appointed by the board, and if there are more than one vice president, one of them will be designated by the board to replace the president if he or she is unable to serve.
- The board may appoint a board member to fill the vacancy of an officer.
- By resolution, the board may waive the 8-year-term limit of a director each year that the term limit is exceeded.
- The process will change for members to nominate themselves or other members as directors. At least 14 days before the AGM, a notice calling for nominations will be published. Nominations by members may be made at least three days before the AGM by acquiring the signatures of five other members and notifying the president in writing. The board will approve a slate of candidates equal to the number of directors to be elected at that AGM, which could include any nominees proposed by members and any nominees proposed by the Governance Committee. At the AGM, members will vote on the slate of candidates, including any nominees who are not on the board-approved slate. If there are more nominees than available positions, the nominees receiving the most votes for the number of available positions will be elected. (For example, if there are three vacancies, the nominees receiving the three highest number of votes will be elected.)

Do you wish to vote at the annual meeting but cannot attend?

If you cannot make the annual meeting, you can vote by proxy. A proxy form and instructions will be available on our website, or contact Robin in the office at 416-782-7125 office1@ congregationhabonim.org.

Dianne Erdos-Rush

Dianne Erdos-Rush
Board Secretary

Habonim Building Update – April 2017

As we had discussed in our last report, the good news on the building was fundraising, and the bad news was our progress with the city planners.

We hired a planning lawyer a couple of months ago to help us better navigate through this process. He has been very helpful on many fronts – both in terms of making sure we get the support from all key parties and also a better understanding how to work through the more difficult issues. In our case, the most difficult issue being parking.

As part of this process, we recently met with Councilor Josh Colle for a third time. He has been very helpful and extremely supportive of our efforts.

We are finally on the Committee of Adjustment agenda for April 19th and are very well prepared for this meeting.

Once we receive notice of the ruling of the Committee of Adjustment (mid-May), we will be in a better position to update you on the timing for the new building.

Thank you all for your support and participation in this process, and we all look very forward to celebrating simchas in our new building in the (relatively) near future.

With appreciation,

Ted Rechtshaffen

President, Habonim



Rebekah Wise, daughter of Naomi Wise and Peter St. Laurent, and Noa Wasserman Meinhard, daughter of Lori Wasserman and Doron Meinhard, celebrated their B'nai Mitzvah on October 8th.



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Congregation Habonim of Toronto



Left vs. Right: *The Battle for Israel's Soul*



J.J. Goldberg

Is Israel locked in a tragic dispute between two peoples claiming the same land or a global conflict between Western democracy and Islamist terrorism? Is partition into two states the only way to ensure Israel's survival or is it the surest path to ever-increasing bloodshed and possibly even endangering Israel's survival?



Jonathan Tobin

Jonathan S. Tobin, Senior Online Editor and Chief Political Blogger of Commentary Magazine, and J. J. Goldberg, Editor-at-Large of the Forward Newspaper and Former U.S. Bureau Chief of the Israeli News Magazine The Jerusalem Report, will debate these and other critical issues concerning the State of Israel.

Sunday, May 28th | 7:30 pm
Congregation Habonim
5 Glen Park Avenue, Toronto, Ontario

\$20 in Advance | \$25 at Door

This program is available to Habonim members at a discount
 \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door.

To purchase tickets visit:
www.congregationhabonim.org

Congregational Seder at Habonim on the Second Night of Passover

Tuesday, April 11, 2017, 7pm

As we did last year, on the Second night of Passover, we will host a Congregational and Community Seder for our members, and members of Toronto's Jewish community, who need a place for the Second Night of Passover.

The Seder will be led by: Habonim's Eli Rubenstein & Ve'ahavta's Avrum Rosensweig.

Music will be provided by our talented staff and congregants.

We will take care of preparing and serving the food - but a little volunteer help beforehand and to help serve the food would be welcome.

Please register on our website:

<https://www.congregationhabonim.org/event/congregationalseder1.html>

and / or to volunteer, please contact Robin at tel. 4167827125, email: office1@congregationhabonim.org.

There are no fees for the Seder, but voluntary donations are of course welcome. (\$36 per person suggested)

Ve'ahavta's Third Night Seder at Holy Blossom Temple

Wed. April 12th, 2017

Presented in Partnership with Congregation Habonim, the Danforth Jewish Circle, and Mazon Canada

Let all who are hungry come and eat! Celebrate our collective liberation and freedom! Join the annual Third Night Seder for an evening of music, storytelling and feasting. All are welcome regardless of background, belief or economic status.

Doors open at 6:00 pm; no guests will be admitted before this time. The program begins at 7:00 pm.

Volunteers must register through the Eventbrite page. <https://thirdnight.eventbrite.ca>

Guests are asked to enter Holy Blossom Temple via Ava Road.

MOL Habonim Students 2017

Wishing a good trip to these seven students who are Habonim members.

They will be participating in the March of the Living in April.

Perry Albert
Theadora Draper
Alex Gnat

Lauren Gnat
Simon Grammer

Jack Tanenbaum
Cole Tishler

Kabbalat Shabbat service on January 27th.



Holocaust survivor Max Eisen (right) and Justice Thomas Walther (left), Germany's last Nazi hunter, addressed Habonim members during the Kabbalat Shabbat service on January 27th, International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Since his retirement, German Justice Thomas Walther has dedicated his life to pursuing Nazi war criminals. During his frequent visits to Toronto, with the help of Eli Rubenstein he established contact with several Auschwitz survivors, including Max Eisen. The survivors testified at the trial of Oskar Gröning, a German SS member in Auschwitz, who was convicted in 2015 of being an accessory to the murder of over 300,000 Hungarian Jews.



In Memoriam:

Mourning those who passed away in the last year:

Rosa Cook	Allan Schaffran	Deena Freeman	Eva Sokolowski
Valerie Good	Stanley Flomen	Rose Wolfe	David Kettner
Roszi Wittman	Tamara Ashley Levine	Bernice Linder	Phyl Shevil
Marjorie Rosenfield	Jean London	Walter Steuerman	Clara Szende
Maurice Kaufman	Evy Carnat	Beryl Gibson	

Yahrzeits

Yahrzeit reminders are now being sent out. To receive your reminder please update your family Yahrzeits by logging onto your account on our website. If you would like any assistance please contact Robin in the office at 416-782-7125 or office1@congregationhabonim.org

Honour the memory of your loved one with memorial plaque or a leaf on our Eitz Chaim Tree

Oval Shaped leaf 4"x 2 ½" \$180 donation

Brass Plaque 9"x 2" \$360 donation.

Please contact the office for more information.

Information and contributions to THE BULLETIN.

Contact: Paula Schipper, pfschipper@gmail.com

**PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE
FOR MORE INFORMATION**

www.congregationhabonim.org

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

www.jewishheritageschool.org

**To SEND TRIBUTE & CONDOLENCE CARDS
and to MAKE A DONATION:**

Contact the Habonim Office as set out below.

**Are you MOVING, CHANGING your ADDRESS,
PHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL?**

Call the Habonim office:

Tel: 416-782-7125 or

Email: office1@congregationhabonim.org

President

Ted Rechtshaffen, 416-322-0749

Habonim Office

Robin Zionce-Garber - General Manager
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Religious Leader

Eli Rubenstein, 416-398-2615

Email: elir@bell.net

Cantors

Cantor: Aviva Rajskey

Contact: avivar@rogers.com

Associate Cantor: Kim Doron

Contact: kimdoron@rogers.com

Jewish Heritage School Principal

Yodfat Snir Mandil

Contact: yodfat_snir@hotmail.com