

### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND EVENTS

**Saturday, May 19**      **10:00 am**  
Bat Mitzvah of Jordan Pike  
Daughter of Alyson Arbus  
and Jeffrey Pike

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**Friday, May 25**      **8:15 p.m.**  
Shabbat Eve Service and  
Oneg Shabbat

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**Saturday, May 26**      **10:00 am**  
Bat Mitzvah of Jamie  
Rechtshaffen, daughter  
of Rosanna Breitman and  
Jeff Rechtshaffen

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**Saturday, May 26**      **7:00 pm**  
Shavuot Eve – School  
graduation special program

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**Monday, May 28**      **10:00 am**  
Shavuot Yiskor Service

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**Sunday, June 10**      **10:00 am**  
Habonim Annual General  
Meeting

**Thursday, June 14**      **9:30 am**  
Cambodia Fund Raiser  
and Bridge

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**Friday, June 22**      **8:15pm**  
Shabbat Eve Service and  
Oneg Shabbat

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**Saturday June 23**      **10:00am**  
Bar Mitzvah of Evan Koch,  
son of Wendy Burstyn and  
Michael Koch

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### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING JUNE 10

Please be sure to attend this important meeting!!! Apart from the regular operational updates and financial reports, there will be an important update re the future of the sanctuary building on the agenda. Be part of the decision making of your shul.

What's more, it will be on Sunday morning:

**10:00 am** - bagels, cream cheese, coffee and tea

**10:30 am** – Meeting.

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For those interested in a free breakfast on Sunday, June 10th, I know a good place.

For those interested in also hearing an update on the building, I know a good place to find out.

For those interested in learning more about the new General Manager and to meet Jeff Levy, I know a good place to do that.

For those who want to understand the financial picture of Congregation Habonim, there is an equally good place to hear about it.

It all takes place in under 2 hours at Congregation Habonim at 10am on Sunday, June 10th. We will be voting on the slate of board directors, and we need your vote to make it official.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jeff Levy at 416-782-7125 or at [office@congregationhabonim.org](mailto:office@congregationhabonim.org)  
See you there,

Ted Rechtshaffen

Ted Rechtshaffen, CFP, MBA  
PRESIDENT AND CEO

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### ELI RUBENSTEIN WELCOMES

#### JEFF LEVY

As you may know, to meet our growing demands, Habonim has engaged Jeff Levy as our new General Manager to oversee all aspects of Habonim's activities - "from soup to nuts" - as Habonim continues to expand and flourish. Jeff comes to us with both a rich professional and volunteer background.

Jeff is very personable, friendly, engaging and knowledgeable, and would welcome hearing from

you on any matter related to Habonim.

He will generally be at Habonim from Monday to Thursday and can be reached at 416-782-7125 or [JeffLevy@congregationhabonim.org](mailto:JeffLevy@congregationhabonim.org). Off hours, if need be, Jeff is also available by cell phone at (416) 802-1105.

We are very glad to welcome Jeff to Habonim and look forward to his contributions to our Habonim community.

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### TED RECHTSHAFFEN WELCOMES JEFF LEVY

As President of the Board, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Jeff Levy as the first General Manager of Congregation Habonim. Jeff comes to us with many years of accounting and management experience in the Charitable/Non-profit sector. He has always been active in the Jewish community as well as at the Reform synagogue in Toronto where he grew up. Jeff is looking forward to getting to know the people that make up the Congregation. He also volunteers in the larger community as a Team Leader with Victim Services of York Region.

We are looking forward to Jeff taking a leadership role in coordinating the administrative and logistical operations of our synagogue. Jeff is married to Susan and has a son, Marc.  
Please welcome him warmly.

Mazel Tov and welcome Jeff!

Ted Rechtshaffen

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**DEAR MEMBERS OF CONGREGATION  
HABONIM OF TORONTO:**

It is with great pleasure and eager anticipation that I assume the position of General Manager of Congregation Habonim. During the interview process, my informal research revealed that the Spiritual Leaders of this shul are held in high esteem. Anyone who had attended a Bar or Bat Mitzvah at Habonim commented on the moving service, the beautiful music and the sense of community...the word "haymishe" was used often.

While I will be the business manager, I hope to also become part of your community and to this end I have made a point of worshipping over the last few weeks with Eli Rubenstein, Chezi Zionce and your Cantors. I have enjoyed these services and have been warmly welcomed by the congregants in attendance.

The challenges of the job are many. They include organizing the upcoming High Holy Day service schedule, making B'nei Mitzvah arrangements, reporting to the President and the Board, coordinating the day-to-day operations and ensuring all aspects of the synagogue run efficiently and economically.

I look forward to meeting all members and getting to know what Habonim means to you and your family.

I will be in the shul office most days and I invite you to communicate with me in person, by phone or by email, at any time. This sacred congregation has operated successfully from its founding thanks to the many volunteers who have been doing, and still are doing, whatever has to be done.

I hope to be able to continue to call upon you and to work with you so that Congregation Habonim may go from "strength to strength".

Jeff Levy, General Manager  
Office@congregationhabonim.org

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**THE JEWISH HERITAGE SCHOOL AT  
HABONIM**

**Saturday, May 26 at 6:30 pm**

Please contact any one of our caterers directly at:  
We invite you to our Shavuot and end of year graduation celebration.

Come join us for cheesecake and other tasty Shavuot refreshments

Please RSVP [habonimschool@gmail.com](mailto:habonimschool@gmail.com)

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**CAMBODIA FUNDRAISER SEMINAR &  
BRIDGE GAME  
THURS. 14 JUNE @ 9.30 am  
5 GLEN PARK AVE: HABONIM  
SYNAGOGUE**

As many of you know, Patti Lee & Barbara Seagram travelled to Cambodia at the end of March for the opening of our wonderful new School: Banyan Learning Tree, outside Phnom Penh. We also visited a Library that we built at a School in Bakot Village and visited a school in Prokeab Village. These are two other schools in the Banyan Learning Tree family that are located two hours outside Phnom Penh in remote, very poor rural areas in the province of Takeo. In addition to the building of the one School and library, we also provided much of the furniture, equipment and supplies for these three schools and also supplied one school with electricity.

All of these projects happened solely as a result of all the fundraising done at bridge events in Toronto and Chatham, ON. Bridge players have been extremely generous in support of these ventures. Indeed, some people from other parts of Canada and USA contributed also to the cause. Many of the children at these schools have parents who are landmine victims. The teachers at these schools are wonderful people who also do outreach work for landmine-affected families.

It is now very important that we focus on the

sustainability of these projects. We would do more harm than good if we merely build and then walk away. With that in mind, we are holding

Examples of monies that need to be raised: \$100.00 a month pays for a full-time teacher. \$40.00 a month pays for a part-time teacher. Librarian: \$40.00 a month. To support a rural school's operational costs: \$25.00 per month. Urban school: \$50.00/month. We have two rural schools and one urban school.

We also want to work to develop clinics in the rural areas which are also landmine affected areas: Types of clinics: Dental, midwife, health education, eye, crafts and literacy for village women. We are also involved in agricultural education. Families are given a chicken farm and they are taught about rearing chickens which is really good business for families. The list of projects and needs goes on and on. We also need some used laptop computers as we have computer-teaching taking place in all our schools.

There will be a seminar with Barbara Seagram at 9.30 am and then a light lunch will be served at 11.30 am. Game follows at 12.30 pm. There will be a silent auction so we would welcome any donations of items that you think would be attractive for the auction. Restaurant vouchers are always welcome, hair dresser vouchers, movie tickets, baseball games, gift certificates. If you know someone or are a frequent patron of a restaurant or store, it would be wonderful if you could solicit a donation for this cause.

Minimum donation: \$35.00. NO MAXIMUM! Tax deductible receipts will be issued. Make out cheques to Canadian Landmine Foundation please. There will be a \$10.00 fee at the door to cover expenses also. Door prizes.

## GRAVESTONES: A STONE BIOGRAPHY

*By Avrum Rosensweig*

My Aunt Sylvia died about one year ago. I loved her very much.

On a beautiful Sunday afternoon in May my family gathered at the Dawes Road Cemetery to unveil Sylvia's tombstone. My uncle Berel, Sylvia's half-brother, arrived from New York a couple of hours before the unveiling and was picked up at the airport by my sister, Leahle. I was looking forward to seeing him because he looked so much like my Father of blessed memory, his brother, whom I haven't seen in twenty-two years.

I arrived at the cemetery earlier than everyone else. I need that lead time since, being the younger one, I prefer greeting others rather than they greeting me.

Dawes Road Cemetery is on the east-side of Toronto, around St. Clair and Pharmacy. It has been around for about one-hundred years. The cemetery has many age-smoothened stones telling the stories of lives lived. I enjoy walking through it and reading the inscriptions on the stones, and thinking about those people who once walked this earth. I am amazed that entire lives came before us, businesses were launched, wars were fought, children were married off, teenagers became adults became grandparents, movies were made, Habonim was launched and fruit stands turned into supermarkets.

I walked through the M, N and O sections of Dawes Road looking for my Zaidy, Moshe Chaim Flicht and my Bubie, Hilda Flicht. I read the names on the back of the stones in search of my grandparents, first seeing Ira Fruitman, Jack Fruitman and Jonah Shechter, until there, surrounded by others, although seeming to stand by

Please hold a space for me at the Cambodia Bridge Fundraiser at 5 Glen Park Ave: Thursday June 14<sup>th</sup> @ 9.30 am  
**TAX DEDUCTIBLE RECEIPTS FOR YOUR DONATION WILL BE ISSUED. PLEASE MAKE OUT CHEQUE TO CANADIAN LANDMINE FOUNDATION.** Mail this form with a cheque enclosed for a **minimum of \$35.00 per person (no maximum)** to:  
Barbara Seagram, 220 Lawrence Ave East, Toronto ON M4N 1T2 Tel no: 416-487-8321 bseagram@uniserve.com

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TEL NO: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: (for receipt) \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a partner that day?  YES  NO If so, name of partner: \_\_\_\_\_

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themselves, were Moshe Chaim and Hilda.

I read their inscriptions. While I did, I realized composing the wording for a gravestone is an art form. In ten words or less an entire life has to be summed up. It is a short story, or perhaps a stone biography. Tombstone authors are good.

My Zaidy's inscription was right on. It says, "Ish tam ve'yashar." He was a simple and straight man. He feared God and his actions were good." My Bubies was similar, a few choice words reflecting a solid life and how beloved she was as a wife, mother, grandmother and daughter.

In Hebrew the cemetery is called, the Bait Chaim or House of Life, so there was nothing on my grandparents tombstones about the brothers and sisters they lost to the Nazis, or the strife and poverty they endured as refugees. The author of those messages simply wrote about their sh'aim tov – their good name, their reputation. That's what they'll write about us, hopefully.

The sky was gorgeous blue and a slight wind kept us cool. The family arrived and we walked through the cemetery to Sylvia's grave, all uncomfortably trying to stay clear of stepping on the graves next to hers. It's strange how when we do, we somehow feel as if we've stepped on top of somebody. As a kid that really bothered me. Didn't you feel that way?

My cousins, Jack and Honey, had driven in from Detroit and we all embraced. I wasn't sure if it was okay to be joyous and jocular in a cemetery but I thought the dead wouldn't mind, as long as were respectful. (I once heard two people at a funeral talking about business while a casket was being lowered into the ground. I wondered if there was any value to that. Somehow the phrase, 'inside trading' comes to mind. I'm not sure why.)

Uncle Berel spoke and said, "it used to be the four of us (Berel, my father, Dave in Israel and Sylvia) and now two of us are gone." He was melancholy. He read Sylvia's stone biography. It said: "She was a beautiful woman, a giving daughter, a unique sister, an amazing aunt."

You see Sylvia and Ben never had children. They tried but it wasn't meant to be. I was heartbroken when I cleaned out their locker and found old glass baby bottles. They had prepared for children. Sylvia's headstone didn't say any of that though.

So when people walk by Sylvia's grave to get to a family member's gravesite – and hopefully won't step on her – they'll read what an amazing aunt she was (to me). And she was. And I was honoured to be with her when she died. That was about one year ago. It is all right there on her tombstone on Dawes Road.

Rest in Peace Aunt. Quite an impressive stone-biography! You lived right.  
Avrum@veahavta.org

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### In Memoriam:

Remembering with love and sadness our dear son and brother, Richard Morton - The Morton and Small families

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### OUR WEBSITE:

[www.congregationhabonim.org](http://www.congregationhabonim.org)

### OUR E-MAIL ADDRESS:

[office@congregationhabonim.org](mailto:office@congregationhabonim.org)

### RELIGIOUS SCHOOL:

[www.JewishHeritageSchool.com](http://www.JewishHeritageSchool.com)

To **SPONSOR AN ONEG SHABBAT** call

Jeff Levy at (416) 782-7125

To **SEND GREETING CARDS and DONATIONS**

call Rhoda Sion at (416) 782-9663 or write to 716 - 660 Eglinton Ave. W., Toronto M5N 1C3

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

Call Dianne Erdos-Rush at (416) 630-7921 or e-mail to: [dijer@sympatico.ca](mailto:dijer@sympatico.ca)

**TO BUY A LEAF FOR EITZ CHAIM**

for any occasion call Jeff Levy at (416) 782-7125 or email at

office@congregationhabonim.org  
Leaf \$175

**QUESTIONS OR NOTICES RE  
JAHRZEITEN?**

Call Linda Brager at (416) 488-0282

**JAHRZEITEN JUNE 2012**

Tina Patton	Sivan 11	Jun 1, 2012
Harry Chas. Gottlieb		
	Sivan 12	Jun 2, 2012
Kay Fink	Sivan 12	Jun 2, 2012
Sima Muskat	Sivan 13	Jun 3, 2012
Adolph Weiss	Sivan 13	Jun 3, 2012
Alice Engel	Sivan 14	Jun 4, 2012
Gary Rosen	Sivan 14	Jun 4, 2012
Bella Isaak	Sivan 14	Jun 4, 2012
Irene and Leopold Stamberger		
	Sivan 14	Jun 4, 2012
George Spitz	Sivan 15	Jun 5, 2012
Emerich Sperlinger	Sivan 15	Jun 5, 2012
Lola Fleischer	Sivan 15	Jun 5, 2012
Abraham Nochomovitz		
	Sivan 17	Jun 7, 2012
Matthew Emas	Sivan 17	Jun 7, 2012
Moses Goldberg	Sivan 17	Jun 7, 2012
George Lednar	Sivan 18	Jun 8, 2012
John Goldstein	Sivan 18	Jun 8, 2012

Rebecca Persiko	Sivan 19	Jun 9, 2012
Eric Parieser	Sivan 19	Jun 9, 2012
Anne Levy	Sivan 19	Jun 9, 2012
Irving J. Halperin	Sivan 20	Jun 10, 2012
Yolande Jakabb	Sivan 21	Jun 11, 2012
Fancia Gottlieb	Sivan 21	Jun 11, 2012
Ludwig Neubieser	Sivan 22	Jun 12, 2012
David Jakabb	Sivan 23	Jun 13, 2012
Richard Moldauer	Sivan 24	Jun 14, 2012
Isaac Isaacson	Sivan 26	Jun 16, 2012
Samuel Lewkowicz	Sivan 26	Jun 16, 2012
Otto Fleischer	Sivan 28	Jun 18, 2012
Sally Egnal	Sivan 28	Jun 18, 2012
Nigel Walsh	Sivan 28	Jun 18, 2012
Sen. David Croll	Sivan 29	Jun 19, 2012
Saul A. Junger	Tammuz 1	Jun 21, 2012
Nellie Sperlinger	Tammuz 1	Jun 21, 2012
Jack Jacobson	Tammuz 2	Jun 22, 2012
Dorothy Pecaut	Tammuz 2	Jun 22, 2012
Celia Kofman	Tammuz 2	Jun 22, 2012
Michael Szende	Tammuz 2	Jun 22, 2012
Marie Schwartz	Tammuz 3	Jun 23, 2012
John Pachner	Tammuz 5	Jun 25, 2012
Stuart Allan Roebuck		
	Tammuz 7	Jun 27, 2012
Ben Levy	Tammuz 7	Jun 27, 2012
Miriam Burrows	Tammuz 8	Jun 28, 2012
Rae Steuermann	Tammuz 9	Jun 29, 2012
Sam Cukier	Tammuz 10	Jun 30, 2012

Information and contributions to THE BULLETIN?  
call Erika Erdos at 416-787-0527  
e-mail eerdos1@rogers.com

Deadline for contributions to the next Bulletin:  
, 2012

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President	T. Rechtshaffen	416-322-0749