

L'Khaim



ישיבה

The Winchevsky Centre Community Newsletter Toronto's Secular Jewish Culture and Education Centre

September/October 2009

Programs at a Glance



September

- Sat. Sept. 12 7:30 p.m. *The Klezmer Kids in Concert - celebrating the launch of Toronto's Secular Jewish Community School (TSJCS)*
- Sun. Sept. 13 11:00 a.m. *TSJCS Opening Day: Klezmer workshop with The Klezmer Kids*
- Sat. Sept. 19 10:30 a.m. *Rosh Hashonah Community Observance*
- Sun. Sept. 20 *Kinder Kapers & TSJCS Modules 1 & 2 begin*
- Sun. Sept. 27 7:30 p.m. *Yom Kippur Community Observance*
- Wed. Sept. 30 7:30 p.m. *Toronto Jewish Folk Choir 1st rehearsal of season*

October

- Sun. Oct. 4 12:00 p.m. *Community Sukkes Celebration*
Camp Naivelt
- Sat. Oct. 17 2:00 p.m. *Theatre Club: "Sholom Aleichem: Laughter Through Tears" with Theodore Bikel*
Winter Garden Theatre
- Sun. Oct. 25 1:30 p.m. *Jewish Book Fair event: "Yiddishlands" with author David Roskies*
Lipa Green

For event information call 416-789-5502,
email info@winchevskycentre.org
or visit www.winchevskycentre.org.

A Warm Welcome Back from Executive Director Maxine Hermolin



It's hard to believe we're approaching the end of August. Hope everyone enjoyed the summer, despite all the rain. We had another great season at **Camp Naivelt** with all of our available cottages filled and a waiting list to rent. And we're pleased to report that our week-long Music and Theatre Camps were great successes, both culminating in an impressive explosion of talent by the participating campers of all ages. These engaging programs will no doubt become another new Naivelt tradition in the coming years.

And now it is my pleasure to welcome you to the start of another great season at the Winchevsky Centre. There are lots of exciting plans and programs to share with you as you read through the pages of *L'Khaim*.

We are thrilled to open our season and launch the 2009-2010 year of our Shule with the **Klezmer Kids** from Winnipeg. Together with the Ashkenaz Foundation, we're presenting the Klezmer Kids in concert, then more fun with the Kids in an interactive klezmer music & folk dance workshop. (see events page for details) So, join us and spread the word ... about the Klezmer Kids and about **Toronto's Secular Jewish Community School's** fantastic programs: our delightful Kinder Kapers program for tots and their grown-ups is so much fun; of course our B'nai Mitzvah students will be working towards their group secular coming-of-age ceremony; and for SK-Grade 5

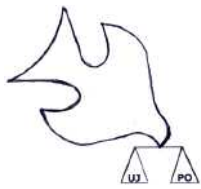
students, we've built on the success of our new modular program – this year we have not 4 but 10 fantastic modules to offer! (see *Shule Corner* for details). So if you are searching for a relevant, alternative Jewish education for your children, register for our innovative programs today.

You may wish to sing with our **Toronto Jewish Folk Choir** – if you do, come to rehearsals on Wednesday evenings. Or if you'd like to read or listen to *mameloshn*, come out to our **Yiddish Reading Circle** sessions on Thursday afternoons.

Our **Rosh Hashonah** and **Yom Kippur** observances continue to be highlights of our season, and we hope you will usher in the Jewish New Year with our community – just complete and return the enclosed reservation form right away to avoid disappointment.

For those of you who are not already members of **United Jewish People's Order**, I encourage you to become a member and get more involved in our progressive organization. Play a more active and vital role in celebrating our roots, transforming our present and welcoming our future! Visit our website at www.winchevskycentre.org and download a UJPO membership application form today.

Wishing you all a sweet, healthy and peaceful New Year, and a warm welcome back to the Winchevsky Centre.



United Jewish People's Order (UJPO)

NATIONAL NEWS

Share Your UJPO Treasures on our New Archival Website

The afternoon of June 17th, about a dozen people got together in the Winchevsky lounge to attend an archives workshop and presentation by UJPO archivist **Ruth Grossman**, and to be the first to view the new UJPO archival website.

This wiki site contains many historical UJPO photographs and memorabilia, and the site allows the viewer to suggest names to identify unknown people in the photos and to make comments. At the workshop, we were very successful in identifying many of the people and the locations of the photos. This can also be done from the comfort of your home – visit the site at UJPOarchives.editime.com.

In order to create a full ongoing history of our organization, many more photos and memorabilia are required. If you have photos, programs, flyers, etc. from any events from any section of the organization, please contact Ruth through the Winchevsky office to have your piece of memorabilia scanned and added to the site. If you have old photos and can't remember who the people in the photos are, now is your chance to find out.

It's time to share your treasures with the rest of the organization.

– Sol Hermolin

* * *

TORONTO NEWS

UJPO Concert Was “A Hoot!”

The 17th National UJPO Convention took a cultural break on Saturday May 30th, blending two musical entities previously unknown to each other. The purpose of this concert, called “*For Pete’s Sake Sing!*”, was to present an old-fashioned, yet timeless hootenanny to honour **Pete Seeger** on his 90th birthday last May.

Seeger is no stranger to our organization, as he entertained at Camp Naivelt in the

1950s, and encouraged another Camp Naivelt musical group, ‘The Travellers’.



The evening opened with a talented ensemble of Camp Naivelt musicians: **Jude MacDonald, Phil Ciglen, Steve Cooper** and evening impresario **Steve**

Cope. As emcee, I introduced the star of the second half – Vancouver’s versatile and talented folk singer/composer **Michael Friedman**, better known in Europe than in Canada. Many audience members knew each musical artist individually, but not as an ensemble.



We learned that Michael, who was new to most, has known Pete Seeger since the age of two – largely because Seeger visited with Michael’s late father Searle (a former conductor of the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir) and his late folk-singing/entrepreneur uncle Perry. A touring Seeger often stayed at the Friedmans’, where he slept in Michael’s bedroom!

Nor is Michael an unknown in the composing field or music industry; for years he wrote the tunes which accompanied the stories on television’s *Front Page Challenge*



(he was its musical director). Michael’s contemporary compositions talk to progressive themes and the trials and tribulations of our society, and all are listenable, profound and endearing. The night of our concert he sang many of them to his brilliant and accomplished guitar accompaniment.



The concert concluded with all artists on stage singing some of Seeger’s famous and familiar compositions with Michael and the audience. A moving experience to say the least – several smiled while elated tears streamed down their faces. What a hoot!

Can this become a future feature of Toronto UJPO’s musical scene? Many hope so. Why not hear more of Camp Naivelt’s talent in the city? And why not hear more of Michael Friedman’s sincere lyrics and melodies? Indeed.

– David Abramowitz

Editorial: Many thanks to David Abramowitz and Steve Cope for coordinating this event, and to all of the wonderful artists for providing their talents. Go to www.youtube.com/watch?v=VXsQba5LVY4 to see Steve Cooper playing the banjo at the concert.

Becoming a Member of the UJPO

Before new members of the United Jewish People’s Order are ratified, those wishing to join will be invited to meet those members of the UJPO National Resident Board and the Toronto UJPO Board who are available for an informal social introduction, as well as an informational discussion outlining our history and our Aims and Purposes. Our Constitution requires that we meet and orient potential members to foster a sense of understanding about the organization.

To request information, please contact the office at 416-789-5502 or visit www.winchevskycentre.org.



Shule Corner

This Year Marks Shule's Resurgence

Sholem aleikhem, everyone! I hope you have all been having an enjoyable and productive summer. I just got back from working with the University of Toronto's excavations at the archaeological site of Tell Ta'yinat in rural southern Turkey.



We had some very exciting finds this year, including finding a small library of Assyrian tablets, a stunning

little pyxis (essentially an ancient cold cream jar) and more than 25,000 pieces of animal bone (my specialty). Four weeks of six-and-a-half day work weeks and 12-hour work days in 45 celsius heat, and I'm raring to go for another exciting year at TSJCS.

As many of you know, last year we successfully piloted our new modular approach to the SK-Grade 5 program. This fall, we are offering our first full year of this innovative approach, with a total of 10 new modules, on some very exciting topics including: '*The Key to Spain: La Llave de Espana*' led by musician **Batsheva**; '*Your Trip of a Lifetime: Living the Jewish Immigrant Experience*' led by social policy advisor **Carly Steinman**; and '*Bubbies & Zaidies on Camera: Collecting Oral Histories*' led by Shule graduate **Louise Rosenberg-Lee**. Each module is taught by an expert in the field and is designed to be approachable and engaging for all students.

Each Sunday of Shule we are offering *two* modules: the first from 10:00-11:15 a.m., and the second from 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. There will be five sets of these 5-week long modules. Students can enrol in as few as one or as many as all 10 modules, with the price per module decreasing with the number of modules taken. You can check out the complete list of modules at www.morriswinchevskyschool.com.

In June 2010, the first three students in our two-year B'nai Mitzvah program will

be having their joint B'nai Mitzvah, and we look forward to seeing what they will put together for their ceremony. This two-year approach to Bar/Bat Mitzvah allows us to guarantee that our graduates have a solid background in preparation for their B'nai Mitzvot, and that families have more time to plan the event. For more information, visit www.secularbnaimitzvah.com.

We are now entering the third year of our incredibly successful toddler program, Kinder Kapers. Each year, our numbers have grown and we now have a great group of families who come regularly alongside many families who drop in. It's a great opportunity for families with small children to expose their tots to some Yiddish and Hebrew music and language, and Jewish traditions, and socialize and schmooze over a bagel and cream cheese. To download a registration form, visit www.kinderkaperstoronto.com.

In addition to Shule classes, we will continue to offer community holiday programs throughout the year, but, they will be offered *outside* of Shule hours in order to maximize class time during the year. I look forward to seeing you all at as many events as possible. You know what they say: "the more the merrier."

I am hopeful that this year marks our Shule's resurgence, and that all of these changes have revitalized us to a point where we can continue for at least another 80 years.

That having been said, as always, I appeal to everyone with an interest in the Shule – former staff, graduates, current families, and students – to help out in any way they can. We always need new ideas, feedback, volunteers, teachers and support. I look forward to hearing from you over the course of the year.

Here's wishing you all a *Shana Tova Umetukah* and *A Gut Yor!*

– **David Lipovitch**
TSJCS Education Director



SHULE MODULES 1 & 2 Sundays September 20 - November 1

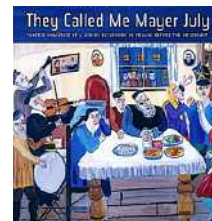
Module #1:

A Shtetl Childhood Remembered in Paintings and Stories

Instructor: Mayer Kirshenblatt

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Author and painter Mayer Kirshenblatt was always an inquisitive and rambunctious boy and vividly remembers everything about his childhood and life in pre-WWII Poland. Students will be drawn into the lost world of his shtetl, roaming its streets and courtyards, sharing the details of daily life, and meeting those who lived and worked there through Mayer's stories and art. *They Called Me Mayer July* received the 2008 Canadian Jewish Book Award.



Module #2:

Camels & Sandals: Day to Day Life in Ancient Israel

Instructor: David Lipovitch

Time: 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

Go back 3,000 years and see how people lived in ancient Israel, and how their lifestyle shaped Jewish traditions that are still celebrated today. Taught by the Shule's very own in-house archaeologist David Lipovitch, students will learn what their lives would have been like had they lived in the time of King David.



Upcoming Kinder Kapers Dates:
Sundays Sept. 20 & 27; Oct. 18
10:30 a.m. - noon

Kinder Kapers is a fun & interactive Sunday morning program for toddlers (18 months-4 years) and their grownups.

To register, call 416-789-5502.



News from Camp Naivelt

Our summer cottage community

Camp Naivelt – The Place To Be

In the first issue of this season's *Naivelt News*, co-editor **Hanna Novak** wished all Naivelt campers, old and new, an "unforgettable 2009 season." And indeed, although August is hardly over, we have already had a remarkable summer. We hear about the Naivelt glory days, when thousands would come out to Camp on the weekends for the music, the romance, the fun, and the sheer joy of being in the beauty of the "country." It looks like the good times are here again.

We had a wonderful summer last year that culminated with the production of the play "*Oy Di Velt Vet Vern Yinger*", and this summer, camp is once again a bustling place. For a number of weekends, we couldn't even find places for everyone who wanted to rent. There's a building boom around here as well – the porches are multiplying as I write this – thanks to **Jack, Scott, and Andrew**. We have a number of new faces to welcome into our community: new cottage owners, new renters and two brand new baby girls, **Rosalie June** and **Venetia Eleanor**, spent the first summer of their lives at Naivelt.

Just hanging out here has been grand; watching the gang of very little kids (Isabella, Frank, Zohar, Maiyan, Hayden, Noah, Simon), the bigger kids, the teenagers and the various gradation of adults, mamas, papas, bobbies, zaydes – all doing their things. It's wonderful watching the bigger kids being so gentle and lovely with the little ones.

We've had our share of sadness as well. **Charna Gord** and **Mari Drexler** both lost their mothers in the past few months. This is our first summer without **Sonia Reichman**. We honoured Sonia with a tribute organized with the help of **Ruth** and **Zoe Grossman** and Sonia's daughter **Hanna Novak**, and everyone pitched in to make it a beautiful event.

We've had some first class assistance from our Naivelt youth as well, thanks to the first ever Youth Employment Program:

Russell Staughton, our techie; **Abby Cope**, our banquet organizer and top notch cleaner; and excellent child care provided by **Shayle Kilroy, Shifra** and **Helah Cooper**, and **Robin Blue**. **Devin** and **Cory Staughton** re-opened the snack bar at the Lak Shak, often assisted by pals **Aiden** and **Rowen Paredes**. Thanks to **Ronit Little** for organizing this new initiative.

This summer's programming was so rich and varied, I can't possibly mention all that has gone on, but here are some 2009 highlights: the **Kinder Kapers Weekend** was a great success, the children's entertainers received rave reviews, and **Maxine Hermolin** hosted a delicious barbeque. Some bagel brunch highlights include **Rachel Epstein** discussing LGBT parenting, **Gerry Kane's** talk about Jewish humour, **Bryan Young's** focus on environmental issues, and the Peace Tea with **Sandra Ruch** telling us what she saw in Gaza.



For many of us, the program highlights were two Naivelt firsts: a week-long Music Camp with **Martin Van de Ven** and a week-long Theatre Camp with **Lisa Roy**. Martin took a bunch of us, between the ages of eight to sixty-eight, with experience levels ranging from complete beginners to quite skilled, and turned us into a band. We all had a lot of fun. (read more in the *Youth Alive* column.)



This was followed by a week in Chelm, at the drama camp. The children created their own Chelm play, and we all enjoyed the hilarious performance on Saturday night, in particular 'Mayor Mottl' played by three-year-old **Simon Bakan**. It rained pretty well all week, but thanks to Lisa, the participants had a good time.



There's more: **Zak Harrison's** band The Phonebooth Criminals, the potlucks and coffee house. We love the less flashy events as well – **Barb Lipton** leading aquafit each Saturday and Sunday, and **Barbara Blaser's** handicrafts workshops. And there's more to come, including the "Promenade of Passions" with **Ruth Howard**, campfires, and our grand finale banquet. In short, Camp Naivelt is the place to be this summer.

The thank yous to all of us who made this happen are really for all of us, but let's acknowledge **Mitch Willer** for all of his work on programming, **Hilarie Klapman** and **Hanna Novak**, who brought the *Naivelt News* to new journalistic heights, the hosts of the bagel brunches and the Camp Committee. It's been quite a summer and we look forward to many more.

– Ester Reiter



Do You Want to Rent or Buy a Cottage at Camp Naivelt?

The first option to **rent** a cottage is extended to members of the United Jewish People's Order (UJPO) and to Toronto's Secular Jewish Community School (TSJCS) families. UJPO membership is required, and must be maintained in good standing to **own** a cottage.



Youth on the Move

Naivelt Hills are Alive with the Sound of Music

I had never played the accordion before the first day of the **Naivelt Music Camp** this July. I had been given it the weekend before and, though I could find a few notes, I was far from an accomplished or practiced player. Although I am far from either of those things currently, after a week of daily music lessons with camp leader **Martin van de Ven**, I can play a sirba, an opshpiel, a kolo and more, as part of a five-song klezmer repertoire.

Martin's morning music lessons began at 10:00 a.m., which was earlier than I was used to waking up, but, regardless, I and the six friends who were staying at my Naivelt cabin that week, woke up at nine and made our way down to the Lasowsky Centre to join the twenty other Naivelters of all ages tuning, practicing and trying to find their assorted sheet music. Many participants in the camp were beginners, although everyone was talented. Under the guidance of Martin's incredible musical knowledge, the 'orchestra' that included several generations of families (along with a solid fan base of toddlers) absorbed and learned a complex series of Eastern European folk songs. We could all clap in 9/8 time and play Schwarz's Sirba at lightning speed and – even when none of us thought we could keep up – we always had a fantastic time.

Music has always been so important to me, and has always occupied a large part of my time at Naivelt: from my dad entertaining me and my toddler friends on the banjo, to my friends and I now playing folk songs on the back porch. The Music Camp got people to try something new, whether it was a clarinet they never thought they could play, or playing in an ensemble for the first time. Generally, the weeks at Naivelt are quieter than the weekends, but for Martin's music week, it felt like the weekend all the time (even though we weren't able to sleep in). Hill Two and Three cottages emitted the

strains of practicing and general music-making every evening. It was a wonderful and inspiring atmosphere for what might have otherwise have been a fairly quiet July week.

Charlotte, a neighbouring Hill Three little girl, came with her father to practice music and ended up conducting us in writing a song. Robin, a good friend of mine, played her first chords on the guitar, and I met many neighbours I hadn't had a chance to get to know yet. By the concert on Saturday night, the entire Naivelt Orchestra laughed together as we prepared to play songs we had started out thinking were 'out of our league'. Anyone who had the honour to work with Martin or come to any of the Music Week events can tell you we were all wrong. The week was exhausting, demanding and sometimes overwhelming, but it brought music to Naivelt's hills. It got us all laughing at ourselves and playing together, which might have seemed like a difficult feat, but which Martin seemed to achieve in an effortless and inspiring way.

– **Shifra Cooper**



The Future of CSJO In Good Hands

May 22-25, I, along with five other people from Toronto, attended the annual Congress of Secular Jewish Organization's (CSJO) conference. As usual, we had a lot of fun and, as usual, there were many enjoyable workshops. My friend **Helah Cooper** and I presented a workshop created by Helah's mom's [Ruth Howard's] theatre company, Jumblies Theatre. Though I always enjoy leading workshops, this year I found that what I most enjoyed was attending them.

I attended workshops about Secular Judaism in the 21st Century, Creationism Being Taught in Schools and a few others, specifically one that was led by a friend of mine, Samantha, from Vancouver.

Originally this workshop was going to be about conflict resolution, but because of an issue that was brought up at the keynote right before Samantha's workshop, her topic became The Future of CSJO, because many of us had things that we wanted to say. The workshop became a place to discuss the future of CSJO without the risk of getting our ideas shot down by other people. We started with an activity that showed we had to all work together to solve conflicts, instead of trying to beat another team to it. Then Samantha facilitated a discussion about how we could use conflict resolution to solve the problems. We talked about ways that we thought conflict among the people at CSJO could be resolved, especially when touchy subjects are brought up. Everyone contributed ideas of how to attract more people to the conference and how to fundraise so that people, especially from the west coast, can remain involved.

Many of us felt that as the youth of CSJO, we are the 'future' of the organization, and that the adults worrying so much showed us that we need to prove to them that we can be trusted to help with and continue this amazing conference. Because of Samantha's workshop, I personally learned that if the future of CSJO is in our hands, no one should worry. It was inspiring how much everyone respected others' opinions, and the only time anyone shot down an idea, they quickly apologized. Many people were very impressed by how much we were able to talk about and the progress we made in just the hour and a half time limit. I think there are a lot of people who could learn from participating in a workshop like Samantha's. It left people feeling optimistic about what we can accomplish, just by listening to each other.

– **Dylan Tate-Howarth**

Toronto's Secular Jewish Community School (TSJCS)
in association with Ashkenaz Foundation present

Klezmer Kids

**Smash Hit of 2008 Ashkenaz Festival
Back from Winnipeg for an Exclusive Toronto Concert!**



**Vibrant teenage Winnipeg musicians
performing traditional klezmer tunes
led by Daniel Koulack of 'Finjan' fame**

**Special guest clarinetist
Martin van de Ven
of 'Beyond the Pale'**



Saturday September 12, 2009

7:30 p.m.

The Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Avenue

RESERVATIONS



416-789-5502

info@winchevskycentre.org

ADVANCE TICKETS

Member

Adults: \$15.00

Children/Youth (ages 5-18): \$10.00

Non-Member

Adults: \$18.00

Children/Youth (ages 5-18): \$12.00

TICKETS AT DOOR

Member

Adults: \$20.00

Children/Youth (ages 5-18): \$12.00

Non-Member

Adults: \$22.00

Children/Youth (ages 5-18): \$15.00



Celebrating the launch of Toronto's Secular Jewish Community School with support from:

Centre for Enhancement of Jewish Education; Label Basman Memorial Scholarship Fund; Sholem Aleichem Community-Winnipeg; Morris Winchevsky School funds; Shek Family Living Legacy, Lee & Hy Schechter Education Fund, Hayashi Trust Fund; United Jewish People's Order-Canada; United Jewish People's Order-Winnipeg.



Winchevsky Community Events September & October 2009

Unless otherwise indicated, all events are held at
The Winchevsky Centre, 585 Cranbrooke Avenue (*Lawrence & Bathurst area*)
To RSVP, call 416-789-5502.

TORONTO WELCOMES THE KLEZMER KIDS!!

The Klezmer Kids in Concert

**Saturday September 12
7:30 p.m.**

Vibrant teenage Winnipeg musicians will perform traditional klezmer tunes under the direction of **Daniel Koulack** of 'Finjan' fame, with special guest clarinetist **Martin van de Ven** of 'Beyond the Pale' – an exclusive event you won't want to miss!

(↩ see flyer for concert details)



Interactive Family Workshop with The Klezmer Kids about Klezmer Music & Folk Dancing

**Sunday September 13
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

This exciting inter-generational and interactive workshop for TSJCS students and families and the wider community will introduce participants of all ages to the world of klezmer music. Led by the **Klezmer Kids** and their leader **Daniel Koulack**, the workshop will include an historical overview of klezmer, a demonstration of the techniques of klezmer music, and participatory Eastern European dance led by **Helen Winkler**.

General admission: \$10.00
TSJCS families: \$5.00
TSJCS students: Free

RSVP by September 10th.

Usher in the New Year with our
Community Secular Observances of

Rosh Hashonah
**Saturday September 19
10:30 a.m.**

&

Yom Kippur
**Sunday September 27
7:30 p.m.**



Our contemporary progressive observances include the traditional blowing of the shofar, meaningful readings, poetry, and Yiddish, Hebrew and English music led by prominent Toronto musicians **David Wall** and **Marilyn Lerner**.

(Return the enclosed reservation form today).

RSVP by September 10th.

* * *

Community Sukkes Celebration at Camp Naivelt

**Sunday October 4
The fun begins at noon!**

Celebrate the harvest at our annual outdoor community celebration at our camp in Brampton. This fun-filled event offers interactive activities for people of all ages, decorating our sukkah, holidays symbols, stories, music and treats.

(Visit www.winchevskycentre.org
for directions to Camp Naivelt)

RSVP by October 1st.

Winchevsky Theatre Club *Sholom Aleichem: Laughter Through Tears* starring Theodore Bikel

**Saturday October 17
2:00 p.m.**

Winter Garden Theatre, 189 Yonge St.

We have reserved a block of tickets for the **Harold Green Jewish Theatre Company's** one-man show, written by and starring the legendary **Theodore Bikel**. This play is steeped in Jewish culture, with a dazzling display of characters, rich storytelling, and plenty of Yiddish songs.

Tickets are \$35.00, and include a post-show talk back session. A post-theatre social is also planned for interested participants.

Limited seating available.

RSVP by August 31st.

* * *

JEWISH BOOK FAIR EVENT: *Yiddishlands* by David Roskies

**Sunday October 25
1:30 p.m.**

Lipa Green Centre, 4600 Bathurst St.

A memoir of David Roskies' mother, a formidable force in the Montreal Yiddish community, and her circle of Yiddishists and intellectuals. It is also a vibrant portrait of how Jewish culture was transported from Eastern Europe to Montreal. Winner of the 2009 Canadian Jewish Book Awards for Yiddish literature.

Admission: \$5.00 at the door.

Co-sponsored by: *United Jewish People's Order/Winchevsky Centre; Committee for Yiddish; Friends of Yiddish; Workmen's Circle/Arbeter Ring.*

Toronto Jewish Folk Choir's 84th Season

Yes, it's time folks.

Our very own Toronto Jewish Folk Choir is about to begin its new season. We will be starting off on **Wednesday September 30, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.** at the Winchevsky Centre, as usual.

Of course, we will be welcoming new members who want to be a part of this unique chorus.

We are the oldest Jewish community choir in Toronto, dedicated to preserving not only the songs of Yiddish-speaking Europe and North America, but also songs of today, of Canada, our cultural mosaic, and of our Jewish mosaic.

Call **Howard Kaplan** at **416-593-0750** or email tjfolkchoir@sympatico.ca for more information.

And you don't even have to be Jewish, just have a love of music!



Community News

We wish a Mazel Tov to...

Judy Taylor and **Mitch Willer** on the birth of their daughter **Rosalie June**.

Antonia Butler and **Jack Wilcan** on the birth of their daughter **Venitia Eleanor**.

Peter and **Eleanor Smollett** on the marriage of their daughter Rebecca to Dave Ley.

Barbara and **Sol Blaser** on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Jonah.



We send get well wishes to...

Rita Bergman
Eileen Chudnovsky

Our heartfelt condolences to...

David Abramowitz and family on the passing of David's brother **Julian Abramowitz**.

The Diament family on the passing of UJPO members **Charles Diament** and **Ann Diament**.

Henry Lowi and family on the passing of Henry's father **Beno Lowi**.

Mari and Simon Drexler and family on the passing of Mari's mother **Anna Drexler**.

Charna Gord and the Gord-Chudnovsky family on the passing of UJPO member and Charna's mother **Goldie Gord**.

Bea Levis and family on the passing of **Terry Levis**.



Remembering Goldie Gord



Goldie Gord – remembered fondly for her gentle manner, her strong commitment to the values of our organization and its institutions, and her dedication and hard work in so many facets of our work.

Goldie was a leading executive member of the UJPO's Branch 40, which then became the Nechama Lodge. She was an activist in peace initiatives, in particular our annual Israel Teas and events of the former Women's Committee, as well as a devoted supporter of our Toronto Jewish Folk Choir. Goldie and her late husband Henry were two of the pillars who kept our Cranbrooke Friendship Club for seniors going strong for several years, and I

had the privilege and the pleasure of working with Goldie on the Friendship Club. As if that wasn't enough, Goldie also worked as a bookkeeper in the Winchevsky Centre office for a few years.

Of significant note are the facts that Goldie and Henry opened their home for Shule classes while the Winchevsky Centre was being built, and it was at Goldie's parents' cottage in Long Branch that our very first children's camp was held. And of course, many a summer was enjoyed by the Gord family at their cottage on Hill 1 at Camp Naivelt. Perhaps one of Goldie's proudest moments would have been to see two of her beloved grandchildren, Paul and Emily Chudnovsky, graduate from our Morris Winchevsky Shule.

Goldie was a lovely person to know and is sadly missed. Our sincerest condolences to the Gord-Chudnovsky family.

– **Maxine Hermolin**

The Winchevsky Centre is home to:

- **United Jewish People's Order**
- **Morris Winchevsky School – Toronto's Secular Jewish Community School**
- **Camp Naivelt**
- **Toronto Jewish Folk Choir**

The Winchevsky Centre, founded on the traditions of social justice and humanism, is committed to making secular Jewish life relevant and accessible through a wide variety of cultural, social and educational programs.



The Winchevsky Centre

585 Cranbrooke Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
M6A 2X9

Telephone: 416-789-5502

Fax: 416-789-5981

Email: info@winchevskycentre.org

Website: www.winchevskycentre.org

If you wish to correct, add or delete a name from our mailing list, or if you do not wish for your photograph to appear in L'Khaim or on our website, contact L'Khaim editor Lisa Roy.

Your donations are critical in sustaining the important cultural and educational work of the Winchevsky Centre. Tax deductible receipts are issued for donations to the "Morris Winchevsky School" and "Toronto Jewish Folk Choir".