

ירשה

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# HERITAGE

The Journal of THE JEWISH ARCHIVES & HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF EDMONTON & NORTHERN ALBERTA

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Please join us for  
**JAHSENA'S**  
**AGM**

Wednesday, October 25,  
starting at 7 pm,  
in the Beth Shalom  
lower auditorium

## Visiting the Past at Fort Edmonton Park



Zachary Tankel hosting the Menorah Academy Grade 1 field trip as  
an interpreter at the H.B. Kline store in Fort Edmonton Park.

Zachary's story starts on page 3.

*AGM Guest Speaker: Former Mayor, Stephen Mandel*



## From the Co-Presidents,

by JUDY GOLDSAND and HOWARD DAVIDOW

### August 2017

We want to tell you the latest news about the HB Kline Jewellery Store at Fort Edmonton that JAHSENA, in partnership with the Fort, established in 2013. Since the store was founded, the Jewish Archives has been supporting the presence of an interpreter to tell visitors about items in the store and, by association, about Edmonton's Jewish community. For 2017, Fort Edmonton received a Canada Summer Jobs grant to cover about half of an interpreter's salary, so JAHSENA has provided the remainder. We are fortunate that this year the Fort hired Zachary Tankel, an Edmontonian in second year at McGill, to be the main interpreter. Zachary has a good knowledge of Edmonton's Jewish community and has written a story (see later in this issue) about his experiences at the store. He also searched for information about the Capitol Pipe Shop located on the other side of the Capitol Theatre from HB Kline Jewellers and will be writing a short article about that as well.

Another summer project that JAHSENA participated in was the Edmonton Historical Society's DOORS OPEN celebration during the first week of July. Its theme for 2017 was Canada's 150th Birthday, so JAHSENA, in partnership with Beth Shalom Synagogue, organized a program July 6 that featured our film, *From Pedlars to Patriarchs*, about Edmonton's early Jewish history. The program, chaired by Vice-President Gillian Horwitz, also included short presentations by Debby Shoctor and Ken Wasserman about their respective pioneer families. We were delighted to have more than 75 people attend (a record)! Many of them took home

a copy of JAHSENA's latest book, *From Generation to Generation, Jewish Edmontonians as Heritage Builders*. The book is available from the JAHSENA office. We extend a special thank you to Ruth Nolan who greeted guests most warmly!

During the Spring and Summer, several "Who Am I?" sessions were held under the chairmanship of Izzy Gliener. Anyone in the community who has the time is welcome to join these monthly get-togethers to try to identify unknown people in JAHSENA's photo archives. The next one will be held Wednesday, September 13. Please call Colleen at the office if you would like to attend.

A special thank you must go to Vice-President Miriam Rabinovitch who coordinated our recent Casino on May 29th and 30th. Casino funds are JAHSENA's major source of funding, so Miriam's efforts to get volunteers and her management of the event are most appreciated.

JAHSENA's Oral History project is continuing during the summer with Miriam Sheckter and Rivvy Meloff conducting the interviews. There are more than 300 Oral Histories in our collection and we add to them each year.

Thanks also to our Assistant Archivist, Colleen Paull, who manages the Archives most efficiently. The office has recently had several visitors wishing to use our Archives to search for information about people or previous events in our community. Colleen helps them find the relevant files and often adds her knowledge to whatever they are seeking.

And since it is almost the Jewish New Year 5778, we wish all JAHSENA readers Shana Tovah – Happy New Year!

# ירשה HERITAGE

The Journal of the Jewish  
Archives & Historical Society  
of Edmonton and Northern  
Alberta

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# A Summer in 1920s Edmonton

By ZACHARY TANKEL

Though I don't mean to sound egocentric, I'm going to begin by talking about myself. I've lived in Edmonton my entire life, and I have always been involved in the Jewish community. I've been a member of Beth Israel since my *bris* (at the old building, on 119th Street), and I was enrolled at Talmud Torah from preschool through junior high. Yet despite being part of the Edmonton Jewish Community since I was born, only now have I begun to appreciate how vibrant a history our community has.

This summer, I've been working at Fort Edmonton Park, in the section that represents the city during the Roaring Twenties- a decade remembered for jazz music, flapper girls, prohibition, and a booming economy. Specifically, my role has been a shopkeeper in Fort Edmonton's replica of the jewellery store owned by Herman B. Kline, one of the founding fathers of the Edmonton Jewish Community. And thanks to a grant from JAHSENA, I am deeply privileged to have been afforded extra time over the course of the summer, outside of park hours, to do research on the Jewish history of Edmonton.

Needless to say, I've learned a lot over the summer, but I found a few things in particular especially remarkable. One is how there is simply so much to learn about Jewish history in Edmonton. I never considered our community, with a small size of only about five thousand, to



The re-creation of H.B. Kline's store at Fort Edmonton Park.

have the most interesting heritage but, as I began my research, it quickly became apparent just how mistaken I was.

Jews have made critical contributions to the city of Edmonton, in all types of fields, and in a number of different ways. It is well known that Jews, as a whole, have a disproportionately large impact on North American society, and I'm sure a lot of us are already aware of how Jews have played important roles in Edmonton, specifically. (Perhaps this is best highlighted by the fact that we had a Jewish mayor, Stephen Mandel, for nine years.) But even as early as the 1920s, Jews were already making their mark on everything from business, law, and education, to literature and entertainment in Alberta.

For example, although Jews aren't considered to be star athletes, one exception is Moe Lieberman, who began his sports career playing quarterback for the U of A Golden Bears. He was also

one of the founders of the Edmonton Eskimos and was eventually inducted into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame. And though little attention is given to cross-cultural exchanges between Jews and the First Nations of Alberta, the story of Ed Hanson, a Fort McMurray Jew who became close friends with the local Dene people, is a highly fascinating one. Whether in entrepreneurial, professional, academic, or charitable endeavours, Jews have been making significant impacts on Edmonton and northern Alberta for over a century.

While my research into the Jewish community has been deeply interesting, working in the jewellery shop has been a unique and entirely different experience unto itself. The premise of Fort Edmonton is to recreate different time periods of our city's history, which involves the staff role playing characters, and dressing up in costumes appropriate



Zachary dressed to the nines for his role as Louis Kline, oldest son of H.B



Guests can learn how to write their name in Hebrew, and try out a dip pen, with the *Hebrew Letters* program

to the era. So besides becoming educated on the Jewish history of Edmonton this summer, I have also had the chance to feel much classier than ever before; my outfit is formal business attire of the twenties, and includes a waistcoat, braces, a bowtie, a pocket watch, and a fedora. As for my character, I have assumed the role of Louis Kline, H.B.'s oldest son, who worked in his father's shop after returning home from the Great War.

The stories of my character and the shop have allowed me to engage visitors in talking about a number of different historical themes relevant to 1920s Edmonton. To discuss immigration, I share stories of how 'my father' arrived in Montreal in 1881, and I talk about how 'my family' moved to Edmonton around 1904 to discuss the topic of westward migration. More than just jewellery and watches was sold in the shop; in the optical department, customers could get eye exams and glasses, which provides me grounds to talk about the importance of entrepreneurship. World War I, in which Louis Kline served with the Canadian Forces, is another topic I address, and I often tell guests how wristwatches, once exclusive to ladies, started to become popular for men in the trenches of Europe. When guests ask about whether wealthier Edmontonians alone would shop at Kline's, I take the chance to talk about the economic circumstances of the 1920s that enabled the middle class to spend on luxury items, as well. I can even tell visitors about the Spanish Flu epidemic of 1918, during which time H.B.'s wife, Theresa, sold protective masks.

And, of course, perhaps the most important theme in Kline's, for which I was specifically hired, is the Jewish history of Edmonton. With Edmonton's population growing rapidly in the 1920s, there was far more ethnic,

cultural, and religious diversity than ever before. Given that Kline's was a Jewish-owned business, it gives me the opportunity to engage visitors in a number of topics related to Jewry.

I've had conversations about where Canadians Jews immigrated from, why they left their homes, and how they established new communities here. I've talked about how the Jewish community of Edmonton was built, the contributions Jews have made to the city, and some of the challenges Jews faced in Alberta. Some guests have been interested to discuss more general topics about Judaism: Jewish and Israeli history, Jewish philosophy and law, and the current state of Jewry and Israel. An especially common topic of discussion has been the Hebrew language, thanks to *Hebrew Letters*, the most popular program in Kline's.

The *Hebrew Letters* program was developed by Danielle Weisz, another Jewish interpreter at the park a few years back. The program is very straightforward: I briefly explain to guests that with the burgeoning Jewish community, H.B. Kline was among those who helped start the first Hebrew day school in Edmonton, Talmud Torah. I write each participant's name in English on a slip of paper, and then show them how to write it in Hebrew, explaining that Hebrew has its own alphabet, a unique vowel system, and writes from right to left. Guests then have the opportunity to try writing it themselves. At a certain point in the summer I began using old-fashioned dip pens, adding an additional challenge, but also an additional layer of education.

Just about all guests who participate in the program are deeply enthusiastic. People are excited to see their name in a foreign language, and an ancient one, at that. The program provides me the opportunity to talk about

*Continued on page 10*

# Our 110-Year-Old Aunt Florence Goldberg Middleman

BY RON GOLDBERG (RONI8@ROGERS.COM)



The Goldberg siblings. Left to Right: Morris, Bernie, Florence, Bill and Alan.

Florence Goldberg Middleman was born in Daysland, Alberta on August 13, 1906. She was the second child of Max and Mollie Goldberg who settled in Daysland with their infant son Bill (our father) after emigrating from St. Louis, Missouri where they met and married. Florence married Harry Middleman and settled in Calgary. Florence died in Calgary of a heart attack on February 3, 2017 at the age of 110, one of Canada's eldest citizens, and undoubtedly the oldest Jewish female citizen of Daysland, past or present. She is survived by her daughter, Janice. Florence was interred at the Edmonton Hebrew Cemetery on February 5, 2017.

Max and Mollie Goldberg had three more children—Morris, Alan and Bernie—all raised and schooled in Daysland, where Max was a tailor and Mollie was a midwife. Max made uniforms for the Mounties, and Mollie, who spoke several languages, assisted in delivering Daysland's babies and acting as translator for the many citizens who needed medical care and who could not speak English. In this way, Max and Mollie made a very positive contribution to the town of Daysland and the sur-

rounding area. In 1925 the family moved to Edmonton permanently. Bill attended the University of Alberta Faculty of Pharmacy and was the proprietor of La Parisienne Pharmacy on Jasper Avenue in Edmonton until his death in January 1957 at the young age of 52. Morris and Bernie stayed in Edmonton and Alan settled in Vancouver. Bernie also died at a young age, and Morris and Alan died in their early seventies. How Florence lived to such an advanced age, living at home, with full faculties, was a source of wonder to the Goldberg family. No doubt the devoted care provided by her daughter was a major factor in her longevity.

Harry Middleman passed away in Calgary in 1985. Florence worked as a school librarian in Calgary until age 68. She was blessed with a very positive attitude and appreciated people and the beauty of nature. She also had a keen interest in education, child welfare and Jewish affairs. She volunteered with the Red Cross, the Cancer Society, and several Jewish charitable organizations. Florence loved her relatives and was highly respected by all of Max and Mollie Goldberg's descendants. She will be sadly missed.



Florence at her 110th birthday celebration.



Florence's parents, Max and Mollie Goldberg.

## *With Others in Mind:*

# Anna Linetsky

BY DANIEL ERIN

The second of three children, Anna Linetsky was born in 1934 in Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine. Anna remembers that she led a very happy childhood; she and her two brothers—Ari and Mark—had friends in their neighbourhood, and the young children would play together in the backyard. The family lived in a three-room apartment, but it didn't have running water or a washroom. Chuckling, Anna notes that this arrangement was particularly unpleasant during the winter. She has fond childhood memories of daycare and her life in Dnipropetrovsk; however, this all changed when the Second World War broke out.

Anna remembers when the war started; it was an extremely overcast day, and she learned about what was happening from her grandfather, who was crying while hearing about the war on the radio. Six weeks later, the air raids started in Dnipropetrovsk. Anna was the first of her family to wake up during the start of many terrifying nights. The family eventually had to flee their apartment in 1941 and started a six-month journey to Turkmenistan, where Anna started school in 1942 at age seven and a half. Her family did not return to Dnipropetrovsk until October 25, 1945.

Anna's childhood became very dif-

ficult during the war because of scarcity that was exacerbated by anti-Semitism. At school and in the community, Anna was beaten up and often left with a bloody nose; many people treated her poorly in this temporary home-away-from-home. However, Anna humbly notes, she always remained dedicated to her studies and was an A-student. In fact, Anna was one of the few children to receive a dumpling from school as a reward for her good work, and she would often share this dumpling with some of her family members. This simple act of sharing was a special gesture for a young girl, because Anna was displaced by war, subject to discrimination, and suffering from malnutrition. Indeed, she—and many of her fellow community members—did not have enough food to eat and were often sick as a result. Nevertheless, Anna remained steadfast in her commitment to school.

For as long as Anna can remember, she wanted to be a teacher. Two of her four aunts were teachers, so she figures it must run in the family. After returning to Dnipropetrovsk, Anna continued to excel in school; she graduated from grade 12 in 1952 having earned a top educational medal, but she was refused the medal because she was Jewish. This meant that Anna had to pass



Anna as a child.

entrance exams and wait to start her university education a year later than she wanted. Anna met her husband, Eugene, right after she graduated from high school and they were married in 1954. In university, Anna studied Russian and Ukrainian language and literature. It should also be noted that later she earned her Masters degree in Russian literature from the University of Alberta while working full-time.

In November 1955, Anna and Eugene had their first child, Victor, and in September 1962 they had their second child, Elina.

Elina is a medical doctor and researcher at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, Florida; she graduated from the U of A, and she currently does diabetes research. Victor is the owner and President of Arttec Advertising Inc, which has contributed to beautification projects in downtown Edmonton with local artists. Victor also sits on the boards of the Jewish National Fund and Jewish Family Services.

Anna fought prejudicial obstacles



Anna and Eugene, 1952.

during her career as a teacher. Eventually, though, her perseverance was rewarded. In 1964, she started teaching at a smaller school; she emphasizes that the principal who first hired her did not care that she was Jewish—which was rare—and gave her an opportunity to teach. Anna was incredibly successful, and after nine months of teaching was hired at the most prestigious school in Dnipropetrovsk, No. 81. It happens to be that this was the very school from which Anna graduated.

Anna taught at No. 81 for 25 years, and she eventually became the vice-principal—the only Jewish vice-principal in a city of over one million people. But, in 1980, the family left Dnipropetrovsk and moved to Italy for one year while awaiting permission to move to Canada. In Italy, Anna's daughter, Elina, introduced her to a tour guide who hired Anna to give tours around Rome.

Eugene and Anna arrived in Canada on March 10, 1981. They landed in Montreal before settling in Edmonton



Anna with family in Israel, 2015. Left to Right: Grandson Josh, grandson Zuri, Anna and Eugene, grandson David, daughter-in-law Lena and son Victor.



Volunteering in Israel.

permanently. It didn't take long for Anna to find a job; the Geography department at the University of Alberta hired her because she knew her history and geography, and Anna eventually ended up working in Cameron Library. She worked for a total of 19 years at the University of Alberta.

Regardless of where Anna goes in this world, she always has others in mind. Eugene and Anna decided to holiday in Israel so, in October of 1999, the couple went to Israel to volunteer on an army base. They washed

parachutes, prepared meals, cleaned washrooms, and did whatever else they could to make life on the base better for everyone. This wasn't the first time that Anna dedicated her time to help soldiers. During the Second World War, she would help wounded soldiers write letters to their families and memorize poems to recite for them.

Now, in retirement, Anna volunteers at the Winspear Centre while also serving as program Chair at Beth Shalom Synagogue. Volunteering and helping others is indeed in Anna's blood.

# The Humble Humanist: Dr. Victor Amato

BY DANIEL ERIN

Victor Amato's parents, Eleanora and David, were born and lived for many years on the island of Rhodes in the Aegean Sea, off the coast of Turkey. There was a sizeable Jewish community on Rhodes from the time of expulsion of Jews from Spain at the end of the 15th century. The Sephardic community, including the Amato family, spoke Ladino at home, Turkish in the community. Victor's father was born in 1900 and went to an American Jesuit school where English was taught. After the first World War, Rhodes came under Greek rule. David was in Smyrna (later called Izmir), Greece, when it was re-occupied by Turkey, and he witnessed the massacre of Greeks and Armenians. The Turkish leader who became Ataturk decreed that no Jew was to be harmed. One was killed in a case of mistaken identity. Eleanora and David were married in the ancient synagogue in Rhodes, which still exist today, and Victor's sister, Rebecca, was born in Rhodes in 1936. In February 1939, by which time Rhodes was ruled by the Italian Fascist government, Victor's parents decided to leave for Salisbury in Southern Rhodesia where other members of the Rhodes community had emigrated. They remained there until

they followed Rebecca and Victor to Edmonton in 1976. They became naturalized Canadian citizens and are buried in Edmonton.

Victor was born in 1942 in Salisbury, Rhodesia (now Harare, Zimbabwe). He grew up in a home where education was very important. Both he and his sister—Rebecca Shandling (who was a principal at the Talmud Torah school here in Edmonton)—had to bring home excellent report cards every term. Victor remembers that almost nothing else mattered if he and Rebecca didn't do well in school.

In high school, Victor attended an all-boys academy that practiced corporeal punishment. Specifically, Victor and his classmates got 'the cane.' If anyone wore the school uniform incorrectly, he got the cane. If students even wore the wrong colors, they got the cane. Boys under 14 got a maximum of four cuts while boys over 14 got a maximum of six cuts. However, for some transgressions, the offender could write an essay instead of receiving the cane. But, Victor notes, most of his classmates took the cuts, because one didn't want



Vic and Naomi enjoying the Italian countryside.

to look weak, and the cuts were over faster.

To make matters even more unpleasant for Victor, rugby was tremendously important at his high school. Everyone had to play. If you didn't play rugby, you were labeled—like those who wrote the essay instead of taking the cuts. So, Victor played rugby and—as he succinctly put it with a smile—got absolutely massacred. Despite all of the physical aggression and violence, Victor succeeded in high school without becoming bitter in the least.

Victor spent a lot of time around people studying and practicing medicine, which piqued his curiosity, so he decided to study medicine himself. He went to medical school at the University of Cape Town in South Africa. Medical school was often oppressive, so Victor has an understated, self-deprecating sense of pride for having survived and excelled in such draconian educational institutions. Indeed, on a daily basis

Victor and his classmates had to deal with tyrannical instructors and bosses. The key to making it through such experiences he says, is to laugh and develop a sense of humor.

In 1962, Victor's sister, Rebecca, and her husband, Hy Shandling, immigrated to Edmonton. Victor promised to follow them; he arrived in Edmonton in 1967. Upon arriving Victor learned that his medical degree wouldn't be recognized, so he had to work at the University of Alberta Hospital while studying and taking every single exam. It was difficult, Victor recalls, because he had to fit in so much studying while being on call every second night. It was an incredibly demanding scenario, but Victor explains that being young and well prepared educationally helped him succeed in Edmonton. Moreover, he notes that the grueling experience was a blessing in disguise, because he made his way up through the medical system and got to know people who would help him. He was now a known quantity.

Victor received his medical license in 1968, and started practicing as a General Practitioner (GP). He worked as part of a clinic for three years before setting off on his own to run an independent practice. Overall, Victor practiced medicine for 45 years in Edmonton— 42 of them on his own.

While living in Edmonton, Victor met his wife, Naomi (Fialkow). Naomi was born in Edmonton, and studied Nursing at the Jewish General Hospital in Montreal. She has worked as a psychiatric nurse, a public health nurse, a school nurse, and also provided care for pregnant women. The couple has a daughter, Sarah, who earned a PhD in History—specializing in Material Culture—from the University of Toronto. Currently, Sarah works for the Alberta Legislative Assembly.

Now retired, Victor loves to cycle and read. He reads literature, science, and is

particularly fond of history; moreover, he is an avid reader of the news. Victor is truly a polymath and humanist driven by curiosity and humility to learn as much as possible. His historical knowledge is vast, yet he is quick to point out how much more he has to learn. After partaking in a conversation with Victor, it becomes very apparent that he approaches the world with the caution of a physician. Every person and every topic, Victor explains, is different, so you have to learn about them on their own terms. He stresses that it's essential to remain humble and open in the face of the Other— to embrace difference. There's so much that I don't know, he states, and that's important to remember in all factors of life, because this humility helps us learn from one another.

When I asked Victor what his favorite part of practicing medicine was, he paused for a moment to think. Collaboration, he said; I like learning from and with colleagues. He elaborated upon this statement by praising his colleagues in Edmonton: help was always available, and we knew that cooperating would allow us to provide the best treatment possible for the patient.

Victor considers it an absolute privilege to live in Canada: "I apprehend that I have come to God's country. A truly wonderful country to live in." Furthermore, he emphasizes that it was a pleasure to practice medicine in Canada, because the system afforded him professional integrity; it allowed him to provide the best care possible for his patients.

It was wonderful to share an afternoon with Victor. He is indeed a humble humanist with a curiosity and passion for new knowledge, people, and stories. If you should ever see Victor out on his bike, stop and say hello. Share some time with him; he's surely happy to share some with you.



Vic with his parents, David and Eleanora, in the mountains in Rhodesia.



Vic and his bicycle.

## A SUMMER IN 1920s EDMONTON

*Continued from page 4*

the importance of Hebrew in Jewish life (and specifically Jewish life in Edmonton), the significance of Yiddish to Jews immigrating to Canada, and the re-emergence of Hebrew as a spoken language in the early twentieth century, due to the advent of Zionism. In May and June, when lots of school groups visited the park, the students were especially eager to have their names written out in Hebrew.

Unlike many other buildings in the park, there is little in the way of hands-on activities in Kline's. When children visit the shop, I often do brief demonstrations of how eye exams were conducted. Sometimes I simply play my 1920s character while they tell me about iPhones and television, or show me their modern currency (so I always keep several old banknotes in my pocket). I also show kids my wind-up pocket watch, something many of them find fascinating. But the *Hebrew Letters* program is unique in that it allows guests to physically participate in historical interpretation. Most children, and even many adults are unfamiliar with the dip pens, so guests have the chance to try using these historic writing utensils for themselves. Even when large groups of school kids came and there was not time for each student to try writing out their name, I still wrote each name in Hebrew for them, and they were excited to take the slips of paper home.

Along with my research, I've worked to enhance Jewish historical engagement at the park by developing new Jewish programming. There are three programs that I've been working on over the course of the summer, and which I'm hoping can be run regularly starting next year. One program is about Abraham Cristall and William "Boss" Diamond, the two primary leaders in founding the first Jewish institutions



The store's vintage cash register.

in Edmonton. Both men had clothing businesses, and although they were good friends and cooperated to build the Jewish community, they also had a well-known rivalry. My program involves a customer in Kline's engaging Louis in a debate about whether Cristall or Diamond's clothing business is better, but the conversation turns into one about their roles in building the Jewish community. Visitors watching the exchange will learn a little about how the Edmonton Jewish Community came to be, and how Jewish business rivals could live as brothers in their personal lives, a phenomenon not unique to Cristall and Diamond.

Another program I have been developing is more hands-on, and involves guests sitting down and learning to tie *tzitzit*. Needless to say, tying *tzitzit* with visitors will allow me to talk about a number of Jewish topics. The value of *mitzvot* such as *tzitzit* is something that was no doubt clear to the first Jews in Edmonton, given their efforts in building institutions such as the Beth Israel and Talmud Torah as Jews were only beginning to arrive in the city. Like *Hebrew Letters*, the *tzitzit* tying program

will serve as a hands-on activity, and participants will leave with something to take home.

The third program I've worked on highlights a very little-known chapter of Alberta's history. Some of my research over the season has been about fur trading between Jewish and Lebanese merchants and First Nations trappers in northern Alberta during the interwar years. Since Jews and Arabs often faced marginalization in municipal centres (due, in part, to their distinct religious practices), and since they often had entrepreneurial skills and a knack for business, many became itinerant peddlers and traders, buying furs from First Nations to sell to retailers. These traders' innovative and flexible business strategies allowed them to form a formidable competition with the Hudson's Bay Company, which had a monopoly in the Canadian fur trade at the time. In their interactions with the trappers, many of these traders formed close friendships with First Nations, and even learned to speak Dene or Cree.

My program consists of a guest being recruited as a Hudson's Bay Company trader, and competing against a Jewish trader in bidding for furs from a Native trapper. Through the dialogue that ensues, guests will learn about how Jewish and Lebanese traders occupied a special place in the Alberta fur trade, and about cross-cultural exchanges between Jews and First Nations that formed.

While working in the jewellery shop, something that I've found particularly remarkable is how excited so many guests have been to share their own stories about Jews with whom they were friends, or just to discuss Jewish history or culture in general. A number of visitors have told me how they were once customers at H.B. Kline's, although a lot more remember H.B.'s son Irving, who ran his own jewellery shop, and had a controversial street clock outside.

Many visitors have even shown me their wedding rings which they bought from Irving. One lady told me how she used to be a secretary at Beth Shalom, and thereby became good friends with Irving Kline's wife. On another occasion, I was talking with two English ladies about Jews' entrepreneurship in the early twentieth century, and they shared a story about a company started by two Jews in the UK, which grew into a multinational corporation (though I regret that I cannot remember the name of the company). A particularly memorable guest was a student visiting from China, who had a deep interest in Jewish and Israeli history, and was knowledgeable about people such as Eli Cohen, and events such as Operation Entebbe.

Personally, I've come to develop a whole new perspective on our community. For example, while I've regularly exchanged a "good Shabbos" with Mr. Mitch Klimove at Shul, I never would have imagined that he served with the Air Force during World War II. And for every time I've accepted a Hershey's chocolate from Dr. Bernie Adler, I never realized that he was once a member of Sigma Alpha Mu (or that there ever even was a Jewish fraternity at the University of Alberta). The two boys' chapters of Edmonton BBYO are called 'Mandel Bloomfield,' after the Jewish air force pilot from Edmonton killed during the war, and 'Abraham Cristall,' the very first Jew to settle in Edmonton. But despite being involved in BBYO throughout high school, it wasn't until this summer that I learned the significance of either name.

As the summer is coming to a close, I've come to think of the Beth Israel and Talmud Torah as representing more than just a synagogue, school, or community centre. They represent the very first institutions in a Jewish community with an exciting, vibrant history, one in which we all ought to take great pride.

## DONATION CARDS

JAHSENA has donation cards with historic pictures on them available for purchase. Mark your special simchas by sending a donation to JAHSENA. Contact the office for more details at: 780-489-2809. We have received the following donations:

### **MAZEL TOV**

- To Dr. Tony and Allison Russell on being honored at the Beth Shalom Dinner, from Michael and Colleen Paull.
- To Dr. George Goldsand on receiving the American College of Physicians' Laureate Award, from Alvin and Sue Winestock.
- To Howard Davidow on the occasion of his grandson's Bar Mitzvah, from the JAHSENA Board.
- To Phil and Sheila Lister on the occasion of their granddaughter's wedding, from the JAHSENA Board.

### **GET WELL**

- To Ruth Nolan from the JAHSENA Board.
- To Jini Vogel from the JAHSENA Board.
- To Clarice Switzer from the JAHSENA Board.
- To Aaron Oshry from Dr. George and Judy Goldsand.

### **SYMPATHY**

- To Dr. Marvin Weisler and Family on the passing of Donna Weisler, z'l, from Dr. George and Judy Goldsand; Michael and Colleen Paull.
- To Cory Felber on the passing of Shohan Felber, z'l, from Michael and Colleen Paull; the JAHSENA Board.
- To Janna and Lauren Superstein and Family on the passing of Sonny Superstein, z'l, from the JAHSENA Board.
- To Justice Robert and Brandy Graesser on the passing of Gwen Graesser, z'l, from Michael and Colleen Paull; Marshall and Debby Shoctor; the JAHSENA Board.
- To Dr. Joanne Swersky-Kravetsky and Family on the passing of Zena Frankel, z'l, from Michael and Colleen Paull.
- To Molly Shugarman on the loss of her brother Zelick Perler, z'l, from Larry and Marielle Witten; Dr. George and Judy Goldsand.
- To Gillian and Billy Horwitz on the passing of Doris Berelowitz, z'l, from the JAHSENA Board.

## **IN APPRECIATION:**

A special thank you to Sharon Abbott who continues to comb through all local publications and recently brought us a box of clippings, invitations, magazine articles in a box 7" by 15".

Thanks to Michael Paull, who recently donated two file cabinets to our office. They will be put to good use enabling us to make the files in our currently bulging file drawers more accessible.

Thanks again to Jini Vogel and Alex Krimberg who have come into the office on several occasions to help with organizing books and archives.

And a big thank-you to our **May 2017 Casino volunteers**. The Casino is JAHSENA's main source of funding so your help is much appreciated! Thanks again to:

Sharon Abbott, Rebecca Asbell, Bonnie Austin, Marcia Bercov, Freda Braude, Karen Farkas, Cory Felber, Izzy Gliener, George Goldsand, Judy Goldsand, Linda Goody, Michael Hendin, Stephanie Hendin, Gillian Horwitz, Doug Hughes, Donna Jones, Lek Kaewakahab, Marvin Katz, Sam Koplwicz, Gloria Lallouz, Phil Lister, Beryl Nahornik, Phyllis Nurgitz, Michael Paull, Netta Phillet, Deb Poirier, Miriam Rabinovitch, Ron Pierce, Cheryl Shur, Anita Sky, Clarice Switzer, Jini Vogel, Ken Wasserman, Diane Whitehouse, Barb Wiseman, Mel Wyne.

## JAHSENA Recent Acquisitions

*These items have recently found their way into the archives, and are available for research purposes:*

Several family photos from Brandy Graesser.

An article on his Aunt Florence Middleman (see this edition) and family photos from Ron Goldberg (see this edition).

Volumes IV and V of "Jewish Life and Times: A Collection of Essays" by the Jewish Historical Society of Western Canada.

Two "Sweetheart Ball" programs (1963 and 1965) from Lynn Pechet-Bruser.

Family photos and a collection of photos from Chanukah celebrations at Beth Israel Synagogue in 1978 from Ian Lapin.

Historical documents on various organizations from Colette Frolich.

A collection of family photos and certificates from Stephen Kushner.

Three interviews, one of Sergeant Paul Comisarow, RCA and one of Captain Len Fratkin, MD, RCA about WWII experiences, one of Paul Comisarow early life in the Ukraine and Edmonton from Mel Comisarow.

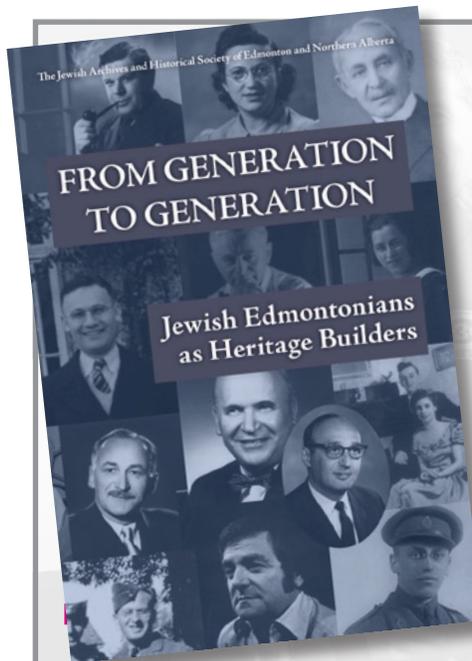
Articles/editorials "The Eichman Case: Press and Public Opinion" from 1960 from Susan Lieberman.

*Save the date*

## JAHSENA's AGM

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Enclosed is my cheque for \$\_\_\_\_\_ Payable to the Jewish Archives and Historical Society of Edmonton and Northern Alberta (JAHSENA).

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