

Social Notes

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Cheryl and David Singer, Marcia and Henry Blumberg are thrilled to announce the birth of their grandson **ETHAN MEIR**, born February 17, 2001 in Toronto to Lisa and Mark. He is welcomed by his great-grandmothers Giela Sheps and Julie Singer (Saskatoon).

Brock Corydon School has spaces available for Hebrew Kindergarten:

1/2 - time Daycare spaces are also available.

Please call the school at 488-4422.

Gwen Sector Creative Living Centre
1588 Main Street

Please join us on Thursday, April 19, 2001 7:30 p.m.

SAM KATZ

Founder of the Winnipeg Goldeyes Baseball Club is our featured speaker

Admission - \$2.00
Refreshments will be served
Transportation is available

339-1701
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- Our mission is to improve the quality of life for stroke survivors and their families and to educate the public in matters pertaining to stroke.

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Canad Inn Polo Park

Honouring: Helen Hayles

Master of Ceremonies: Robb Glazier
with Peter Zajaczkowski
Tickets \$75.00

Our centre is located at:
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People

Lifelong community worker new deputy health minister

Jewish teen recalls 'pilgrimage' to death camps

As Manitoba's newly-appointed deputy Minister of Health, Milton Sussman has jumped into one of the most high-profile government positions there is - and he is looking forward to the challenge.

OUR LITTLE SHETEL



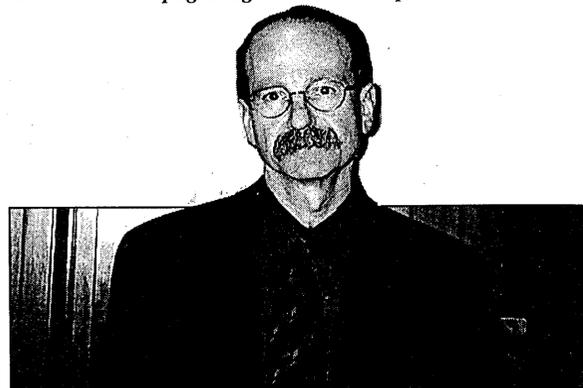
By

MYRON LOVE

"There are a number of critical issues in healthcare that I will be involved in," says the lifelong community worker. "We have to find ways to maintain our current level of quality care and ensure that people receive the care and service that they require. We have limited resources to cope with a growing demand for service."

Sussman says that he is strongly in favor of the regionalization of health care.

A former Talmud Torah and Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate student who finished his schooling at Garden City Collegiate, Sussman has worked for a number of social service organizations, including a stint as executive director of Ten Ten Sinclair Housing, which develops independent housing for people with disabilities. His introduction to the health care field came about a couple of years ago when he was seconded to the Minister of Health, where he was



MILTON SUSSMAN: "We have limited resources to cope with a growing demand for service."

involved in uniting the Winnipeg Regional Hospital Authority (WRHA) and the Winnipeg Community Long Term Care Authority. That resulted in his becoming vice-president for long term care and service to seniors, and chief of Allied Health for the WHRA.

A "pilgrimage" to Poland and the death camps last summer had a powerful impact on young Shoshana Poznansky. Poznansky lives in London, Ontario. Her story was forwarded to *The Jewish Post & News* by her cousin, Mel Manishen. The United Synagogue Youth program included stops at Majdanek, Sobibor, Treblinka and Auschwitz/Birkenau. For their first Shabbat in Poland, the students davened at the Nozyc Synagogue in Warsaw.

"We gathered in a circle in the courtyard, and davened kabbalat Shabbat," she writes. "When we started with Shabbat Zmirot, everyone began dancing in circles and singing. We had so much kavanah and it was so intense. It was such an incredible feeling being able to dance in the middle of Warsaw and be so proud to be Jewish while in the same place, 60 years ago, it was for-

bidden." Poznansky recalls that while the students were dancing, they looked up and saw an elderly lady with tears streaming down her cheeks leaning out of an apartment and blowing kisses.

Poznansky was shocked to see that Majdanek was still standing in its entirety. "I believe that Majdanek's purpose today is to give people like me a better perspective of what happened and the type of people it happened to," she says. "Each of the barracks is now a museum with everyday things in it that really brings it close to home."

Sobibor was destroyed by the Nazis in 1944, when they realized that the end for them was near. They planted a forest as a way to cover up the site. Treblinka was also destroyed. It wasn't found until five years after the war, Poznansky writes. "As we entered the forest, which resembled a national park, we came to this wide open field," she recalls. "As we were walking, all of a sudden everyone stopped. In the distance, we heard Hatikvah. It was incredible to hear such life and a song about hope in such a horrible place."

They continued walking until they came to a huge memorial with about 12,000 little stone memorials around it. Each stone represented a former Jewish community and the total number of stones were the same number of people murdered each day in the camp.

In Krakow, the group visited a synagogue and cemetery and what used to be Schindler's factory. They also danced to the music of a street band playing songs from Fiddler on the Roof.

At Birkenau, they met survivor Leon Sheir, who gave the students a firsthand tour of the camp.

Not only did the USY group see the graveyards of Polish Jewry, they were also shown modern Jewish life in Poland. Back in Warsaw, they met a teacher from the city's only Jewish day school. She invited them to visit the school of 200 children and told them about the children. Some had parents who had to convert during the war while others had only recently learned that their grandparents were Jewish.

"After going through the camps, I felt emotionally drained," Poznansky writes. (Cont. on page 8. See "People".)

Community news/history



By **ESTHER LEVEN**

Looking back

Long-ago news items from a Winnipeg Yiddish weekly

The writer is a volunteer translator of Yiddish for the Jewish Heritage Centre. The following news items have been gleaned from copies of the Winnipeg Yiddish newspaper the *Israelite Press* from the 1930s in the centre's office. They offer glimpses into the Jewish community in Winnipeg and Western Canada of that era. These news briefs reflect attitudes that are different, and some that haven't changed at all.

Oct. 25, 1935 American and Canadian athletes will compete at the forthcoming Olympics in Berlin. The president of the American Athletic Organization, Mr. Mahoney, resigned in protest after it was passed that the U.S. will attend. He is continuing his protest to boycott the Olympics, in the hope that it will discourage some athletes from

competing and some American tourists from attending.

Editorial Comment: This is a victory for Hitler and has saved the Olympic Games for him and added to his prestige. He is sure to take advantage and pump his Nazi propaganda into the crowd.

Nov. 1, 1935 Canada's new Governor General, Lord Tweedsmuir, to be installed Nov. 2. Lord Tweedsmuir was previously John Buchan, noted author of "The Thirty-Nine Steps" and other novels.

Dec. 3, 1935 Jewish Drama Society to put on the successful New York comedy "Mechutanim". The cast made of 16 Winnipeg players including B. Sheps, Fania Cherniack, Yasha Koope and di-

rected by Hymie Roller. Performances at Dominion Theatre Dec. 6 and 7. Tickets 35 cents and 50 cents can be obtained at People's Book Store.

Dec. 10, 1935 Winnipeg wins Canadian Rugby Championship winning against Hamilton 18 - 12. This is the first time the West has won the Championship Crown. The Winnipeg team had several Jewish players. A formal welcome to the champions will be held at the Auditorium with the Premier and the Mayor bringing congratulatory messages.

Dec. 13, 1935 New medical injection called "Ensole" used as cancer cure tested on 476 patients showed favorable results in slowing down the spread of the disease. According to Dr. S. J. Case of the Kingston Board of Health

Dec. 31, 1935 Declaration by Rabbi Kahanovitch that Chicago Kosher Sausage Factory did not pass inspection by the Kehillah's Va'ad Hakashrut and was processing more briskets than were available from the Kehillah's kosher sources. For this reason, he and the other Rabbis of the Kehillah were removing their kashrut endorsement from this factory.

Dec. 31, 1935 Chicago Kosher Sausage Factory now under new supervision of Rabbi Israel Shulman. Short bio and copies of endorsements of Rabbi Shulman, by Rabbi Kook, Chief Rabbi of Jerusalem and Rabbi Yudelovitch, Chief Rabbi of the Orthodox Synagogues of America printed. He will supervise the new shochtim, Mr. Pinchas Levine and Mr. Mayer Wittenberg. Mr. Averbach, president of the Chicago Kosher explains that the Kehillah Kosher butchers were not able to keep up with supply of enough meat to meet the demands of his factory, and he had no choice but to become independent of them.

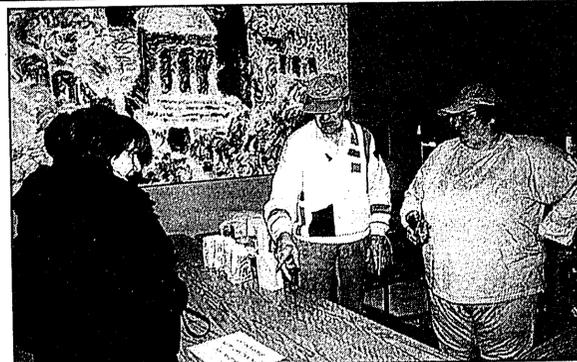
Winnipeg Jewish Film Festival

(Cont. from page 1.)

Rivka, played with unforgettable intensity by Yacl Abecassis, has been married for 10 years to Meir, played by Yoram Hattab. Both are childless, and deeply ashamed of their status in a community that endlessly emphasizes childbearing.

Malka, meanwhile, is betrothed to Yossef (Uri Ran Klausner), a loudmouthed bully, but is secretly in love with Yaacov, a former Orthodox Jew who's become secular.

Under pressure from their rabbi, Meir eventually divorces Rivka, who becomes deeply depressed and speechless. Meital Barda is also wonderful as the more defiant Malka, who's so distraught by what happens to her sister that she turns her back on her new husband and on the community she's grown up in.



Volunteers sell popcorn on opening night.

Noshing on pastry at an opening night reception, some moviegoers enthusiastically praised the Jewish Film Festival after seeing Solomon and Gaenor.

Itz Jacob said he goes to a lot of film festivals, and often decides whether to keep coming, after seeing the first entry. "This was quite good," he said of Solomon and Gaenor. "It's like real life," Jacob commented about the film's sad ending. "Things don't always

happen the way you'd like them to."

As for the rest of the festival, he added: "Sure, I'll come to more."

Evelyn Pearlman thought Solomon and Gaenor was "fantastic". "I was very interested in seeing it, because I heard it got good reviews."

Doris Bass came "to support Kayla (Gordon). I'm supportive of the idea of the festival," she said, adding that she would "definitely" come to

see at least one more film.

Some moviegoers were less impressed with Kadosh. One patron in his 90s found it "too slowmoving."

As for Gordon, she said the organizing committee will "evaluate" the festival, and decide whether to offer it "annually", or "every second year".

Meanwhile, "I'll be going back to the drawing board, and watch more films."

Get in-depth news from Winnipeg's Jewish community, Israel & rest of the Jewish world

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