

KOL ECHAD

Forestdale Heights Lodge #2667

December 2006

Kislev/Tevet 5767

Lodge Meeting

Monday, December 11
Dinner 6:30
With meeting to follow
Starting time 7:15 p.m.
15 Hove



Please RSVP to Albert by December 4
(416) 494-2636 or e-mail salonpiaff@rogers.com

They're at the Post!

Join members of FHL as we head to Woodbine Racetrack

NIGHT AT THE RACES

Saturday, January 20, 2007

Cost: \$42/person includes

Club house admission & dinner buffet

Kosher meals available upon request

Please RSVP to Michael Kates at

(905) 669-2408 or e-mail katesfamily@sympatico.ca

KOL ECHAD



Kol Echad is the award winning official publication of Forestdale Heights Lodge. It is published 10 times a year. We welcome any and all articles or letters from members of the lodge and their families. All material submitted is subject to editing. The editor may consult with members of the bulletin committee regarding content suitability and editorial decisions.

All opinions expressed in Kol Echad are those of the individual writer and do not reflect the views of either Forestdale Heights Lodge or B'nai Brith Canada.

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Website:
http://ca.geocities.com/k_echad



What's New

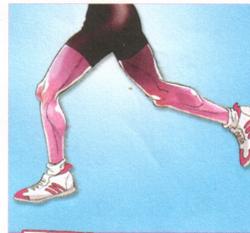
Sunday, December 10 Chanukah Basket Program
Monday, December 11 Lodge Meeting
Monday, January 8 Lodge Meeting
Saturday, January 20 Lodge Race Night
Monday, February 12 Nomination Meeting

Kol Echad Deadlines

January Issue December 10, 2006
February Issue January 10, 2007
March Issue February 10, 2007

When Your FEET Hurt Nothing Else Matters!

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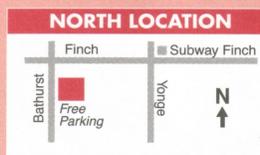
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Editor's Desk

It's time to dispose of your automobile by any means possible and take a wrecking ball to the much-hated Gardiner Expressway.



At least that's the thinking of the anti-car, pro-transit lobby. Most of them never met a car or highway they didn't hate.

Then there is the other side, which views buses and streetcars as impediments to the smooth flow of traffic. They believe that all you have to do is take these vehicles off the road and they would get to their desired destination 2.5 seconds earlier. To both sides I say a pox on both your houses.

For years, the "experts" have been telling us how our towns and cities will continue to grow. Of course, with this growth will come an increase in traffic. I am sure everyone has noticed how rush hour seems to start earlier in the morning and runs later into the evening. So what's the solution?

If you listen to the pro-transit advocates, the only solution is for motorists to abandon their cars and use public transit. In theory, they are correct. Wouldn't it be nice to hop on a bus near your home, and get off in front of your place of business?

Unfortunately, that is not going to happen in the near future. Instead, our political leaders spend years debating how and where to expand the transit system. In the meantime, traffic problems just multiply. By the time they devise a solution, their cure is at least a decade out of date.

Probably the biggest obstacle to relying exclusively on public transit lies in its

reliability. No sooner have you decided to junk your motor vehicle and become a public transit advocate then you hear those dreaded words...labour dispute.

If our political leaders are serious about the public using the buses, subways and streetcars on a regular basis, the entire system must be declared an essential service.

You cannot have a mass exodus to public transit only for the public to be held hostage to the demands of some union.

At the same time, there is absolutely no reason to start tearing down essential arteries like the Gardiner. While public transit is essential, a balance must be found between it and private means of transportation. There is no way public transit will ever be able to serve the needs of every citizen in our greater metropolitan area. We need the roadways, highways and expressways to allow the free flow of transit in and out of the city as well as to move between destinations at one's own pace and convenience.

Besides, those who say the Gardiner restricts the view of Lake Ontario clearly have not been downtown for quite a while. In the past decade a wall of condominiums has sprung up, thus ensuring that one's pristine view of our lake will be obstructed for quite a while.

Yes, we have troubles in transit city, plenty of possible solutions and little short-term action. It doesn't get any better than this.

Shalom

Jeff Rosen

Good & Welfare

December Birthdays

Richard Sacks – December 13

Marla Matlow – December 14

Allan Brown – December 24



Mazel Tov to Harvey & Debbi Silver who have been blessed with a new granddaughter, Jaime, born 12:35 a.m. October 16 at Mount Sinai weighing in at 6 lbs. 3 oz. Mother, father, sister Zoe and baby are all doing well.

If you have something special happening in your life that you would like listed in Good & Welfare, send it to jelijo@sympatico.ca. We will make every effort to include it. Birthdays of members only will be listed in this space.



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President's Pen



Each November, poppies bloom on the lapels and collars of over half of Canada's population. Since 1921, the poppy has stood as a symbol of remembrance, our visual pledge to remember those who have fallen in wars and military operations.

This year, I had the opportunity to volunteer for the poppy campaign. I know how important the two week poppy campaign is to my Uncle Sam Romberg and the other members of the General Wingate branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, considering it is the only Jewish branch in the Greater Toronto area. Uncle Sammy wasn't well enough this year to put on his military uniform and metals and strap on that familiar box with poppies. Therefore, I volunteered to help.

He sent me off to a supermarket with a ribbon proclaiming me a volunteer with my box of poppies. What happened over the next few hours was truly something special.

I found that the older or more "seasoned" members of society not only purchased a poppy, but many chose to share stories with me about war, their family and those whom they lost during that time. One woman told me that exactly 62 years ago that very day, her fiancée had died and how much she cherished the 23 letters he sent to her while he served overseas. As she spoke of those many years back, I saw a tear in her eye. She said she never found another man to love as she loved that soldier, and remained single the rest of her life.

A man came up to me, and remarked that I looked far too young to be a war veteran. I told him I wasn't but just volunteering. He shared with me the story of how he lost his father and two brothers in France and then I saw the same far-away look in his eyes thinking back to that time.

I spent most of that time running into people who wanted to share their stories, thoughts and memories with me. There were younger people who bought poppies but not one of them had a story to share. I ran into grandmothers with their grandchildren and they seemed saddened and remarked how they knew these little people didn't understand what the poppy stood for.

I learned from one gentleman, a war veteran, that more than 3,000 Canadian soldiers, sailors and Air Force personnel are presently deployed overseas on operational missions. He told me that on any given day, about 8,000 Canadian Forces members, or one third of our deployable force are preparing for, engaged in or returning from an overseas mission. I checked out that fact, and he was right. We must remember the Canadians who are presently serving and have paid the ultimate sacrifice in the service of our country.

As Chanukah nears, we remember the victory of the Maccabees and the rededication of the Temple. May your home grow brighter, your hearts grow warmer, and your faith grow stronger with each Chanukah candle light.

Bonnie Kates



Contact: VITO



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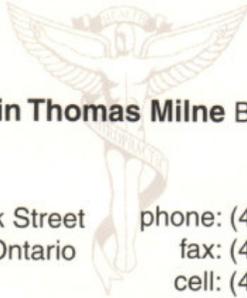
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Sandy's Scripts



**Barbra Streisand
Air Canada Centre
October 17, 2006**

When the tickets first went on sale, it was impossible to even try to go on-line to secure a ticket! It was a Monday morning; I was at work and in a meeting – so forget it. There was no opportunity to go on line. When I did, the treasured tickets were all sold out.

I resigned myself to the fact that I would not be witnessing a once-in-a-lifetime event. A few weeks went by and we had heard that she would be doing another concert in Toronto on the Friday night the 20th. No good for me so here I was left with another disappointment.

To my surprise, a week or so later one of my colleagues announced she was checking Ticketmaster and saw there were blocks of tickets for sale for the performance on October 17th.

Yippee!

I got on line, ordered two tickets and told my sister that we were going to the ACC to see Barbra Streisand. She absolutely did not believe me; she thought it was a hoax!

The week leading up to the concert, the anticipation was all encompassing. October 17th arrived and by this time, we were so excited that nothing was going to burst our balloon.

We had tickets in the nosebleed section, but that didn't matter. Binoculars would come in handy.

It felt like we were boarding an airplane as security personnel were at the doors of the ACC. We walked through the metal detector and were checked for anything out of the ordinary in our personal belongings. With that done, we proceeded to find our seats.

The stage was presented in an elegant simplistic white and black motif befitting the eloquent Barbra Streisand. A full orchestra graced each side of a runway while the outer sides of the stage were in place for the artist to be able to play to her audience, which she did with great sensitivity and feeling. When she spoke to the audience you felt she was talking to you.

Barbra sang about 25-27 songs. They were her repertoire we were used to and wanted to hear, the songs we came especially to hear her sing. Her quality of



voice was, and is even more beautiful than ever. At 64 years of age, she is sensational and put on a show that only she can.

Standing ovations were the call of the evening and after one of them she belted out "Don't Rain on My Parade". Nobody ever will – it was a magical night.

Until the next time.

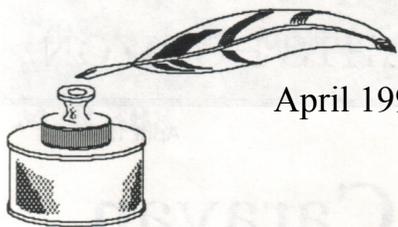
Sandy Gordon

1967

FHL @ 40 2007

In June 1967, B'nai Brith Lodge #2667 was granted its charter to begin operating as **Forestdale Heights Lodge**.

In June 2007, **Forestdale Heights Lodge** will celebrate its 40th anniversary. To mark the occasion, Kol Echad will take a look at lodge life during the past 40 years, exploring two years every month.



April 1992

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

Dear Lodge Brothers,

This is my first official letter to you as your President, so please give the rookie a chance to get the hang of this. To commence with, on Sunday, April 5, 1992, Forestdale Heights celebrated our 25th SILVER JUBILEE and installation of the new executive. The installation was a tremendous success! There were 123 members and their families (including 18 Past Presidents). We all took a stroll down memory lane, viewing posters filled with old pictures. I know that those who were there had a fantastic time.

The success of the installation is due to the devoted work, organization and personal contact by the Chairmen. I would one again like to thank Stan Horowitz and Nate Salter for a job perfectly executed. Sincere appreciation is also given to Alan Goldberg and his committee; Harvey Silver, John Freeman, Jeff Rosen #2 and Jack Britstone, for putting together the special 25th Horizon edition.

I am excited about this year, starting off with installing five new lodge members. Forestdale Heights welcomes Alan Kauffman, Chuck Rothman, Steve Eisenbaum, Gary Budd and Irv Pupko. I hope they will come out and be involved and maybe one day, they will be writing this letter as our President.

The new executive has many exciting ideas on the drawing board. Our chairmen of C.V.S. , social, programming and fundraising have already started plans for future functions. With the support of all lodge members and their families, these programs will always be successful!

My wife Honey, my three princesses, Danielle, Rebecca, Sherri and myself wish you all a "HAPPY, HEALTHY PASSOVER!" and many more years working together.

Albert Ohana, President
Forestdale Heights Lodge



1991:

President Jack Britstone

Timeline

May 30: Membership Stag

June 15: FHL operates Caravan's Jerusalem Pavilion

August 18: Lodge Picnic at White Water Kingdom Waterpark

Labour Day Weekend: FHL operates its annual Muscular Dystrophy Monte Carlo

October 13: A Day at the Races

November 1: Lodge heads south to see Buffalo Bills play New England

November 2: Lodge Party with a 50s Theme

December 8 – Lodge Chanukah Party at Cheltenham Nursing Home

1992 President Albert Ohana

Around the Lodge

Lodge Brother Mark Elbaum received the Charles Goldlust Sportsman of the Year Award from the B'nai Brith Baseball League

Lodge Brother Michael Kates appointed co-chair of 1992 Caravan Pavilion. Lodge is put in charge of food for that year's pavilion. Later that year, Michael receives CVS award from B'nai Brith Canada at that year's convention



Timeline

February 22: Lodge trip to Lulu's in Kitchener

March 2: Albert Ohana elected president of FHL at annual election meeting

April 5: FHL Silver Jubilee Dinner, Magen David Synagogue

May 3: Theatre Night at Herongate Barn Theatre

May 21: Membership Stag

May 31: BBC convention at Concord Resort. FHL acts as host lodge for this year's convention. Lodge Brother Gabe Nachman installed as national president.

August 23: Lodge Picnic, Earl Bales Park

Labour Day Weekend: FHL operates Monte Carlo for Jerry Lewis Telethon

September 20: Breakfast Meeting with Canyon Lodge with guest speaker Paul Marcus, national director, Institute for International Affairs, BBC

October 26: Guest Speaker Dr. Kenny Wineberg, Taking Care of Your Feet at monthly lodge meeting

November 22: Breakfast Meeting with sports celebrities (with Leonard Mazel lodge) including Sammy Luftspring, ex-boxer, and Randy Starkman, sports author

December 20: Lodge Chanukah Party

Random Musings



Guilt. It's the source of many a good Jewish joke. In fact, it could be our cultural anthem.

What if, however, we never felt guilt; never knew or understood that feeling at all? Would that

make us happier?

Recently, I've been delving into research on the subject of sociopaths. Sociopaths have no conscience. Precisely for this reason, they are able to cause trouble for others. They never feel guilty. The cause of this phenomenon is not yet fully understood.

To those of us who know all too well the anxiety associated with guilt, and our need to do the right thing for peace of mind, the hedonistic life of a sociopath might seem tempting. However, according to Martha Stout, Ph.D. in *The Sociopath Next Door*, sociopaths are often painfully bored, and tend to self-destruct.

Because they experience no anxiety or fear from the usual triggers, they may seek out high risk activities to experience a thrill. Aside from anger, they seem unable to have deep feelings of emotion toward, or connection with, other people. They may mask their lack of feelings and mimic emotions, but they cannot truly experience either with depth. According to experts such as Stout, they tend to feel empty. True, we

may envy their risky behaviours, but these activities may cause some to die prematurely.

Although many of us tend to dwell on negative experiences, fretting with worry or guilt, we are also capable of experiencing joy in everyday life. We have a richness of emotion. For this reason, I suggest that perhaps we should embrace this infamous cultural trait of guilt, and view it as a gift rather than a burden.

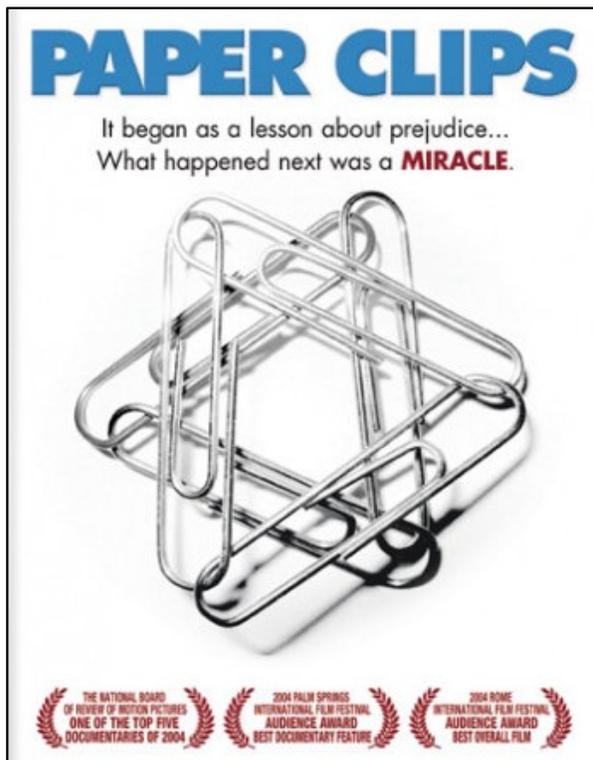
Elizabeth Bloom

Reserve the Date
Sunday May 27, 2007
FHL will hold its 40th
Anniversary Installation.
Details to follow
next month.

A Night to Remember: A Ride to Remember

On the evening of October 16 the members of Forestdale Heights Lodge saw two videotape presentations that left them with tears in their eyes, and pride in their hearts.

Andy Reti told them the amazing story of the children of a middle school in Whitwell, Tennessee, who commemorated the Holocaust in a most unusual way. Led by their principal, Linda Hooper, they assembled eleven million paperclips donated by people



from all over the world, including two American presidents. The paperclip was chosen as a symbol, because it was worn in solidarity with Jews by the people of Norway during the Second World War. The number, eleven million represents the six million Jews murdered during the Holocaust, together with Jehovah's Witnesses, Gypsies, and homosexuals, who suffered the same fate.

The students put the paperclips on display in a German train car dating from the time of the Holocaust. The entire project is a museum, highlighted by images of butterflies representing freedom, as a counterpoint to the savagery of the Holocaust.

Reti presented a videotape entitled *Paperclips* which told this touching story. He also showed a video describing the ride by Jewish motorcyclists to visit this Whitwell

museum. The Jewish bikers raised \$80,000 (U.S.) to finance computer teaching aids for the Whitwell students. What an astonishing sight! Jewish bikers adorned with Stars of David and leather vests, weeping in solidarity with Protestant children raised in the American south. This truly was a night to remember and a ride to remember!

Forestdale Funnies

Top Chanukah Holiday movie rentals.

9. The Rocky Hora Picture Show
8. Yenta in a Blue Dress
7. Rabbi Scissorhands
6. Seven - but for you, 6.50
5. Matzo Impossible
4. Mensch and Menschability
3. The Mirror Has Two Faces - but for you, 1-3/4
2. The Hunchback of Temple Beth Israel
and, for the second year in a row, number
1. Prelude to a Briss



Top Reasons to Like Chanukah.

10. No roof damage from reindeer.
9. Never a silent night when you're among Jewish loved ones.
8. If someone screws up on their gift, there are seven more days to correct it.
7. Betting Chanukah gelt (the chocolate coins) on candle races.
6. You can use your fireplace.
5. Spin-the-dreidel games.
4. Fun waxy build-up on the menorah.
3. No awkward explanations of virgin birth.
2. Cheer optional.
1. No Irving Berlin songs.

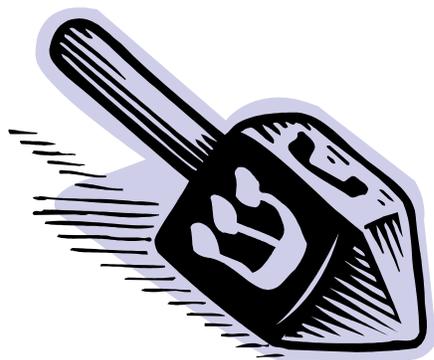
Chanukah Basket Delivery

DRIVERS & VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.



Sunday, December 10
at 8:30 a.m.

Please contact Faith at
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(416) 633-6224 EXT. 109.



FHL Membership

*FHL would like to welcome
the latest people to join our lodge family.*

Morty & Dolores Green

Marla & Avery Matlow

Shalome & Liz Matlow



CVS

If you would like to help show the lodge's appreciation to our hard working emergency support services by delivering a holiday gift basket to a fire hall, police station or ambulance centre and have not yet signed up, please let Sandy Gordon know. Baskets will be given to members at the next meeting. Members can then deliver them any time before and including December 25.

Sandy can be reached at (416) 631-8261 or sygordon@sympatico.ca

CARL S. ZELIGER, B.A., LL.B.

BARRISTER, SOICITOR AND NOTARY

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Israel in Brief



System of Government

Israel is a parliamentary democracy with legislative, executive and judicial branches. The head of the state is the president, whose duties are mostly ceremonial and formal; the office symbolizes the unity and sovereignty of the state. The Knesset, Israel's legislative authority, is a 120-member parliament which operates in plenary session and through 14 standing committees. Its members are elected every four years in universal nationwide elections. The Government (cabinet of ministers) is charged with administering internal and foreign affairs. It is headed by a prime minister and is collectively responsible to the Knesset.

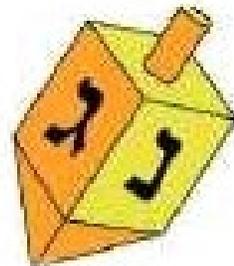


Entertainment 2007

Makes a great Chanukah gift



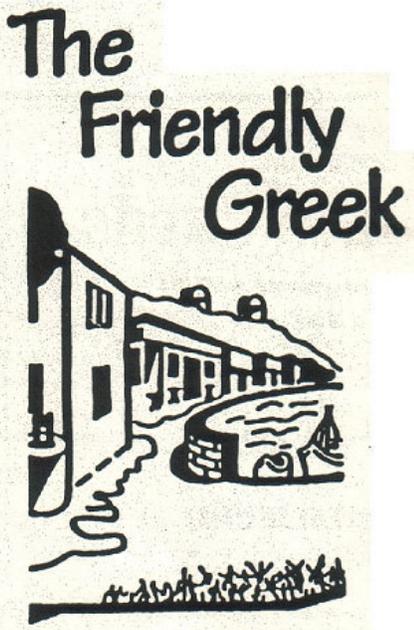
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Forestdale Funnies

The school bell rang and the children ran down to the lunchroom. The Jewish day school was having a special lunch which included treats that parents had brought in as a fundraiser for the school. At the beginning of the lunch line there was a basket full of apples. Next to the apples, a teacher had placed a little card that read, "Take only one, Hashem is watching."

Later on in the line there was a big plate of cookies that was already half empty. There was a small piece of paper laid up against the plate with a note written in a child's sloppy handwriting that read, "TAKE AS MANY AS YOU WANT, HASHEM IS WATCHING THE APPLES."



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Greek**

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