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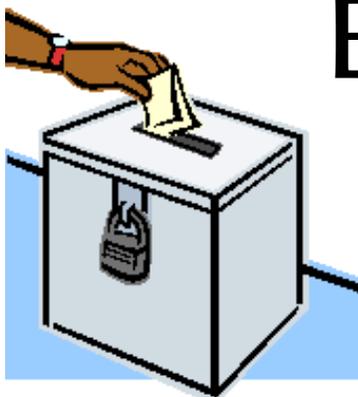
# KOL ECHAD

קול אחד

פורסטדייל  
הייטס  
לודג'י

March 2008

Adar I/Adar II 5768



## Election Meeting

Please join us on **March 17**  
for our Election Meeting

Dinner 6:30 p.m.  
Meeting 7:15 p.m.

Please RSVP to Albert Ohana  
at [salonpiaff@rogers.com](mailto:salonpiaff@rogers.com)  
or call 416-494-2636



## FHL Executive Positions

The following individuals have been slated to serve on the lodge's executive for 2008-2009. Elections for all positions will be ratified at our meeting on March 17.

**President: Irv Pupko**

**Senior Vice-President: Ray Moscoe**

**Vice-Presidents: Ivan Bloom, Harvey Silver, Carl Zelig**

**Treasurer: Stan Horowitz**

**Financial Secretary: Lisa Rosen**

**Recording Secretary: Ruth Pupko**

**Trustees: Elizabeth Bloom, Harold Cohen, Noreen Cohen, Barry Gordon,  
Sandy Gordon, Morris Shapransky**

# 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.

**Editor:** Jeff Rosen

**Advertising:** Harvey Silver

**Editing Staff:** Bonnie Kates  
Lisa Rosen

**Contributors:**  
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Sandy Gordon  
Bonnie Kates  
Nate Salter

**Website:**  
<http://www.kolechad.ca/>

## At A Glance

Sunday, March 16	BBC Purim Basket Delivery
Monday, March 17	Election Meeting
Monday, April 14	Dinner Meeting
Monday, May 26	Dinner Meeting

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### Kol Echad Deadlines

April Issue	March 15
May Issue	April 15
June Issue	May 15

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# President's Pen



I came to teaching late in life. I was a public health nurse for 33 years before I chose to retire and begin a new career. After I started teaching, I came to realize that there is a

delicate balance between exerting authority over one's students and forging friendships with them.

My classroom and students vary each semester, so I usually take a moment to think about the students I have taught, and the range of personalities. Some present themselves as quiet and shy and others are openly funny, intelligent, lacking in confidence and all of them are struggling to survive. They all present a challenge for me.

Most of my students are immigrants who have been in the country less than two years. Many of them are doctors, professors, and lawyers from back home. So many of them have three-times the education that I have, and now they are reduced to sitting in my classroom trying to learn and absorb the curriculum that I teach. I marvel how they handle the immigrant experience and how they try to integrate into the Canadian mosaic. I see how they struggle to learn a new language, and try to become Canadian. I often wonder where the inner strength comes from that they need to forge ahead each

and every day. I wonder how they deal with raising children caught between the culture of their birth and that of their adopted country.

Teaching adults means dealing with extensive, adult problems, and it's always difficult to separate the emotional baggage that many of them carry from back home, from the person who they present to me, in the classroom. I have listened firsthand, to the accounts of abuse by their government. I have listened too often, of the story of the terminally ill parent who is still back home, and how my student can't afford to return home, nor do they have the money to purchase the much needed medical treatment that just might save their parent's life.

Some are even fearful of punishment by their government, should they choose to return to their homeland. One of my students told me about the political riots that resulted in the death of most of her family by the local police and how the government forbade them to have a proper burial for their family members. They were forced to watch, as the state dumped their bodies into the ocean. One told me, how she had to endure the humiliation of watching the torture over and over again, of her father, uncle and brother on the state run TV channel. These are just some of the reason so many left their country of birth, gave up their careers, to move to Canada

**Continued on next page**

with hope of providing a better life for their families.

I suppose I thought choosing to teach at the college level, meant strictly a focus on teaching. Boy, did I have that wrong. Most of us cannot help carrying our personal sorrows into all parts of our lives. We are, after all, human. Of course, each class also has its own collective personality, and most often when the course draws to a close, I feel as though I am just getting to know each student who is a part of that collectiveness. I have learned much from my students and I am grateful that I

have been given the opportunity to know them.

As *Purim* approaches and we read the *Megillah* of Esther, we are reminded how it teaches us that life challenges us and usually works out for the best, because what appears as obstacles are really opportunities to develop ourselves for the better. What a privilege it has been for me, to be a part of their lives and to experience their friendships. What I didn't expect was to be reminded nearly daily how lucky I am to be born right here in Canada.

*Chag Purim,*

*Bonnie Kates*



**Members of Forestdale Heights Lodge pose with members of Don Mills, Leonard Mayzel and Upper Canada at our annual social program at Woodbine Racetrack.**



# Purim 5768

On **Thursday, March 20**, at 8:15 p.m.,  
Forestdale Heights will be hosting its annual *Megillah* reading  
at 4300 Bathurst Street.

If you are coming, please RSVP  
to Carl Zeliger at 905-669-2732  
or email [czeliger@wisebrodzeliger.ca](mailto:czeliger@wisebrodzeliger.ca)

Also, remember, Sunday, March 16 is BBC's  
**PURIM PARCEL DELIVERY**

leaving 15 Hove at 8:30 a.m. If volunteers cannot come on Sunday  
and want to pick up the baskets and routes on the Friday before,  
please contact Faith Goldberg and she will look after all the arrangements.

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# Editor's Desk

New York may flaunt itself as the city that never sleeps, but if you want to experience the real thing, you have to head west to Las Vegas, or as many of the locals refer to it, "Lost Wages".

My family recently returned from such a getaway, where we spent four nights at New York New York. Like the famed city, this hotel sports a variety of streetscapes intended to capture city life from the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

As this was our first visit in 11 years, we were surprised by all the changes that have taken place. Well-known resorts such as the Sands and Stardust have given way to the Venetian and the Echelon (completion date 2010).

This is clearly a city on the move. If we were to return next year I am certain that I would once again see changes along the famed Las Vegas Strip as developers contemplate the destruction of the Excalibur and Circus Circus.

Another major difference this time out, was that our teenaged daughter Jordana joined us on her first visit. I know what some of you are thinking. What is a 16-year-old girl to do in Vegas?

The answer of course was to shop and spend whatever free time we gave her in the hotel's arcade.



She had a great time, but still does not understand why her parents are such Beatles fans. This revelation came after we headed to the Sahara hotel to see Fab Four Mania, a tribute to one of the greatest musical groups in history. What was particularly funny was when the host,

an Ed Sullivan impersonator said he expected to see a large group of screaming teens in the audience. What he got instead was "old people and their parents." Of course he was talking about one and the same, as most of the Beatles fans have gotten a bit older.

As enjoyable as the trip was, I can not understand why they can not make air travel equally enjoyable.

Leaving Toronto, checking in with the airlines and proceeding through U.S. customs was a breeze. After that you say goodbye to your luggage (hopefully not for the last time) and go through the security screening. Take off your jacket and shoes, they tell you, all the while holding on to your boarding card and passport. One unfortunate gentleman was even asked to remove his belt. Fortunately for him, his trousers remained upright.

**Continued on next page**

I can imagine the day will come when passengers will be asked to completely disrobe, all in the name of making for a safer and more enjoyable flight.

Once you are through security you can relax and take a breather before you have to line up to board the plane, again showing your boarding pass and passport.

Then the fun part begins, squeezing into a seat custom made for Dorothy's little friends in the Wizard of Oz.

For all your troubles, what do you get, you ask? A small bag of Bites & Bites and a soft drink or coffee/tea. Of course there is alcohol and other food items available, but you have to pay for them, just like the headsets and premium movies that at one time were offered at no charge.

I guess this is the price of progress.

Coming back to Toronto was just as much fun. The check-in was a breeze but the security screening was just as annoying as usual. Where the real fun part came in was once we disembarked (or deplaned as they like to call it).

Canadians have peculiar ideas as to how to make life more comfortable for air travelers. Once you leave the plane you are forced to go on a good 10 minute trek to Canada Customs which includes walking up one escalator and down another.

Then comes the choice. Which line to go in? Which one will be faster and if I change lines a couple of times will it look suspicious to government agents? They ask



where you have been, your citizenship and purpose of your trip among other things. I am no brain surgeon but if I had ulterior motives I hardly think I would be disclosing them to customs officials.

My daughter's grave mistake was stepping over the red line before she had been given the go ahead to do so.

She will definitely have to be watched in the future for suspicious activities.

Once you get through you think that it's over.

Think again, because once you are reunited with your baggage, you have to go through another line, again still holding your customs declaration, as well as your suitcases.

By this time, all you want to do is scream, but of course such behaviour would probably result in a fine or imprisonment or require you to stand in yet another line.

You make it through the final ordeal and, finally, you are free to leave the airport.

Would I go through the experience again to enjoy a few days out of this city? Definitely! However there has to be an easier method of travel.

I'm just waiting for the day I can open my phone and say those immortal words, "Scotty three to beam up!"

*Shalom.*

*Jeff Rosen*

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41<sup>st</sup> Installation

Saturday, May 25

Beth Radom Synagogue

The theme of this year's gala will be

Israel's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

*Further details to follow*

# Sandy's Scripts



Remember the saying “all that glitters is not gold?” One fine morning about two weeks ago, I looked outside and saw the snow glistening in the

sunlight. It was time to go to work. You see I don't walk to work, this particular day I decided to fly.

From the top step of my front stairs I caught my foot on some ice and took off. It certainly was not my flight plan or vehicle of choice because I knew the landing was going to be a rough one. The runway was not cleared and I could not see the ice for the snow.

I found myself on the tarmac flat on my back after landing on the edge of a cement stair. That's where I realized I could not get up by myself.

My neighbour across the street saw the whole thing – and asked if she could help. She strolled over to my aide and low and behold I said “I didn't know you were pregnant

again” – “what a time to find out such news” I said, “How are you going to be able to help me get up?” She said “I will try as best I can” – she was due the next week! Come to think of it I have been so wrapped up (literally) in my pain and suffering, I forgot to inquire what new little resident we have on our street now.



With her help I managed to inch up the stairs in a sitting position and eventually go into the house. Called work and yes I got the day off! Wrong!

I spent seven hours at the hospital.

The moral of this story is to be very careful what carrier you choose to fly with and that the landing gears will set you down safe and sound.

Until the next time.

*Sandy Gordon*



# Good & Welfare

## Birthdays

Michael Pacter	March 9
Marc Pollock	March 12
David Gorender	March 21
Ray Moscoe	March 22

## Anniversary

Marla & Avery Matlow	March 26
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*If you have something special happening in your life that you would like listed in Good & Welfare, send it to [jelijo@sympatico.ca](mailto:jelijo@sympatico.ca). We will make every effort to include it. Birthdays of members only will be listed in this space.*



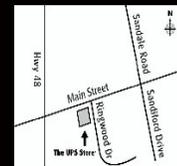
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# Night at the Races

On Saturday February 2, Forestdale Heights Lodge once again hosted our annual evening at Woodbine Race Track. We were joined by members of Don Mills, Leonard Mayzel and Upper Canada Lodge for an exciting evening watching the horses.

The camaraderie shared by all the lodges was truly something special and it reminded us, what the real meaning and spirit, of being part of the B'nai Brith covenant. Sharing the evening with those from other lodges, made the evening so much more fun for all us.

Those who had made a request for *kashruth* were easily accommodated by the staff of Woodbine. Some of us made a few bucks and other left a "donation" to the Ontario Gaming Commission.

Some played the horses and others the slot machines, but we all had the best time and plans are already in the making to do it again next year and sharing the fun with other lodges.

Below, is the Forestdale Heights contingent.



# Notes from Nate



*News and Views of Forestdale Heights Lodge from a Past President still alive and kvetching in Thornhill.*

You know that sometimes life can be a very funny thing. Here I was having lunch with my youngest daughter and her son, my wonderful little Benji and I got to thinking what a fantastic treat is it to have a grandchild right here in Toronto.

While I love my Justin and Owen with all my heart, they live 500 miles away in Montreal, so other than phone calls, e-mails and long journeys, we have not had the luxury of being there on a regular basis as they have started to grow up. Benji on the other hand, lives close enough, at Bathurst just south of Wilson that a *Boobie* and *Zaidy* can go get their “Benji Fix” just about whenever we want to.

When I started writing this column, I got to talking to our intrepid editor Jeff Rosen about where the kids live, which was just a few blocks south of Charleswood Drive, where I lived with my parents from 1955 to 1968, when I got married. Here is where the old *déjà vu* slapped me right between the eyes. The nice little old Jewish lady, who lived next door to us at 11 Charleswood (we lived at 15 Charleswood) and who rented me her garage for my race car and I talked to almost daily turns out to be our editor’s

*Boobie*. Back then, Jeff was just a kid, but I knew his late uncle Harry, as well as his father Jerry, who often visited their mother. Still, I had no idea who the noisy little kids were. If you think that one is a weird situation, while I was sitting in the restaurant with Debbie and Benji, who do I run into but a gentleman who was married to my first cousin prior to her death at 32 back in the early 60’s, and whom I hadn’t seen in over 40 years.

What a strange and marvelous feeling being able to introduce your grown up daughter to a person, who is still a quasi-relative out of your past whom she would otherwise never have known about, let alone met. Now when we haul out the old black and white pictures, she will get the opportunity to put a person to the face of a young Geoff Osteroff and his new bride Barbara some 60 years ago.

Similarly, our Jeff just emailed some family photos of his *Boobie* and now I can remember her so well. Funny thing is that she had a tenant living in her basement back then who I was very friendly with, since he was a car guy. Would you believe that he showed up at my cruise night during the summer, again not having seen me for nearly 40 years? We too had a lot of stories to catch up on. This tells me either my memory is better than I thought it was or I am just getting older.

**Continued on next page**

Thinking back to those halcyon days, it was in 1955 that Mel Osolky talked me into joining Delcor AZA and it was 1960 that the Hoffman brothers, Paul and Shep joined me and a lot of other guys who formed the old Upper Canada BBYA. In fact we all met our wives through BBYA and it was but seven years later that I missed being a charter member of Forestdale Heights by about two weeks, since they got their charter just before Mary Osler dragged me out to a meeting at the old Hebrew Men of England

synagogue.

The past 40 year have slipped away with a haste that leaves me breathless. I know that I can remember details of things that seem like they only happened yesterday and often you will find me writing about these wonderful times gone by. I would hope that each of you have also experienced the joys of the past. What was a tragedy of epic proportions back then is something to remember fondly today. All we had to manage to do was live through it.

*Nate Salter*

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### **Little Johnny's at it again.....**

A new teacher was trying to make use of her psychology courses. She started her class by saying, 'Everyone who thinks they're stupid, stand up!' After a few seconds, Little Johnny stood up. The teacher said, 'Do you think you're stupid, Little Johnny?' 'No, ma'am, but I hate to see you standing there all by yourself!'

Little Johnny watched, fascinated, as his mother smoothed cold cream on her face. 'Why do you do that, mommy?' he asked. 'To make myself beautiful,' said his mother, who then began removing the cream with a tissue.

'What's the matter?' asked Little Johnny. 'Giving up?'

The math teacher saw that little Johnny wasn't paying attention in class. She called on him and said, 'Johnny! What are 2 and 4 and 28 and 44?' Little Johnny quickly replied, 'NBC, FOX, ESPN and the Cartoon Network!'

Little Johnny's kindergarten class was on a field trip to their local police station where they saw pictures tacked to a bulletin board of the 10 most wanted criminals. One of the youngsters pointed to a picture and asked if it really was the photo of a wanted person. 'Yes,' said the policeman. 'The detectives want very badly to capture him.' Little Johnny asked, 'Why didn't you keep him when you took his picture?'



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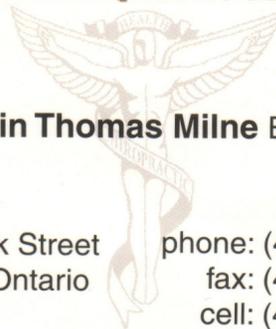
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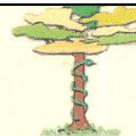
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# Random Musings



Recently, while watching the TV news, I saw a man who had been wrongfully convicted of a crime, based upon the testimony of another person. He'd spent many years languishing in jail,

all the while aware that the public thought him guilty. To my astonishment, the man stated that he forgave the person who'd caused the waste of so many precious years of his life. I tried to imagine what it must have been like; how frustrating it must have been, to be thought of as a criminal, locked away with little opportunity to rectify his situation. How had his family and friends reacted? Had they believed in his innocence? If some had supported him originally, had they changed their minds with the passage of time?

I also questioned whether I would have had the grace and dignity this gentleman had, to forgive the person responsible for ruining a significant portion of his life. He showed tremendous insight when he conveyed to the world that if he chose not to forgive, he himself would be terribly burdened.

It was then that I understood what he meant. Imagine the times any one of us may have had trouble forgiving someone for a

perceived slight, or a deliberate act of malice. While we might have dwelled on the situation, fine-tuning our anger, how much did we actually gain from our own reactions? In my own case, I can truthfully say, not much. In fact, the unhappiness brought on by such rumination was probably very self-destructive. Oh sure, I could feel justified in my feelings of being wronged, and I would never have wanted to be thought of as somebody's fool. However, eventually I was only harming myself by continuing to focus on the negative. This is what I suspect this unfortunate man may have concluded.

It would be a terrible waste of more valuable time, to continue down that path of anger. This man has lost too much time already. If he wants to have a happier life following his wrongful imprisonment, he knows he has to let go of the past and get on with the rest of his life. Surely he, of all people, is entitled to feelings of resentment and bitterness. However, in order to go on in a productive manner, he knows he has to let these feelings go, or they will forever weigh him down.

I learned a great deal from that small but significant statement. It has caused me to reflect upon the need to make life less burdensome, not more so. I hope this man goes on to have a more peaceful, rewarding life. He has already enriched mine.

*Elizabeth Bloom*



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**Flowers Aren't Enough** is a monologue that tells the story of Michal, a young woman from an upper-middle class family who finds herself in an abusive relationship. We see her denial, her guilt and how her social conditioning intensifies her shame and despair. We witness Michal sinking into darkness and then watch how she takes charge of her life and rediscovers herself.

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# Tasty Treats

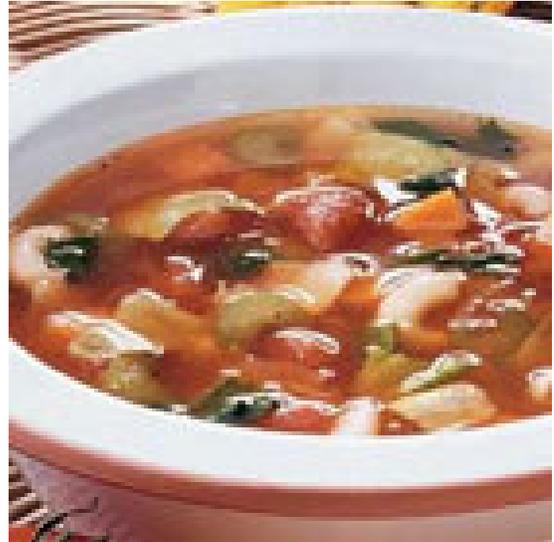
## 30 MINUTE MINISTRONE SOUP

This simple, chunky soup is low in calories. The broth's seasoned nicely, while the spinach adds a refreshing difference.

- **Yields:** 5 servings

### INGREDIENTS

- 2 medium carrots, chopped
- 1 cup chopped cabbage
- 1 celery rib, thinly sliced
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 2 teaspoons vegetable oil
- 3 cups water
- 1 (14.5 ounce) can Italian stewed or diced tomatoes, undrained
- 3 tablespoons parve chicken soup
- 1 cup torn fresh spinach (optional)
- 2/3 cup cooked elbow macaroni
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper



### DIRECTIONS

1. In a 3-qt. saucepan, sauté carrots, cabbage, celery, onion and garlic in oil for 5 minutes. Add water, tomatoes and bouillon; bring to a boil. Reduce heat. Simmer, uncovered, for 20-25 minutes or until vegetables are tender.
2. Stir in spinach, macaroni and pepper; heat through.

# Forestdale Funnies

## MY NEXT LIFE



By George Carlin

I want to live my next life backwards.  
You start out dead and get that out of the way.  
Then you wake up in a nursing home feeling better every day.  
Then you get kicked out for being too healthy.  
Enjoy your retirement and collect your pension.  
Then when you start work, you get a gold watch on your first day.

You work 40 years until you're too young to work.

You get ready for High School: drink alcohol, party, and you're generally promiscuous.  
Then you go to primary school, you become a kid, you play, and you have no responsibilities.

Then you become a baby, and then...

You spend your last 9 months floating peacefully in luxury, in Spa-like conditions - central heating, room service on tap, and then...

You finish off as an orgasm.

I rest my case.

## CRABS

A female crew member took the box and promised to put it in the crew's refrigerator, which she did.

The man firmly advised her that he was holding her personally responsible for the crabs staying frozen, and proceeded to rant and rave about what would happen if she let the crabs thaw out.

Shortly before landing in New York, she announced over the intercom to the entire cabin, "Would the gentleman who gave me the crabs in New Orleans, please raise your hand?"

Not one hand went up...so she took them home and ate them herself.

Men never learn.



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