



FALL 2012 סתיו | תשע"ג

We are Associated

Associated Hebrew Schools of Toronto

שנה טובה!

SHANA TOVA!

We wish everyone in the Associated community a **Happy, Healthy and Sweet New Year!**

BY SARI DISENHOUSE ('99)

צדק צדק תירדוף
 דברים טובים

Tzedek Tzedek Tirdof

Steven Skurka's abiding commitment to social justice began when he was a student at Associated. Steven remembers attending rallies in support of Israel during the 1967 war and protesting against the treatment of Soviet Jewry with his fellow Associated students. On the John Tory radio show, Steven stressed the importance of involving young students in social protest and discussed the impact that his own involvement in various social justice causes had on him as a student. The importance of following our Jewish principle of 'tzedek tzedek tirdof,' (Justice, justice you shall pursue) motivates Steven in both his personal and professional life.

Associated has always valued academic excellence, and Steven's teachers demanded excellence. Navigating his way through the double curriculum taught Steven how to work hard and manage multiple projects simultaneously. Exams began at an early grade and their school days were very structured. Handling the rigorous academic program at Associated prepared Steven for his current success and he attributes his ability to handle his multifaceted career to Associated.

As a certified specialist in criminal litigation, Steven is a partner with the law firm Skurka & Spina LLP, Barristers & Solicitors; former vice president and director of the Criminal Lawyers' Association, a member of the faculty of Ontario College of Advocacy Training and an adjunct law professor at Osgoode Hall Law School. Steven has appeared on numerous educational panels. He is also the legal analyst on CTV News where he analyzes and comments on some of the most notable legal cases. Steven has also

proven to be a successful author. His book, *Tilted: The Trials of Conrad Black* was a #1 best seller on Amazon in three categories in the United States and he recently released another book, *Tilted: The Trials of Conrad Black, 2nd Edition*.

As if he wasn't busy enough, Steven recently landed a one-hour talk show, Closing Argument, every Sunday from 4-5 pm on radio show Newstalk1010. Creative control allows him the opportunity to cover a variety of topics ranging from the controversial trial of Michael Rafferty to a discrimination claim against popular reality TV show *The Bachelor*.

Associated instilled in Steven a love for Judaism and a commitment to Jewish values

and he remains committed to those values in both his personal and his family life. When it came time for Steven and his wife Randi to send their three children Montana, Jordana and Dylan to school, Associated was an easy choice. Two of the values they cherished most were an excellent education for their children and a life rich with Jewish values and culture, both of which they believed could be achieved at Associated.

Being back at AHS as a parent was a wonderful experience for Steven, who enjoyed having a different relationship with his old teachers and knowing the school was reinforcing the values they embraced at home.



PHOTO BY MAURICE CACHO/CTVNEWS.CA

Steven is one example of many successful Associated graduates of the class of 1971. According to Steven, some of the most incredibly accomplished students were in his grade 7 class: **"They are some of the most brilliant people I know."** *Steven Skurka '71*

If you are an Associated graduate of the class of '71 or any other year, we would love to hear from you! Please contact us and let us know what you are up to at alumni@ahschools.com.



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We Are Associated is a joint communication vehicle of Associated Hebrew Schools and the Parent Teacher Council. It is our aim to provide meaningful and useful information to parents, students, alumni, staff and members of the community who all contribute to the excellence of our school.

The goal of Associated Hebrew Schools is education. Our constituency comprises members from many cultural, social and religious segments of the Jewish community. Since 1907, we have provided the finest educational services and facilities. A dynamic institution, Associated has adapted its programs throughout the decades to ensure that an outstanding educational experience remains accessible.

For those who seek wisdom, understanding and the opportunity to perpetuate the Jewish people and our Jewish community, we invite you to associate yourself with our quest for success.

Readers are invited to submit comments or questions in writing to **We Are Associated** at the address below:

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If anyone ever bothered to go over my past addresses as editor of *We Are Associated*, they might well accuse me of self-plagiarism, or at the very least of repeating myself as I reflect on the contents of this issue. Certainly it's difficult to avoid, as I experience the pride and admiration I always feel as we put together our newsletter, an aggregate of the highlights of not only our school's latest achievements, but those of our students, parents, staff and alumni.

As a child, attending schools and synagogues and programs named for people I had never heard of, the names on the buildings and the handouts seemed incidental. The very generosity of these strangers, and their prevalence in my community, allowed me the luxury of taking their contributions for granted – just as a happy child takes their comfort and security for granted.

Thirty – ahem – or so years later, I consider the names

of those and other community builders anything but incidental. Every hour of volunteered time, every ounce of energy expended and every dollar donated represent a deliberate choice, a commitment to a cause and the willingness to act on it. I have the greatest admiration for families like the Wolfsons, Naibergs and Koschitzkys whose gifts will impact so many children now and in the future, and the small army of parent and alumni volunteers who keep programs running and donate their professional skills to the school.

As for my pride, it springs from being part of the community that produced these generous and dedicated people – the larger Jewish community, and the Associated community. I am proud that my school, and my kids' school, inspires such dedication and support from its current and former members. Proud that alumni like Steven Skurka, Jamie and Eric Golombek, Daniella Ben-Dat Ross and so

many others choose to send their children to Associated. It is my children now who are fortunate enough to take for granted that there will always be people to step in, supporting community endeavours and investing in the future. More importantly, they are receiving the example, guidance and opportunities to become one of those people themselves. And for this, I sincerely thank the many families and individuals who have directly or indirectly contributed to the excellence of their education.

All the best,
Naomi Moscoe ('84)

Michael ('88) and Diana ('92) Naiberg, Associated alumni and parents to Posluns students 4-year-old Bella and 7-year-old Andrew are huge supporters of Jewish education – not just for their own children, but for everybody's.

"We approached [former Posluns principal] Eric Golombek and asked how we could help further education at the school," Diana explains. "Mr. Golombek believed science carts would put the elementary campuses at the forefront of science learning and its curriculum."

"We are blessed at Associated with wonderful families, committed to partnering with the school in so many ways," Dr. Smiley says.

"The Naiberg family's generous gift will go towards enhancing the teaching of science at both our elementary branches. It will go towards the purchasing of new and much-needed science equipment and perhaps more significantly, it will be used for advanced training of teachers in the methodology of inquiry-based science investigators, making theories and testing these theories with hands-on, authentic experiments."



The Gift of Science

BY SUSAN MINUK

bones. I want to see if blood vessels go through the bones and to see what is on them and what they are made of."

"With the new science lab, we will be able to do many experiments without any accidents. We can roll the cart in."

"I want to see how chemicals can make things happen, like when you mix things and they explode. I want to know why that happens."

"I want to learn how some drinks, when you shake them, explode."

"I also want to learn how fish swim and how does their tail help them and how their fins steer."

"Why are stones lighter in water than on land?"

"I want to learn how yeast makes the bread grow."

"I hope I can learn all of these things in science."

In Eric Golombek's words, "The goal is to use an inquiry-based approach to the teaching of science. This includes demonstration and student experimentation. The real science equipment such as the Naiberg family has invested in allows us to do this at a very sophisticated level."

Michael and Diana have added a deeper level of meaning to their gift of science by dedicating it in memory of Michael's late grandparents, Irving and Bella Naiberg z"l. "They were avid supporters of Associated and of Jewish education," says Michael. "We felt this was a wonderful way to honour their legacy that they left behind."

A New Year NEW POSSIBILITIES

There are two distinct approaches in Jewish thinking about innovation, improvement and advancement. The first approach suggests that *ein hadash tachat hashemesh*: The more things change, the more they remain the same or literally, there is nothing new under the sun. The second approach celebrates each day for the possibilities of *hiddush* (newness) and improvement of the world (*'hamehadash b'tuvo b'hol yom*).

One might think that a school with an over 100-year tradition might fall into the first approach. We enrol students, we hire teachers and we have a long tradition of educating children. We have opened dozens of branches, hired scores of senior educational leaders and built and rebuilt the program with much success.

Nonetheless, a great school must also follow the second approach and see each day, and each school year, as laden with possibilities for improving the world. A new school year brings new leaders and invigorated veterans together to search out knowledge and bring new understanding in both General and Judaic studies.

New and continuing initiatives like the opening of Associated Cedarvale, technology integration and the Shinshinim program celebrate the ongoing journey of our school as a provider of evolving day school education.

Rosh Hashana is a time for reflection and assessing successes and challenges. As we begin this new year, let us look both behind us and ahead. Looking back, this is the 70th anniversary of Associated's first full-day grade one class and with it, the beginning of our success as a Jewish day school. Looking forward, we begin this 70th year not only having Israeli representatives in the school, but for the first time having one of our educational leaders based in Israel. Eric Golombek, the former principal of Posluns recently made *aliyah* but will be continuing his association with the school leading with both science initiatives and technology integration.

We are proud of our successes in educational innovation and remain devoted to our mission – to provide an outstanding academic foundation in an inspiring environment, rich in Jewish values and experience. Our dream, as it was 70 years ago, is for our children to learn and to grow as future Jewish and civic leaders.

A New Year is a time of new beginnings, a time for new possibilities for all of us – students, parents and faculty. At Associated we see a great future based on a celebration of our historical success in providing the best in education and guided by our sacred responsibility to the children of our community.

Dr. Mark Smiley
Director of Education



Dr. Mark Smiley ('72)

FOR OVER 20 YEARS,

the Golombek brothers have been teaching young (and not-so-young) minds alike, and have been praised by the Jewish community for their involvement and dedication. Put their resumes together and it would resemble a lengthy novel filled with years of teaching experience.

Jamie ('84), notes that from a "... Professional perspective, we're very similar even though we've gone in very different directions."

The elder of the brothers, Jamie, has been educating financial advisors as well as clients about financial, tax, and estate-planning strategies for over 15 years. He's been with the CIBC for four years and prior to that, with another major investment firm in Toronto. And that's not all – Jamie has also been teaching an MBA course in personal finance at the Schulich School of Business at York University for 11 consecutive years.

You could say that Jamie is one for educating and public speaking. When he's not working here in Toronto, he's travelling throughout the country giving seminars and attending conferences. He writes the weekly column "Tax Expert" in the National Post and is a regular personal finance expert on CTV's The Marilyn Denis Show.

Younger brother Eric ('86), has spent the last seven years as the principal of the Posluns Education Centre. He recalls his first teaching experience as a co-op teacher in 1990 just after celebrating his 19th birthday; although his first official year of teaching came five years later. A math major, Eric has taught math at every grade level, including university calculus. He has also taught computers, science and grades four and five math as a specialist, as well as Judaic studies and *Tanach*.

"I've taught pretty much anything you can think of," he says with a smile, noting that he and his brother are both "very publicly known" despite being in "different communities."

And despite their busy timetables, the brothers still manage to find the time to give back to their community. Eric believes his extra time was well spent at school, chairing the choir, recently made famous by the Marlies Hockey Day event, and the Jazz for Juniors program that ran once a month at Baycrest. He also coached the softball and math teams.

"If you have a philosophy of putting kids in the centre," Eric says, "then you can't deal without having a relationship with kids. It means you have to be there for everything, whether it be lunch duty or greeting the kids at the end of the day; all of those things."

Both brothers are also actively involved with community programs at Shaarei Shomayim, where they have been members for as long as they can remember. While Eric has been involved with the youth service programs, Jamie has sat on the board of directors at the shul for a number of

“Put their resumes together and it would resemble a lengthy novel filled with years of teaching experience.”

Seeing Double?



Jamie and Eric Golombek

years and participated in several committees including the budget and finance and the religious committees. He currently sits on the board of the Jewish Foundation of Greater Toronto and until very recently, was the chair of its Professional Advisory Committee.

So what is it that makes this sibling duo so remarkable? When asked, both men attribute their successes in life to their upbringing, their Jewish education and Associated.

The former Posluns principal, who stepped down at the end of the 2011-2012 academic year to make *aliyah*, jokes that he remembers the principal's office "all too well" back in his Associated days. But Eric is quick to point out that he remembers growing up with the expectation of excellence in general studies, the passion for Israel that the school was all about and the commitment to Jewish studies and learning. And that, he says, has made him into the person he is today.

"I always wanted to work in a place where there was a high regard for General Studies learning, but where you felt there was never competition with the Judaic Studies learning," he says. "Associated always had that partnership between Jewish learning and living and Canadian learning and living."

His brother Jamie, who adds that Associated helps create a "great, solid foundation" to both a secular and religious lifestyle, echoes Eric's sentiment.

"You are taught to open a siddur, know where the prayers are located and read the prayers, so ultimately you know what's going on in a service," he says. "You are taught about Shabbat and the Jewish holidays so you can go home and keep Shabbat and observe the holidays together with your family. At the same time, you're getting a full, secular education with focus on the ever-changing world."

And while the Golombek brothers often get mistaken for each other, as they share many similar physical traits, they also share a love for one teacher in particular – Mr. Ryan. Mr. Ryan had a profound impact on both brothers, who claim the English teacher made English literature fun. While Jaime describes Mr. Ryan – one of the first male elementary school teachers at Associated – as "outstanding, different, eccentric, exciting, unique and interesting," Eric remembers the teacher's meticulous approach to spelling and grammar.

Both men are appreciative and grateful of the cards they were dealt and credit Associated for who they are today. In fact, both brothers have sent their own children to Associated.

"As a kid, you don't think about that great teacher or *Tanach* class you had as a memorable experience," says Eric. "But as you grow older, those memories resonate and affect you in your adult life and as a parent, and that gets you really excited about Associated and all that it has to offer."

BY ALI MARTELL

Love of Learning: Passing It On

Daniella (Dani) Ben-Dat Ross ('96) is a proud Associated alumna. So when it came time to enrol her daughter in a pre-nursery program, it was a simple decision for Dani and her husband Avi ('95), also an Associated graduate. Their daughter will begin the Mini-Mench and Me program at the Cedarvale campus in September.

Dani loved her years at Associated and thinks fondly of the time she spent at the school. She says that she always felt safe, interested, challenged and nurtured. "Some of my fondest memories," she says, "are from my grade 4 year with my teacher, Ms. Marcia Bass. She took on the challenge of producing a play about the environment called "Assignment Earth." Not only was she ahead of her time, but Ms. Bass brought music and drama into our daily lives and managed to teach the curriculum successfully in addition to giving up time for play practice."

It seems that Associated planted a love of learning in Dani. After graduating from Associated, she attended TanenbaumCHAT for high school and then went on to

study Jewish Studies and History at the University of Toronto before spending a year abroad at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Her love of Jewish learning didn't stop there—she went on to teacher's college and now teaches at Bialik Hebrew Day School; continuing to instill the love of learning intertwined with Jewish values to the next generation of students.

"I have always felt like an active member in the Jewish community," say Dani. "Clearly Associated, and my parents, helped to nurture that by giving me the knowledge and tools to be a proud Jew."

It was very important for Dani that her daughter learn about Judaism and Jewish values in an environment where she feels like she belongs, where she feels safe to ask questions and where she is able to have a hands-on experience learning about Jewish life. "My husband and I feel as though the values and education that Associated provides go hand-in-hand with the values and lifestyle that we live at home. We hope and believe that Associated will reinforce the values we teach our daughter."





Celebrating five years of extraordinary support

Five years ago visionary philanthropists and consummate community leaders, Henry and Julia Koschitzky provided the impetus to create the **The Koschitzky-UJA Federation Grant**. This groundbreaking initiative provides additional financing to all elementary schools in our community that offer UJA Federation-financed tuition subsidies and meet other criteria.

With a monumental commitment of \$1 million annually along with matching funds from UJA Federation and its philanthropic partners, initially matched by Gabi Weisfeld, the Koschitzky gift has, over the past five years, brought over \$3 million to Associated. In addition to enhancing UJA Federation's generous annual allocation, these funds have had a tremendous impact on Associated's ability to deliver an outstanding educational experience that is accessible to a broad array of children in our community.

Associated is deeply grateful to UJA Federation and to

the Koschitzkys and salutes them for their leadership and generosity. We are particularly proud because both Henry and Julia have long records of involvement and support at Associated. Henry is a past president of the school and Julia is a past president of our Parent Teachers Council. Both have been ardent supporters of the school providing resources and time whenever asked.

The Koschitzky's remarkable commitment has been a catalyst to our fundraising efforts. Inspired by Henry and Julia's bold action, many individuals have come forward and we are grateful to our major donors, PTC supporters and Kadima contributors.

On behalf of the community, our school, and every Associated family, we say a simple Todah Rabbah to our long time friends – the Koschitzkys. We are grateful for your generosity and so proud to count you as part of our family.

Giving Back Takes on New Meaning

BY DIANA NAIBERG ('92)

It's not everyday you meet a **mensch**, but when you do, and you hear about how influential that person has been in his community, it makes you realize how fortunate you are to be a part of that community.

Leo Wolfson is that mensch – and those around him couldn't consider themselves any luckier to have such a role model to look up to.

Mr. Wolfson, who calls Israel home, resides in Ramat Gan with his wife Ethel and is surrounded by his children and grandchildren. Originally from Toronto, the Wolfson family made *aliyah* in 1970 and credits Associated for making the move.

The eldest of the Wolfson children, Moshe ('67), says he and his siblings Allan ('69) and Rhonda all attended Associated, which even 50 years ago was at the forefront of Jewish education. The school was the first of its kind to organize a trip to Israel back in 1968.

"It was a seven-week trip," recalls Moshe in a phone conversation, noting that the students had been "well prepared" and that following the trip "everyone came back a changed person."

In fact, upon his return Moshe insisted his parents take a trip to Israel the following year to see why he became so obsessed. And so the Wolfsons travelled to Israel the following year "...On an exploring visit and we felt at home," says Leo. Upon their return to Toronto, Leo and Ethel decided that they were going to make *aliyah* with their children.

Quoting his father Leo, Moshe says Associated helped make the move an easy one, as the education they received was one that had fostered a "background in Jewish history and knowledge of Israel, as well as sciences, math and technology," which enabled Moshe to attend university upon making *aliyah*, and never feel out of place.

Moshe goes on to say that the Hebrew he learned at AHS was superior and helped make the transition a smooth one. All three siblings were easily able to acclimatize to Israeli life.

So appreciative were they for this valued education, Leo and Ethel decided to support Associated with a generous gift to provide financial assistance for children whose families would otherwise be unable to afford a Jewish education. The Leo and Ethel Wolfson Education Fund in Memory of Harold and Eva Dessen z"l was created to ensure no Jewish child is denied the education and fundamental love for Israel that their own children received as students at Associated.

The Wolfsons dedicated this gift in memory of their friends Harold and Eva. The two couples were very close, attending the same yeshiva, members of the same youth movement and eventually becoming neighbours. Even after the Wolfson family moved to Israel, the two families stayed in touch and visited each other often. The Dessens were also strongly devoted to Associated.

Without a doubt, the Wolfson family is very grateful for the life they live in Israel and the role Associated played in getting them there. Says Moshe, "[My] parents believe that the family they now have in Israel wouldn't be the same family had they stayed in Toronto." **A happy ending the Wolfsons hope their support might make possible for others.**

Inspires Students to Take Charge

BY MARCIE FISHER



This past year students at the Danilack Middle School joined together with their parents once a month to celebrate their Bar and Bat Mitzvot as a community. While this alone would make it a very special gathering, the program, called *Hineni* (Here I am) turned into so much more.

The program was conceived by former Posluns principal Eric Golombek and Mordecai Cohen, principal of Judaic Studies at Danilack. It was designed to bring students together to consider their place in the world and encourage them to take on personal mitzvot.

When the program began, it included *Tefillah*, *Torah* Reading, *Divrei Torah* and inspiring guest speakers such as Jacob's Ladder founder Ellen Schwartz (pictured above). Each gathering ended with the celebrants singing a special *Hineni* prayer and finally, the Bar and Bat Mitzvah students signed a special 'Legacy' book and chose a mitzvah on which to focus.

These initial sessions planted a seed and student response was electric. The administration was thrilled as students began asking to make presentations about their own activism at monthly gatherings, rather than inviting guest speakers.

Says Danilack student Brian Friedman, "When I listened to the guest speakers, I realized that... you are never too young to make a difference. I had written a speech about youth activism – planning ahead to achieve your goals instead of just lying on the couch, and I realized it would apply to *Hineni*." Brian, who plans on being a pilot one day, was given permission to present his speech and the results were amazing.

"I saw kids really listening to me and I knew they were also thinking of taking their plans further," Brian goes on. "Kids came up to me after and told me their plans and it made me feel like I accomplished my goal of inspiring others into action."

The success of *Hineni* lies in its long-reaching effects. Just a few students standing up and taking action has created a chain reaction of students taking turns to do mitzvot – a chain we hope is never broken.

What's Up

@Associated



@Cedarvale

Starting this September, Associated is opening its Cedarvale Early Years branch, offering both a Mini Mensch and a Nursery program at Beth Shalom Synagogue on Eglinton Avenue.

A number of our current and prospective families requested a Mini Mensch program in this area and we are so pleased that we are now able to meet that demand. Mini Mensch is a program for

children 15 months to 3 years and is divided into two components: • Mini Mensch & Me – for children 15 months to 2 years and their parents, grandparents or caregiver • Mini Mensch & Beyond – a drop off program for 2-3 year-olds.

The announcement of the Cedarvale campus was met with great enthusiasm. Within weeks of opening registration, classes began to fill up and are now at capacity. We look forward to an excellent year! •



@Posluns

Erev Tarbut (A Night of Culture) at Posluns was a truly wonderful evening. The entire campus was transformed into a hands-on science museum celebrating the great learning that has been happening throughout the year. Over 200 children and their families wandered through the building learning about structures, viscosity, and sound. They designed and built egg protectors and then actually tested them with eggs inside. Even the treat was science themed as children examined 'pop rocks' candy under a microscope before enjoying them sprinkled on ice cream. There were phenomenal exhibits of science-themed art throughout the building as well. The math and robotics teams also hosted exhibits run by team members. •



Danilack's eco-team plants garden

@Danilack

Danilack Middle School was certified as an eco-school on Friday, May 25, 2012. In fact, they received the highest rating in their first year – GOLD! Ontario Eco-Schools is an environmental education and certification program for grades K-12 that helps school communities develop both ecological literacy and environmental practices. Students are encouraged to become environmentally responsible citizens and reduce the ecological footprint of their schools. The students at Danilack have done incredible work in the areas of energy conservation, waste management, school grounds greening, environmental stewardship, curriculum connections, leadership and awareness. Danilack joins Kamin and Posluns as an eco-school. Now, all three branches of Associated are certified eco-schools! •

@Kamin

On Thursday, April 26, 2012, Kamin students celebrated Yom Ha'atzmaut with their neighbours – Netivot, Leo Baeck and Zareinu. Arrangements were made to close Atkinson Ave to traffic and the four schools marched and danced together for Israel. There was music, a sea of blue and white marchers and dancers, Israeli flags of every size and plenty of cheering and singing. Bet Haya'eled students took their pretend trip to Israel – classes transformed into different Israeli cities and places of interest. This year's celebration was made even more unique by a live connection to the Jewish day school in Porto Alegre, Brazil. In real time everyone sang Hatikvah together. All in all, Israel's 64th birthday bash was a real success! •



Associated PTC Press



M E S S A G E F R O M



**PTC
President**
Sari Bercovitch

WHAT A WONDERFUL YEAR PTC HAS HAD!

We have been so fortunate to have been approached by so many eager volunteers joining us at all levels and across all three branches. New fundraising initiatives have been implemented such as our Chanukah Card program, turning our children's artwork into beautiful cards, coasters and fridge magnets; and our soon-to-be-released cookbook,

the result of over 70 committee members working together including new and seasoned parents of the school body, teachers, administration and former staff.

We have also hosted three major events: our social program featuring Dr. Joey Shulman, our major fundraiser 'Parents' Night Out,' co-hosted by Associated's Kadima Family Giving Committee and our 'Family Day at the Marlies.' The overwhelming support and attendance at all three of these events was incredible! Our three branches have made great strides this year in coming together as one GREAT SCHOOL and PTC is proud to have been involved in this achievement.

There are ALWAYS volunteer opportunities at the classroom, branch and school-wide levels, and there are so many wonderful, dedicated, warm, strong people with whom you work side-by-side. Not only do we volunteers have the ability to contribute to our school and make a valuable impact on our children's learning environment, but we have the precious opportunity to meet, work with and befriend wonderful people who share our values, interests and commitment to our school. As well, we get to teach our children some vital lessons in community service, that helping others and working together is very, very important and that working towards enriching their academic environment is most important of all.

Yasher Ko'ach to all those who participated in the PTC as volunteers for all branches of Associated and a big thank you to all those who supported our fundraising ventures. I am excited to be embarking on my second year as president of the Parent Teacher Council and I feel privileged to be working with such a wonderful group of parents, teachers and administrators. The PTC welcomes all who wish to join us in our mission. Together, we will continue to accomplish great things!

With warm regards,

Sari Bercovitch ptcpresident@ahschools.com

2nd ANNUAL Associated Hebrew Schools Day with the Marlies

On Sunday March 18th, the 2nd Annual Associated Hebrew Schools Day with the Marlies was held, surpassing last year's attendance, with over 500 members of the Associated community gathering at the Ricoh Coliseum.

The AHS choir made us proud by singing both the Canadian and American national anthems on the ice before the Marlies faced off against the Chicago Wolves. Kamin principal, Kathy Friedman and Posluns vice principal, Ora Shulman had the honour of being at centre ice for the ceremonial dropping of the game-starting puck. Two lucky AHS students, Jacob Phillipson (Kamin) and Josh Felsen (Posluns) won the draw to ride the Zamboni between 2nd and 3rd period, and did so with huge smiles on their faces, waving enthusiastically to all. New this year, was the opportunity to participate in the fan tunnel, high-fiving the players as they made their way to the ice. Also new this year was the well-attended post-game skate. The ru'ach in the arena was incredible. **Thanks to all three branches for their effort and support, and many thanks to the students and parents of Associated for continuing to make our Day with the Marlies a resounding success!**

A special thanks to Michelle Zaldin and Marilee Krinsky for organizing this wonderful event through the Parent Teacher Council.

ON SATURDAY MARCH 10TH, THE ASSOCIATED PARENT TEACHER COUNCIL AND THE KADIMA FAMILY GIVING COMMITTEE,



led by co-chairs Renee Rosenzweig and Stefanie Goldschmied, joined together for the fundraiser 'A Parents' Night Out: Jeans, Jazz and Java.'

Held at the Magen Boys' newest venue, The Uptown Loft, the sold out evening was a great success. The night included a variety of delicious foods and live entertainment including Texas Hold'Em poker tournaments, great music and a bustling silent auction with items generously donated from businesses throughout the community. The money raised from this momentous evening have been allocated to support various school projects and enhancements to enrich the learning experience of the AHS students in all three branches. Photo courtesy of Orna Photography.

More Please!

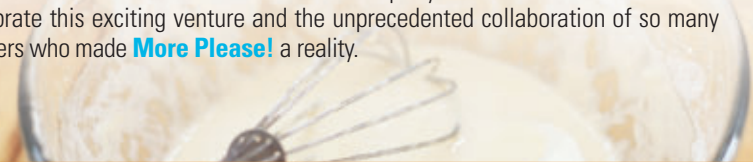
Associated's Parent Teacher Council's newest fundraising venture is one of the most exciting projects the PTC has ever undertaken. **More Please! Totally Scrumptious Home Cooked Meals**, is the fabulous AHS cookbook that is being created as you read this.

More Please! is a collection of recipes from students, parents, grandparents, teachers, faculty, administration and alumni. It is a collaboration of a 79-member committee working diligently for the past year to create the best kosher cookbook on the market. This is a fabulous example of the three branches coming together as one. Never before have so many parents worked together on a single undertaking.

Such excitement has been generated by this project that more people are continuously jumping onboard. We have received over 900 recipes and have had some great taste-testing sessions, including one that included 18 different kinds of banana bread. One of our committee members held regular group testings in her house, creating 10-15 of the submitted recipes and inviting a few lucky families to taste-test, making her kitchen the gourmet place to be.

Our cookbook will have over 250 of the best recipes from all of the entries. **More Please!** will offer heart-warming soups, fabulous main courses, delicious desserts and everything in between. There is an "Around the World" section inspired by our diverse population, with recipes from Israel, South Africa, Brazil and Mexico, to name a few; and a special section featuring kosher recipes from famous chefs and well-known caterers, including the Barefoot Contessa. Some of the more unique features include colour photographs, easy-to-follow instructions, nutritional information and wine pairings.

The first edition will sell for \$34.95 at Indigo and Judaic stores. PTC's goal is to have **More Please!** in every Jewish home in the GTA and beyond. The release date is scheduled for the end of 2012. A fabulous launch party will be scheduled at that time to celebrate this exciting venture and the unprecedented collaboration of so many volunteers who made **More Please!** a reality.



Bulletin Board

Hold the Dates:

JOIN US FOR OUR
PTC GENERAL
MEETINGS:

October 23, 2012

KAMIN
BRANCH

February 5, 2013

DANILACK
BRANCH

May 21, 2013

POSLUNS
BRANCH

Did You Know?

You can support PTC in any one of our fundraising projects: Book fairs; school calendar; Chanukah and Purim Cards; AHS clothing; the More Please! cookbook; Day with the Marlies; school food programs; the annual gala; greeting and library dedication cards; school labels or magazines.

The PTC offers a range of services to Associated students and families, including: Bar/Bat Mitzvah date registry; the Israel Bonds Bar/Bat Mitzvah Gift Registry; St. John's Ambulance babysitting courses; social programming and the Welcome Wagon.

Get involved!

You can be part of the great work PTC does for our great school. Whether you have an hour a week or an hour in total, your contribution makes a difference. Contact your branch office or PTC liaison to find out how you can get involved today.

