



## DJC Planning Day

*Where have we been and where are we going?*



*Make sure to check out our web site for even more pictures!*

On Sunday, June 4, 2006, more than 70 DJC members gathered in the gymnasium of Montcrest School to focus on the future of our community. From 10 am to 3 pm, we engaged in an awesome experience. Not only was it an opportunity to meet ‘mishpucha,’ but to renew old acquaintances and kindle new ones. The enthusiasm was palpable and the commitment was inspiring. With the skillful facilitation of Diane Abbey-Livingstone and her talented team, we were shepherded through a number of activities resulting in a laundry list of constructive, thoughtful suggestions for the Board of Directors to sort and digest.

The meeting marked the beginning of a rejuvenation process to ensure that, as we move into the future, we listen attentively to the increasing diversity of voices in the community, honour our history and engage with one other through a dynamic and transparent process of decision-making.

The next steps for the planning committee are:

- to pull together the results from the day
- to ensure there is a way for those who were unable to be present to have some input into the process to date
- to create clearly articulated priorities for the Board to commit to over the next few years
- to share the results with the DJC community

Thanks to all who gave us their time and ideas. And thanks to everyone else in anticipation of their continued support as we begin our next ten years as an alternative, inclusive Jewish community in downtown Toronto. Stay tuned.

*DJC board and the session planning committee*

## Eliza's schedule

We're looking forward to Eliza's next few visits, which tentatively include:

- August 4: Friday night service, with several baby names scheduled. Everyone welcome. 6:30, Eastminster United Church (310 Danforth Avenue)
- September 21-25: Rosh Hashana
- October 1-8: Yom Kippur and Sukkot
- November and December (including Hanukah): To be confirmed



## Making space

And in fact, on this very topic, it's worth noting that there is more than one way to contribute to the DJC. If you have a business in the Danforth area and have any office space available, please let us know at [info@djctoronto.com](mailto:info@djctoronto.com). We are currently looking for a space where Eliza can hold meetings with members, and work while she's here in Toronto. The space would be needed once a month for three or four days at a time. We would like to hear from you if you are able to help out.

If you would like to book Eliza for bar or bat mitzvah in the spring of 2007, please e-mail her at [rabbi@djctoronto.com](mailto:rabbi@djctoronto.com). The ceremony needs to be open to the entire community. How you celebrate with your family and friends afterwards is up to you.

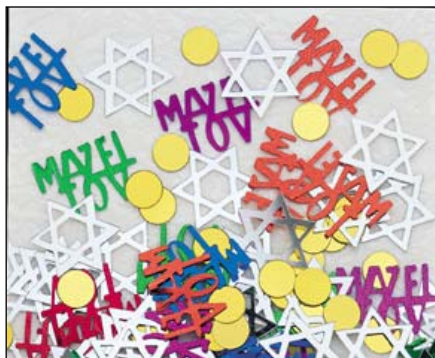
## Next home-based Shabbat service

...is at the home of Kathy Miller and Emil Sher – and it's this Friday, June 16, starting at 7 pm. They're at 940 Carlaw Ave., near Mortimer and Pape. You can walk from the Pape subway station – it's two short blocks west to Carlaw and just north of Fulton. The usual finger food request, please. RSVP at 416-423-1668.

## Such *naches!*

On behalf of the entire community, we send out a heart-felt *mazel tov* to our recent b'nai mitzvoth and their families:

- Alannah Bloch
- Michael Goldchain
- Charlotte Kramer
- Jonah Rannie





NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2006

newsletter@djctoronto.com

## Danny in da house



*(Danny Bakan, who provides the music in the Rosh Hashana children's service every year, asked us to pass this along:)*

Hello, friends. I am playing a rare Toronto show right in my neighbourhood. I would love it if you could come.

I will be performing with my friend Tom Leighton, and it is going to be a fun night, with a dance party to follow. Included in the show will be my new song "Withrow Park" about the dog poisonings in our local park.

What: A House concert for my Toronto friends

When: June 16 from 8-11 pm; doors open at 7:30

Where: Bain Co-op Community Centre

RSVP: Sabina 416 466 2790 – LIMITED SEATING!

## Jewish Studies Program: A conclusion, and a new beginning

We had a fantastic year! Huge thanks go to Jason Leizer, our fabulous principal and all of our teachers who showed tremendous creativity, energy and commitment to our kids. And thanks also to the kids who worked their tushies off, especially the Bar and Bat Mitzvah group - congrats to you all!! You may or may not know that there is a group of dedicated parents who comprise our Education Committee and they meet monthly to help make it all happen. If you think we can rest now that the school year is over – you're wrong! We are now planning for next year, selecting teachers, fine-tuning curriculum and integrating new activities into the program.

Here's how you can help: If you haven't already enrolled for DJC school – please do so by contacting Kathy Miller at [info@djctoronto.com](mailto:info@djctoronto.com). Also, if you know a family who may be interested in joining our school on Thursday afternoon from 4:15-6:15 pm – please pass Kathy's contact information along to them.

Have a great summer!

*(Editor's note: Thanks to Daphne Woolf for providing this capsule review of a great year in the Jewish studies program. The application form for next year is also available on the DJC web site at [djctoronto.com/explore/children.php](http://djctoronto.com/explore/children.php). And finally, this just in from Jason Leizer, whose family – much like their sleep deprivation, likely – is expanding:)*

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Hi All,

Finally. . . after a long wait and many false starts, our second baby boy was born at 3:15 am on Saturday, June 3 2006. At 7 pounds, 14 ounces, he (still nameless) came barrelling out at home, after only an hour of active labour. All in all, an uncomplicated experience--although I'd be reluctant to call it easy!

We're all feeling good, and Caelen has taken to his role as big brother wonderfully.

Milena, Jason, and Caelen

## Rockwood Beach

Enjoy pristine lakes, majestic hilltop views and rugged natural beauty? Then join Mosaic Jewish Outdoor Club of Ontario for a day of canoeing, hiking, picnicking or just playing on the beach at Rockwood, near Guelph. 9 am. For details see [www.mosaictoronto.org](http://www.mosaictoronto.org). For more information, contact Honey Fisher ([hfisher@sympatico.ca](mailto:hfisher@sympatico.ca)) or Norm Abrams ([norm\\_abrams@yahoo.ca](mailto:norm_abrams@yahoo.ca))

*Please note: There will be no July edition of the newsletter. The deadline for the August edition will be August 4.*

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