

TRAVEL TALES

HELPFUL HINTS FOR THE JEWISH TRAVELLER

By MIKE COHEN

MYRTLE BEACH VIA PLATTSBURGH: For our recent summer family holiday to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina we decided that a 16 hour drive from Montreal was not on our wish list. There is a viable alternative in Spirit Airlines (www.spirit.com) and we happily took advantage of it, flying directly to our destination via Plattsburgh, New York. This has long been a favorite stop for Montrealers, given its close proximity. We left a day early and checked in at the Comfort Inn (www.plattsburghcomfortinn.com).

Spirit is known as the ultra-low cost airline of the Americas and home of the Bare Fare. What this

means is that fares are unbundled, reflecting the cost of taking customers to their destination without any extras. Every customer gets full control: the ability to choose what perks and options you'd like to add, independent of the choices of other passengers. Officials at the airline maintain that by structuring fares this way, every passenger has a chance to fly for less than any other airline. Spirit currently operates more than 380 daily flights to over 57 destinations within the U.S., Latin America, Caribbean and Canada.

PLATTSBURGH AIRPORT: Myrtle Beach is a year-round tourist destina-

tion and as such the direct route from Plattsburgh International Airport (www.flyplattsburgh.com) is a successful one. Created from the former Plattsburgh Air Force Base, the airport is quickly establishing itself as a multi-purpose aviation and aerospace complex serving the entire Plattsburgh/Montreal/Lake Placid region, including northern New York State, southern Quebec and Vermont. A massive, multi-modal facility, the airport has an established record of success as a fully operating industrial airport and aerospace park, handling large and small aircraft daily for its tenants and others. We left our car at the airport.

Republic Parking charges only \$8 a night and it is free if you are there for six hours or less. Just steps from the terminal, a free shuttle service is available to and from the lots.

ACCOMMODATIONS: The Comfort Inn and Suites (plattsburghcomfortinn.com) at 411 Route 3 has tended to be our "go to" spot in Plattsburgh over the years. They have one bedroom suites, which includes a fairly large bedroom, work desk and television and a separate living room containing a pullout couch, a TV, sink and a microwave and fridge. There is a free hot and cold breakfast. If

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² "Osteoporosis is a disease characterized by low bone mass and deterioration of bone tissue. This leads to increased bone fragility and risk of fracture (broken bones)."



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you sleep in, a new Perkin's Restaurant is attached to the facility. There is also a Boulangerie Café, a lobby coffee shop featuring Starbucks™ Coffee and fresh baked pastries. Legends Sports Bar is the place to catch the latest game on the tube. The hotel is now in the midst of doubling Champy's Fun Zone, their family entertainment center, to 12,000 square feet. They will add a two story lazer tag arena, an elaborate two storey soft play full of the latest innovations, Lazer Maze, indoor bumper cars and a Build a Bear area. This is in addition to their current 18 hole indoor mini golf, miniature

bowling alleys, redemption games and video games. Outdoor batting cages and mini golf are planned for some time in 2016. For more information you can log on to their website at www.plattsburghcomfortinn.com, e-mail info@plattsburghcomfortinn.com or call (518) 562-2730.

DINING OUT: One of the perks of staying overnight in Plattsburgh is a chance to dine at the Butcher Block, which has been around for decades at 15 Booth Drive. While the menu includes scrumptious chicken, pasta, and other quality delights, seafood and beef still grab most of *(Please turn to page 13)*



ON OCTOBER 6TH AT A CEREMONY AT THE Residence of the Governor General at the Citadelle of Québec, His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, presented the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award to Leslie Vertes along with 29 other volunteers from various sectors of society. Vertes, a Holocaust survivor, has dedicated his time and energy to the Cummings Centre, and has helped victims of war reclaim millions in reparations. At 91 years old, Mr. Vertes continues to travel to schools as a guest speaker, inspiring his community and its youth to be more caring and compassionate.

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and rent across the city and you can find them all on their website complete with photos. This includes the second phase of the Parkhaven Courtyard Project in Côte Saint-Luc.

Shunning the traditional brokerage model of cut-throat agents competing against each other, Rozenblat Realty Group fosters a culture of partnership in which all clients and listings are represented in a collaborative environment by all its brokers, thereby ensuring its clients and listings have the competitive edge. This approach has proven highly successful.

Rozenblat Realty Group extends far beyond what a conventional brokerage firm offers. It envisions itself as both a lifestyle company committed to informing and connecting communities, and as a creative agency offering design, marketing and sales solutions for buyers, sellers, developers and investors across the globe. "Our in-house team of graphic designers, analysts and marketing strategists work with the brokers to provide unparalleled service to each and every client," says Anita. "We collaborate with clients to design and implement a tail-

ored, full-service marketing strategy for each new listing, utilizing our relationships with traditional and new media outlets and leveraging the most emergent technologies and social media strategies to ensure maximum exposure for every property we represent."

Anita and her team are also the official agency for a new commercial building being completed on Côte Saint-Luc Road near Grand. For more information log on to their site or call 514-502-6627.

Mike Cohen can be reached at info@mikecohen.ca. Follow him on Twitter and Instagram @mikecohencsl.

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the headlines. They have a nice kids menu as well. Daily featured entrees are written on a board in the lobby and repeated at the table by the wait staff. For reservations call 518-563-0920. It is open for lunch seven days a week, (11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.); dinner Monday to Thursday, 4:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 4:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.; and Sunday dinner, 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. You can access the entire menu at www.butcherblockrestaurant.com.

JEWISH COMMUNITY: The Plattsburgh region has a strong and active Jewish community, including the Temple Beth Israel which serves as the center of Jewish life in the North Country. Many Jews from Montreal have summer homes and trailers in the area while the Plattsburgh

campus of SUNY (State University of New York) has as many as 400 Jewish students. Temple Beth Israel is a small and vibrant Reform Jewish congregation and a vital resource for Jewish life in northern New York. It was established in 1861 and has been a member (Please turn to following page)

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of the Union for Reform Judaism (formerly Union of American Hebrew Congregations) since 1913. The current structure was completed in 1971 and today, under the leadership of Rabbi Kari Tuling, hosts a variety of activities for the entire

community. There is now a Chabad House in Plattsburgh (www.chabad.com) located at 2 Saratoga Court. Rabbi Avrohom Rimler, who was born in Australia and his wife, Ayelet, arrived in Plattsburgh more than a year ago

for the purpose of establishing the first Chabad center at SUNY Plattsburgh, which caters to Jewish students, local residents and visitors to the area. As it does around the world, Chabad sponsors Friday night dinners and holiday events, such as a large menorah during Chanukah. Services are held on Friday evenings and at 10 a.m. Saturday mornings.

Kosher food is readily available at the large Price Chopper grocery store, a favorite stop for Montrealers dating back decades now. A Jewish family, the Golubs, own the entire Price Chopper chain.

Mike Cohen's email address is info@mikecohen.ca. Follow all of his travels at www.sandbox-world.com/travel and on Twitter @mikecohencl

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HOLOCAUST RESPONSE

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ment to Jewish statehood.

• In postwar interviews, many of Rabbi Wise's closest friends and colleagues argued that Wise's personal and political devotion to FDR undermined his willingness to challenge Roosevelt's lethargic response to the Holocaust.

• Rabbi Wise's medical problems severely hampered his ability to mobilize the Jewish community to respond to the Holocaust; and the lack of democracy in the organizations that Wise headed made it extremely difficult for alternative leaders to emerge.

• Wise, like many American Jewish leaders, found it difficult to break

out of a business-as-usual mindset. Even at the most critical moments of the Holocaust, Wise diverted much of his attention to numerous lesser issues and activities

The Anguish of a Jewish Leader has been published by the David S. Wyman Institute for Holocaust Studies, based in Washington, D.C. The Institute is using an innovative method to maximize circulation of the new book: choosing public education over profits. The book is being distributed only as a free downloadable PDF from www.WymanInstitute.org and as a 99-cent Kindle book from Amazon.com

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