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**ABSA** | **Jewish Report** | **JOHNNIE WALKER**

DATE: AUGUST 11, 2011 | VENUE: MAROELA ROOM, SANDTON SUN

**SOUTH AFRICAN Jewish Report**

www.sajewishreport.co.za Friday, 1 July 2011 / 29 Sivan, 5771 Volume 15 Number 24

# Israel takes a determined stance on Flotilla issue

**PAGE 3**



## ON THEIR WAY TO A NEW LIFE

Seventeen Ethiopian families, who have proved their Jewish roots – to qualify for immigration to Israel - leave the Jewish compound area run by the Jewish Agency in Ethiopia earlier this month, to make aliyah. After leaving the town of Gondar, they embarked on a 12-hour bus ride to Addis Ababa, from where they will fly to Israel. The families have been taught Hebrew. Many of them have given up their farms, their cattle and have been waiting for the chance to make aliyah for several months. Many do not know if they will ever see the family and friends they leave behind, again. (PHOTOGRAPH BY ILAN OSSENDRYVER)

• Ilan Ossendryver will be talking on “The Ethiopian Jews, Living in the Promised Land”, for Second Innings, July 24, (011) 532-9718.

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July 1/29 Sivan		
July 2/30 Sivan		
Chukat		
Starts	Ends	
17:10	18:02	Johannesburg
17:30	18:25	Cape Town
16:50	17:43	Durban
17:11	18:03	Bloemfontein
17:01	17:56	Port Elizabeth
16:55	17:49	East London

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PARSHA OF THE WEEK

The leader within

**PARSHAT CHUKAT**  
**Rev Ilan Herrmann**  
*The Lions Shul, Doornfontein*

IT REMAINS one of the most startling episodes in the narrative of the Torah. Moses the trusted servant of G-d whose capacity for devotion and obedience is of a supreme nature, in this week’s portion, has a single career moment, of insanity.

An infraction which would probably hardly feature on the debit balance of the average man, stands out as defining and significant on Moses’ and in one instant the fate of the greatest of all leaders and of a nation is sealed and a destiny is forever altered.

The Jewish people had complained to Moses that they were thirsty. G-d commands Moses to speak to the rock and it will produce water. Instead of speaking to it he hits the rock and in so doing violates the commandment, the consequence of which will impact all of Jewish history.

No longer will Moses be allowed entry into the Promised Land, but he will have to die out in the desert with the generation that were already decreed not to enter. Furthermore, the absence of Moses will affect the type of phenomena unique to his reign.

Throughout the course of Moses’ leadership the people were carried by an almost supernatural form of existence. The exodus confounded the laws of nature as did the splitting of the sea, the supernatural victories against the enemies of Israel, the revelation at Sinai and the miraculous sustenance of 40 years in the desert.

Moses inspired divine guidance in a revealed and open manner. Had Moses entered Israel, the process of sweeping all before them would have continued through to its conclusion, including in the words of our sages, the ushering in of the Messianic redemption at that time.

With Joshua, his successor, however and all subsequent generations, the process would be one defined by natural law and by the hard working efforts to confront challenges on their terms. We in a sense are a product of the fatal choice Moses made on that day to hit the rock.

The obvious question is: Why did he do it?

The possibility of an unwitting error or loss of control on the part of Moses is hardly an option for an individual who is described as “a man of G-d” and is regarded as having mastered human instinct. The question is only intensified.

Our sages offer a number of answers. Here is one of the most inspiring: Moses’ extraordinary capacity was such that his signature was at every turn of fortune and every resounding success that accompanied the journey of this yet infantile and still identity-groping nation. Thus the Jewish people would immediately attribute the miraculous result and wondrous accomplishment to Moses’ special relationship with G-d and to his ability to bring about those miracles. But in so doing, an essential and necessary ingredient within the Jewish psyche was missing.

Three and half thousand years on we are able to look back and see the pattern of a people challenged, tried and tested and yet despite apparent insurmountable pressures and obstacles, repeatedly displaying the ability to arise and succeed in an outstanding and extraordinary way, unparalleled in the annals of the history of nations.

In Moses’ seeming error, a new chapter was begun, that of the realisation that rooted within the deeper undercurrent of the Jewish spirit, lay the ability to achieve the miraculous and the remarkable; that through forging a bond with G-d and embracing the reservoir of Divine strength anchored in the Torah, the limitations and barriers that threatened, were impotent.

Moses wanted to bring to recognition an awareness of the Divine strength and spark that is contained within each and every Jew and his duty as leader was more than anything else to make known this truth and empower his people with it.

This coming week (Monday night) we commemorate the yahrzeit of a revered and saintly leader, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneersohn, the Lubavitcher Rebbe obm, who many have likened to a modern-day Moses. In addressing this dimension of the Rebbe, Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks of the UK, had this to say: “Many great leaders have created followers. What made the Rebbe unique was that he created leaders!”

If Moses, whose vision is so penetrating, incisive and clear, sees it, perhaps we too should look deeper and find our leader within.

Chief Rabbi appeals for a ‘bigger and better Mandela Day’

MANDELA DAY – July 18 – is almost upon us again and Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein is urging the South Africa’s Jewish community and all South Africans, to make International Mandela Day “bigger and better” in honour of the former president’s 93rd birthday.

In a media release, the Office of the Chief Rabbi says: “Nelson Mandela Day not only celebrates Nelson Mandela’s 67 years of service, but it is also a global call to action for people to recognise their ability to have a positive effect on others around them. The day hopes to inspire people to embrace the values that Mandela holds dear.”

For the third year running, the Chief Rabbi has joined forces with outreach organisation Afrika Tikkun in a partnership initiative for Mandela Day.

“Mandela Day provides an opportunity for people around the world to spend 67 minutes doing something good for others in honour of Nelson Mandela’s 67 years of service to humanity,” Chief Rabbi Goldstein said.

This year, people are asked to bring books, blankets or non-perishable food to Johannesburg’s Great Park Synagogue or Cape Town’s Gardens Synagogue on Sunday July 17, for 67 minutes from 11:00 to 12:07.

Chief Rabbi Goldstein, who is president of Afrika Tikkun, said: “One of the most important teachings of Judaism is to live with compassion and to act with energy to help all people in need. A society is judged by how it treats its most vulnerable members.

“As Nelson Mandela is Afrika Tikkun’s patron-in-chief, it is fitting that the Jewish community honour him by supporting a cause that is so close to his heart.”

The items collected on Sunday July 17 will be distributed to the communities of Alexandra township, Diepsloot, Hillbrow and Orange Farm in Gauteng, and Delft and Mfuleni in the Western Cape.

FOR THE RECORD

METZUYAN ISSUE: THE JEWISH REPORT ERRED

The SA Jewish Report published in last week’s issue a letter from a disgruntled patron which was very critical of the management of Metzuyan restaurant in Rosebank, Johannesburg.

The owners of the restaurant have contacted the Jewish Report, disputing some of the statements made in the letter, and took strong exception to the fact that they had not been afforded the opportunity of commenting on the contents of the letter at the same time it was published.

They complained that the publication of the letter which only expressed one side of the issue, has thereby damaged their business.

The Jewish Report, in hindsight, accepts that the proper action would have been to contact the restaurant prior to considering the letter for publication. For this oversight we apologise unreservedly. It was never the intention to impinge on the integrity of Metzuyan. - Editor

AROUND THE WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

**PHILADELPHIA EXPONENT NAMED BEST WEEKLY PAPER IN PA.** (JTA) - Philadelphia's Jewish Exponent has been named the best overall weekly newspaper in the state of Pennsylvania and in the Philadelphia region by professional organisations.

The Keystone Pro chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists bestowed the state award on the Exponent for the second year in a row.

The Philadelphia Press Association cited the paper for the best overall weekly coverage in its region.

The awards were among 20 received by the Exponent from state and local journalism competitions for work published in 2010.

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# Activists, Israeli Navy prepare for flotilla bound for Gaza

MARCY OSTER  
JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S NAVY this week made final preparations to intercept the pro-Palestinian flotilla due to arrive at the Gaza Strip from Mediterranean ports later this week.

Commandos from the Israeli Navy's elite Shayetet 13 unit have spent weeks preparing to stop the flotilla from reaching Gaza, including practicing new ways to quickly board the ships' upper decks and how to use water cannons and other non-lethal riot control methods. The flotilla was only due in Gaza after our printing deadline.

The Navy wanted to avoid a repeat of the violence that occurred when Israeli commandos boarded a ship in last year's flotilla to Gaza. Nine Turkish activists, including a dual Turkish-American citizen, were killed in clashes with the commandos aboard the Mavi Marmara in May 2010.

This year's flotilla activists, whose stated goal is to break Israel's maritime blockade of the Hamas-run coastal strip, have attended workshops on the use of passive resistance tactics. The activists also have been trained to transmit information from the ships until the last minute and keep video chips hidden from boarding Israeli soldiers, according to a blog post by flotilla participant Medea Benjamin.

Unnamed Israeli officials told Israeli media outlets that some flotilla participants hoped to kill Israeli soldiers and were planning to bring aboard bags of sulphur to pour it on soldiers as they attempt to board the ships. Israeli officials have identified at least two participants in the flotilla as having ties to Hamas.

However, a flotilla organiser, Israeli expatriate Dror Feiler, told journalists that flotilla participants had signed a declaration of nonviolence. Feiler said that dangerous chemicals would not be allowed on board flotilla vessels.

"If Israel suspects anyone, it

should provide us with information so we can stop him," he told Israel Army Radio on Tuesday morning. "Violent people are not permitted to take part in the flotilla."

The flotilla was expected to be a smaller version of last year's, with some 10 ships, including two cargo ships, carrying about 500 activists reportedly set to take part, instead of the at least 15 ships carrying thousands of activists originally planned.

Earlier this month, the Turkish Islamic charity IHH, which helped organise last year's flotilla with the Free Gaza Movement, withdrew the participation of the Mavi Marmara in this year's flotilla. The IHH, which is considered a terrorist organisation by Israel and the European Union, said the ship did not gain necessary approval from Turkish port authorities for technical reasons.

The flotilla ran into further problems this week. The departure date of flotilla ships from Greek ports was pushed off from the originally scheduled Tuesday launch due to a nationwide strike as a result of the Greek government's austerity measures. Meanwhile, one ship's propeller was cut off in what flotilla organisers called sabotage.

Several other ships, including the American-flagged Audacity of Hope, did not, at the time of our going to press, have clearance to leave their ports after thorough port authority inspections - some said more thorough than usual - and in the case of the American ship, an accusation that it was not seaworthy.

After two days of meetings, Israel's Security Cabinet on Monday ordered the Israel Defence Forces to prevent the flotilla from reaching Gaza, and also directed the Foreign Ministry to continue its diplomatic efforts to stop the flotilla from setting sail. The decision echoed statements made in recent days by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in which he said that he would not allow

flotilla ships to breach the blockade.

Israel has said it will take any humanitarian aid directly to Gaza if the flotilla ships are brought into an Israeli port. Israel also has secured an agreement from Egypt's interim government to allow the flotilla ships to unload their aid in the El Arish port and take it into Gaza, as the European aid group Miles of Smiles did last week, bringing 30 tons of aid into Gaza after landing in the Egyptian port.

Israeli Defence Minister Ehud Barak on Monday called the flotilla an "unnecessary provocation" and asserted that "there is no humanitarian crisis in Gaza".

The head of Israel's Government Press Office had threatened to deny entry to the country for 10 years to any journalist who participated in the flotilla, but the Israeli government quickly backed away from the threat.

Netanyahu on Monday ordered Israeli authorities to formulate a special procedure for journalists arrested on board the flotilla, saying that the policy for journalists covering the flotilla should not be the same as against infiltrators and those who entered Israel illegally. Several dozen journalists are registered to sail with the flotilla.

Members of the Israeli media and international journalists will be embedded in Israeli Navy vessels in contact with the flotilla "in order to create transparency and credible coverage of the events", according to a statement from the Prime Minister's Office.

Oren Helman, director of Israel's Government Press Office, had threatened the ban and other sanctions in a letter Sunday to members of the foreign press.

"I implore you to avoid taking part in this provocative and dangerous event, the purpose of which is to undermine Israel's right to defend itself and to knowingly violate Israeli law," he wrote.

Meanwhile, the US State Department had said in a state-

ment that Americans involved in the flotilla could face fines and jail upon their return. Flotilla participants "are taking irresponsible and provocative actions", the statement said.

At least 36 Americans were expected to be aboard the planned flotilla, including the Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Alice Walker.

Walker said at a news confer-

ence on Monday that she was sailing with the flotilla because African Americans had been helped by outside communities when they had been slaves and when they had fought for civil rights.

The United States, Canada and the United Kingdom issued travel advisories that specifically warned citizens against attempting to enter Gaza by sea. (JTA)

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# Absa Jewish Achiever Awards nominations near deadline

PETER FELDMAN

THERE IS just one week to go before the deadline for nominations for this year's Absa Jewish Achiever Awards, the most prestigious event on the Jewish business and social calendar. Nominations close on Thursday, July 7.

Howard Sackstein, a director of SA Jewish Report, said there had been an overwhelming response to the call for nominations so far. They had already received more than 40 nominations, representing the cream of South African Jewish society.

"This has been the most inclusive process for nominees ever conducted by the SA Jewish Report."

The event will be held on August 11 in the Maroela Room at the Sandton Sun and the MC will be popular entertainer, Harry Sideropoulos.

The three business awards will be judged by a strong panel which works independently of the SA Jewish Report. It is also audited by an independent company.

The judges this year, who interview all the candidates, are Steven Blend, a renowned South African and international entrepreneur; Oscar Jacobsohn, relations executive at Absa Bank; Geoff Rothschild, executive director of the Johannesburg Stock Exchange; and Dr (Deenadayalen) Len Konar, a director of several top companies.

The convener is financial executive Norman Lowenthal, who has no voting power. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

*The awards presented on the night are:*

- The Helen Suzman Lifetime Achievement Award
- Business Person – ABSA Listed Company Award
- Business Person – ABSA Unlisted Company Award
- Business Person – Johnnie Walker Entrepreneur award
- The Community Service Award
- The Arts Science, Sports & Culture Award
- The Cyril Harris Humanitarian



The inimitable Harry Sideropoulos, who will be MCing this year's Achiever function. Photograph courtesy [www.artlink.co.za](http://www.artlink.co.za)

Award. The recipient of this award could come from either the Jewish or non-Jewish community.

At last year's award the guest speaker was Mervyn King, a senior counsel and former judge of the Supreme Court, who warned of the dire consequences of companies not taking the environment into account while going about their business.

Maria Ramos, Absa Group Chief Executive, told the gathering that the bank was privileged to be the sponsors for all these years.

"The awards are for Jewish people, sometimes young, who often start something from nothing. They contribute, not only to business, but also in the fields of science and medicine. They change society and make significant contributions to the world we live in," she said.

They were inspiring youngsters and leaving a legacy, she said, adding that they were role models for others.

A special tribute was paid to the late Honourable Abe Abrahamson, former chairman of the SA Jewish Report who has passed away. He was granted the Helen Suzman

Lifetime Achiever Award. His daughter Irene, was in tears as she paid tribute to her father.

Another Helen Suzman Lifetime Achiever Award went to Raymond Ackerman, founder of the Pick n Pay group.

The Arts, Science, Culture and Sports Award went to Jonathan Kaplan, the well-known rugby referee.

The Cyril Harris Humanitarian Award went to Willie Miller of the Kadimah Occupational Centre.

This is a protective workshop which caters for adults who, for a variety of reasons, are unable to work in the open labour market. It also caters for people who are intellectually disabled.

The Community Active Protection Organisation received the Community Service Award.

The Johnnie Walker Entrepreneur Award went to Aviad Eyal of Cura Software.

Jeffrey Zidel received the Absa Business Achiever Award in the listed companies' category. On receiving the award, Zidel said he was "shocked and truly humbled." The recipe for success, he said, was to keep simple harmony.

The winner of the non-listed companies award was Darryl Martin Egdes for his MoreGolf. The company is the first internationally-branded golf teaching academy in South Africa.

Nominations may be e-mailed: [nominations@SAJewishReport.co.za](mailto:nominations@SAJewishReport.co.za) or submitted via the website [www.SAJewishReport.co.za](http://www.SAJewishReport.co.za).

They must include  
Name  
Contact details  
Short motivation

The rules state that nominees must be South African citizens or hold a valid South African identity document.

In categories "Business Achiever Award," "Lifetime Achiever" and "Entrepreneur", a nominee must be a member of the Jewish community.

The "Humanitarian Award" category is open to the broader community, irrespective of culture, creed or gender.

# Rabbi Craig Kacev receives Jewish education prize

THE MAX M Fisher Prize for Jewish Education in the Diaspora for 2011 will be awarded to Rabbi Craig Kacev of Johannesburg, and Rabbi Jacob Biderman of Vienna "in recognition of their vital contributions to the advancement of Jewish education in their communities"

The ceremony took place on June 28, at the Inbal Hotel, in Jerusalem.

The Max M Fisher Prize has been awarded annually since 1999 by the L A Pincus Fund for Jewish Education in the Diaspora. Max Fisher, founding chairman of the board of governors of the Jewish Agency for Israel, served as chairman of the Pincus Fund from 1977 through 2005. This fund, based in Jerusalem, is an independent foundation which supports new and innovative projects which advance Jewish education in communities throughout the world.

Rabbi Kacev grew up and received rabbinic ordination in South Africa. He is a graduate of the Senior Educators Programme of the Melton Centre at Hebrew University.

He has worked as director of Jewish studies for the South African Board of Jewish

Education. Since 2003, he has served as general director of SABJE. He oversees the educational programme and administration of the King David Schools system, comprising five community schools, with an enrolment of 3 400.

Rabbi Kacev believes that the quality of teaching is the single most important factor related to school improvement. He therefore works to implement programmes to train teaching staff. Under his supervision, enrolment in the King David Schools has remained stable, even as the South African Jewish community has shrunk due to emigration.

Rabbi Kacev has initiated new curricula for teaching Hebrew and Jewish studies. A sophisticated dilemma curriculum for junior high school was developed with Pincus Fund support.

Rabbi Kacev works to make Israel a focus of high school learners and the percentage of King David learners attending post-high school programmes in Israel, is at an all-time high. During the past three years, Israel also has become the emigration destination of choice for King David parents.

## AROUND THE WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

### MAZON DOLING OUT \$3 MILLION IN GRANTS TO FIGHT HUNGER

WASHINGTON (JTA) -- Mazon said it has awarded more than \$3 million in grants for 2011 to agencies dedicated to fighting hunger.

The grant recipients announced Tuesday by the Jewish non-profit organisation included about two dozen organisations from around the world, including Israel, South Africa, Ethiopia and Haiti, and several hundred from more than 40 states in America.

"Our grants help agencies rise to the challenge of feeding

their hungry neighbours, and expanding access to government safety-net programmes that shield families from some of the worst effects of the recession," Mazon grants director Mia Hubbard said in a news release.

Religious and secular organisations, including Christian and Jewish charities, received grants.

The latest awards bring the total amount that Mazon has doled out in grants to more than \$53 million, the release said.

### FOUR OF LIMMUD'S KEY NOTE SPEAKERS:



Rabbi Natan Lopes Cardozo. (PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY [CARDOZOACADEMY.ORG](http://CARDOZOACADEMY.ORG))



Rabbi Simon Jacobson. (PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY [MEANINGFULLIFE.COM](http://MEANINGFULLIFE.COM))



Rabbi Micha Odenheimer. (PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY [RABBIJOHN MOSCOWITZ.BLOG.COM](http://RABBIJOHN MOSCOWITZ.BLOG.COM))



Eva Hoffman. (PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY [UCTV.TV](http://UCTV.TV).)

# Top speakers lined up for Limmud's 'Weekend Away'

LIMMUD JOHANNESBURG is for the first time offering a weekend away experience with top international presenters who will complement local talent. Limmud encourages learning and discussion on all things Jewish and it says in a media release, "every member of the family will enjoy the experience".

Wayne Sussman, national co-chairman Limmud SA explains: "Johannesburg has outgrown the previous premises of Wits Medical School and Varsity College. We decided to follow the residential approach as this has been shown by Limmud internationally to be the premier Limmud experience.

"Hence the bold decision to go to the Southern Sun Riverside Lifestyle Resort from Friday, August 19 to Sunday, August 21. It's similar to the previous Limmud format, but sessions start earlier and run later which means you can hear your favourite presenter more often."

Limmud provides a parallel learning environment where conference delegates will struggle to make the best session choices due the wide variety of presenters

and topics on offer. Shabbat will be observed in all public spaces and therefore no microphones will be used until Saturday night.

The Cape Town caterer for Limmud week end conferences, Goldies, will now impress Johannesburg audiences. Orthodox shul services will also be available.

The presenters this year include highly respected rabbis. Natan Lopes Cardozo is a world renowned rabbi, lecturer and author of many books on Jewish philosophy. South African audiences have always offered him a warm reception.

Simon Jacobson, an internationally regarded rabbi wrote the well-known book, "Toward a Meaningful Life". He is the brother of Rabbi YY Jacobson who was recently in South Africa.

Simon Jacobson was the documenter and publisher of the Lubavitcher Rebbe's public talks from 1970 to 1992. He also runs the Meaningful Life Centre in New York. He is one of the most pioneering and sought after writers and speakers in the Jewish world today.

Micha Odenheimer is a writer and social activist who is a founding director of Tevel B'Tzedek, an Israeli based organisation which works with volunteers to pioneer new methods of development for impoverished communities.

Eva Hoffman who grew up in Poland, and is now based in the US, is an academic and expert on the Holocaust and has written two well-known books, "Lost in Translation" and "Shtetl".

There is also a host of presenters dealing with critical issues related to Israel, Zionism and the Middle East. These include Gerald Steinberg, a professor of political studies at Bar Ilan University and the head of NGO Monitor.

Professor Gideon Kunda teaches in the department of labour studies at Tel Aviv University. He will deal with issues of migrant workers and refugees.

Yariv Oppenheimer is the director general of Peace Now, one of Israel's original left-leaning NGOs and Chaim Aronowitz, will look at historic Zionist texts and their relevance to Israel and the Jewish world today.

There will be an additional nine international presenters as well as top local presenters who will join from across the country.

The full programme and register can be viewed online at [www.limmud.org.za](http://www.limmud.org.za) or call 072-356-0651.



# Daring 1976 Entebbe raid is remembered

ALISON GOLDBERG

JULY 4 marks the 35th anniversary of the Entebbe rescue in 1976 by Israel Defence Forces commandos, of 105 hostages held captive by Palestinian and German terrorists at Uganda’s Entebbe Airport.

Like the stunning raid against Osama bin Laden in Abbottabad in Pakistan last month, commanded by veteran Navy Seal and head of Joint Operations Command, Vice Admiral William McRaven, Entebbe was one of history’s most daring raids, which combined precision intelligence and operations well inside hostile territory.

The commandos had only minutes to penetrate a heavily guarded building, complete their mission and return safely to base.

The Entebbe raid revolutionised the very concept of special forces operations. It is studied at US service academies and command colleges and deeply influenced the thinking of American commanders such as McRaven.



Lieutenant-colonel Yoni Netanyahu who died in Entebbe.

A long-time friend of Israel, who has visited Israel many times and worked closely with Israel’s special forces, McRaven, in his classic book “Case Studies in Special Operations Warfare”, has an entire chapter on the Entebbe raid.

This information was revealed on June 22 by Michael Oren, Israel’s ambassador to the United States, in Jewish Exponent.

Unlike the Osama bin Laden raid, where the US lost no soldiers, there was one fatality at Entebbe, that of commander Yonatan Netanyahu, brother of Israel’s prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

On May 8 the prime minister visit-

ed his heroic brother’s grave, in advance of Yom Hazikaron, to avoid inconveniencing the public on the next day because of the presence of a large security detail.

Israel’s Memorial Day commemorates the more than 22 682 soldiers who have died defending the Jewish State from the “Islamonazi hoards hell-bent on the country’s annihilation”, in the words of quitenormal.wordpress.com.

Accompanied by his wife Sarah and their two sons Yair and Avner to the Mount Herzl military cemetery in Jerusalem, the prime minister said: “Each family that mourns a relative who fell in battle has a dear memory that lasts forever. On Memorial Day, all of the people of Israel unite in recognition and thanks to those who gave their lives for the

establishment and continuation of the State of Israel.”

In a recent interview with CNN, Oren reported, Netanyahu said the death of his brother, Lieutenant-Colonel Yoni Netanyahu’s death during the raid, had profoundly impacted on him.

“I think of my brother. I think of our children. I think of the Palestinian children. We could have a better world...a world of peace.”

In a much publicised June 14, 2009 speech at Bar Ilan University in Tel Aviv, the prime minister said: “I know the terror of war, I participated in battles, I lost good friends who fell; I lost a brother, I saw the pain of bereaved families from up close; very many times. I do not want war. No one in Israel wants war” (renewamerica.com).

## Information is sought on Dr Melville Edelstein

FILM PRODUCER Kevin Harris is currently researching a film/TV documentary on the late Dr Melville Edelstein who was tragically killed on June 16, 1976 during the Soweto student uprising.

Harris says he is in touch with Dr Edelstein’s family, but would like to hear from people who knew Dr Edelstein or worked or worshipped with him.

Harris’ e-mail is khprod@global.co.za and his telephone number is (011) 726-4809, with voice-mail.

### AROUND THE WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

#### BRITAIN'S FIRST 'GREEN' JEWISH CEMETERY TO OPEN

(JTA) - Britain’s first “green” Jewish cemetery will open later this year.

The environmentally friendly cemetery is being built by the Jewish Joint Burial Society in Cheshunt, a small town of 52,000 residents in Hertfordshire, north of London, The Mercury weekly newspaper reported.

The burial society serves 35 Reform, Liberal and Masorti (Conservative) congregations in the United Kingdom.

Called a “woodland” cemetery in Britain, it will incorporate graves into the natural setting of the surrounding woods. Coffins will be bio-degradable to decompose quickly, and small memorial plaques will be used instead of large headstones.

The cemetery will have room for about 10,000 burials, including a section for mixed-faith families.

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**Singers Natasha Saladino and Mark Samowitz; keyboard player, Kevin Greenberg; Samantha's sister and mother, Tiffany and Felicité Brest; organiser, Raelene Tradonsky (behind); raconteur, Helen Heldenmuth and organiser, Ronelle Zeff.**



**Helen Heldenmuth stands behind her sister Rachel Factor and Rebbetzen Ann Harris.**

# KDSF fundraiser for the perfect matric farewell

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHS BY  
RITA LEWIS

THE FREEZING weather had abated somewhat on the morning of the Samantha Brest Endowment Fund, fundraising event last week when some 150 women, including Rebbetzen Ann Harris who was in Johannesburg at the time, gathered in Sandton to raise money for the King David Schools' Foundation.

The money will go (anonymously) to assist a matriculant who cannot afford the "necessities" to feel "one of the girls or boys" at the King David matric farewell.

It would purchase a complete outfit, hairdo, makeup, manicure, etc, for the chosen girl, or a tuxedo, shirt, shoes etc, for a boy, to make them feel just like everyone else, especially when arriving in a hired limousine.

King David Schools' Foundation's "Elliot" Wolf then explained to much laughter, that despite the fact that everyone had been addressing him as "Elliot", he was in fact Elliot's twin brother, Jeffrey.

He said his brother was in Israel and everyone present would just have to accept "his stand-in look-alike".

Wolf, former principal of King David, Victory Park, who was accompanied by his wife Barbara, said the matric farewell was the "highlight of the matric year".

He said life was not always easy and people were not equal. The money raised would go towards equalising someone's life – for one special day.

Samantha Brest died of meningitis at the age of 19.

If Samantha had been there, he

said, she would have loved to help someone.

"She had a great love of life, of her family and took satisfaction in giving. We remember her beauty, her kindness. It is in her honour that we are here today."

Mark Samowitz sang a selection of melodies from "Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat", "Les Miserables" and other shows, with Kevin Greenberg on keyboard.

They were joined for several songs and solos by Natasha Saladino, whose wonderful voice elicited many oohs and aahs.

Helen Heldenmuth said it was important to remember the past - and those who came from that difficult and different world.

As she spoke, a representation of this "old worlde" slowly appeared in front of everyone as Heldenmuth donned a grey wig, shawl and bent persona, to make the transformation from a smart, Jewish, raconteur and actress to a Yiddische bobba from Der Heim.

Being the bobba and asking "de kveshtions" in Yiddish and answering herself in English, she played the parts of the grandmother from Litta and the kugelly granddaughter from South Africa, constantly on her cell, to perfection. For example:

"Vat haf yu got der, darlink?" The reply was, an iPod.

"Vot is an iPod, darlink?"

There is an impatient, tut.

"Vot is de anser to mine kveshtion?" The bobba asks again.

There is no answer. "Ven yu kom from a kuntry ver dey didnt evn haf electricetay, vot can yu say?"

Go explain an iPod!

## SOCIAL SCENE

Rita Lewis [jont@global.co.za](mailto:jont@global.co.za)



**Barbara and Jeffrey Wolf, former headmaster of KDVP with Felicité Brest (centre).**



**Part of the crowd listening to the singing.**



**Marian Brivik with host, Hymie Brest.**



**Mother and daughter, Amy Gluckman and Karen Lob.**



**Kevin Greenberg accompanies singers, former Davidians, Natasha Saladino and Mark Samowitz on the keyboard.**



**Children's book writer and artist, Michelle Vinokur, Mark Samowitz with his parents Les and Iona Samowitz, with Michelle's mother, Becky Vinokur.**

## COMMUNITY BUZZ

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### LUBUMBASHI, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

From Marc Kopman (Krugersdrop):

"Celebrating my sister-in-law, Arlene Rosenberg, a former Bloemfontein girl's birthday at an establishment in nearby Fourways on May 23 this year when it came time for the gathering of 11 people at the dinner table to sing "Happy birthday" to her, I noticed that the three gentlemen at the adjacent table joined in with much gusto!

"When this was over, I heard them speaking in a French dialect which I immediately recognized, as I knew how to speak it before even English or Afrikaans, which I only began to master on my arrival in South Africa in 1961, aged six.

"Inquisitive, I approached them and began to converse in my lingua franca and much to their surprise they asked me where on earth I had learned to speak it? I replied that I was born in the (then) Elizabethville, Belgian Congo, in 1955, to which one of them told me that he too was born there in 1951.

"I continued by mentioning that I had had my brith milah in the shul there and he responded that, although not in regular use now due to the handful of Jews residing there, the shul was repainted, looked after, as was the Jewish cemetery.

"He then asked me if I perhaps knew one Jo Mallel. I said yes, without a doubt. He is a cousin now residing in Cape Town! I also learned that there is a fairly substantial Jewish community in the capital Kinshasa (previously Stanleyville, Belgian Congo).

"One can imagine the feeling of some euphoria that overcame me, being so far from my roots and yet all of a sudden, so near!"

To be continued....

### JOHANNESBURG (MAYFAIR)

"My Memories 1930-'39 "by Tutsie Wexler:

"'Foen der ganse lot vos iz dor vet zain a nutting.' So spoke our beloved rov., reader, cheder teacher and chazzan of beloved memory, Rev Zagnoev. How we trembled at his sonorous voice as it boomed out in anger, but how we loved and respected him for his kindness, understanding and knowledge.

"But dear Rebbe, you were not the best tipster. At a racecourse in this profession they would have strung you up from the nearest bluegum tree!

"Your 'lomdim' have all turned out as far as my knowledge goes - "'tov meod'. They have left their indelible mark on Jewry throughout South Africa, but as I have learnt, I must commence my story with 'Breishith'.

"In the beginning at Mayfair, one remembers the late Rev Wolpert of heavy hand and bandaged head damaged by a brick that, with the might of a 10-year-old's throwing arm, came through the cheder window.

"We took years off your life. Many a time our long suffering parents had to face the wrath of these unfortunates who by the hand of 'Ribeno Shel Olam' were sent to educate us hooligans."

Acknowledgement to: "Jewish Affairs" September 1981.

**For a private meeting please contact:**

**Saul Kramer**

**+972-54-4904249**

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C A P I T A L







The ORT JET team ; Paul Bacher (CEO); Dr Avron Urison (strategic consultant); Cindy Silberg (operations manager); Nicci Raz (marketing manager); Dina Kramer (consultant product manager). (PHOTOGRAPH SUPPLIED)

# The 2011 Business Plan Challenge has now been launched

ORT JET and Project Natan have officially launched the 2011 Business Plan Challenge.

Following the success of last year’s competition, budding Jewish entrepreneurs who missed the boat last year now have an opportunity to enter this competition.

“The quality of the business plans received was incredible; we are delighted that we are able to run the competition again this year,” Paul Bacher, CEO of ORT JET, is quoted in a media release.

The partnership between ORT JET, a division of ORT SA and Project Natan, a division of Chabad House, has developed and evolved over the last three years.

With Project Natan offering Jewish businesspeople interest-free bridging finance of up to R100 000 and ORT JET offering a holistic support structure to assist businesses, the sustainability of the Jewish business environment is top priority for both partners.

“The competition is an exciting way to encourage potential entrepreneurs to take action and put their ideas to paper. The business plan is the first step in the process of making an idea become a reality,” says Daniel Roy of Project Natan.

The winners will be given all the

tools needed to start their business. Thanks to the generosity of the sponsors, the prize include an interest free loan from Project Natan; a Quickbooks accounting package; laptop computers (Inter8 IT); executive life coaching sessions (Stoke and Urban Everest); strategic legal and financial advice (Eversheds legal advisers and Ignite people solutions); and formal entrepreneurial training with Raizcorp.

The entire process will be managed and facilitated by ORT JET.

This year there will be two categories to choose from: Start-up and Seedling. The second category was added to allow the infant businesses (under 18 months) the opportunity to win the prizes and have the ability to kick start their success.

Entries close on September 27 and the winners will be announced at a prize-giving event in November.

For further information, go to [www.ortjet.org.za](http://www.ortjet.org.za) or call (011) 728-7154.

# Pink Cupcake Affair draws attention to breast cancer

DEBBIE FIRER  
PHOTOGRAPHS: RENE BUDD

IT WAS all in the pink once again at the third “Pink Cupcake Affair” held on Sunday June 12 at the Sandton Shul hall. Sponsored by Momentum, and hosted by King David Primary School Linksfield and breast cancer support group Bosom Buddies, the event saw over 300 women align themselves with the fight against breast cancer.

The morning centred on the

theme of breast health awareness and speakers included Dr Sarah Rayne, leading breast specialist and surgeon and Momentum’s Michelle Robbertse. In breaking with tradition, the audience heard the journey of the first male to speak at this event - John Kirtland, Bosom Buddies’ honorary male breast cancer survivor.

Some of the issues raised, included statistics and information regarding the mutation of the Brac 1 and Brac 2 genes, prevalent in

Ashkenazi Jews and a cause of many breast cancers in the South African Jewish population.

The King David Primary School Linksfield grade 7 girls assisted in waitressing and handing out goody bags. The hall was a spectacular sight of pink, white and silver, as quite a few of Johannesburg’s local décor and event specialists contributed their time and creativity in decorating the tables. Cindy Alter, formerly of the local pop phenomenon “Clout” and a cancer survivor herself, took some of the guests back to their childhood with a few of her famous numbers.

Said Debbie Firer, convener of the event: “The Pink Cupcake Affair is not only a feel good occasion, it is also a reminder that women should empower themselves by taking control of their health.

“Our aim is to educate and inform women and at the same time provide them with a little bit of fun, sumptuous food and good entertainment.”



Grade 7 King David Primary School Linksfield girls, who were the waitresses for the morning.



Breast cancer survivors, top: Michelle Rivera; Helen Son; Christel Klima; and Debbie Firer - all from Bosom Buddies. Front: Hilary Sutton; Sonia Sutton; and Elaine Kotton.

# UJW’s panic button initiative

HOW OFTEN have you thought: “What if I fell and hurt myself while I am on my own? G-d forbid I have a stroke, a heart attack, or slip in the bath and cannot get out?”

Help is at hand! With the press of a button you will be connected to a network which will have all your details registered on a screen and will ensure that you are immediately directed to the right people who

will organise the help you need.

The Union of Jewish Women, in a media release, says it has initiated this excellent facility for all its recipients of Kosher Mobile Meals, free of charge.

Ultimately they plan to extend this service to all members of the community who require it, at a minimal charge.

This scheme is made possible

through the CSO and the ICCCI (the Incident Control and Command Centre International).

A button which may be worn around the neck, will have direct access to the CSO when pressed in an emergency. With all the user’s details in their computers, they will be able to react immediately.

For further information, please contact Elaine on 082-459-2099.

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Applications including CV and References should be sent as soon as possible to Jonty Cohen at [execd@sydshul.co.za](mailto:execd@sydshul.co.za).



## An arrest warrant for a tyrant

THE INTERNATIONAL Criminal Court’s (ICC) issuing on Monday of an arrest warrant for Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi, his son Saif al-Islam and the country’s intelligence head Abdullah al-Senussi for orchestrating crimes against humanity during the pro-democracy uprising, including killing, injuring, arrest and imprisonment of hundreds of civilians, will be celebrated by advocates of universal humanitarian law. Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch both welcomed the move.

Gaddafi - who has held power since 1969 – is the second serving head of state to be issued with an ICC arrest warrant – the first was in 2009 against Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir over alleged crimes in Darfur.

People who are puzzled by the ongoing international barrage of accusations against Israel of being an immoral regime, might wonder whether such propaganda is beginning to be passé in the face of the horrors in Libya, Syria, Sudan and other places. Israel is an open society. Its openness - like any democracy - makes it, ironically, an easy target.

Despotic rulers may manipulate their public image for a long time - as Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe has done in our own neighbourhood – but eventually the truth has to be exposed.

With the “Arab Spring”, it seems the Arab masses are no longer willing to tolerate their repressive leaders as they have done until now. Young Arabs have similar aspirations to their counterparts in Western countries, and a yearning for their voices to be heard.

From a cynical perspective, it can take an appalling act of barbarism - like that in Libya - to bring home the true nature of some of these countries.

Another shocking accusation against Gaddafi has been heard – that Libyan soldiers used rape as a weapon at his insistence. The ICC has yet to include this on the charge sheet, but there is pressure for it. The matter has been raised in the UN Security Council. In April the US ambassador, Susan Rice, said some Libyan troops were issued with the impotency drug Viagra.

The ICC’s chief prosecutor, Luis Moreno-Ocampo, has claimed Viagra was given to Libyan troops as part of an official policy of rape - a crime against humanity. He said the question until recently was whether Gaddafi himself could be associated with the rapes, or whether they happened “in the barracks”. But information now seemed to show Gaddafi himself “decided (to authorise the rapes)”.

Isn’t it strange that we hear so little from Israel’s loudest critics regarding the atrocities in Libya and Syria? The UN, EU and Nato have acted decisively against Gaddafi, but in Africa generally - and on our own turf in South Africa - the condemnation seems uncomfortably muted.

President Jacob Zuma’s visit last May to Gaddafi – where they hugged each other and Zuma called him “Brother Leader”, a title Gaddafi has conferred on himself and with the ANC’s historical bond with Libya dating from the struggle years against apartheid – seems a little embarrassing today, a symbol of the African Union’s (AU) impotence to promote peace and justice on its own continent.

Closer to home, the AU has not succeeded in doing anything constructive about Mugabe either. The AU, rightly, wants to be relevant, but unfortunately it seems it is not.

SABC radio news has reported that Zuma disapproves of the ICC arrest warrant. Presidential spokesman Zizi Kodwa told the SABC: “President Zuma is extremely disappointed and concerned on the issuing of (a) warrant by the ICC against Colonel Gaddafi.”

He said the warrant undermined the AU ad hoc committee on Libya’s work. Chaired by Mauritanian President Mohamed Ould Abdel Azizhas and containing the heads of state of the Republic of Congo, Mali, Uganda and South Africa, the committee has interacted with Gaddafi and the TNC leadership in Tripoli and Benghazi.

Sadly, Africa comes out of this cruel mess in Libya looking indecisive and mediocre. Where is our government’s leadership on this issue? Where does South Africa stand? And when will old allegiances lose their credibility in the face of new and shocking revelations?

## OPINION AND ANALYSIS

FORUM FOR DIVERSE VIEWS

# Delta Saudi flap leaves questions of openness to Jewish flyers

RON KAMPEAS  
WASHINGTON

THE SAUDI government wants you to know: It doesn’t ban visits by Jews.

Whether the Saudis make travel difficult for Jews, particularly when it comes to those who have Israel stamps on their passports or come carrying religious items like tefillin, is another question entirely.

The issue of Saudi policy vis-à-vis Jews emerged last week after World Net Daily, a conservative website, reported that Delta Airlines was enforcing a Saudi ban on Jewish visitors by partnering with Saudi Arabian Airlines. The report sparked a round of angry demands directed at Delta and at the Saudi Embassy in Washington.

“Rumours being circulated via the Internet regarding passenger flight restrictions on Saudi Arabian Airlines are completely false,” the Saudi Embassy said in a two-sentence statement sent last Friday to JTA and other news agencies. “The Government of Saudi Arabia does not deny visas to US citizens based on their religion.”

Yet Jewish defence organisations say that in practice, Saudi authorities make it very difficult for Jews to visit the country.

The Delta flap began when a Jewish passenger, Washington attorney Jeffrey Lovitky, asked Delta what the implications were for Jewish passengers of Saudi Arabian Airlines joining the Sky Team Alliance on January 10. The alliance, which includes Delta, facilitates flights on multiple carriers.

The arrangement is not unusual: Other alliances mix US and Saudi carriers.

But Delta’s response touched a nerve when the airline appeared to shuck off any responsibility for Saudi Arabia’s allegedly discriminatory policies.

“While we fully understand and sympathise with your concerns, Delta has no control over the actions of the United States or any foreign country,” Kathy Johnston, a customer care staffer, wrote to Lovitky in an April 28 letter.

“If the government of Saudi Arabia engages in discriminatory practices in the issuance of travel documents to US citizens, this is a matter which must be addressed with a local embassy as appropriate or with the US State Department.”

Jewish organisations wondered whether that meant Delta staffers were asking passengers with Jewish-sounding names if they had properly obtained visas to visit the country.

“They’ve joined in this policy of discrimination,” Kenneth Bandler, a spokesman for the American Jewish Committee, told JTA.

On the Huffington Post, Rabbi Jason Miller of Detroit excoriated the airline for attempting to pass the buck.

“No, it’s not Delta’s fault that the Saudi government is anti-Semitic, but it doesn’t have to go along with it,” he wrote. “It’s as if the Saudis are telling Delta that when it comes to Jewish passengers, its name should become an acronym: “Don’t Even Let Them Aboard.”

As other media, including Religion News Service, picked up the story, Delta tried to do damage control.

“We, like all international airlines, are



required to comply with all applicable laws governing entry into every country we serve,” Trebor Banstetter, a Delta spokesman, wrote in a blog post. “You as passengers are responsible for obtaining the necessary travel documents, such as visas and certification of required vaccinations, and we’re responsible for making sure that you have the proper documentation before you board.”

No one was mollified, and Senator Mark Kirk (Republican Illinois) asked the Federal Aviation Authority to investigate.

“I request your investigation into this matter to determine whether Delta Airlines violated US law or regulation and to ensure no US citizen is denied their right to fly solely on the basis of their religion,” he wrote in a letter last Friday.

Within hours, Delta came out with its third statement, this time noting that its arrangement with the Saudi airline was commonplace.

“Delta’s only agreement with Saudi Arabian Airlines is a standard industry interline agreement, which allows passengers to book tickets on multiple carriers, similar to the standard interline agreements American Airlines, US Airways and Alaska Airlines have with Saudi Arabian Airlines,” it said.

“All of the three global airline alliances - Star, which includes United Airlines; Oneworld, which includes American Airlines, and SkyTeam, which includes Delta - have members that fly to Saudi Arabia and are subject to that country’s rules governing entry.”

Religion News Service subsequently retracted much of its earlier story, noting that it is not Saudi policy to deny entry to travellers with an Israeli stamp in their passports.

The US State Department’s travel advisory for Saudi Arabia warns that reports of such denials persist.

“There have been reports by US citizens that they were refused a Saudi visa because their passports reflected travel to Israel or indicated that they were born in Israel,” it said.

The State Department website also includes lengthy warnings to Americans of Arab origin that they may be subject to intensive questioning by Israel at its crossings and may even be turned away.

It also notes that these policies derive from security considerations, and from Israel’s complex customs and entry agreements with the Palestinian Authority.

The Anti-Defamation League said that the Saudi policies were especially burdensome for Jewish travellers.

“Saudi Arabia’s past practice of banning travellers with an ‘Israel’ stamp in their passport from gaining entry into the country runs contrary to the spirit and intent of Delta’s non-discrimination policy,” the ADL said.

“While this practice affects all travellers who previously visited Israel, it has a disproportionate impact on Jewish passengers.

“Moreover, Saudi Arabia also bars anyone from bringing into Saudi Arabia religious ritual objects, including religious texts, from any faith other than Islam, effectively banning religiously observant Jews from entering the country.”

The ADL wants all airlines that partner with those that fly to Saudi Arabia to make their practices clear.

In a statement the ADL said: “We expect Delta, and any other American airline which flies to Riyadh or partners with an airline that flies there, to ensure that its passengers - whatever their faith - not be discriminated against, and that no American airline in any way enable, or facilitate this discrimination, whatever the regulations of Saudi Arabia.” (JTA)





OPINION AND ANALYSIS – FORUM FOR DIVERSE VIEWS

# Bandung Conference: Now time for a ‘NAM peace initiative’

ILAN BARUCH  
FORMER ISRAELI  
AMBASSADOR TO SA (RET)

ISRAELI DIPLOMATS were on their way to Indonesia but were refused entry in April 1955; Jerusalem hoped to participate in the Bandung Conference.

At the time, leaders of 29 young Asian and African states convened, desiring to formulate a new narrative in the history of mankind, to shed the yoke of colonialism through the struggle for liberation and political independence.

In the Bandung Conference the foundations were laid for the Asian-African bloc, later (1961) to become the Nonaligned Movement. Oratorical speeches were electrifying. When repeatedly standing ovations were given to Jawaharlal Nehru, Kwame Nkrumah and Gamal Abdel Nasser, the 2 000 deputies present elevated their three heroes into stardom, catapulting them into the ranks of world leaders.

Nasser used the Bandung podium to pull out his Palestinian card. He was bitter about the defeat in 1948 of three Arab armies (against Israel), including that of Egypt, while on a mission to enforce a reverse of the UNGA resolution 181 creating Israel within the “two state solution”.

He vetoed Israel from participating in Bandung; he wanted the stage for himself. He wanted Israel to be denied



international legitimacy. But, Israel, the young Jewish State, had something to say about the struggle for liberation and independence. After all, only a decade after the Holocaust destroyed one third of us, Israel - seven years old - already showed early signs of promise.

However, two years after Bandung, Israel launched its most successful diplomatic initiative - either through its trade unions (the Afro-Asian Institute) or through the state-funded International Co-operation Department of the MFA (MASHAV), by which it coincidentally followed the Bandung vision of technical co-operation in health, education, water and agriculture.

The first of many to entertain Israeli technical assistance was Ghana, after declaring its independence in 1957.

In spite of the efforts and goodwill invested in MASHAV among members of the Nonaligned Movement, Israel is still denied the international recognition and legitimacy it deserves as a full member of the United Nations.

Unlike Bandung, the denial is not linked to its very existence anymore, but to the creation of the State of Palestine on territories occupied by Israel in 1967.

In March 2002 Lebanon, a prominent participant in Bandung at the time, hosted the Arab Summit. Saudi Arabia

put a peace initiative on the table, proposing peace and normalisation between Israel and the entire Arab world, provided the Palestine-Israel and Syria-Israel conflicts are resolved territorially and otherwise by agreement between the parties.

The Saudi plan was adopted by the summit and became the “Arab Peace Initiative”.

Since the Bandung Conference, Israel faces diplomatic isolation in multilateral organisations and forums where the NAM (Nonaligned Movement) consistently recruits its members to vote against it. One can cynically call it the “anti-Israel automatic majority”; one may as well also call it the “flat earth majority”.

With the creation of the rainbow nation, overnight South Africa became a prominent leader of the NAM, with substantial influence in multilateral forums. So far, South Africa has dogmatically used its leverage against Israel, consistently contributing to its isolation and vulnerability.

I implore South Africa to take a U-turn and offer Jerusalem a deal: Accept the Arab Peace Initiative as a base for negotiations. The NAM then will widen the Arab Peace Initiative and transform it into a NAM Peace Initiative.

This move will open new horizons for peace in the Middle East, and reverse the anti-Israel NAM “automatic majority” voting patterns at the UN.

It will be a symbolic invitation, however delayed, for Israel to join the Bandung Conference.

## AROUND THE WORLD

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### HAMAS REJECTS GERMAN MEDIATOR'S OFFER ON SHALIT

JERUSALEM - Hamas has rejected a German-mediated offer to free Gilad Shalit that had been accepted by the Israeli government.

Hamas political bureau deputy chief Mousa Mohammed Abu Marzouk in an interview with the Al Hayat newspaper, called the offer "unjust" and said the German mediator “endorsed the unfair and unjust positions of the Zionist government”, according to reports.

Hamas would no longer negotiate with the German mediator, he added.

"There is no chance that the German mediator will return because he is not carrying out his duties and is failing in his mission," Marzouk said.

"We all expected that he would present a fair and not extreme position. But instead of trying to reduce the demands of the Israeli government, he accepted its terms."

A German government spokesman confirmed on Monday that Israel had accepted the mediator's proposal for the release of Shalit, an Israeli soldier who was captured in a cross-border raid near Gaza in June 2006, The Associated Press reported.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday that Israel had accepted the deal and was awaiting Hamas' response. Netanyahu did not specify the terms of the proposal.

"This proposal was harsh; it was not simple for the State of Israel," Netanyahu said in a statement released after the weekly Cabinet meeting. "However, we agreed to accept it in the belief that it was balanced between our desire to secure Gilad's release and to prevent possible harm to the lives and security of the Israeli people."

"As of now, we have yet to receive Hamas's official answer to the German mediator's proposal."

The statement said: "The State of Israel is ready to go far, more than any other country, in order to secure Gilad's release." (JTA)

# HEAR THE WORLD’S FINEST AT LIMMUD SA



**NATHAN LOPES CARDOZO**  
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**EVA HOFFMAN**  
Polish born expert on the Holocaust. Works include *Lost in Translation* and *Shtetl*. Eva is the Stern Scholar in Residence for the South African Holocaust and Genocide Foundation.



**SIMON JACOBSON**  
Rabbi, author of the best-selling *Toward A Meaningful Life* and head of the Meaningful Life Center in New York.



**DAVID NEWMAN**  
Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at Ben Gurion University.



**GERALD STEINBERG**  
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week prior to publication

**Adler Museum of Medicine, Parktown:** “Reflect”, an exhibition by Elaine Hirschowitz, until July 11, (011) 717-2067.

**Circa Gallery, Rosebank:** “Weapons of Mass Destruction” by Ronit Judelman; “Living on a Horizon” by Ann Gollifer, until July 10, (011) 788-4805.

**Corbel Crescent, Glenhazel:** For women only, the debut album launch of Breindy, on July 3, 083-254-7451.

**Foxwood Theatre, Houghton:** “The Strange Case of Hester Cilliers”, with Annie Robinson and Paul Spence, July 1-3, (011) 486-0935.

**Iziko: South African National Museum, Cape Town:** “Tretchikoff: The People’s Painter”, curated by Andrew Lamprecht, until September 25, (021) 481-3970.

**Joburg Theatre Complex, Braamfontein:** In the Nelson Mandela, the Imperial Russian Ballet performs Tchaikovsky’s “Nutcracker”, July 6-10, (011) 877-6800. In the People’s Theatre, “Alice in Wonderland”, until August 7, (011) 403-1563.

**Kalk Bay Modern, Kalk Bay:** Sculpture and ceramics, including work by Lisa Firer, Clementina van der Walt, Wilma Cruise and others until July 15, (021) 788-6571.

**Market Theatre, Newtown:** Athol Fugard’s “Sizwe Banzi is Dead”, directed by Monageng Motshabi, until July 24, in the Laager. In the Barney Simon, Fatima Dike’s “So What’s New?” until August 14. In the Main Theatre, “You Can’t Be Serious” with Nik Rabinowitz, July 5-16, (011) 832-1641.

**National Children’s Theatre, Parktown:** “A Pocket Oliver Twist”, directed by Joyce Levinsohn and Francois Theron, until July 23, (011) 484-1584.

**Old Mutual Theatre on the Square, Sandton:** Gilbert and Sullivan’s “Pirates of Penzance” directed by Greg Homann, until July 9; Friday lunchtime concerts: Ventura Rosenthal (harp) and Susan Mouton (‘cello) on July 1, Auksie Trinikunas (mezzo-soprano) and Federico Freschi (baritone) on July 8, (011) 883-8606.

**Standard Bank Gallery, Johannesburg:** “Listening to Distant Thunder”, a Peter Clarke retrospective, until July 2, (011) 631-1889.

**State Theatre, Pretoria:** In the Opera, Mozart’s “Le Nozze di Figaro” (Marriage of Figaro), performed by Opera Africa conducted by Andrew Altenbach, directed by Angelo Gobbato, July 14, 17, 21 and 23, (011) 883-4189.

TAPESTRY

ART, BOOKS, DANCE, FILM, THEATRE

‘Pirates’ - a joyous romp definitely not to be missed

**Show:** *Gilbert and Sullivan’s “The Pirates of Penzance”, Old Mutual Theatre on the Square, Sandton, (011) 883-8606*  
**Director:** *Greg Homann, based on the 1880 original*  
**Musical director:** *Rowan Bakker*  
**Cast:** *James Borthwick; David Dennis; Clinton Hawks; Brandon Lindsay; Jonathan Taylor*  
**Design:** *Shelley Adriaanzen (choreography); Sarah Roberts (costumes); Greg Homann (set); Oliver Hauser (lighting); Rowan Bakker and Cameron Harris (musical arrangement)*  
**Until:** *July 9*

REVIEWED BY ROBYN SASSEN

THIS ROLLICKING bit of Victorian frippery enjoys an easy heightening of the silliness factor in its reduction which tosses any modicum of sentimentality out the window. Written for 10 principles and choruses of cops, pirates and daughters, respectively, this version has a cast of but five men (six, including Rowan Bakker onstage, at the piano). But such men are they, that the tale of leap-year births, soft-hearted pirates, frighteningly ugly girls and proper manners, holds together with hilarity and aplomb, albeit with many costume changes and some inanimate bystanders. Gilbert and Sullivan comic operas were so infused in popular culture that they lent themselves well to amateur interpretation, which

makes this professional potted account unusual. Aside from some acoustic issues in the theatre, making music and lyrics often fight for aural dominance rather than play nicely, it’s a joyous romp not to be missed. Most famous among the repertoire is the Major-General’s song and the Policeman’s song, also known as “When a Felon’s Not Engaged in his Employment”, which Danny Kaye made his own in 1949. Tempered by crisp arrangements, lung-bursting tempi and lyrics that take the piss out of the properness of Victorian society, these songs would have had the man in the street in 1880 rolling about the aisles as much as it will have you, not least because of superb performances: watching James Borthwick deadpan as Kate is enough to justify the drive to Sandton. Moreover, it is how this cast of mostly seasoned professionals lends their individual roles such seriousness that gives them three-dimensional conviction. The combination of Jonathan Taylor’s physical and musical hilarity with that of the inimitable David Dennis - as versatile in his Shakespearean finesse as he is as Frederic’s nursery maid Ruth, who at 47 has distressingly fallen in love with her charge - is one delicious surprise; others are the younger cast members - red-bearded Clinton Hawks as Mabel, the love interest of Frederic, with astute Victorian gaiety and an utterly astonishing vocal range. Brandon

Their sameness and difference are enthralling and pedestrian

**Exhibition:** *“Weapons of Mass Destruction” and “Living on a Horizon” (Circa gallery, Rosebank, (011) 788-4805.*  
**Artists:** *Ronit Judelman and Ann Gollifer*  
**Until:** *July 9*

REVIEWED BY ROBYN SASSEN

RONIT JUDELMAN and Ann Gollifer, by virtue of the works they show together and apart, leave you uncomfortable in a manner that makes you think rather than dismiss. Judelman’s 11 installations are shown in the gallery’s downstairs space. Hard boiled in their technical veracity and polish, they reflect as much subtlety as those famous war snaps of atrocity - think of that image of the shooting of a Viet Cong suspect by a South Vietnamese police chief, taken by Vo Suu and Eddie Adams in 1968, or the horrific photographs taken during Operation Barbarossa in the early Second World War years. Judelman’s pieces are devoid of fingerable context, however. There’s a hint of graveyard humour, but the work is so direct it hits you dead on target, leaving scant breathing space for discourse. Born in Paris, raised in Israel and educated in Israel and South Africa, Judelman trained as a clinical psychologist, and graduated in fine art from Unisa in 2009. The works speak of contemporary impromptu

warfare but have pared away fluffy complexities, leaving you bludgeoned emotionally: “Baby Doll” comprises nine commercial plastic dolls, translated flawlessly into solid transparent resin, suspended from the ceiling. Each doll’s torso is filled with a plastic replica of a hand grenade. Similarly, in “Crayons” we find an array of units, all in a complicated, teetering row - in sparkly purple, hot pink, green and glitter, a range of colours. But these are no crayons. They’re cast bullets. The guns shoot tiny replicas of people. “Bim Bum Bombs” is about playing games with colourful objects that are in fact bombs. This high resolution directness comments shatteringly on commercialism with as much definition as it does on war. Next you ascend the ramp leading to Circa’s large oval space, where you find seven evenly spaced vertical paintings by British Guiana-born, Botswana resident Ann Gollifer. Dedicated to the life of Bessie Head, and to her father-in-law Dr Gus Nilsson, but like the work of modernist Mark Rothko in a reduced way, these works have in common a horizon line, each indicates a possible landscape; it is their sameness and difference that is at once enthralling and pedestrian. Gollifer plays with the chemical compounds forming the colours; she dances with and challenges the drying process of each to be different. You walk into this space, and feel its silence; you



Shiver me timbers: the whole pirate gang: Jonathan Taylor; Brandon Lindsay; David Dennis; Clinton Hawks; and James Borthwick. (PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY OLD MUTUAL THEATRE ON THE SQUARE, SANDTON)

Lindsay as Frederic celebrates his musical theatre debut here, with likeable professionalism. The cherry on top, however, is Bakker way out there at the keyboard. On opening night, a throwaway aside uttered from within the confines of his bonnet set the cast corpsing and the audience into spontaneous hysteria. With its unique logic and dated story, this production withstands the test of time away from the humdrum of real life.



“Cadmium Orange”, a work on canvas by Ann Gollifer. (PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY CIRCA GALLERY)

need to be able to fall into these works, to be engulfed in their personal sense of wonder, to hear Tibetan singing bowl music as you gaze at them, but it is their odd formats - the 2m high, 1m wide punctures into fantasy worlds that seem to push you away as they tease you to believe in them.



FELDMAN  
ON FILM

Peter Feldman

PICK OF THE WEEK

All Good Things

**Cast:** *Ryan Gosling; Kirsten Durst; Frank Langella; Philip Baker Hall* **Director:** *Andrew Jarecki*

Ryan Gosling is doing some very good things with his career – even though some of the films in which he appears are deeply depressing. “All Good Things” is one of them. Around the turn of this century, American newspapers published a host of stories about the bizarre saga of Robert Durst, the scion of a very prominent Manhattan real estate family who was charged with murder in Texas. Durst, who was arrested while dressed in drag

and attempting to get rid of an elderly neighbour’s dismembered body, hadn’t been seen since 1981. That was when authorities identified him as a suspect in the disappearance of his wife, Katie, who was declared legally dead in 2001. Director Andrew Jarecki’s compelling docudrama implies that Durst murdered his wife, but this unsolved crime turns out to be less mysterious than trying to penetrate the mind of the eccentric killer, a role which Ryan Gosling manages to convey with subdued nervous energy. Durst was acquitted of the Texas killing on grounds of self-defence. He has never been charged with his wife’s disappearance - or with the murder of his best friend, in California, at about the same time as his neighbour’s demise. The film avoids the use of real names and though the production notes indicate that the film was “inspired” by the Durst case, those in the know say it follows many of the facts closely. What Jarecki and his co-writers Mark Smerling and Marcus Hinchey, have done is to blend the spellbinding narrative with a healthy dose of provocative speculation.

The story details David’s repeated clashes with his tycoon father who wants him to stop taking drugs and to work for the company as a rent collector, which involves collecting payments from a group of sleazy Times Square properties, owned by the family. His younger, more reliable brother has been earmarked as the father’s successor, a move that doesn’t unduly perturb David. The family frowned upon David’s decision to marry the down-market, Katie (Kirsten Dunst) and their decision to move to Vermont where they opened a small health food store called “All Good Things”. Things were fine for a while, but circumstances and David’s growing paranoia brought them back to the New York area, where David began to physically abuse Katie until she asked for a divorce. Katie’s earlier moments of bliss took a chilling turn when she came to realise that the kind, quietly spoken David was just one side to a very disturbed and secretive individual. At the end, it’s not hard to believe that, according to a report, the Durst family are suing the filmmakers.







LETTERS

The Editor, Suite 175, Postnet X10039, Randburg, 2125 email: carro@global.co.za

**Guidelines for letters:** Letters up to 400 words will get preference. Please provide your full first name and surname, place of residence, and a daytime contact telephone or cell number. We do not publish letters under noms de plume. Letters should preferably be e-mailed. Letters may be edited or shortened.

**Disclaimer:** The letters page is intended to provide opportunity for a range of views on any given topic to be expressed. Opinions articulated in the letters are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor, staff or directors of the Jewish Report

ME: INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS FEEDING AN ILLUSION

WITH THE exception of Israel, the Middle East is characterised by instability and violence. The hypocritical West is determined to change this in a way that will bring instability and violence to Israel as well.

That’s the conclusion one would have to draw from the world’s mindless rush to approve a unilateral declaration of Palestinian statehood at the United Nations in September

Instead of telling the Palestinians the truth, that the solution to their problems can only come from direct

negotiations with Israel, the international community is feeding the illusion that a Palestinian state can be forced on Israel.

Western leaders who compete with one another to issue peace plans and offers to hold peace summits in their capitals, must be modest enough to acknowledge that they can’t fix the problems of Israel and the Palestinians.

**Bennie Katzman**  
**Telmond, Israel**

POPULARITY OF SINAI INDABA CREATES LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS

THE SINAI Indaba was a wonderful idea and the speakers were dynamic and well chosen. However, I was severely disappointed.

I was looking forward to the event for many weeks with the adverts spiking interest and wonder as to what was to happen.

Another couple and my husband and I prepared a gluten free lunch on Motzei Shabbat and left well in time to get to the Indaba at Sandton Sun.

I should have already known trouble was brewing when it took half an hour to get into the underground parking.

I managed to get into and enjoy the first shiur. Then the trouble started. It took us 40 minutes to get to beyond the Maroela Room south doors and we stood squashed

together for another 10 minutes before entering Maroela’s north doors. This lecture obviously began late.

After finishing this lecture late, we needed to move to another hall - and now this shiur was shut. The doors were shut and we weren’t allowed in.

We decided to then go and eat - but no place to sit or stand or to gather. We left!

We were most amazed that the logistics couldn’t be seen before.

I understand 2 500 people had booked by Friday. Why could this absolute mess not have been foreseen and acted upon?

I hope the organisers take note and act on them for any future conference of this magnitude.

**Marion Sacks**  
**Sydenham, Johannesburg**

‘JEWISH LIFE IN SA COUNTRY COMMUNITIES’ IS FREELY AVAILABLE

AFTER 18 years of extensive research, three published volumes - to be shortly followed by two more - and the capturing of a huge database of information, the SA Friends of Beth Hatefutsoth were stunned and dismayed to read George Jameson’s letter in the Jewish Report of June 17.

“Jewish Life in the South African Country Communities” is on sale at our offices in Beyachad in Johannesburg, in the Jewish bookshops in Johannesburg, the Jewish Museum Bookshop in Cape Town and can be ordered from Exclusive Books or BookDealers.

We are constantly advertising for information and photographs from individuals who lived in the country communities and we have been on television, on ChaiFM, Radio 702 and the SABC.

We have had three public launches of our books in Johannesburg and one in Cape Town. Community Buzz, in this newspaper is constantly referring to our books.

In fact, very recently two letters have been published in that column praising our books as guides to Jewish life when travelling through the country.

Anyone is welcome to make an appointment to visit our offices to peruse information that has been researched.

Please, Mr Jameson, contact our office on (011) 645-2598 and we will be proud to show you our project.

**Adrienne Kollenberg**  
**Project Convener, Beth Hatefutsoth**  
**Johannesburg**

SAKS WRITES EXCELLENT COLUMN ON MARGOLYES

THANK YOU to David Saks for his outstanding column in last week’s paper, titled “To Miriam Margolyes”.

I would like to suggest that he forwards this article to The Jewish News in London. That is like the Jewish Report, a free paper.

The more people are exposed to the

article by Daivd Saks, the better...

There are plenty of Jewish people in London who hold the same views and it would be great if the younger people could read his excellent article.

**Elaine Racussen**  
**Port Elizabeth**

ARAB UNFULFILLED PROMISES TO PALESTINIANS AT ROOT OF MIDEAST PROBLEM

I HAVE recently read about a number of solutions to the Israeli Palestinian conflict, but cannot agree more with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that this is impossible at the present time – although this is a very pessimistic outlook.

During the War of Independence, many Arab inhabitants were instructed to leave Israel and flee to other countries on the clear understanding that after the Arabs were victorious, they could all return.

Others were forced by other means to flee Israel. These refugees went to Lebanon, Syria and Jordan. Unfortunately for the Arabs, they lost the war and these refugees could not return to their former homes.

Instead of integrating these refugees into the Arab world, they were continuously promised that they would shortly be returning to their former homes.

More than 60 years has elapsed and

these refugees are still waiting and receiving promises that they will return to their former homes.

Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas of Fatah, is at the end of his career and he does not want to be remembered as the leader of the Palestinians who informed them that their dream of returning was in fact a dream only, and for this reason, the refugee problem can only be solved by a strong Palestinian leader who will tell the refugees the truth, namely that there is no chance of returning to their homes in Israel.

For this reason peace is impossible at present and until a strong Palestinian leader comes to power and does not fear for his life and is brave enough to tell the truth to his people, we will not have peace.

**David Gaffan**  
**Ra’anana, Israel**

GAZA ‘AID FLOTILLA’ NOTHING BUT RAW PROVOCATION

AS PRO- PALESTINIAN activists plan yet another “aid” flotilla to Gaza, last Saturday’s The New York Times, reported a building boom in that territory with two new luxury hotels, a new shopping centre two dozen new schools and hundreds of new homes currently under construction.

The report goes on to mention the thousands of new cars on the roads, a sharp drop in jobless levels and reporting a real period of economic growth for Gaza.

Given this report, where is the necessity for another “aid flotilla” to alleviate the plight of the people of Gaza, when Israel has relaxed the restrictions of goods flowing in on a daily basis and also now that the border crossing with Egypt is open to the free flow of goods into that territory? Also worth mentioning is that Gaza is the recipient of more EU aid than any other country today.

Clearly these activists don’t have a modicum of compassion for the people of Gaza or their brothers in Libya, Yemen or Syria, where aid is desperately needed to save the lives of those being butchered by their despotic leaders.

Even Turkey, one of the sponsors of the previous flotilla, is trying to downplay this new initiative, Greece has impounded a Canadian ship forming part of the planned flotilla on the grounds that it is not seaworthy and many other countries see this circus for what it is - raw provocation trying to elicit a violent outcome as an excuse to once again vilify Israel at a time when reports of the resumption of peace talks are on the cards, clearly demonstrating that the people of Gaza are of no

RESPECT SHOULD BE SHOWN FOR RABBI'S TITLE

I FIND it rather disturbing that the Jewish Report does not show respect to the rabbis and teachers of Torah in our community.

Page 19 of the Jewish Report of June 24, introduces Rabbi Elyashiv as the “leader of the Lithuanian Haredi Orthodox Community” but in the next paragraph has the chutzpa and audacity to refer to the great sage and Torah leader as simply “Elyashiv”.

The article states that “Elyashiv” is aged “101” and yet instead of showing reverence and maintaining the respect and awe by keeping the title when referring to the sage, the article refers to him like some common man by simply using his surname.

I find this disgraceful and insulting. I am sure that if a respectable publication referred to Mother Teresa as simply Teresa, an outcry would be made.

Even to those who don’t respect him for the Torah giant and leader that he is, at least we should have the respect and courtesy that the Torah demands of all human beings - to respect our elderly - and thereby refer to him as Rabbi at all times.

Further disrespect is evident in the same edition

SINAI INDABA ALSO TOOK PLACE IN DURBAN AND CAPE TOWN

IT WAS wonderful to read in your edition of June 24, about the “Gathering of Souls” at the Sinai-Indaba in Johannesburg last weekend, but no mention about the same Sinai-Indaba in Cape Town, and I believe in Durban too.

After Havdalah on Saturday night, the Israel Abrams Hall at the Albow Centre was packed to capacity to listen to both Rabbi Milston and Rabbi YY Jacobson speak to the more than 600-strong audience. It was a most entertaining and heart warming evening.

From 16:00 until past 22:30 on Monday, hundreds of delegates were able to choose to listen to a range of speakers including Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein, Rabbi Akiva Tatz, Sara Rigler, Rabbi Milston, Rabbi Ordman, Bronya Schaffer and

MAIMONIDES LIVED IN CAIRO AND NOT IN ROME, SAYS WRITER

I ENJOYED “Jewish Presence in Italy” in last week’s issue, but it seems to me that the writer omitted a few interesting facts and made at least one serious mistake.

She writes that Maimonides practised medicine in Rome, etc. I do not know where she took it from, but any good encyclopaedia would tell her that Maimonides lived in Fostat (a suburb of Cairo) where he was Saladin’s court physician and the leader of the Jewish community, and where he wrote his great philosophical work “Guide For The Perplexed”, his 14 volume codification of the halachah, as well as many other treatises.

Some of the interesting facts that she omitted are:

1. Titus captured and enslaved thousands of Judean Jews whom he used as slave labour in building the Colosseum. And where did he take the funds necessary for the building? By plunder-

concern to these “activists”; the end game is simply to try to delegitimise Israel.

Why not send this flotilla to Libya where some of the worst abuses of human rights are being perpetrated, or perhaps to those Syrian refugees camped on the Turkish side of the Turkey/Syrian border, lucky to escape with their lives from Bashar al-Assad’s assassin squads?

Better still, if these “do-gooders” are so sympathetic to the Palestinian cause, why not channel this aid into the refugee camps in Gaza and the West Bank where, yes in the year 2011, there are still refugee camps.

What about those Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, all 400 000 refugees discriminated against in true apartheid fashion, with almost all but the most menial of jobs barred from them - access to decent education and medical care non existent and eking out an appalling existence.

The EU, American and Canadian organisers of the planned flotilla, don’t give a hoot about the plight of the Palestinians languishing in refugee camps; they don’t give a hoot about the people of Gaza, which is simply a platform to demonise Israel. Neither do they give a hoot about the violation of human rights in the rest of the Arab and African world, yet they are prepared to squander the millions of dollars raised to finance this flotilla, simply as a means to an end. “Hypocrites” is too good a word for these demented people.

**Allan Wolman**  
**Rosebank, Johannesburg**

of the paper on page 6, where all rabbis are captioned as rabbi except Rabbi Gideon Pogrund and Rabbi David Nossel who are captioned without their appropriate title.

I think an apology should be made to our rabbonim. They too deserve respect as ethical and moral role models within our community who are actively involved in teaching Hashem’s holy Torah.

May the blessings of Hashem and the honour of Torah be restored.

**Velvy Bokow**  
**Glenhazel, Johannesburg**

*It is true that Rabbi Elyashiv should have been referred to by his rabbinic title. It was a small story we received from the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, to which we subscribe, and as the original story had omitted the title, so did we. It was an oversight. Generally, our paper follows international standards of journalism in mentioning a title only at the beginning and afterwards only the name. For instance, we'll talk about “Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu” and after that only “Netanyahu”. No disrespect is ever intended. - Editor*

David Shapiro

Jonathan Rosenblum, on a range of soul searching subjects.

Kol Hakavod to all the Cape Town rabbis who helped promote this Indaba, as well as the organising rabbis, Rabbis Oshy Feldman, Asher Deren and Gavriel Abramson, not least to mention Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein for his brilliance in arranging all the speakers and the idea of the first Sinai-Indaba, hopefully with more to follow.

**David Shapiro**  
**Constantia, Cape Town**

*Cape Town and Durban events were mentioned in almost all of the articles covering the Sinai Indaba, although not in separate articles. - Editor*

Shulamit Kagan

ing our Temple in Jerusalem, of course! (BBC Google)

2.In Ostia Antica (the ancient Roman sea port) there is evidence of a well-established, a well-organised Jewish community dating back to, at least 1st century CE.

**Shulamit Kagan**  
**Johannesburg.**

*Robyn Sassen responds: Thank you, Shulamit for your kind words and your comments concerning Titus’ persecution of the Jews at the time of the destruction of the Second Temple and the ancient community of Ostia Antica. Indeed you are correct about Maimonides’ life in Cairo, but he did spend time in Italy, where he practised as a physician and among other things, wrote the Mishneh Torah - it was first published in Venice in 1550-’51.*



# Your Wedding Guide

Compiled by Britt Landsman. Contact (011) 023-8160, Cell 082-292-9520 or e-mail: [britt@sajewishreport.co.za](mailto:britt@sajewishreport.co.za)

## Romanticism of a Jewish weddings in Mauritius

*The beautiful and romantic island of Mauritius has proved the ideal spot for weddings and some of them could be straight out of a Hollywood movie.*

PETER FELDMAN

COUPLES FLY in from all over the world to celebrate this happy occasion, with a large percentage of them being South Africans.

Sugar Beach Resort, one of the island's most established holiday destinations, has been specialising in Jewish weddings for over seven years. The famous "Travelling Rabbi", Rabbi Moshe Silberhaft, is on hand to officiate at the chuppah and the hotel also boasts a chef, Mauree Dhoovassen, who has been well schooled in the kosher preparations for the happy event

by the rabbi.

Dhoovassen, who has been 14 years with the hotel, said he had been preparing kosher food for weddings for the past eight years.

He has in his possession all the requirements needed for the food preparation, including the type of products that can be used. And Rabbi Silberhaft is always on hand to make sure everything goes according to strict kashrut requirements.

The first Jewish wedding was celebrated at Sugar Beach in November 2004 and so far they have celebrated 11 on the property, with a maximum of

80 guests attending.

The hotel's assistant sales manager, Isabelle Pernal, who takes care of the wedding arrangements, says the weddings in Mauritius are genuine and legally recognised.

Guests need to go through all the legal procedures. All the documents, she said, should be sent at least eight weeks before arriving in Mauritius and have to go to Port-Louis three working days before the wedding date.

Both bride and groom should not be a citizen of Mauritius, as otherwise the wedding will have to take place at the Civil Status Office in Port-Louis.

Taking into account that the Civil Status Office is closed on Saturdays and Sundays, weddings are only celebrated from Monday to Friday, in late afternoon (15:00 - 16:00) as it is a cooler time of the day.

The light is also better for photographs, and one can take full advantage of some amazing sunsets.

If one is planning a Mauritius wedding, there are a number of legal requirements to which one need adhere.

A minimum residency period required prior to marriage is three working days and a minimum age is 18 years.

Continued on page 14

## 'Get me to the (Lindt Lindor) cake on time'

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- For more information you may also visit the Chocolate Studio's website at <http://www.chocolatestudio.co.za/>


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YOUR WEDDING GUIDE

Some exotic destinations as a honeymoon venue

Marriages should start out on the right foot, and there's no better right foot than the perfect honeymoon that's romantic, stress free and unforgettable, advises Lynne Backos, owner of The Travel Company.

AFTER "I DO", your two favourite words will be "stress free". Planning for the most important day of your life will be a wonderfully crazy time for you, so finding someone you trust to aid in your decision making, will be a welcomed relief.

I can save you money as well as time - two enormous factors for a couple trying to plan a wedding and a honeymoon simultaneously. Through incomparable experience and valuable resources, our travel agents specialise in providing personalised suggestions to suit your interests and your budget. And visiting our offices for a chat is absolutely free!

Take a quick journey around the world and breeze through these brief descriptions of the world's most popular honeymoon destinations.

Hawaii honeymoon - romance and paradise go hand-in-hand for couples in Hawaii, defined by moonlit walks on the beach where only palm trees

hear your whispers, clear ocean views from the balcony of your suite and leisurely horseback rides in the surf. The Islands of Aloha add a special backdrop that is simply unavailable anywhere else.

Carribean honeymoon destinations - Romance in the Islands of Paradise. Made up of more than 700 islands and 2 000 atolls, the Bahamas has remained a popular honeymoon destination for decades for both its physical beauty and close proximity to the United States.

Newlyweds need only take a bathing suit and a short flight from Miami to relax in the powder white sands. But, as Bahamians know, the true beauty and purpose of these islands is in the waters, ranging from pale aqua to rich sapphire in the glorious heat of the sun.

Jamaica - This is a travel brochure to paradise, conveniently packaged into one amazing island.

White sand beaches, jungle mountaintops, clear waterfalls and dazzling sunsets, make this magical island picture-postcard perfect, while the reggae music, colourful art and zesty food, leave a wondrous aftertaste.

France - Here lovers are welcomed like no other place, where living well and loving life is an art form the French love to teach.

France not only beckons, it lures you: to Paris with romantic walks along the Seine and picnics in the Tuileries Gardens; to Provence and the Riviera to bask in the warmth of the Mediterranean sun; to the vineyards of Burgundy, the enchanting castles of the Loire Valley; to the gardens of Versailles and Monet.

Spain - A honeymoon in Spain is to experience warmth - from both the sun and the people - and to walk in the footprints of the civilisations that shaped this proud and historic country.

It is a celebration of diversity, an opportunity to enjoy a climate, cuisine and joie de vivre that are second to none while learning the customs of a people always happy to include you in their celebrations and traditions.

Italy - This is a feast for your senses, intellect and heart. Rich with art and architecture, it is best experienced simply by living the Italian style, feasting on regional cuisines and enjoying the countryside.

Rome, Venice, Florence and Milan top most visitors' lists, offering unmatched icons of history and high fashion.

Romance can be found throughout the world, and the places described above encapsulate only the cork of the champagne bottle. Hopefully your honeymoon will be romantic, wherever you decide to spend it, but it helps to match a destination perfectly with your personalities and expectations.

• Tel: +2711 911 2300 Fax: +2711 783 7529. Address: 106 Katherine Street, Sandown, 2196, South Africa. PO Box 782635, Sandton, 2146, South Africa.

Romanticism of a Jewish weddings in Mauritius

From page 13

If a person is under 18, parental consent is required in the form of an affidavit stamped by a notary. One will need passport copies (pages containing passport number, photo, issue/expiry dates) and birth certificates.

If a person is single, an affidavit is required to declare single status and if divorced a "Decree Absolute".

If the bride has been divorced less than 300 days before the wedding, then a mandatory pregnancy test in resort is required.

If the person is widowed, the former spouse's death certificate and previous marriage certificate is needed and if adopted, an adoption certificate is required.

If a person's name has been changed by deed poll legal proof is required, stamped and signed by a solicitor. For Jewish weddings, the chuppah usually takes place on the beach, followed by pre-dinner drinks during sunset with Israeli and Mediterranean snacks.

Finally, the kosher menu is limited to fish only as the hotel is not equipped with a kosher kitchen, nor has it sufficient material to cook an alternative meal.

It must be noted that a number of the kosher ingredients and items have to be brought to the island from Johannesburg as they are not available in Mauritius.

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# Magnificent old Lions Shul an ideal wedding venue

OWN CORRESPONDENT  
PHOTOGRAPH SUPPLIED

YOU COULD be mistaken in thinking that the Jewish wedding (pictured) is from the early 1900s and you wouldn't be far wrong... in the venue that is!

Last week the oldest and longest standing Johannesburg shul, the Lions Doornfontein Synagogue, hosted another chuppah in what is becoming a growing venue demand for a couple to tie the knot.

What's the attraction? Something touching the very core of our ancient and historic tradition in a ceremony that is a celebration of our millennia-old faith. This more than 100-year-old shul carries yet with it the visual and sensual beauty of Eastern European shtetl life and the pride and magnificence of a majestic Jewish home of worship.

Its walls and pews are imbued with a sense, feel and touch of quaint archaic exquisiteness.

Even well-known media personalities are



The Lions Shul in Johannesburg is becoming a popular wedding venue.

discovering its rare ambience. The chuppah at hand saw the coming together of Sean Maisels of Deloitte and Touche and 702 journalist Mandy Wiener. Many 702 presenters including John Robbie and Redi Thlabi, were among the guests.

• For inquiries about the Lions Shul as a chuppah venue, contact the shul chairman, Mike Baum on 082-445-1010.

# Curves (Glenhazel) assists Yad Aharon in feeding effort

ALICE FRIEDMAN  
MD, YAD AHARON & MICHAEL

CURVES STANDS out as a women's health & fitness facility, with heart. Every year, each club in the Curves Group countrywide, organises a dry goods collection; May this year was no exception.

The clubs elect two charities of their choice to donate to; Curves (Glenhazel) nominated the "The Yad Aharon & Michael Tzedokah Food Fund" and "The African Children's



Phindi Hlalele (director of The African Children's Feeding Scheme); Kerry Cantor (personal trainer, Curves Glenhazel); Alice Friedman (MD, Yad Aharon & Michael Tzedokah Food Fund); Cynthia Seshabela (personal trainer, Curves Glenhazel). (PHOTOGRAPH SUPPLIED)

Feeding Scheme" as its beneficiaries. The importance of a healthy and nutritious diet forms an integral part of the Curves Wellness Programme and the food collection exemplifies the concern and compassion felt by the club's members, for those less fortunate in the community at large. Yad Aharon currently assists 560 Jewish families who cannot put food on their tables and the plight of the African Children's Feeding Scheme, which provides a staggering 31 000 meals a day to underprivileged children and their families, is even more dire. Yad Aharon is headed up by Alice Friedman, a member of Curves (Glenhazel) and Phindi Hlalele who is executive director of the African Children's Feeding Scheme. Apart from the tremendous value of this project to the recipient organisations, it is run in a manner which ensures the inclusion of a large variety of basic commodities, like tinned vegetables, tinned fruit and jam, pasta, rice, mealie meal, mealie rice and cereals. The response was astounding. In addition to the women "digging deep" in order to contribute to the collection, Woolworths Food (Fairmount) and Sandringham Spar generously sponsored food items which boosted the total weight of 980 kilos collected! Curves personal trainers made the initiative fun by organising a competition among the club members and a prize for the woman who brought in the most food, kept the members motivated and on their toes.

## COMMUNITY COLUMNS



**ABOVE BOARD**  
Zev Krengel,  
National Chairman

A column of the SA Jewish Board of Deputies

LAST WEEK, in my capacity as representative of the Jewish community, I had the rare privilege of joining various dignitaries and leaders in meeting with Michelle Obama, who was paying her first visit to South Africa.

After we had all been personally introduced to her, she spoke briefly about what it meant to her to be in the country. What was striking was how obviously sincere Mrs Obama's enthusiasm was.

Her warm words of identification with this country and what it has achieved, clearly went beyond the expected diplomatic pleasantries. Just as we felt gratified over being able to host a person of Michelle Obama's stature, so did she feel the same way about our country hosting her.

This in turn made me realise, not for the first time, of how South Africans have a tendency to sell themselves short. We do not sufficiently realise how much we have to offer the world, nor the extent to which we have achieved an honourable, respected place within the international community. South Africa is a country that people of the highest stature increasingly wish to visit.

From our own particular perspective, we have seen how favourably impressed our international Jewish visitors have been by everything we have here. That a growing number have visited not once but on multiple occasions, tells its own story. Michelle Obama's warm and generous words about

# Meeting the US's First Lady

our country provide us with further encouragement to continue building on the South African success story.

**Change of leadership at the WJC**  
Last week's World Jewish Congress governing board meeting in Jerusalem, saw Dan Diker confirmed as the new secretary-general. We have already established a good working relationship with him in recent years and look forward to building on it in the future.

At the same time, well deserved tribute was paid to the outgoing WJC chief executive, Michael Schneider. We will, of course, be saying more about Michael in future pre-conference briefs.

Suffice it to remind you here that he is to be the keynote speaker at the opening night of our forthcoming National Conference on August 27, as well as occupying a key slot on one of the panels the following day.

Issues addressed at the WJC meeting, covered a broad spectrum of issues touching on politics through to economics, new age technology, environmental issues, religion and education. A key topic was the question of unilaterally declared Palestinian statehood, something that is likely to be a hot talking point when the UN convenes to discuss it in September.

In addition to the topicality of the issues discussed, what was again in evidence was the importance of our community's representatives interacting with the global Jewish leadership.

This column is paid for by the SAJBD



**WIZO South Africa**  
Yvonne Jawitz

A column of WIZO South Africa

NEWSPAPERS FOR months now have been filled with articles relating to the Arab Spring, highlighting the aspirations of young people who enjoy very few of the rights that young people in democracies such as Israel and South Africa, take so for granted.

World WIZO also boasts a "spring"... a movement of bright and talented young women who call themselves "Aviv", the Hebrew word for spring.

As early as 1957 the first "Aviv" groups were formed and today, Avivs form part of every WIZO Federation, functioning independently in the areas of education and fundraising and initiating their own exciting events. They may earmark the proceeds of these events to WIZO projects that appeal to them in Israel, and many of our facilities for young children have benefitted as a result.

Attending an International WIZO Aviv seminar becomes a turning point for young women who are exposed to stimulating interchanges with leaders in professions ranging from hi-tech to the creative

# Be part of WIZO's Aviv 'Happening'

arts, from psychologists to politicians. And the fun of making new friends and establishing a network of contacts around the world has to be the icing on the top.

International WIZO Aviv seminars have become an annual event and in between, Avivs participate in World WIZO conferences and create mini-seminars in their own countries. South Africa is no exception and we are delighted to announce our very own Aviv "Happening".

The "Reinvention Convention" will take place on Sunday, August 21 at an exclusive northern suburban venue. "Reinvention Convention" promises to do just that.

Participants will be rejuvenated, revitalised and re-energised with motivating and inspirational talks by Danny K (singer and Shout SA ambassador); Gabi Baron (tsunami survivor and advertising executive at TWBA/Hunt Lascaris) and Petra Leranjo (image and personal brand consultant, Fifth Quadrant Productions).

Add sumptuous surrounds and food to please and the day is open to any young woman under the age of 45, for R300.

• RSVP Andrea on 083-677-8999, or e-mail [andreawainer@live.co.za](mailto:andreawainer@live.co.za)

This column is paid for by WIZO

## AROUND THE WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

### IRAN TESTS MISSILES CAPABLE OF REACHING ISRAEL, US BASES

TEHRAN - Iran has reportedly tested medium- and long-range missiles that are capable of reaching Israel and US bases.

Tuesday's firing of the missiles came on the second day of the Revolutionary Guards' war games.

The day before, Iran's military displayed on national television underground missile silos programmed to hit predetermined targets with medium- and long-range missiles, including Israel and US bases in the Middle East, in the event of an attack.

Gen Amir Ali Hajizadeh, commander of the Revolutionary Guards Air Force, told the English-language semi-official Iranian news service Fars that the United States and Israel were Iran's only enemies, "and other than that we are not threatened by any nation. Our missile range is designed according to the location of the American bases in the region and that of the Zionist regime".

Hajizadeh called the war games, code-named "Great Prophet 6", a "message of peace and friendship to countries of the region". (JTA)

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# KDL's netball teams do the school proud

**KEREN ZWICK**  
**PHOTOGRAPHS: GARY BLOCK**

OUR KING David High Linksfield netball teams played against St Catherine's, Waterstone College, Yeshiva, Edenvale, Edenglen, Sacred Heart, Bishop Bavin and Victory Park.

Our under-14A, under-15A and under-16A won their schools league competition. We are delighted with their success.

The under-14A and under-16A teams were undefeated in the season and their results made riveting reading:

Under-14A: Edenglen - we won 10-6,  
Edenvale - we won 14-6, St Catherine's  
- we won 8-6, Sacred Heart - we won 15-  
3, Waterstone College - we won 9-4,  
Bishop Bavin - we won 24-3 and  
Yeshiva - we won 32-5.

Under-15A: Edenglen - we drew 11-11, Edenvale - we lost 31-3, St Catherine's - we won 23-5, Sacred Heart - we won 10-4, Waterstone College - we lost 19-6, Bishop Bavin - we won 12-3.

Under-16A: Edenglen - we won 25-14, Edenvale - we won 16-5, St Catherine's - we won 34-12, Sacred Heart - we won 27-13, Waterstone College - we won 20-10, Bishop Bavin - we won 23-5. All teams defeated Victory Park convincingly.

**Under-16A: Back: Nikki Silverman; Alexa Kahn; Coach Thuli, Talya Carno; Shana Segal; Bianca Sigurdson; and Coach Patricia. Front: Jody Kaplan; and Natasha Meyerowitz.**

**Under-14A: Back:**  
**Lindsay Katz;**  
**Kelsey**  
**Hirschowitz;**  
**Paula Cohen;**  
**Talya**  
**Blumenfeld; Tali**  
**Gur; and Coach**  
**Sonto. Front:**  
**Ariella Klitzner;**  
**Jenna Gruskin;**  
**Alexa Cohen; and**  
**Kayla Bernstein**  
**(captain).**



**Under-15A: Back: Coach Palesa; Mika Solomon; Jessica Kier; Amy Tobias; Alexa Toohey; Melissa Gobetz (captain); Dani Grupel; Shani Lazarow; and Coach Mathapelo. Front: Shira-Lee Amarov; Eden Plein; Alexa Sandler; and Lori Jacobson.**

# KDVPP bids Desmond Zeelie farewell

**JANNIE LE ROUX (DEPUTY PRINCIPAL)**



FOR THE past five and a half years, King David Victory Park Primary headmaster, Desmond Zeelie and his family, committed themselves unselfishly to Victory Park and its Jewish community. Now the popular headmaster is leaving.

I have had the privilege of working very closely with him and I must honestly say that I will have to

search far and wide to find another person that is so passionate about teaching and children, as he is.

His vision of taking this school to new heights, was very hard work at times, but he never lost faith in himself and through his hard work and commitment, proved that he is to be trusted and competent to achieve the desired results.

Mr Zeelie, I bid you farewell today  
and I wish you and your family, on

behalf of Victory Park and its community, all of the best with your future endeavours. We might be losing a headmaster today, but I know that you will not be lost to education, one way or the other.

“Learn from the past, set vivid, detailed goals for the future, and live in the only moment of time over which you have any control: NOW.

“Watch your thoughts, they become words. Watch your words, they become your actions. Watch your actions, they become habits. Watch your habits, they become character. Watch your character, it becomes your destiny.” Tyron Edwards and Dennis Waitly.

May your destiny and future be so bright that you've got to wear shades!

We shall miss you Mr Zeelie!

# Off to the Young Leaders Conference

**PHOTOGRAPH: Yael Gordon**

**Eight grade 11 and 12 learners from King David High School Victory Park, will be delegates to the Global Young Leaders Conference, in July. Pictured are Jake Pencharz; Sarah Katzew; Kayla-Jade Butkow; Vivienne Jonker; Saul Musker; Kira Gimpel; Ricky Stoch; and Shani Cohen.**



# Principal's day at Yeshiva Pre-Primary



**Marion Falk with her daughter-in-law, Michelle Falk (who was a former pupil of Marion's), her daughters Karen Shor and Nicole Mandelberg.**

**OWN CORRESPONDENT  
PHOTOGRAPHG SUPPLIED**

WEDNESDAY JUNE 15/13 Sivan, was a very special day at Yeshiva College Pre-Primary School. Principal Marion Falk celebrated her 33rd anniversary at the school.

She began her journey in 1978 as a teacher and worked her way up to being principal.

The vice-principal of the Pre-Primary, Jenny Ginsberg, together with the staff of the school, organised a surprise “special day” for Falk. A special “Nursery School Ring” was held in her honour, with a few invited guests and all the children of the nursery school singing, dancing and helping Falk to celebrate her special day.

Dani Singer, a grade 9 learner, talked about her memories of nursery school and Rabbi Laurence Perez, our managing director, said a few words, highlighting the importance of the number 33.

A huge cake was baked for us and the atmosphere continued to be very jolly and warm throughout the day.  
Mazaltov Marion!

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This frightening story told by Reb Avrohom Veg,  
a Vizhnitzer chassid in Brnei Brak, illustrates the  
importance of computer examination: "From the  
day of my bar mitzvah around 40 years ago I'd  
been wearing tefillin with the most mehudar  
parshios, written by a well known sofer who had  
been used by the Chazon Ish! (Rabbi Avraham  
Yeshiya Karelitz: z"l, a Torah giant who passed  
away in the 1950's) During this time I had my  
tefillin checked nine times by expert examiners.  
I did my all to ensure that my tefillin were not

only kosher but mehudar as well. When I found  
out that it was possible to have them computer-  
checked, I did so immediately, even though I  
was sure they would be okay. I was in total shock  
when I received a phone call that day from the  
Vaad Mishmeres STaM that I better put on a pair  
of tefillin right away, since they found that my  
tefillin were missing an entire word..."(Quoted  
in Speak of his Great Wonders by Rabbi Eli  
Teitelbaum [New York, 1992]

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WHAT’S ON

Barry Bilewitz [barry@sajewishreport.co.za](mailto:barry@sajewishreport.co.za)

**NOTE:** Deadline for all entries is 12:00 on the Friday prior to publication.

Today Friday (July 1)

• **UZLC** presents Kevin Fine on “Radio and the Power to Galvanise a Community”.

Sunday (July 3)

• **RCHCC** presents award-winning Israeli documentary, Strangers no More, Hebrew with English subtitles at 19:30. Venue: Clive M Beck Auditorium, RCHCC, cnr Glenhove Road & 4th Street Houghton. Donation R50 includes refreshments. Booking: Hazel or René (011) 728-8088/8378, after hours (011) 728-8378, e-mail: [hazelc@greatpark.co.za](mailto:hazelc@greatpark.co.za), [renes@greatpark.co.za](mailto:renes@greatpark.co.za) or [www.greatpark.co.za](http://www.greatpark.co.za)

• **Second Innings** presents Hilary Semple on “War and Peace in Shakespeare and Tolstoy”.

Monday (July 4)

• **UJW Johannesburg** presents Prof Steven Friedman on “A Voice in the Wilderness” at 09:30.

Tuesday (July 5)

• **The JHGC, The United Nations Information Centre and The Liliesleaf Trust**, the exhibition “Lessons from Rwanda”, at Liliesleaf Farm, Rivonia opens today. RSVP: Thuli (011) 640-3100 or e-mail [thuli@jhbholocaust.co.za](mailto:thuli@jhbholocaust.co.za). The exhibition runs until July 26.

Wednesday (July 6)

• **SFCC** presents Judy Alter on “Strengthening Family Relationships” at 10:00 at Sandton Shul.

• **UJW Cape Town** presents Prof Susan Bourne on “The Many Half Lives of Marie Curie”.

• **WIZO Glenlinks branch** are selling tickets for the Bolshoi Ballet, “The Nutcracker” at the Johannesburg Theatre for the evening performance. Phone Alice for tickets on 083-336-1193.

Friday (July 8)

• **UZLC** presents Ronnie Mink on “Jewish Berlin & Warsaw in 2011”.

Sunday (July 10)

• **WIZO Glenlinks branch** is selling tickets for the Bolshoi Ballet, “The Nutcracker” at the Johannesburg Theatre for the matinee performance. Phone Alice for tickets on 083-336-1193.

Tuesday (July 12)

• **Second Innings Men’s Group** has as its speaker

Cecile Lipworth on “Turning Pain to Power” at Our Parents Home, 14:15 for 14:30.

Wednesday (July 13)

• **UJW Cape Town** presents Dr Lisa Micklesfield on “Physical Activity and Bone Health”, Stonehaven 10:00 for 10:30. Donation R20.

• **SAZF** presents former diplomat Tom Wheeler on “The Arab Spring” at 19:30 at Beyachad. Cost: R20. Book on [sazf@beyachad.co.za](mailto:sazf@beyachad.co.za) or (011) 645-2510.

Friday (July 15)

• **UZLC** presents Karen Lazar on her book - “Hemispheres: inside a Stroke”.

Thursday (July 21)

• **UJW Cape Town Constantia Group** will hold a cooking demonstration, “Cook Now, Dine Later” at the Pick n Pay Centre at 10:00.

Sunday (July 24)

• The **Chev** will be entering a team into the Discovery 702 Walk the Talk 5km event. R180 for adults, R90 for children under 18. Contact Michelle Falk on (011) 532-9789.

• **Second Innings** presents Ilan Ossendryver on “The Ethiopian Jews, Living in the Promised Land”.

Wednesday (July 27)

• **Second Innings** outing to Petits Four Deli and Décor. Meet the bus at Oxford Shul parking at 09:15. Cost: R120 includes tea and bus. Book with Roz Berman on (011) 880-6864.

Sunday (July 31)

• **Women of the World** Annual National Women’s Day brunch, 09:00 to 13:00 at the Sandton Sun Hotel. R500pp. Only 100 seats left. Exotic food demo by Sharon Lurie and Caren Melamed. Table decor demo, flowers, etc. Call 083-380-5268 or book online [www.womenoftheworld.org.za](http://www.womenoftheworld.org.za). Bookings close July 5.

• **Beyond the Dress** presents “The Doctors: All you Need to Know About Conceiving and Being Happily Pregnant” at 09:30 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Cost R200. Information and bookings on 083-344-6729 or [lori@beyondthedress.co.za](mailto:lori@beyondthedress.co.za).

• **Second Innings** presents Bruce Fordyce on “Going for Gold”.

Wednesday (August 1)

• **SFCC** presents Sharon Lurie on “What Made Me Do It” at 10:00 at Sandton Shul.

Sunday (August 7)

• **Second Innings** presents Arthur John Rosen on “Ways to Defeat Ageing without Drugs”.

• **Sunday Scrabble Club** meets every Sunday at 10:00 at Zahava’s, Grant Avenue, Norwood, off 9th Street. Cost R5. Players of all strengths welcome. Larry 082-888-5355.

• **Orchid Florist**, a project of WIZO Johannesburg, offers beautiful arrangements of flowers and fruit for every occasion. No occasion too large or too small. Contact Annette (011) 728-4513.

• **JWBS Johannesburg**, urgently requires secondhand clothing, kitchenware, household goods, books and bric-a-brac for its secondhand shop. Contact (011) 485-5232.

• Celebrating a bar-/batmitzvah? Why not give a donation to **WIZO’s bar-/batmitzvah project** in Israel? You get a beautiful certificate to give to the bar-/batmitzvah child here. Certificates are available from WIZO tel (011) 645-2548.

• **Second Innings** runs a series courses and activities including scrabble, bridge, discussion groups, play reading groups, women’s and men’s reading groups, symphony concert rehearsals, bowls, pilates, Yogic Pranayama, walking and aerobics, Golden Oldies Cine Club, weekly workshops (by arrangement) on “falls education for the elder adult”, and organises regular activities. Contact Grecia Gabriel (011) 532-9718.

• Don’t miss the opportunity to do a mitzvah. Visit the **Selwyn Segal Shop**. Gifts priced from R45. Glassware, pewter, silver, white ceramics and Selwyn Segal products. Phone: (011) 485-1344 or (011) 640-5171.

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• **Quizwizz** Venues include Zoo Lake Sports Club (Thursdays) Primi Forum (Melrose Arch) - Tuesdays (Fortnightly) and Brazenhead in Sandton (Wednesdays-Fortnightly) R30. Booking and information 082-888-5355 (Larry).

• **WIZO Elise Gift Shop** in the Genesis Shopping Centre, Fairmount, entrance from Bradfield Drive opposite Shula’s Bakery. Exciting range of baby gifts and gifts for all occasions available at reasonable prices. Hours: Mon - Thurs 09:00 - 17:00, Friday 09:00 - 13:30, Sunday 10:00 - 13:00. (011) 640-2760.

• **WIZO’s Wize Buys** in Raedene, requires nearly-new clothes, shoes, kitchenware (pots and pans, cutlery, crockery) bric-a-brac, etc. Phone Sandy (011) 645-2515 for goods to be collected, or deliver to WIZO office at Beyachad, Raedene.

• **Bnoth Zion Association WIZO** is collecting anything of value for its store. Contact (021) 464-6729 or Linda Saban 072-245-3225 or Cherna Kredo 084-589-8588.

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• **Intimate Antiques Fair** held on last Sunday of every month at Cedar Square corner Witkoppen/Cedar Avenue in Fourways, from 09:00 - 16:00. Contact Robyn 083-311-4768.

• **The Selwyn Segal Shop** has a huge selection of gifts ranging in price from R30 upwards. Visit them from Monday to Friday, 08:30 to 14:00. Phone (011) 640-6413 or (011) 640-5171. All proceeds to The Selwyn Segal Foundation for the Mentally Handicapped.

• **Israeli folkdance** - health and fun, every Wednesday at 20:00 at King David Sandton. Beginners at 18:30. Contact Anat 083-326-7095, Miri 082-773-8248 or Ora 083-288-7202.

• Join **WIZO** every Thursday for a “Lunch & Learn” shiur with Rabbi Michael Katz, 13:00 - 14:00 at Beyachad. For more information, contact Joyce on (011) 640-2416.

• **Stellenbosch Hebrew Congregation** has a Friday evening service every week in shul, starting at 18:45. Contact (021) 886-5257.

• **The Yiddish Academy** offers weekly basic, intermediate and advanced classes on Monday evenings at 19:30, Tuesday mornings at 10:30 and Thursday evenings at 19:30 at the RCHCC, Glenhove Road, Houghton. Conversational groups. Details: e-mail [yiddishacademy@gmail.com](mailto:yiddishacademy@gmail.com) or call Hazel Cohen on (011) 728-8088.

• Supervised bridge with **Jeff Sapire** Tuesday morning 10:00 - 12:00 (intermediary) and Wednesday morning 10:00 - 12:00 (advanced), at the Clive M Beck Auditorium. Booking: Hazel or René, (011) 728-8088/8378. E-mail: [hazelc@greatpark.co.za](mailto:hazelc@greatpark.co.za) or [renes@greatpark.co.za](mailto:renes@greatpark.co.za)

• **Beis Midrash Chofetz Chaim** is offering a second ma’ariv minyan every weekday evening (Monday - Friday) at 21:00, cnr Elray and Michel Streets, Raedene. Open to broader community. Don’t fret if you need a later minyan. Secure parking provided.

Sudoku Puzzle 35

(Easy, difficulty rating 0.40)

1	2					3		4
					8	2	7	
6	5					1		
		1	9	8				6
9				4				1
7				3	2	8		
		9					4	7
	7	6	4					
2		5					1	3

\* Answer to follow with next puzzle

Answer - Puzzle 34

9	1	5	4	7	2	8	6	3
8	7	4	6	3	9	1	2	5
2	6	3	8	5	1	9	4	7
7	8	2	5	4	6	3	9	1
3	9	6	2	1	8	7	5	4
4	5	1	3	9	7	2	8	6
6	4	9	7	2	3	5	1	8
5	2	7	1	8	4	6	3	9
1	3	8	9	6	5	4	7	2

Note to readers: Our bridge column and our Sudoku puzzle alternate week by week.

CROSSWORD NO 216

BY LEAH SIMON

ACROSS:

- Penny is behind – and totally mad! (4)
- It’s worn by head cooks – or, rather, cook’s heads (5, 3)
- Flavour sure to make money (4)
- Risked round about, and ran naked (8)
- Grr – not shamed, somehow, by bobbas (12)
- Penny becomes metropolitan in South African coastal city (6)
- Pepper with bullets faster – and badly (6)
- Segments of skull? Well, this is where they’re based, anyway (4, 8)
- Neither shopping arcade gets youth leader, generally (8)
- Girl hides in Miami ministry (4)
- Peel around as it creates bloodsucker (8)
- The article revised – loathe it! (4)

DOWN:

- They’re not exactly divine – only fractionally so (8)
- Good time with food, we hear, in amusement park (3, 4)
- Sizzling stick of a racing car! (3, 3)
- Frets about trash, somehow – but makes a new beginning (5, 5)
- Hire Klan leader for rambler (5)
- List of chores creates a huge fuss! (2, 2)
- Drained, saw turn-around in Brits from 1901-1910 (10)
- Reps ripe, somehow – and sweat it out! (8)
- Wham! Eric always hides states (7)
- Steer, and French produce small missile (6)

- Terrorism conceals mistake (5)
- Make Southerner sleep – then break in two (4)

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD NO 215

ACROSS:

1. Ilse; 3. Shows off; 8. Dear; 9. Brothers; 11. Make progress; 13. Nadine; 14. Filial; 17. Makes light of; 20. Traction; 21. Judo; 22. Humorist; 23. Shed.

DOWN:

1. In demand; 2. Sparked; 4. Harlot; 5. Water wings; 6. Overs; 7. Fast; 10. Open letter; 12. Clifford; 15. In touch; 16. Allows; 18. Alarm; 19. Etch.

1		2			3	4		5		6		7
8					9							
				10								
11												
												12
13						14			15			
					16							
	17	18										
19												
20								21				
22								23				



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# Anton seeks fifth July win with Bravura

JACK MILNER

LAST YEAR Bravura was the talk of the Vodacom Durban July. He was unbeaten in five starts and was rated the best three-year-old in the country. Unfortunately he was injured during a training gallop that put him out of racing for almost nine months.

He returned to racing in November last year but did not run well and it appeared that the Joey Ramsden-trained runner was never going to regain his former glory. However, patience is a virtue in racing and Ramsden's perseverance paid off.

Bravura arrived in KwaZulu-Natal for the season and bounced back to best to win a Pinnacle Stakes over 1500m at Clairwood and followed that up with a long-head second to Dancewiththedevil in the Grade 1 Gold Challenge over 1600m, also at Clairwood.

That run made him a strong contender for this year's R3-million Durban July to be run over 2200m at Greyville at the weekend. He is now at 4-1 and the second favourite for South Africa's most prestigious race.

Anton Marcus gets the ride and will be hoping that this son of Silvano can give him a record-breaking fifth Durban July victory. Anton has won the big race on four occasions, a record he holds jointly with the great Tiger Wright.

His wins have come aboard Dancing Duel (1993), El Picha (2000), Dunford (2005) and Hunting Tower (2007).

For those who do not remember Tiger Wright, his four victories came from piloting home Silver Phantom in 1942, Brookhill (1947), Milesia Pride (1949) and Preto's Crown (1955).

At one stage Anton appeared to be in a bit of a quandary as to which runner he should ride in the Durban July as he also had the option of Galileo's Destiny, a decent three-year-old trained by champion trainer Mike de Kock. Anton is retained by owner Markus Jooste and he is involved in both horses.

It appears that one of his concerns was the fact that Bravura had only raced on a left-turning track and Anton was not sure how he would handle Greyville with its long right-handed bend.

The other issue was the weight. Bravura carries 57,5kg, a comfortable riding weight for the current champion jockey. If he was to ride Galileo's Destiny, who carried just 53kg, he would have to spend hours shedding a few kilograms.

In the end, and not surprisingly, he sided with Bravura who looks to have a very decent chance of winning the race.

Standing in his way are a bunch of De Kock runners, particularly super filly Igugu. She has run nine times for seven wins and two seconds and this Australian-bred daughter of Galileo is getting better with every run.

Many pundits say that with 55kg she carries too much weight for a three-year-old filly, but she is a superstar. She recently became the first runner in South African racing history to win the Triple Tiara, a series of three races over 1600m, 1800m and 2450m, all run over a space of two months. She won the Fillies Guineas by four lengths, the SA Fillies Classic by 10,75 lengths and the SA Oaks by 5,75 lengths.

De Kock and jockey Anthony Delpach, believe she has the ability to win this race and one has to respect their judgement.

It is also interesting to note that Anton and Anthony are fighting it out for the champion jockeys' title this year. Delpach has a four-win lead and with the season ending on July 31, a win in the Durban July will be of paramount importance.

It will be hard to separate the pair and luck in running on the day will play an important part.

Anybody looking for other Jewish interest in the race could also have a flutter on Castlethorpe. He is trained by Mike Bass who will be missing two of his great stalwarts from the race – Pocket Power and River Jetez. Pocket Power has retired, while his full sister has been campaigning with success overseas.


Castlethorpe is owned by Lionel Cohen, who has taken out a trainer's licence in Australia, and Robert Bloomberg. It is interesting that he finished fourth in the Gold Challenge, in which Bravura ran second, and was just three lengths behind him. He is now 3kg better off and over this distance, that weight turnaround is enough to swing the race in Castlethorpe's favour.

He is well drawn at three, while Bravura is in the middle of the field at No 11. He is also at 33-1 while Bravura is at 4-1. There is some doubt as to whether Castlethorpe will see out 2200m but as the Tote is paying six places on this year's race – as long as 18 or more runners start the race – there could be some value in an each-way bet on this Australian-bred runner.

From my personal point of view, I am going with Igugu to edge out Bravura with Pierre Jourdan in third and The Apache for fourth.




Bravura and Anton Marcus are currently at 4-1 to win this year's Vodacom Durban July over 2200m at Greyville this weekend.



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## Wimbledon goes kosher

LONDON – The new roof above Centre Court was not the only thing to debut at Wimbledon three years ago.

The Chabad tennis barbeque at Wimbledon first opened for business in 2008, and like the roof it is slowly finding its place at SW19.

Conceived and run by Rabbi Dovid Cohen, the food stand, which sells both hamburgers and hot dogs, as well as strawberries and (pareve) ice cream, is aimed to provide a kosher option for Wimbledon-goers while also hopefully raising money for the activities of Chabad of South London.

After operating from the driveway of the Cohens in the first year, the stand relocated next to “The Queue” at the All England Club for the last two champi-

onships and has been feeding the masses, whether Jewish or just plain hungry, ever since.

“We were new to the area and realised how close we were to the tennis so it seemed to be too good an opportunity to miss,” said Rabbi Cohen, who in the autumn of 2008 arrived in South London and began setting up Chabad activities in campuses.

“We are very pleased with how things are going. If we make any profit, it goes into our outreach work with students on campus. Last year we held a small fundraiser to cover some of the costs, but hopefully we will make a bit of money this year and get some money back into the charity.” – Jerusalem Post