

TALK TO THE PROFESSIONALS

Less 20%
on selected
leather and
fabric lounge suites

Corner Drome and Johannesburg
Roads, Lyndhurst Square
Tel 011 089 1700

hntfurn@mweb.co.za | www.hntfurn.co.za



SAJR RELAUNCH

2
WEEKS
TO GO

Pointing towards
the future

The Jewish Report
is launching in
2 weeks its exciting
new look and feel



SOUTH AFRICAN

Jewish Report

www.sajewishreport.co.za

Friday, 2 March 2012 / 8 Adar, 5772

Volume 16 Number 7

- IN THIS EDITION -



- 2 New Jewish school opens in Durban
- 4 Cape Town through Jewish mayors' eyes
- 4 Gary Block: Supreme educator and mensch mourned by thousands
- 7 There's plenty to do this Purim
- 9 Pollard: A travesty of American justice



Making miracles come true



They came, gave with a smile and helped make SA a better place. Nearly 2 000 people packed Sandton Convention Centre last week for another Miracle Drive, steered by Chabad livewire, Rabbi David Masinter. This fundraiser for Jewish and non-Jewish causes set a benchmark so high, one wonders whether it can ever be bettered. Also launched was a Unity Torah, written in honour of Rabbi Mendel Lipskar and his wife Mashi, who established Chabad in SA in 1972. Pictured are Rabbis Masinter and Lipskar, with the latter writing a letter in the new Torah. (PHOTOGRAPH: ILAN OSSENDRYVER)

PAGE 6



Property at your fingertips

The Firzt Mobi Website quick and easy.
Online property search from your Smartphone...
Anywhere! Anytime!

www.firzt.co.za

FIRZT
REALTY COMPANY

011 731 0300

Advertisements and editorial copy from outside sources do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors and staff.

Fast of Esther
Wednesday March 7/13Adar
March8/14Adar

Fast begins		Fast ends
4:55	18:50	Johannesburg
5:22	19:33	Cape Town
4:38	18:40	Durban
4:59	18:59	Bloemfontein
4:54	19:04	Port Elizabeth
4:46	18:54	East London

Do not wait for miracles, take out your siddur and tehilim and pray.

- If you are interested in becoming involved in the school's future or sending your child to the school, please contact secretary Karen Plen on 083-236-6453.

SUBSCRIBE to the **FREE** weekly
e-mail version of the **Jewish Report** 
Simply log on to www.sajewishreport.co.za
and click on 'Subscribe Now'

Ministers Mashatile and Livnat meet in Cape Town

A MEETING between South African Minister of Arts and Culture Paul Mashatile and Israeli Minister of Culture and Sports Limor Livnat, facilitated by the SA Jewish community took place on Wednesday February 22, at Minister Mashatile's offices in Cape Town.

Representatives of the SAZF, SAJBD and IUA UCF were present at the meeting, according to a media release issued by the SAZF.

It said Minister Livnat was invited to South Africa under the auspices of the IUA-UCF.

A joint statement issued on behalf of the two ministers, read:

"The meeting focused on strengthening the cultural relations between Israel and South Africa.

"The Israeli Minister invited Minister Mashatile to visit Israel during this coming May in order to discuss ways to promote cultural ties and the signing of a cultural agreement between the two countries.

"Minister Mashatile welcomed the invitation and indicated that he will be pleased if Minister Livnat can come back to South Africa on an official visit."

Cotler takes up cudgels for former so-called 'terrorists'

DAVID SAKS

FORMER CANADIAN Justice Minister Irwin Cotler has called on his government to revise the exclusionary visa policy currently imposed on members of the African National Congress. This follows on various high-level meetings that Cotler held with South African Cabinet ministers and parliamentarians during his recent visit to the country.

This included meetings with Minister of Justice Jeff Radebe, Minister for Women, Youth, Children and Disabled Lulu Xingwana and chairman of the International Relations Committee. He also addressed the Justice Portfolio Committee in Parliament, met with SA Human Rights Commission Chairman Advocate Lawrence Mushwana and facilitated a session for the Hate Crimes Working Group.

According to a media statement released by Cotler's office, throughout his meetings, concerns were expressed over Canada's "troubling visa policies and their prejudicial consequences for current and former ANC members" who wished to visit the country.

The restrictions date back to the era when the ANC, then still in exile, was classified as a terrorist movement in terms of Canadian law.

According to Cotler, it was "unacceptable for Canada to treat the heroes of the anti-apartheid movement - a historical struggle for a democratic, egalitarian, and non-racial South Africa - as presumed terrorists".

To address the problem, he has since tabled a motion in the Canadian House of Commons calling on Government to allow members of the ANC to visit Canada. The motion reads: "That, in the opinion of the House, members of the African National Congress Party of South Africa, should be not presumed inadmissible to Canada solely on the basis of their membership in this



Former Canadian Justice Minister Irwin Cotler, with Minister of Justice Jeff Radebe. (PHOTOGRAPH: ILAN OSSENDRYVER)

organisation."

SAJBD National Director Wendy Kahn was responsible for setting up many of Cotler's meetings, which, along with other Board representatives, she also attended.

"It was truly an honour to have been able to work with a man of the calibre and global stature of Prof Cotler once more," she said. "We were very proud to be able to expose our country's leadership to someone with so outstanding a record in the human rights field, and who has so many invaluable insights to share with us."

In addition to the visa question, discussion during the above meetings focused on hate crimes and the Canadian experience in dealing with them, the rights and welfare of women and children and Middle East matters, in particular the Iranian nuclear issue and state-sponsored violence in Syria.

Cotler also raised issues of specifically African concern, namely the ongoing violence and gross human rights abuses that were taking place in the Congo and Sudan. Concurrent with his visit, Cotler published pieces in the local press on the international community's responsibility to protect the people of Syria and the important role that South Africa could play re Iran.

While in South Africa, Cotler also participated in a reunion of defence counsels for Nelson Mandela, having served as Canadian counsel in this regard.



Club Travel
021 418 45 45
Cape Quarter | Somerset Road | Green Point

**Fly to Tel Aviv
from the
CAPE QUARTER
and to all other
destinations.**

info@cclubtravel.co.za

WE PAY CASH

VEHICLES WANTED


- ANY MAKE
- ANY MODEL
- ANY CONDITION
- ALSO ACCIDENT – DAMAGED VEHICLES WANTED

CALL ARNOLD ORKIN

GIANT

MOTOR SPARES

GUARANTEES CUSTOMER SATISFACTION
542 Main Reef Road, Denver
Call 082-823-7826



NOW OPEN IN BEDFORDVIEW

- Facial Rejuvenation Packages
- Skin Resurfacing • Pigmentation
- Liquid Face lift • Migraine
- Ageing Face • Neck • Décolleté
- Laser Face Lift • Sagging
- Double Chin • Facial Sagging
- Acne • Acne Scars
- Eye Bags/ Circles
- Unwanted Veins Et Hair

- Aesthetic Medical Consultation
- Pearl Fractional • Cosmelan
- Botox® • Fillers • Mesotherapy
- IPL • Chemical Peels • Transdermal Mesotherapy
- 3 D Skin Rejuvenation™ • Titan®
- Lipodissolve • TriPollar™ • Accent™
- PDT/LED • Microdermabrasion • Skin Needling
- Laser Genesis™ • Carboxytherapy
- Laser Vein Et Hair Removal • Sclerotherapy

skinrenewal
a non-surgical solution

9 Park Street, Bedfordview
Tel: 011 450 0125

www.skinrenewal.co.za • www.bodyrenewal.co.za

JOIN US FOR A
"DEEPLY FRIED" PURIM
CELEBRATION OF FUN,
JOY & EXCITEMENT

COUVERT: R180 PP
(INCLUDES DINNER,
DRINKS AND SHOW)

CHILDREN 6 – 12: R60
UNDER 6: FREE

RSVP TO SHARON@CHABAD.ORG.ZA



**DEEP FRIED
MAN**

AND SPECIAL
CHILDRENS
PROGRAMME

PURIM DAY

8 MARCH 2012 | 5 PM
AT THE KILLARNEY
COUNTRY CLUB

GREAT FOOD



chabad house
Driven by
Miracle Drive

CARVO
VODKA INFUSIONS

Concerns make for more even-handed resolution

MOIRA SCHNEIDER
CAPE TOWN

REASON prevailed at a meeting of the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on International Relations and Co-operation, when the group gathered at Parliament last week Wednesday to consider a draft report on its trip to Gaza in early December.

The report recommended: “That Parliament undertake a fact-finding and solidarity visit to the Occupied Palestinian Territories; that Parliament foster parliament-to-parliament relations with the Palestinian Legislative Authority; and that Parliament highlight the plight of the Palestinian people in its engagements with other parliaments and in multi-lateral fora where it holds membership or participates in.”

In the ensuing discussion, ACDP MP Cheryllyn Dudley, stated that there was “no mention (in the recommendations) of making any effort to find out what’s on the other side. There’s a minimum of two sides to a story.

“Are we afraid to find out what’s on the other side?” she asked. “It is impossible for us to see the picture as a whole (at present).”

Drawing attention to the government’s policy of a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, DA MP Ian Davidson suggested “that should be the guiding light going forward” if a meaningful impact was to be made in the process. The report was “enormously one-sided” with “not even a mention of reflecting on Israel’s position.

“We need to apprise ourselves of both sides before we rush into resolutions on the matter.”

The document was “loaded with emotive words” which should be removed from the resolutions. “I endorse a fact-finding mission, but it must include visiting the Palestinian and Israeli authorities,” he said.

“You undermine your own credibility as Parliament by taking an ill-informed and one-sided decision.”

Stating that he shared the previous speakers’ sentiments, IFP MP Ben Skosana pointed out that the use of the word “solidarity” in the recommendations was “prejudging” the issue. “We need to engage the two belligerents,” he added, advocating the fostering of relations with the Knesset as well.

ANC MP Fatima Hajaig commented that all the parties’ views were reflected in a report on a symposium on the Palestinian question held in November, (also before the committee at the meeting) “so it’s not as if the input of Israel has been left out of the equation”.

Smuts Ngonyama (Cope) said that the “historical alliance” between the ANC and Palestine was one thing (but) “as a country, we’ve moved beyond that point”. He referred to the recommendations as “taking a step back.

“We should not pledge solidarity with a particular party - you can’t be a referee and a player in the process. We’re part and parcel of a solution, not to exacerbate tensions in the area,” he pointed out.

In the end, the recommendations were amended by consensus. The word “solidarity” was removed and it was agreed that Parliament undertake a fact-finding mission to both Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories; that relations be fostered with the Knesset as well as the Palestinian Legislative Authority; and that the situation in the Middle East as a whole, as opposed to “the plight of the Palestinian people”, be highlighted by Parliament.

It was also agreed that recommendations flowing from the adopted symposium report be delayed until after members had visited the areas concerned.

Gary Block, supreme educator and mensch, passes on

ROBYN SASSEN

WELL LOVED vice principal of King David Linksfield, Gary Block (pictured) passed away at the weekend, after a sudden heart attack last Sunday evening. He was 45. A man of warmth and a natural teacher with a gift to communicate, Block was not only an educational leader and a supremely hands-on person, he was like the engine room of the school.

Born on December 8, 1965, Block was associated with King David all his life. Former principal Elliot Wolf, remembered: “I taught him through high school, between 1979 and 1984. After matriculating he enrolled at Wits for a B Com. Still, he maintained links with the school.

“In 1988, he decided not to pursue a commercial career and joined us as a junior in Jewish studies. In this capacity, he oversaw form 1 prayers. And he got to know all the students of that year. The next year, he had a new group of students, but he followed the history of the previous class. It didn’t



matter if they were weak or strong, good or bad, he had a genuine interest in each one.”

Block conducted two Israeli ulpanim and several sports tours; he took over editorship of the school magazine and masterminded sound and lighting for the school’s musical productions. Among other things, he created “Glance”, a photographic record of school activities, now a valuable repository of school history.

“Gary had time for everyone. He genuinely never had a bad word to say about anyone. He was the epitome of loyalty: a remarkable individual, in so many versatile areas.” Wolf speaks of the “hidden curriculum” that is not about teaching facts; it’s about the ability to listen to one’s learners with an empathetic ear; thus to help them grow into people who know they matter.

Never a father himself, Gary was like a father to all those he taught. He knew every child in the school by name, and never forgot or betrayed confidences.

“He made himself,” adds Marc Falconer,

current principal of King David Linksfield. “Logistics was a talent; all schedules and lists were his responsibility, which he handled incredibly efficiently. His ability to nurture others, was another talent. Every child passing through our school in 22 years can attest to how Gary touched his or her life.

“Gary never missed school due to illness. He had amazing stamina and would never turn down a task. He gave and received respect; he never had to discipline his pupils.” Former parents and learners commented, “He did more than teach us. He enabled us to believe in ourselves. His legacy is massive.”

“No one is irreplaceable,” Falconer added, “except Gary Block.”

As a child, in 1971, Gary lost his father. Tragically in 2005, his brother-in-law suddenly passed away; Gary became like a father to his young niece and nephew. “They are a wonderful family,” said Wolf. “Loyal, decent, hardworking, kind people.”

King David Linksfield was closed on Tuesday, the day Gary was laid to rest. West Park Cemetery saw one of the biggest funerals in recent years when young and old came to pay their respects to a man who has made such an indelible impression on so many lives.

Gary leaves his mother Rhona Jacobson, brother Martin; sister Karen Steinberg, and step-siblings Clive, Neil and Sharlyn, nieces and nephews.

CT history through the eyes of its Jewish mayors

MOIRA SCHNEIDER
CAPE TOWN

FROM 1900, Jews were in the forefront of liberalism at the Cape, with the Cape Town City Council having always been a liberal council. So said David Bloomberg, former mayor of this city, in an address given under the auspices of the Gitlin Library.

Highlighting the contribution of the Jewish mayors of the city to this liberal ethos, Bloomberg based his address on his latest book, The Chain Gang, released last year. The book deals with the city’s history over the last 100 years as told through the profiles of the mayors who served in City Hall.

Of the 44 mayors since 1900, 13 had been Jewish. When Bloomberg himself became mayor in 1973, 15 of the 34 councillors were Jewish, he recalled. “Jews did dominate the scene,” he said.

The first Jewish mayor, in 1904, was Hyman Liberman, a development described by Bloomberg as “extraordinary” as the council had at that stage comprised largely gentry from England, Ireland and Scotland. There was anti-Semitism at the Cape and Liberman matched the anti-Semitic stereotype of what a Jew should look like.

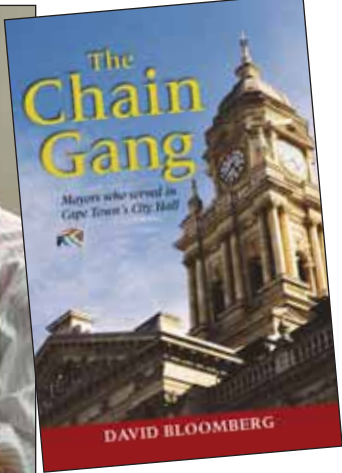
“He spoke with a thick Polish accent, lacked social graces and there was a lack of decorum in council,” Bloomberg related. However, he became an “outstanding mayor”.

Having left school at the age of 13, Liberman had become one of the wealthiest people at the Cape. He was a “very proud Jew”, serving as president of the Gardens Synagogue.

In 1933, Louis Gradner (“Louis the Boss”) became the next Jewish incumbent, having also hailed from Poland. Together with his



Former Cape Town Mayor David Bloomberg. (PHOTOGRAPH: DEVIS IOSIFZON)



The front cover of The Chain Gang by former mayor of Cape Town, David Bloomberg. (PHOTOGRAPH: COURTESY AMPERSAND PRESS)

wife, Rae, who was from London’s East End, he played a huge role in Jewish affairs here. Their son, Walter, became a subsequent mayor.

The third Jewish mayor, in 1945, was Abe Bloomberg. David described his father as an “extraordinary man” who had been the confidant of General Jannie Smuts and had dined with British Prime Ministers Winston Churchill and Clement Attlee when visiting England.

“But he was equally happy in the company of stable hands and trainers,” he remembered. The highlight of his parents’ tenure had been the visit of the British Royal Family to South Africa in 1947.

They had subsequently been invited to the present Queen’s marriage and to view the gifts at Buckingham Palace. “They became friends of the British Royal fami-

ly,” he remarked.

“When the government removed the Coloured people from the voter’s roll, (Abe) was at the forefront of the legal team that battled (them) in the Supreme Court,” David added.

Alfred Honikman had been “a great liberal who was not afraid to go out on a limb to defend his views. He was mayor during the Verwoerd era and his liberal views were not popular with the government - he had a hard time.”

Bloomberg described Richard Friedlander as “one of our most successful mayors”, with his wife, Union of Jewish Women stalwart Phyllis’ work as mayoress being well-known and well-recorded.

He noted that during his own term (1973-1975), he had done much to try and abolish petty apartheid in the city.

Then there were Louis Kreiner (1979) and Sol Kreiner (1983). “As far as I know, they were the only brothers to have occupied the chair of Van Riebeeck,” he stated.

Historic Bloemfontein Jewish Cemetery desecrated

DAVID SAKS



BLOEMFONTEIN’S historic Memoriam Cemetery has become the latest Jewish cemetery in the country to be vandalised. Thirty five tombstones have been toppled and obscene graffiti daubed on the walls of the adjoining ohel.

A number of the city’s earliest pioneers are among the 1 143 who are buried in the cemetery, which was established shortly after the Anglo-Boer War (the war ended in 1902) and remained in use even after the establishment of the new South Park Jewish Cemetery in the 1950s.

They include the legendary Sophie “Ouma” Leviser, her husband Moritz and two of her brothers, Dr Alfred and Karl Otto Baumann. Sophie, who lived to be over a hundred, was born in Bloemfontein in 1856, barely a decade after the town’s founding.

Rabbi Moshe Silberhaft, spiritual leader

to the country communities, is in communication with the SAJBD’s Bloemfontein representative to oversee the restoration of the cemetery.

All the damaged stones will be re-laid flat, as has been done with all the graves in the new cemetery. The country communities department now insists on tombstones being laid flat when arranging new burials in the country areas.

The SAJBD in Bloemfontein slammed the “criminal” attack in a statement to the local media. This read in part: “Many good and honourable citizens of Bloemfontein, some of whom were among the pioneers who helped to build the city, lie buried in this consecrated ground.

“The wanton desecration of their final resting places goes beyond just another act of everyday vandalism, but constitutes a vile and shameful outrage against the Jewish community of Bloemfontein, past and present.”

Malema’s resilience rewarded

PIXIE LA BELLE

IN A groundbreaking initiative announced this week, Love Me Tender, a leading Jewish organisation, has bestowed a “JewJew Award” on deposed ANC Youth League leader Julius Malema, in recognition of his resilience and what the company’s CEO, Mordechai Shpielman, called “deft survival skills and unassailablechutzpah in the face of often overwhelming odds”.

“As Jews who’ve run our own gauntlet in terms of public criticism, we know that dignity and integrity are fine ideals, but they don’t always get you back in the pound seats. The global Jewish community has confronted its own critics with courage and conviction, but we’ve noted that Mr Malema takes a far more direct and gainful approach.

“We wanted to acknowledge indi-

viduals in South Africa who - like our own community - have been vilified, marginalised or ridiculed, but who have persevered and stared their enemies down,” he told a media conference.

“It’s been a long, often thankless journey for Mr Malema. And while his principles and politics have frequently landed him in hot water, the sheer resilience of the man is inspiring.

“He emerges from each setback more vociferously - and vehemently - than ever. No court, tribunal or negative press coverage seems to touch sides. Imagine if we had the same tenacity in facing down our own enemies!

“Of course, we don’t condone Mr Malema’s belligerence or his tactics, but let’s face it, he has kahunas bigger than kneidlach!” added Shpielman.

“Who else do you know who can wear a Breitling, buy a mansion in

an elite Johannesburg suburb and still pass himself off as a crusader for economic equality? Malema’s chutzpah could put even us to shame.”

The award - a gilded figurine of an outstretched hand with the inscribed words, mutated from JFK’s famous declaration: “Freg niet vos mir daffen gebben - freg vos mir vet kriegen” - will be delivered to Malema’s offices in the near future, together with a box of hamantashen.

Shpielman said the award was part of an outreach concept, through which the Jewish community might succeed in opening dialogue with controversial, but influential public figures like Malema.

“Who knows, we might exercise a moderating influence on him. And he’d be a great contact for fundraising drives,” remarked Shpielman.

• For further information, visit: www.purimshpiel/lovemetender.co.za

SAZF’s list of fallen for Yom Hazikaron

THE SOUTH AFRICAN Zionist Federation is compiling a list of all bereaved families who lost loved

ones in Israel’s wars, or terrorist attacks.

If you have lost a loved one, kind-

ly contact the South African Zionist Federation, Miriam (011) 645-2531 or miriam@beyachad.co.za

AROUND THE WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

BARAK TO MEET WITH PANETTA IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON - Israeli Defence Minister Ehud Barak is to meet with his US counterpart, Leon Panetta, and other key US security officials, in Washington this week.

Barak, who left Israel on Monday, arrived just days before Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is scheduled to meet President Barack Obama in the US capital.

The frequency of such meetings has intensified in recent months as Israel and

the United States seek to co-ordinate their strategies for keeping Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon.

In addition to Panetta, Barak will meet with Vice President Joe Biden, National Security Adviser Tom Donilon and "leaders of the defence and intelligence establishment, as well as senators", a release from the Israeli defence chief's office said. (JTA)



ISRAEL it's your home...



FOR HOLIDAYS TO ISRAEL AND AROUND THE WORLD, YOU CAN RELY ON OUR 30 YEARS' EXPERTISE AND OUTSTANDING PERSONAL SERVICE

ONE FOR ALL SPECIAL
Fly the **ONLY** non-stop airline to Israel - **EL AL ISRAEL AIRLINES**
And enjoy TWO days free CAR hire with HERTZ

VALID FOR TRAVEL UNTIL 28 FEBRUARY 2013
From R7400 (excluding taxes)
Terms and conditions apply



HARVEY

world travel


The Travel Professionals

Executive Travel

SA'S LEADING ISRAEL TRAVEL SPECIALIST

The Mall Offices, 11 Cradock Ave, cnr Baker St, Rosebank

011 788 2050
www.hwtexecutivetravel.co.za



Shalom Bayit

(PEACE IN THE HOME)

A JEWISH RESPONSE TO ABUSE

SHALOM BAYIT INVITES YOU TO A DYNAMIC WORKSHOP

DATING AND RELATING...

This will be a fun interactive workshop on healthy relationships and is aimed at young single women aged 18 - 35

Roselyn Yudelowitz, Vanessa Feldman and Jacqui Barlev - highly trained professionals and experts in this field will be running the workshops.

Date: Sunday 11th March 2012
Time: 11. 00am for 11.30am till 3.00pm
Venue: Beyachad, 2 Elray Street Raedene

Lunch will be served: Free parking available
Donation: R150 per person

RSVP: BARBARA (011) 645-2591
ujwexec@beyachad.co.za

Under the auspices of the Co-ordinating Council of National Jewish Women’s Organizations of S.A. and the Judith Harrisberg Memorial Fund.



PUT A SMILE ON SOMEONE'S DIAL

**WIN
A Polaroid
Digital Camera**

10 Mega pixels / 2.4 LCD Screen
3 x Optical zoom lens / Face Tracking
2 Gg memory card
Camera bag

**IT'S PURIM!
TIME TO GET WACKY**

Make a difference today.
Send in your photos right away.

**WIN
A Sansui 7inch
Widescreen Digital
Photo Frame**

LED backlight
3x interchangeable colours
USB port

HERE'S HOW TO JOIN IN THE FUN:

- Send Yad Aharon your craziest, funniest, wackiest photo's (keep it appropriate folks). Entries open to all ages.
- Competition closes on 12 March 2012.
- Donate a minimum of R36 for every photo you submit.
- E-mail lauson@yadaharon.co.za with: 1) your photos in a Jpeg format 2) confirmation of your donation 3) contact details.

We'll upload your best photo onto the Yad Aharon Michael Facebook page. The more photos you send, the greater the chance to win. At least one photo per person will make it to our page!!

Tell your friends and family to vote for your photo.
If your photo gets the most , you'll win the Digital Photo Frame.
If your photo wins 1st place by our judges, you'll win the Camera package.
T's & C's apply. Judges decision is final.

For further info call: 011 485 2076
Nedbank Limited • Acc No: 1911087363 • Branch Name: Balfour Park • Branch Code: 151105
Registered PID Number: 930009548 - Yad Aharon & Michael is a registered PID and can provide a receipt in terms of Section 18A of the Income Tax Act.



**YADAHARON
& MICHAEL
TZEDOKAH
FOOD FUND**

Social media has become ‘a big beast’ says Knott-Craig

STAFF REPORTER
PHOTO SUPPLIED

THE POWER of social media was the topic of discussion at the SA Israel Chamber of Commerce’s business breakfast held in Sandton recently.

Guest speaker was Alan Knott-Craig, founder of the World of Avatar and chief executive of MXit.

The Telecoms and IT Networking Breakfast was the first of the year hosted by the chamber. Its aim was to introduce Israeli innovative technologies to the South African telecoms industry. The focus was on infrastructure provider companies, fixed and wireless.

Elad Stav, general manager of the SAICC’s new international department, said: “We are planning to host similar events throughout the year, focusing on other technological sectors where we believe there are mutual interests and opportunities and where synergies create real win-win situations.”

The chamber would be introducing Israeli innovative solutions which had significant competitive advantage and were specifically relevant to the African markets, he said.

The areas to be focused on are: mobile content and VAS, new media, software, alternative energy and energy efficiency, HLS and border controls, agrotechnology and food security, water management and health-care.

MXit is Africa’s largest social network and was purchased by Knott-Craig last year. He has been involved in the business for many years. Between 2003 and 2006, he co-founded five companies in the mobile telecoms sector. In 2006 he was appointed managing director of iBurst. In April 2008, Knott-Craig published “Don’t Panic” persuading emigrant South Africans to return home.

He told delegates how his first foray in the industry was the introduction of cell phone tracking.

“I had to beg Vodacom to listen to me. It started small, but at the end of the day we were tracking over one million people,” he said.

When he moved to iBurst, he was involved in building physical infrastructure. “It was a great experience. I learned that you don’t go into that business unless you have lots of money. It also taught me that I have an aversion to physical work,” he said.

However, prices started falling and it was difficult to make money - it was “a race to the bottom” with price wars happening. “Content was going through the roof. Internet prices started, in 2006 at R36 000 per meg, dropping to R500 currently and available in Europe for R100 per meg,” he said.

After he left iBurst, he moved to Stellenbosch and started a mobile applications company, Avatar.

At the time MXit had been started as a gaming engine and chat line. No one was playing games, they were just chatting. The seed started in the Cape Flats in Mitchell’s Plain and within a year there were 30 000 users.

Knott-Craig offered to buy it, but the price was too high and it



Alan Knott-Craig, founder of the World of Avatar and chief executive of MXit, at the SAICC networking breakfast.

was sold to Naspers. The deal did not work and Knott-Craig later heard there were problems and bought it.

“I didn’t know anything about social media. But in the past five years it had become a big beast, with 50 million downloads a year. Eighty per cent of users are in South Africa and the rest in SADC and other countries worldwide.”

The irony was that no one was doing any marketing. It was spreading through word of mouth.

“There were no large offices or back acts. It is a highly-engaged environment in which users don’t need a PC or TV. Most people spend one hour a day on Facebook, but about eight hours per day on MXit.”

Knott-Craig said he realised that it was a communication medium which gave users an escape from reality.

“We realised that users did not just want to chat, they want an escape. People can be who they want to be on MXit. They can be anonymous and can be multiple people. This is important, especially for people who have nothing in their lives.”

Facebook and Google demand identities, with no aliases allowed, because of marketing and advertising considerations.

Strategy games were another important aspect of MXit, with 1,2 million people playing them.

Another feature it offered was the ability to store users’ information and photos in their own galleries in the clouds, so that it could never be lost.

MXit did not offer back-up service or call centres. The community created its own chat rooms and people helped one another if there were problems. It currently had 12,5 million active customers who sent between 750 000 to 800 000 messages a day. It was used in 126 countries with 2,5 million users in Indonesia and a million in Mexico.

The service became so big that Multichoice opted to use it to spread its message through Africa.

“This is a new channel where the audience talks to one another. The community sorts its own issues out.”

Knott-Craig said that during the 2010 soccer World Cup, MXit was used by Adidas to promote a competition. They got a record 55 000 entries. Another example of its success was the voting for the Seven Wonders of the World.

It was used as a test to see how many votes it could mobilise. A portal was created and 80 000 votes were received in one day for Table Mountain to be the winner - more than votes gathered in the past two years.



Rabbi David Masinter, director of Chabad SA; Jacko Maree, CEO of Standard Bank; and Wendy Fisher, daughter of Natie Kirsh, who is seated in front. (PHOTOGRAPH: ILAN OSSENDYVER)

Making miracles come true

ROBYN SASSEN

JUST WHEN you thought it impossible for Chabad to top last year’s achievements, it does just that: the 23rd Miracle Drive, hosted last week Wednesday on “Budget Speech Day”, at the Sandton Convention Centre, was more than a glittering affair for the cream of local Jewry, it was an event with heart, overreaching anything previously achieved by Chabad; with a bid to support not only Jewry, but the broader community too, made possible in part by prominent property tycoon Natie Kirsh.

Emceed by comedian Nik Rabinowitz and featuring acclaimed Chabad tenor Dudu Fisher, accompanied by Shai Bachar on piano, the event, masterminded by director of Chabad, Rabbi David Masinter, hosted 1 950 guests; it’s arguably South Africa’s biggest fundraiser.

It headlined with Rabinowitz picking the names of draw winners from a hat: Prof Michael Rudolph drove off with his first prize Nissan Juke.

The proceedings also opened with the beginning of the completion of a new Torah, in celebration of 40 years of Chabad in South Africa, and to honour Rabbi Mendel and Rebbetzen Mashi Lipskar, who arrived in South Africa, young newly-weds, in 1972, the first official shluchim of the Lubavitcher Rebbe.

They revolutionised South African Judaism. Today, Chabad SA, the largest of its kind in Africa, boasts over 50 shluchim and a network of education and outreach organisations. Rabbi Lipskar is the Director of Lubavitch Foundation and Chabad’s head shaliach.

Working with the theme of miracle, the evening proceeded, honouring Chabad’s “angel investors”. Said Gregg Cohen, chairman of Miracle Drive Young Drivers: “Miracle Drive is many things. To motivate the youth to give, and to give generously, nothing is more powerful and important than examples set by key families.”

Silver shofars were given to top contributors Eric and Rona Ellerine; and Gerald and Ros Rubenstein, who “have not only been wonderful in everything they have done, but who taught us

that the most important values know no bounds.” Rabbi Dovid and Rebbetzen Chaya Haller, who have encouraged over 13 000 men to put on tefillin, were awarded a silver “hamsa”; by Alan Demby, chairman of the SA Gold Coin Exchange, who, this year, donated R1 million to Miracle Drive.

Educated at Stellenbosch, Harvard and Oxford, CEO of Standard Bank, Jacko Maree, was one of the keynote dignitaries. “The Standard Bank is a brand new Miracle Drive sponsor,” explained Rabbi Masinter, showing the giant Standard Bank cheque of R1,8 million in Chabad’s name.

At his 80th birthday in January, Kirsh introduced Rabbi Masinter to Maree, with whom Kirsh has been in partnership for 12 or 13 years; synchronicity between Standard Bank’s support of young black business and Rabbi Masinter’s keenness to nurture black children, was something Kirsh couldn’t overlook.

Miracle Drive proactively supports change. “Together we can change the world, one step at a time,” is its dictum. Supporting this, said mining magnate Sipho Nkosi, CEO of Exxaro, and president of the Chamber of Mines: “Some years ago, I stumbled on a reading about the Rebbe, which gave me insights; I was guided by Rabbi Masinter. It made me realise how focused he is in making this world a better place. It resonates with all of us.”

Rabbi Masinter responded: “As a child, I was sure that success was only financial and being grown up meant you’d worked things out. I have learnt success is knowing your own direction.”

And, said dead-pan Rabinowitz, it is not every day you get two

budget speeches on one day, preempting the insights Rabbi Masinter offered into monies collected for Chabad’s initiatives, with the Senior’s programme, under Rabbi Ari Kievman, top of the pops yielding over R900 000.

These include in-house programmes as well as outreach initiatives, from CARE, the addiction rehabilitation centre, to Grow Your Life, a series of children’s books aimed at black readers aged 6-12. The books, written by Brigitte Youngworth and illustrated by Peta Kaplan, focus on fundamental lessons and guidelines for life. To date, over 200 000 copies have been distributed nationally.

A deeply moved Rabbi Masinter spoke of the launch of a brand new campsite, in the name of “two special kids.” The Joshua and Taryn Gan Yisrael over-night camp, in Uvongo at the KwaZulu-Natal south coast, under the steerage of Rabbi Pini Pink, will enable children to take part in a Chabad learning experience. It will host camps in July and December for children across the country.

The focus was turned to Kirsh and his wife Frances and daughter Wendy, who have made a dream come true, for Chabad. “It’s about inspiring kids to achieve, despite obstacles,” Rabbi Masinter said of the Kirsh Centre of Goodness and Kindness, a prototype in instilling values.

Wendy, who Rabbi Masinter called the project’s catalyst, told of how the centre, a beautiful red-bricked house in Sandton “aims to change the world for the good”.

Added Natie, in an unscheduled speech: “One of the greatest tragedies of commercial life in South Africa is that Rabbi Masinter is not in it! His ability to generate such interest and create such innovation astonishes me.

“But more than that is his unrelenting focus on giving inspiration to young, mainly black children, born into poverty. The message is that they need not stay there. Nobody else I know in South Africa is doing precisely this.”

Miracle Drive’s lucky winners

PRIZEWINNERS ALL: First prize of the Miracle Drive Draw went to Prof Michael Rudolph, who drove away in his brand new Nissan Juke, valued at over R200 000. Second prize of a Yamaha Wave Runner, valued at R112 000, went to Brian Mehl. Third prize of a Yamaha Digital Piano, to the value of R34 200, went to Denese Zaslansky.

The fourth prize of a Momentum investment policy worth R120 000,

including an investment to Miracle Drive in the recipient’s name, was won by Kenny and Natalie Rabson and the fifth prize of an 18 carat white gold bracelet, valued at R100 000, was won by Sydney and Gaynor Lazarus.

In addition, a draw was taken of names of seated guests and Rodney and Cheryl Kotton walked off with a Tishbi wine hamper; Marcus and Vivianne Gritzman won a portable jacuzzi.

OPINION AND ANALYSIS - FORUM FOR DIVERSE VIEWS

Compliance and diversity

SOUTH AFRICA has a prickly past, and doing business here is not simple. There are several contingencies that directors at board level or owners of small businesses need to be mindful of when initiating business locally. Obviously Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) is one issue. There are rigidities in the scope and makeup of local or foreign ownership and critically, certain legislative challenges that if not dealt with, could result in severely depleted opportunities.

There is no sanction or punishment for failing to implement BEE. There is no disciplinary stick forcing compliance with BEE but, rather, a commercial incentive to embrace BEE, says Ismail Laher, an associate at legal firm Norton Rose.

Accordingly, BEE compliance is not compulsory - there is no “sanction or punishment” for failing to implement BEE, but as Laher says, there exists a commercial incentive. In the public sector the government has internal policies to only deal with entities with a particular BEE score and so a good BEE score is a prerequisite to being awarded a government contract.

Diversity in leadership and thought

Diversity is honourable not only in the classic sense. Though there is room to argue the merits of having multiple ethnicities, genders and religious creeds at board level, diversity really means in the context of running a company, that in streams of thought and the application of problem solving, it is beneficial. King III, the domestic benchmark for corporate governance stipulates:

“Every board should consider whether its size, diversity and demographics make it effective. Diversity applies to academic qualifications, expertise, relevant industry knowledge, experience, nationality, age, race, gender.”

To push forward in understanding diversity as a boardroom imperative, one needs to appreciate what diversity offers, and additionally, what the fringe benefits of compliance actually are. As Julie Methven, CEO of the SA Compliance Institute articulates, complying with non-binding rules raises the overall level of corporate governance in an organisation, something that benefits and appeals to all stakeholders.

“Clients are attracted to companies they feel they can trust, and employees are more loyal to a company with a good reputation; it also helps with recruiting.



Bryan Silke's
BusinessBrief
Know your business

Suppliers recognise that they can lower their contractual exposure by working with partners they can trust,” she says.

Integrated reporting and disclosure

Compliance at board level does not necessarily mean a visible set of minutes. Integrated reporting was in February 2010 made into a requirement for JSE-listed entities. King III, in addressing it as a necessary tool for corporate governance, requires disclosure and sustainability reporting to be integrated with the company's financial reporting.

Often this could make management teams, boards and directors nervous. Shaun Vorster of Mazars questions whether senior management might view integrated reporting as “yet another layer of compliance and regulation that will cost companies huge sums of money but deliver no obvious benefit”.

King III views integrated reporting as one criterion to achieve best business practise - arguably the noblest goal of any company, irrespective of its size. It describes integrated reporting as, “a holistic and integrated representation of a company's performance in terms of both its finance and its sustainability”.

Vorster advises that practically, an integrated report should comprise the following information to be valid and compliant: relevant information about the organisation's strategy, business model and the context in which it operates; historic performance (defined more holistically than simply by reference to standard financial metrics); and information to allow users to understand better the pressures (including risks) around achieving those performance measures and the sustainability of the business in the short, medium and longer term.

• For more information, and to read more from the above authors, visit www.bbrief.co.za

ADVERTISEMENT

Career guidance for Jewish Job seekers offered by ORT JET

Empowering our community is the main driver behind the incredible work being done by ORT JET. As a division of ORT SA, our ethos of “educating for life” manifests itself in the many training and skills courses offered to the Jewish business community throughout the year.

The Job seeker seminars are yet another example of how ORT JET strives to empower people in a tangible and practical way. The two part seminar will be offered at various stages throughout the year and will assist job seekers with a range of skills from personal branding, understanding one's strengths to the practical tools of CV writing and interview etiquette.

Job seekers are finding it harder to market themselves in the job market, especially if they are already de-motivated after a couple of bad experiences. Our community can benefit from the skills and experience that the ORT JET trainers have to offer.

“Students and graduates experience a lot of anxiety when faced with the daunting task of looking for employment,” says Nicci Raz (ORT JET). “That is why we have allocated two of the seminars specifically to address this group of job seekers.”

The next job seeker seminar will kick off at the end of February and bookings are open.

The sessions will be held in the early evening to accommodate those who study/work during the day.

Dates: February 29 (Session 1), March 22 (Session 2)
Venue: Beyachad, Sydenham
Time: 17:30 – 20:00



The lectures will address the following topics:

- Personal branding and attitude
- Goal setting
- CV writing tips
- Marketing yourself for the job
- Where to look for jobs
- How to secure an interview
- Interview skills
- General Q&A

“I thoroughly enjoyed this seminar and would encourage others to attend future seminars. Informative, interesting and learnt a lot, may it continue to help people in my position” sent in by one of our attendees of the January Seminar.

• For more info visit www.ortjet.org.za or call Tracy on (011) 728-7154.

ISRAEL

IT'S YOUR HOME...

A land of history, challenges, leisure and celebrations. It remains a preferred holiday destination for those who want a bit more.

For holidays to Israel and around the world, you can rely on our 30 years' expertise and outstanding personal service.

Nobody beats us for price & service

Start planning your next trip and call us NOW to avoid disappointment!

sure executive travel

SA'S LEADING ISRAEL TRAVEL SPECIALIST

Ground Floor JHI House, 11 Cradock Avenue
Cnr Baker Street, Rosebank

ASATA **Tel: (011) 788-2050** **IATA**

Training workshop

CALLING ALL JOBSEEKERS

Know how to go out and get it? You've got the drive and the skills. Know how to nail that all-important interview?

2012 Bookings Now Open

Wednesday, 29th February 5:30pm to 8:30pm
Thursday, 22nd March 5:30pm to 8:30pm

It's a competitive world out there. You need the right advice from the experts in the industry.

Join ORT JET for an inspiring seminar that's all about taking the guesswork out of getting work, so you don't have to lose your head over getting ahead.

Poster sponsored by **Mindcor** Endorsed by **SAUJS**

ORTJET

Each seminar is limited to 30 delegates. R180 Donation per seminar

Go to www.ortjet.org.za or call Tracy 011 728 7154 to book your seat

Reclaiming their lives

STORIES ARE legion of soldiers coming home from one or another of the many wars throughout history, traumatised and broken. Shell-shocked First World War veterans who went through trench warfare and mustard gas, Vietnam veterans scarred by napalm, Korean War vets, soldiers who fought Hitler, etc.

Combatants on the other side also came home scarred from war - regardless of what cause they were fighting for.

Most familiar to us are the Israeli soldiers - veterans of the Six Day War, the War of Attrition, the Yom Kippur War, the Lebanon War, and the other battles Israel has fought.

Coming home from combat means readjusting to the mundane things of life - shopping at the supermarket for milk and eggs, working at ordinary eight-to-five jobs, driving the kids to school, etc. It is a difficult transition.

Greatest is the task for those with severe injuries, like the eight Israelis badly wounded in conflict situations in the Israeli army who spoke on Monday in Johannesburg, for whom the rest of their lives will be lived in the shadow of their injuries (see front page and page 2). Their families, too, will always be impacted by their ordeal. They have to put together the shattered pieces of their lives and find a way to carry on.

During the apartheid era, young South African men were conscripted into the army and many saw active battle. There were also numerous combatants who fought valiantly for MK. However, South Africans today, by and large, don't know war. Their contact with it is from the safety of a cinema seat or a page in a newspaper or website.

The younger generation, born from the '80s onwards, never experienced either the conflict of apartheid or any other type of war. Even the generation of Second World War veterans who have lived among us for decades, has essentially faded - most are very old or have passed on. The same goes for the survivors of the Holocaust. All that remains are chapters in recorded history and memorials here and there.

The reality for young Israelis is different. They not only serve in the army, but are in an active, combat-hardened army fighting real battles against real enemies. War is part of their lives, including for those who seem peaceful, strolling along the Tel Aviv beachfront promenade - which is not many kilometres from the borders separating Israel from its enemies.

During their visit to South Africa, the eight soldiers met local people to whom their experiences are alien and who can express sympathy, but obviously cannot fully understand the dreadfulness of what they have been through during the battles and in their struggles afterwards.

The eight come as role models, with the message that life goes on, nevertheless. They are not to be idealised; they are young men who could be anyone's children. But the fact of them coming to talk to strangers here about their attempts to heal, shows how far they have moved.

We in South Africa have taken to whinging endlessly about things in our country - crime, corruption, political uncertainty, etc. These are, of course, serious issues needing to be addressed. However, it is sobering to come face to face with these young Israeli men. The ordinary person is often uncomfortable and doesn't know how to relate to them, either exhibiting feigned indifference, or a schmaltzy show of sympathy. But the effect on people attending the talk on Monday was obvious and profound.

May the time come soon when young men from Israel will visit this country only with messages of peace and understanding, rather than to share their traumatic experiences of war.

A farewell to peace

EARLIER THIS month, Palestinian Authority Chairman Mahmoud Abbas made a fateful decision. Thwarting renewed efforts by Israel to restart negotiations, Abbas flew to Doha, Qatar and signed a unity agreement with Hamas leader Khaled Mashaal.

With the stroke of his pen, the Palestinian leader sealed the fate of the peace process, effectively declaring an end to any chance of reaching an agreement with the Jewish state.

Under the terms of the Doha deal, Abbas will head an interim joint Fatah-Hamas government that will lay the groundwork for Palestinian presidential and parliamentary elections in Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

The two sides also agreed to discuss the formal incorporation of Hamas into the PLO, which would transform the fundamentalist terrorist group into a primary component of the Palestinian leadership.

At the signing ceremony, Abbas and Mashaal stressed this was no charade.

"We are serious," said Mashaal, "in healing the wounds and ending the chapter of division and reinforcing and accomplishing reconciliation," adding that Fatah and Hamas are determined "to resist the enemy (Israel) and achieve our national goals".

Abbas emphasised "this effort will be implemented in the shortest time possible".

The signing of the pact marks a critical stage in the implementation of the Fatah-Hamas reconciliation agreement that was initialed in Cairo just nine months ago, and it underlines the fact that the two groups are moving closer towards unity.

Make no mistake: The forging of this agreement constitutes a strategic choice by Abbas to embrace extremism and toss aside two decades of dialogue with Israel. It is a farewell to peace and there should be no illusions about its meaning or significance.



FUNDAMENTALLY
FREUND
MICHAEL FREUND

After all, Hamas remains an uninhibited enemy of Israel that is dedicated both in word and deed to its destruction.

The group's charter says unequivocally that "Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it". And it champions the use of jihad as the only "solution for the Palestinian question".

Moreover, ever since Hamas seized control of Gaza in 2007, it has used the territory as a launching pad for attacks against Israel.

Just since the beginning of last year, Palestinian terrorists in Gaza have fired more than 390 rockets and 240 mortar shells into southern Israel.

And Hamas continues to receive aid and support from Iran, which includes more advanced and precise weaponry.

Anyone who thinks that Palestinian unity will have a moderating effect on the masked gunmen of Hamas, is therefore deluding themselves. If anything, the unity agreement will only further radicalise the already immoderate members of Fatah, as they will find themselves competing for support from the Palestinian masses.

This impact is already beginning to be felt. Since signing the agreement, Abbas has adopted an even harsher tone towards Israel.

Last week Sunday, speaking to the foreign ministers of the Arab League in Cairo, the Palestinian chairman laid out a series of maximalist demands, insisting that Israel

Finkelstein 'turnaround' gives one hope

IT WAS regarded as a major surprise when Howard Jacobson's novel The Finkler Question, won for its author the 2010 Man Booker Prize, not because it lacked literary merit, but because of its unfashionable subject matter.

Among the British chattering classes, renegade Jewish dissidents who came out as conscientious objectors against the "Zionist Project" were as a matter of course accorded an elevated moral status.

In The Finkler Question, however, such paragons were made to look merely smug, self-obsessed and self-aggrandising - perennial malcontents nursing multiple hang-ups about their own identity and driven less by any purported sense of moral outrage than by the need to elevate themselves at the expense of their fellow Jews.

The self-aware, borderline neurotic and essentially detribalised Jewish intellectual, has become a stock figure in modern Jewish fiction, with Jacobson himself having in no small way contributed to propagating the type, but The Finkler Question is a quietly devastating exploration of an altogether newer and different form of Jewish alienation.

Leftwing Jewish anti-Zionism may not be itself new, but only in the last decade has it emerged from the fringes to become a persistent feature of Jewish discourse. Previously, no matter how personally distanced they might have felt about things Jewish, liberal-left Jewish intellectuals felt positively towards Israel, and even if they didn't, would almost never express negative views about it.

All that has changed. What is so startling about the new wave of Jewish-born anti-Zionist campaigners is not merely how brazenly they announce themselves, but the sheer depths of their hatred for Israel.

I still cannot fathom how anyone purporting to identify as a Jew, can even share a platform with people who spew such venom at the Jewish State, let alone that they themselves can unblinkingly rehash those same vile sentiments.



BARBARIC
YAWP
David Saks

As I concluded at an early stage, no-one is likely to mistake me for a pro-Palestinian activist. It took me a great deal longer to realise something more remarkable, namely that compared with your typical hardline anti-Israel agitator, I actually care about Palestinian well-being.

For me, the impressive economic growth in the territories since the petering out of the "Second Intifada" and the progressive normalisation of their inhabitants' day-to-day existence as security restrictions have been removed, is something to celebrate.

Admittedly, this is mainly because it is in Israel's interests to have peaceful, stable and relatively prosperous neighbours, but I also feel genuinely glad for the Palestinians.

This feeling one would expect vociferous Palestinian activists to share, but one soon finds they do not, since the more the plight of the Palestinians eases, the weaker and less urgent becomes their case against Israel.

It suits those clamouring against the siege of Gaza to depict the latter's residents as being on the verge of starvation, regardless of what is happening on the ground. The last thing they want in the West Bank is for Palestinians to succeed in living normal, stable lives, since they wish to convince the world that they are being subjected to a brutal form of Israeli apartheid.

If pro-Palestinian activists are so concerned about the situation of the Palestinians, surely one would expect them to advise the latter not to act in a way that will inevitably cause them harm.

Obviously included in this category would be persistently firing missiles at the citizens of a military dominant neighbour, provok-

ing a crushing counter-offensives. What one sees instead is total silence in the face of brazen Palestinian provocation, followed by snarls of faux moral outrage as soon as Israel retaliates.

They are, in a nutshell, bigoted frauds whose motivation is hatred for Israel, masquerading as concern for human rights.

One thing about The Finkler Question that bothered me was the implausibility of its eponymous central character's unexpected turnaround. Without warning, Finkler, up until then one of the leading lights of the Jewish anti-Israel community, suddenly turns on a speaker during an anti-Israel public debate and delivers a resounding argument for the Jewish-Israeli case.

Since then, I've come to reconsider my reaction and the one responsible for that, of all people, is that veteran Jewish-born anti-Israel radical Norman Finkelstein. On YouTube, Finkelstein recently launched a devastating attack on the world BDS movement against Israel, with eloquence, conviction and impeccable logic, laying bare its proponents' inconsistencies and moral posturing, and the weak and specious nature of their arguments.

It was, in my case, a jaw-dropping experience to watch just a few minutes of it. Jacobson, it seems, got it right after all.

In Jacobson's novel, Finkler, without actually becoming pro-Israel but having burnt his bridges with his erstwhile fellow travellers, begins tentatively moving closer to his Jewish heritage, even reciting kaddish for his father.

That in turn reminded me of how Ronnie Kasrils, while on the run from the apartheid state, sought out the local Israeli Embassy so that someone would help him say kaddish for his deceased father.

Of course, that happened long before he embarked on his present course of radical anti-Israel campaigning, but the Finkelstein turnaround makes me think that even he might not yet be completely beyond redemption.

OPINION AND ANALYSIS – FORUM FOR DIVERSE VIEWS

Pollard: A travesty of American justice

VICTOR GORDON

JONATHAN POLLARD, the American Naval intelligence agent who spied for Israel, has entered his 27th year of incarceration; over two and a half decades of a sentence of life imprisonment.

This is on a par with the period spent by Nelson Mandela in a succession of prisons, his last being a private house on the grounds of (the then) Victor Verster Prison which, in comparison to Pollard's cell can only be regarded as luxurious.

Pollard spent the first year of his sentence in an asylum for the insane followed by seven years in solitary confinement in an underground cell.

Without wishing to rehash the circumstances that led to Pollard's decision to provide Israel with vital information in the face of America reneging on the understanding that both countries would supply the other with strategic information vital to their respective securities, there is a general lack of awareness of the nature and extent of America's deception.

The apparent reasons behind the last minute turn-about by Judge Aubrey Robinson, who ignored the plea-bargain agreed upon between Pollard and the prosecution, is also not generally known. In essence was the stipulation that no life sentence would be imposed, were Pollard

to co-operate in all respects.

Most serious, though, are the ramifications behind this decision which robbed Pollard of the one opportunity afforded him of standing trial and presenting his side at what was ultimately an exceedingly one-sided hearing. By any standards, the manner in which this was handled, can only be regarded as a travesty of American justice and a flagrant abuse of Pollard's constitutional rights.

It was this realisation that prompted me to write the play, "Pollard's Trial", which has been afforded unprecedented attention since its opening at the Cameri Theatre in Tel Aviv in May 2011.

The play affords the audience the opportunity, through an imaginary trial to present Pollard's case - the trial he never had and has never been granted the opportunity to have ever since his sentencing.

The crux of the injustice is encapsulated within a simple premise: Pollard accepted a plea-bargain in good faith and in doing so lost the right to stand trial. Instead, Judge Robinson presided over a hearing at which both the prosecution and the defence attorney pleaded their respective cases prior to sentencing. Pollard was only indicted on one count of espionage and no evidence was neither presented nor tested.

However, in an unprecedented

action, Secretary of Defence Casper Weinberger, who had already submitted a damning 48 page memorandum to the prosecution, followed this up with a further memorandum, only hours before sentencing.

In it he not only accused Pollard of misdemeanours that were not contested by the defence due to their surprise submission, but were never tested in open court and remain unsubstantiated to this day.

In this submission, Weinberger also called for a sentence of life imprisonment. The judge duly complied. We can only assume that when the Secretary of Defence makes a request, his wish is not easily denied.

Despite several submissions on behalf of Pollard to various courts, including the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia and finally ending with the US Supreme Court, Pollard's request for access to Weinberger's now classified accusations have been repeatedly denied. Some of the reasons would be humorous were the reasoning not so ridiculous and the ramifications so serious.

Since his incarceration, five presidents have occupied the White House, each one of which has been repeatedly petitioned to consider granting Pollard a pardon. Tellingly, not a single accusation listed by Weinberger has ever revealed itself, nor

come to fruition over the past 27 years.

One of the most damning accusations - that Pollard betrayed the names of over 100 American agents to the Russians, some 40 of whom were executed - turned out to be the work of two infamous American spies, Aldrich Ames and Robert Hanssen. Despite this, the accusation continues to lie against Pollard's name.

Any chance of President Barack Obama displaying the necessary compassion, appears slight, considering his refusal, despite the personal intervention of Bibi Netanyahu, to neither allow Pollard to visit his dying father nor attend his funeral.

Obviously, national security was not at risk, as Pollard could have been well guarded. One can only conclude that so inhuman an action was based on no more than psychological torture of a man who posed no threat in any possible regard.

For what it's worth, I can only conclude that Pollard will probably never be released and is destined to die in a prison cell. The fact that this appears as a dire miscarriage of justice, appears to have no bearing on his fate.

• Anyone interested in starting a Jonathan Pollard support group, should contact me by email: vgordon@icon.co.za

AROUND THE WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

DEMPSEY SAYS HE DID NOT ADVISE AGAINST ISRAEL STRIKE ON IRAN

WASHINGTON - Gen Martin Dempsey, chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, told a Senate committee that he did not advise Israel against striking Iran's nuclear facilities.

Dempsey appeared on Tuesday before the Senate Budget Committee, where he said he had spoken to Israeli officials about the timing of such a strike.

"We've had a conversation with them about time, the issue of time," Dempsey told the panel about his discussions with Israel.

Dempsey was in Israel late last month and met with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Defence Minister Ehud Barak, President Shimon Peres and his counterpart, Benny Gantz.


In an interview with CNN less than two weeks ago, Dempsey said that an Israeli strike on Iran's nuclear facilities would be "destabilising".

"It's not prudent at this point to decide to attack Iran," Dempsey said in an interview on CNN. "A strike at this time would be destabilising and wouldn't achieve their long-term objectives. I wouldn't suggest, sitting here today, that we've persuaded them that our view is the correct view and that they are acting in an ill-advised fashion."

Asked during Tuesday's Senate hearing whether a military strike on Iran by the United States was off the table, Dempsey said "Absolutely not." (JTA)

TO LET

A good office address in
Greenside



Excellent office space in the heart of Greenside,
in Greenway, close to Woolworths.

Converted house, 160 m²,
full office rights, security
patrolled, well-appointed
with air-conditioning.

Rental only

R14 550

per month

Contact Sue 083 389 7062

THE YAD AHARON

CAN CAN CARNIVAL

Norwood Mall

6th Ave, Highlands North

Sunday 11th March 2012

from 10:30am

If it rains,
we've got
you covered.

Parachute Rides, Putt-Putt,
Live Bands, Bumpy Jumpy Castle Zone,
Carnival Games, Kiddies Bungee Jumping
and delicious food stalls

Entry Fee: Just 2 non-perishable food
or hygiene items for Yad Aharon

GREAT PRIZES TO BE WON ON THE DAY!!!

Don't miss out on this awesome opportunity! You CAN help Yad Aharon!

NORWOOD MALL
your mall, your moments

Pick n Pay
Inspired by you

JK productions
complete event solutions

YAD AHARON
MICHAEL TZECHOKAH
FOOD FUN!

TAPESTRY

ART, BOOKS, DANCE, FILM, THEATRE

This fine work must be seen to be believed

ROBYN SASSEN

Art: *Horizon* by Richard Penn
Venue: *Art on Paper Gallery, Milpark, (011) 726-2234*
Until: *March 17*

HAVE YOU ever looked at something close, imagining it far, that a blade of grass was a tree trunk; a sand granule, a boulder? This is what Richard Penn does in these 32 hand-pulled prints and pen and wash drawings on paper that will turn your axis.

Penn focuses on the format of data received by the Hubble and Kepler telescopes, rendering a level of abstraction which shies from opacity. As

you look at these mesmerising, visually gentle works so delicate you breathe quietly, you are sucked into their reality.

They reflect an understanding of 17th century English poet and printmaker William Blake who wrote of seeing the universe in a grain of sand. They make you think of bacteria under a microscope, or life as we know it under the scrutiny of a telescope.

There’s a nod to map-making and architectural planning traditions in these crisp, continuously undulating lines drawn with such acuity you want to weep. Photography cannot do viable justice to a body of work this fine: it must be seen to be believed.



A detail of “Emergent”, pen and ink on paper. (PHOTOGRAPH SUPPLIED)

Irrepressible Nataniël in a lovely, outlandish show



Split down the middle: the inimitable Nataniël. (PHOTOGRAPH: CLINTON LUBBE)

Show: *Black White Man Woman: The show about everything in between*
Where: *Theatre of Marcellus, Emperor’s Palace, Kempton Park (011) 928-1937*
When: *Until March 25*

REVIEWED BY ROBYN SASSEN

PERFORMER EXTRAORDINAIRE Nataniël needs no introduction. This self-made, smooth-headed persona in a frock with a reputation of baffling properness while being extravagantly gorgeous and hilariously funny in a dry, wry, down-played manner, as a phenomenon, is here for good. Pity about the venue.

His current show, *Black White Man Woman* is formulaic like his previous shows; still, its freshness will make you laugh, be mesmerised and charmed.

From the outset, you are confronted with a scene so perplexing, it is beautiful: Seven cast members are dressed in outlandish garb with excessive head-dresses. They’re waiting for the hatching of a son, from an egg. It turns out to be a flower.

While the parents manifest distress, the wet nurse (Lindiwe Bungane), quietly takes it away, knowing it will never be loved. This frank bitter-sweetness derives from a bizarre magic realism and forms the basis of this lovely, outlandish show.

Comprising eight songs, four of which are original, the repertoire offers a crisscrossing of music genres from rock to jazz scat. They’re interleaved with wild tales, told with gruffness and an utterly deadpan tone, in English and Afrikaans.

These hysterically convoluted tales - essentially the glue to Nataniël’s oeuvre - involving his child-

hood or roots, in a wordy burlesque of rude insults and cute platitudes, will leave you breathless.

A woman who looks like she’s been torn apart by wolves and sewn together by children; a man who walked to school in the wind and consequently grew to adulthood at a 45° angle; a priest called The End; a granny disinclined to vote, queue or engage on any level with mashed potatoes... It’s this kind of out-the-box zaniness that puts Nataniël almost on a par with the images in Günter Grass’ *The Tin Drum* (1959).

Unlike Grass, Nataniël’s images lack underlying follow-through, though; they’re commercially constrained. His proffered platitudes link the pieces, but trivialise the content. “The umbrella under which all the stupidity in the world comes together”, in Nataniël’s terms, is what the show is premised upon, but this is not pushed further.

Given all of these limitations, the show remains fabulously entertaining. Nataniël’s lighting design is easily the best there is onstage in this country. Without being obnoxiously sensational, and in collaboration with Kevin Stannett, he pushes the effects of light and darkness fit to melt you.

Another aspect which leaves you wanting more is the presence of Bungane, who we last saw in *Dreamgirls*. Equipped with arguably this city’s finest voice, she injects fresh beauty to the repertoire; but simply not enough.

The venue itself is the show’s most significant low. This theatre does not have fixed seats, it’s too close to the casino for comfort, and often cannot contain the sound properly. How this show could fly in a proper venue that lends it the dignity it warrants!

Talia and Niall hit stage with new musical

PETER FELDMAN
PHOTOGRAPH BY IVAN NAUDÉ

TWO ENGAGING South African performers, Talia Kodesh and Niall Griffin (pictured), have combined their talents to present “The Last Five Years”, a musical in which they portray a married couple dealing with a rocky relationship.

This multi award-winning one-act musical, is about two New Yorkers in their twenties, who fall in and out of love over the course of five years.

Written by Tony Award-winning composer Jason Robert Brown, the show’s unconventional structure consists of Cathy (played by Kodesh), a vivacious struggling actress, telling her story backwards while Jamie (played by Griffin), a hotshot up-and-coming novelist, tells his story chronologically.

The two characters only meet once, at their wedding in the middle of the show.

Asked what made them choose this particular musical, Griffin said: “I have always loved this musical. It’s a singer’s dream and is incredibly fresh to listen to... There’s nothing else that sounds like it and because it is so fresh, it has attracted a huge following.

“South Africa has had an influx of large-



scale international musicals, but the public is yet to be exposed to the smaller shows, of an equal if not better standard, hence our decision to bring this show to the country.”

Kodesh said that as an actress she simply could not wait to dive head first into the dramatic, complex and multi-layered show.

“I have always done large, blockbuster-type musicals, so it has always been my

dream to do something more intimate.”

As a producer, she felt there were many exquisitely written pieces of musical theatre specifically designed for small theatres that South Africans were missing out on. “I feel the timing is right, post recession, for these shows to be brought to South Africa.”

Asked how he related to it, Griffin said: “Mankind has always been fascinated by relationships and by love. I have been through and watched friends go through the ups and downs of relationships and I cannot help but smile whenever I listen to the show, as the themes are so universal.”

Kodesh believes the musical is not just about Cathy and Jamie and their story, “it’s about everyone I’ve ever known (including myself). It’s pure universal themes at play. I completely relate to Cathy.

“She is a driven, sensitive and dedicated person, who also happens to be an actress, and she is searching for meaning in all things... aren’t we all?”

They both are full of praise for director Gina Shmukler.

Said Griffin: “Gina is a remarkable director and creative. She works from a place of com-

plete honesty and truth, and to say that she is detailed is the world’s largest understatement.

“The process has been such a personal discovery and development, although extremely tough at times.”

Kodesh concurred. Gina left no stone unturned, she said. If character research, emotional integrity and truth in all things were your idea of great directing, “then Gina’s creativity and input is the way to go”.

Griffin and Kodesh have both been busy on the theatre front with Griffin having completed a national tour of “Evita” for Pieter Toerien and also toured Indonesia with “High School Musical”.

He was also contracted to design the costumes for “Ultimate Broadway”, which was created for the opening of the new Shanghai Culture Square Theatre, in China.

Kodesh, meanwhile, stepped away from the stage for a while to pursue her other passion: dance. She has studied dance extensively and has been training professional dancers for a year.

- The Last Five Years is at The Studio Theatre, Montecasino, Fourways, March 16 - April 22, (011) 511-1988.
- Also on the musical boards is Soulfire and Fireflies, with award winning Samantha Peo accompanied by Clifford Cooper on piano, in an intimate musical journey of love, at the RCHCC in Oaklands on March 11, (011) 728-8088.

COMMUNITY COLUMNS



ABOVE BOARD
Mary Kluk,
National Chairman

A column of the SA Jewish Board of Deputies

WHEN EXPLAINING the role the SAJBD plays on behalf of our community, we always describe ourselves as the representative voice of South African Jewry. What, however, does that exactly mean, in practical terms?

One obvious aspect of it is when we ourselves are called upon to take appropriate action on behalf of the community when Jewish civil rights need to be upheld. This would include responding to cases of anti-Semitism and assisting university students whose examinations have been scheduled on Yomtov.

A second crucial area in which the Board acts as South African Jewry’s representative voice, is in being the interface between our affiliate organisations on the one hand and government and civil society on the other.

On a regular basis, we are called upon to

Board interacts on myriad levels on Jews’ behalf

facilitate meeting between various constituencies within our community and national and local government. It is because of this that we continually engage in networking and relationship building with government and civil society.

Through maintaining such connections, we are able, when the occasion arises, to arrange for representatives of our affiliate organisations to meet with the appropriate people when they have issues specific to the kind of work that they do that they wish to discuss.

Over the past few weeks, we have enjoyed much success in the above field. In Johannesburg, we have been involved in a number of meetings between local government and the Chevrah Kadisha to discuss issues pertaining to Jewish burials.

Last week, we facilitated a meeting in Cape Town between Israeli Minister of Culture and Sport Limor Livnat and SA Minister of Arts and Culture Paul Mashatile, attended by the Board, SA

Zionist Federation and IUA-UCF.

We also arranged for SA Holocaust Foundation Director Richard Freedman to meet with Minister Mashatile to discuss South Africa’s possible involvement in international Holocaust education.

We were particularly fortunate to have been entrusted with organising a wide range of government, parliamentary and civil society meetings for the Hon Prof Irwin Cotler during his recent visit. Here, I would like to warmly commend the United Jewish Campaign in Cape Town, and in particular Philip Krawitz, for their initiative in bringing out Prof Cotler once again, and the IUA-UCF for everything they contributed to the visit.

It was, as always, a pleasure and a privilege to have been able to bring someone of such stature into contact with so many important leaders and institutions in our society.

Among the meetings we arranged for Prof Cotler were with Minister of Justice

Jeff Radebe, Minister for Women, Youth, Children and Disabled Lulu Xingwana and with the Justice Portfolio Committee in Parliament.

He also, among other things, addressed 450 international relations students at Wits and spoke at Beyachad on the legacy of Raoul Wallenberg.

One of the most gratifying outcomes of all these interactions has been the assistance Prof Cotler has since rendered to our government on his return to Canada. Currently, ANC members wishing to visit Canada have difficulty in obtaining visas on the basis that the organisation was once classified as a terrorist one by that country.

He has since tabled a motion in the Canadian House of Commons to the effect that ANC members should not be presumed inadmissible to Canada solely on the basis of their membership in that organisation.

If adopted, as we hope it will be, it will be a real victory for justice and common sense, and we can take pride in what we, as the Jewish community’s representative body, have done in this regard.

This column is paid for by the SAJBD

LETTERS

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

ISRAEL STILL LABOURS UNDER RIDICULOUS APARTHEID TAG

I ATTENDED a talk at the Rabbi Cyril Harris Community Centre recently, on the “Hope for Heroism” organisation. It’s an organisation run by wounded Israeli soldiers for wounded Israeli soldiers.

Eight Israeli soldiers were here, retelling their personal accounts of how they were injured, both physically and mentally. This is a method for healing.

We can never understand what a frontline Israeli soldier goes through every day, unless we ourselves were a buffer between an armed terrorist and civilians.

Every Jew in the world – even the ones who don’t support the Israeli state - owes them a huge debt of gratitude for the standard of freedom that all Jews enjoy today in the

Diaspora.

At best, foreign governments merely tolerate Jews in their midst - even in the United States and here in sunny South Africa.

On the flipside: Israel-Apartheid Week is coming up. This insane phenomenon takes place worldwide on university campuses.

Has there ever been a Sudan/Darfur Apartheid Week? Or a Serbia/Bosnia Apartheid Week? Or a Syria Apartheid Week?

No, but the only democracy in the Middle-East has this ridiculous tag attached to it by biased people who don’t want to be confused by the facts. What can we do about it?

Michele Engelberg
Johannesburg

NORMAN FINKELSTEIN STILL SPORTS THE SAME SPOTS

IN CASE a reading of David Saks’ column on Norman Finkelstein might have created the impression that one of Israel’s most avid enemies, in criticising the manner in which the worldwide BDS campaign is being run, has performed a heart-warming flip-flop in Israel’s favour, let me burst some bubbles before we get carried away on a wave of kumbaya.

Watching the YouTube interview that Finkelstein conducted with one of the leaders of the BDS campaign in the UK, one is initially heartened by Finkelstein’s open attack on the manner in which the campaign is being waged against Israel, prompting him to label the BDS organisation as no more than a failed cult with nothing much to show for

their wasted efforts.

However, what Finkelstein is actually saying is that the BDS campaign must be realigned and revamped so that it can be truly effective in its endeavours to bring down the Jewish state, utilising Boycotts, Disinvestment and Sanctions.

In fact his attack is not designed to eradicate the BDS camp from membership of the anti-Israel mob, but rather to inspire them to do better and try harder in achieving their goal.

It will take a lot more than BDS ineptitude to change Finkelstein into a friend of Israel.

Victor Gordon
Pretoria

FREE POLLARD FOR HEALTHY US-ISRAEL RELATIONS

I WOULD like to respond to the letter of John Brenner, “A recipe to counteract hatred of Israel and Jews”, in the Jewish Report of February 24. He suggests that Israel “shouldn’t antagonise ‘our’ allies, particularly the US, and this refers to settlers”:

First of all, I suggest that Israel should make it absolutely clear to the US, that if the latter wants any relationship with Israel, it should release Jonathan Pollard from prison, because after all, Pollard sits in a US prison for passing information to the very same State of Israel, whose relationship with the US is discussed here.

The passing of that information caused absolutely no harm to the US, so I can see no logical distinction between Pollard and the State of Israel: If he is “bad” to the US, then so

is Pollard, and if the US wants to have good relationship with Israel, it should free Pollard.

I would also like it very much if Israel made it clear to the US that it is not an honour for Israel to have good relationship with a state which distorts historical facts regarding the numbers of non-Jews murdered by the Nazis and their collaborators; those who collaborated with the Nazis and those who resisted them.

And regarding settlers: who should they “antagonise” and who shouldn’t they? I suggest that Mr Brenner should come and live in those settlements (unless he is very important and vital in South Africa), and then preach to other settlers about that issue.

Avner Eliyahu Romm
Sea Point, Cape Town



South African Board of Jewish Education

ועד הדין והצדקה היהודי בדרום אפריקה

Member of the Independent Schools Association of Southern Africa

The South African Board of Jewish Education invites you to attend its 30th triennial conference to be held on 18th March 2012, Investec Auditorium, 100 Grayston Drive, Sandown, Sandton.

8.00 – 9.00 am	Registration & Morning Minyan
9.00 – 9.15	Chief Rabbi: Dvar Torah
9.15 – 9.20	Message from the Embassy of Israel
9.20 – 9.30	Message from the Dept of Basic Education
9.30 – 10.00	Chairman's Report – Cecil Wulfsohn
10.00 – 10.30	Director's Report – Rabbi Kacev
10.30 – 11:00	Voting and Tea
11.00 – 1pm	Key Address - Qualities of Effective Teachers Dr James Stronge
	Closing and Announcement of New Board



For bookings please contact
Mrs Adri de Bruin on 011 480 4725
or email debruina@sabje.co.za.

James H. Stronge is the Heritage Professor in the Educational Policy, Planning, and Leadership Area at the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia. His research interests include policy and practice related to teacher quality, and teacher and administrator evaluation. He has worked with numerous school districts and other educational organizations to design and implement evaluation systems for teachers, administrators, and support personnel. His work on effective teachers focuses on how to identify effective teachers and how to enhance teacher effectiveness.

Dr. Stronge has presented his research at conferences such as American Educational Research Association and Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, conducted workshops for national and state organizations, and worked with local school districts. He has been a teacher, counselor, and district-level administrator. His doctorate is in the area of educational administration and planning from the University of Alabama.

King David Schools @KDS Schools



Visit us on Facebook



FLY THE BEST FOR LESS!!!

FOR **ZAR6 400 + 100 MATMID POINTS**
(Fare ex JNB only – includes fuel surcharge & airport taxes)

with the **only non-stop airline to Israel**

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS UNTIL 22 MARCH 2012
Valid for IMMEDIATE departures until 30 JUNE 2012
Subject to availability, E & OE. Terms and conditions apply



IT'S NOT JUST AN AIRLINE. IT'S ISRAEL

Contact your nearest travel agent or ELAL direct on (011) 620 2525 or visit our website on www.elal.co.il

YOUTH TALK

Sharon Akum sharon@sajewishreport.co.za

TA and YC boys celebrate Rosh Chodesh Adar together

SUZANNE BELLING
PHOTOGRAPHS:
RABBI MOTTI HADAR

IT IS NOW becoming a tradition. For the second year running Boys' High School learners from Torah Academy and Yeshiva College came together in a spirit of unity to daven, sing and dance in celebration of Rosh Chodesh Adar.

Last year the Torah Academy boys went to the Yeshiva College campus, while on Friday, February 14, Torah Academy played host.

This joint celebration, which included a breakfast with rabbis on the campus, was initiated by Rabbi Motti Hadar, principal of TA Boys' High.

Rabbi Laurence Perez, managing director of the Yeshiva College



Rabbis and Boys' High School learners from Torah Academy and Yeshiva College, daven together on Rosh Chodesh Adar.

Schools, told the boys that the event was not a compromise of different customs or emphasis of the two schools of thought, but rather a tolerance, recognition and embrace of the differences

between the two streams.

He paid tribute to Rabbi Hadar for his vision and foresight in bringing about this partnership and expressed the hope that this unity would spread even further.



What a glorious pajama party!

PHOTOGRAPH: MORAH CHANA

FUN WAS had by all the children at Ohr Somayach Nursery School as they arrived to school in pajamas for Rosh Chodesh Adar.

Ohr Somayach accepts children from the age of 18 months to grade

R and caters for the individual needs of each child. For more information please contact Shira Finkel on (011) 802-1210.

Pictured are Jenna Frank; Adina Geer; Erin Lewus; Noa Jaff; Jesse Bregman; and Erez Hadar.



Yom Perach at KVPP is a huge success

KAYLA GRUSD
PHOTOGRAPH: Yael Gordon

YOM PERACH is a day that King David Victory Park celebrates as a school. It is a way to raise money for our matric dance next year. It brings learners closer together and creates the opportunity for new friendships to be made.

However, it is not only learners who get involved: Staff members also participate in the festivities. We, the Matric Dance Committee for 2013, sold a variety of items to those who wished to spoil their peers! How it works is that each person who buys an item writes a small card with the name of the person who they are buying it for and a short message. We then deliver each gift to the individual learners and staff members.

This year we were able to get the primary school involved as well and

put smiles on many children's faces.

After many days of stress, hard work and commitment, as well as fun and excitement, we pulled off an incredible day and it was a great success.

We were able to raise more money than we initially expected and we hope to raise more in future events that we will hold as a committee.

Thank you to everyone who took part in making Yom Perach a fun-filled day for all. Thank you to all the committee members for the hard work and the time that they put in to make it a great success.

Lastly, thank you to Dr Van Zyl who heads the Matric Dance Committee. Without everyone's input, it would not have been possible to achieve what we did.

Pictured are: (Back) Bianca Sevel; Gina Mendelowitz; Helena Kahano-vitz; and Talya Granat. (Front) Kayla Grusd; and Atira Pollack.

KDL grade 4s visit Lions Shul

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPH
OWN CORRESPONDENT

KING DAVID Linksfield grade 4s were treated to a morning of educational, social and sporting activity at the Lions Shul in Doornfontein.

The event was the brainchild of Rene Budd, a KDL grade 4 teacher, who liaised with Rabbi Ilan Herrmann of the Lions Shul to arrange a trip to the more than century old shul for the kids to experience and trace the footsteps of their ancestors and to visit a synagogue and community established and used by the early pioneers of Jewish Johannesburg.

A tour, talk and audiovisual presentation was enjoyed by all.

The kids then travelled the short distance by bus to the Coca



Cola Park stadium (formerly Ellis Park) where they were given a tour of this sporting venue.

Back at the Lions Shul, they visited the Lions Shul crèche next to the shul, where many a disadvantaged child in the area is given a centre to study, play and be looked after.

It was an educational experience for the Linksfield learners to engage with these kids and to see the struggle of those from less fortunate backgrounds.

Should other schools wish to experience a visit to the Lions Shul, please contact Rabbi Herrmann on (011) 440-5995.



Tots have a ball at Rosh Chodesh Adar

OWN CORRESPONDENT
PHOTOGRAPH BY RACHEL PELS

Rosh Chodesh Adar was celebrated at the Torah Academy Nursery School with face painting, music and a jumping castle. Pictured are the children from Chana Rivka Lewin's class.

KDL Primary's Yonit Weil gets rare Google honour

SHELLY FREINKEL
KDL PRIMARY PRINCIPAL
PHOTOGRAPH:
MIKE LANESMAN

GOOGLE HAS selected Yonit Weil from King David Linksfield Senior Primary School, to attend the next Google Teacher Academy, to be held in London on April 4 this year. Only 25 candidates worldwide are selected each year.

The Google Teacher Academy is a free professional development experience designed to help educational



leaders get the most from innovative technologies.

Each Academy is an intensive, one-day event where participants get hands-on experience with Google's products and technologies, learn about innovative instructional strategies, and receive resources to share with colleagues.

Upon completion, Academy participants become Google Certified Teachers who share what they learn with educators from around the world

Spirit of Purim at KDVP Primary

LOREN KRAMER
PHOTOGRAPH: KAREEN SANDLER

THIS YEAR to celebrate Purim, the Jewish holiday where everyone dresses as kings and queens, the grade sixes of King David Victory Park Primary School got to make hammentashen, the triangular pastry with either poppy seed or chocolate in the middle.

The boys and girls split into two groups, where they learnt how to make hammentashen with Ruth Gimpel. Hammentashen are triangular because they are symbolising Haman's hat.

Pictured are Jake Suttner and Nathan Lieberman.



ORT SA spreads training wings to non-South Africans

MARCELLE RAVID
HEAD OF COMMUNICATIONS
ORT SA

ORT SA, part of World ORT is a household name as a leader in educational upliftment through its philosophy, “Educating for Life”. Not only is this Jewish-rooted NGO helping South Africans across the spectrum, but has recently also trained refugees from other countries in computer skills to assist them in finding jobs or to start their own business.

“We gave them basic PC and Microsoft training followed by further training called HP GET IT which allows them to translate what they have learned into basic business tools which they will come across when in the working environment,” said Adrienne Vester, head of skills training at ORT SA.

“We were approached by the Disabled Refugees Project (DRP), also an NGO, asking us if we can assist them in running some computer skills training for some of their beneficiaries. As our focus is education, we were more than happy to assist them.”

In January this year 10 people trained at the ORT offices in Houghton, Johannesburg. The founder of the DRP project, Sefu Godel



Eleonor Bushambale; Loyce Hove; Ibrahim Basabi; Kalunda Auguy; Mose Rombayi; Darlington Mudengezi; and Linos Tshuma.

wrote in a letter of thanks: “It is our belief that the knowledge our members acquired will assist them in boosting their self-esteem and to be self-reliant. We are grateful of your support this far and we are looking forward to working with you in future in a bid to uplift the lives of people living with disabilities.”

Each year through all ORT SA’s training programmes, thousands of South Africans benefit by learning new skills, finding jobs and growing or starting successful businesses, by receiving cutting-edge training and support in a variety of areas.

ORT SA relies on the funding of outside sources to continue its projects. Call (011) 728-7154 for more information.



The Haftorah Club with Selwyn Segal residents.

The Haftorah Club donates 13 wheelchairs to Selwyn Segal

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPH BY
CELESTE EVERITT

SELWYN SEGAL has received a donation of 13 specialised wheelchairs from a group called The Haftorah Club. Each wheelchair is uniquely designed to suit the special needs of each individual resident.

The Haftorah Club is made up of members of the Sandton Shul and this is not the first time they approached Mike Baum, Selwyn Segal’s co-ordinator, offering to sponsor a lunch at Kibbutz Lubner.

Baum explained: “They arranged a braai for all the residents at the kibbutz,

which they cooked themselves and served to the residents. It was a huge success, so much so that they decided to make it an annual kibbutz event.”

Towards the end of last year Mike approached them to help with the wheelchair project.

By the following Friday, this amazing group had already raised enough money for all 13 wheelchairs!

Selwyn Segal held a tea on February 7 to give residents the opportunity to thank these men for their wonderful donation, which is going to make a huge difference in their lives.

ORT JET’S small business training gets thumbs-up

ANTON GILLIS, general manager of The Fire and Ice brand of hotels, the newest addition to the Protea Group, generously donated the venue for the launch of ORT JET’s Small Business and Training programmes.

ORT JET in a media release quotes Gillis saying that his hotel was a good case study, creating “raving fans” by focusing on the little things and he demonstrated how his hotel adds the personal touch.

Cindy Silberg, operations manager of the ORT JET Small Business and Training Section, says the success of these training programmes is due to the quality of the mentors who have joined up to give the newer entrepreneurs a hands-up.

“The business training workshops we are offering will be a two to three hour jam-packed power session on practical ways of improving a business immediately. This year we are offering self-development instruction as well as training on technical business skills. This is going to bring a whole new depth to the training,” said



Cindy Silberg (operations manager ORT JET), Danielle Haggiyannes (director Innate Solutions), and Anton Gillis (MD Protea Fire & Ice).

Silberg.

ORT JET is reliant on funds raised from the community and the buy-in from the mentors who give freely of their time.

“This is a truly collaborative project which is yielding incredible results,” said Silberg. Training started on February 1. Call Tracey on (011) 728-7154.



SOUTH AFRICAN ASSOCIATES OF THE BEN-GURION UNIVERSITY OF THE NEGEV

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

“Created to make the desert bloom, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev has proven that local solutions can have a global impact.” University President, Prof Rivka Carmi

THE SOUTH AFRICAN ASSOCIATES OF THE BEN-GURION UNIVERSITY OF THE NEGEV, BASED IN HYDE PARK, JOHANNESBURG, HAS A VACANCY FOR AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Responsibilities

- To maintain an ongoing relationship with the University of Johannesburg in the Water Purification Programme and the Algae Programme, which is presently being conducted with BGU, UCLA and University of Gent;
- Investigate other opportunities for BGU to extend its world-class expertise in subject matters that have a major interest - not only for Israel and the Middle East, but also for the southern African region;
- Interface with South African universities and institutions and government, both local and national;
- To undertake ongoing fundraising activities with the accent on the continuity of funding, inter alia monies for research, bursaries and to cover specific needs that the University has from time to time;
- To ensure the continuity of existing programmes which include current fundraising programmes;
- To evaluate with the President and executive, the appointment of relevant subcommittees in order to assist in fundraising, PR and general support for the work that is being undertaken, on a voluntary basis;
- Prepare a budget, illustrating anticipated income and expenses, to coincide with the budget periods of BGU.

This position requires the individual to report to the President and Board on a regular basis as follows:

- Prepare a budget for the next ensuing period;
- Report on the financials;
- Report on the progress of existing joint scientific and research programmes;
- Attend to PR issues for the University, relating particularly to its activities locally and internationally;
- Maintain close relationships with relevant members of the Ben-Gurion executives in Israel and in South Africa;
- Reporting and interacting with donors, government, media, communal institutions, etc.

Personal profile

Competent, highly motivated, assertive, honest, person of integrity, friendly, initiative taker who is flexible and has good attention to detail. A go-getter, enthusiastic, willing to work hard and fast, quick learner, someone who feels that no small task is too much to ask of them!

Experience and skills

- Several years’ experience in general management.
- Good interpersonal relationship building skills and presentation skills.
- Competent in MS Office package, especially Word, Excel, Outlook.
- Good project scheduling and organisational skills and ability to plan.
- Excellent verbal and written communication in English.
- Numeracy skills, an ability to draw up, allocate and manage budgets.
- Relevant experience in community and skills development and capacity building.
- Organisational skills, an ability to structure, organise and analyse information and processes in a logical and meaningful way (numeric / non-numeric).
- Team member management - working co-operatively with team members or independently and be accountable.

The remuneration, which includes the use of a car, is to be negotiated, depending on time commitments and experience.

Applicants are invited to submit their CVs to Herby Rosenberg, vice president of South African Associates of the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, by e-mail to herbyr@afrikatikun.org or contact may be made by telephone (011) 325-5914 to arrange an appointment for an interview.

Jewish Report

Classifieds

To book your classified notice or advert contact: Tel (011) 023-8160, Fax 086-634-7935, email: jrclassified@global.co.za

IMPORTANT NOTICE - The Jewish Report runs adverts in the Classified section in good faith, however we cannot be responsible for the quality of services offered and claims made

HOW TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED ADVERT: 1. Only adverts sent via email to jrclassified@global.co.za will be accepted. 2. You will be advised on cost & payment details. 3. Payment is prior to the advert appearing. 4. Our banking details: SA Jewish Report, Nedbank Randburg, Account Number: 1984 514 865, Branch Code: 198405

DEADLINE for BOOKING and PAYMENT is Tuesday 12 pm. (If deadline is missed the advert will appear (when payment is received) in the next edition)

SERVICES

HEALTH & BEAUTY

FIRST-TIME OFFER
If you've been ill and can't get to your beauty treatments, call me, "The Beautician Fairy". I will come in with my team and we will spend time with you, do your treatments at your place. We do facials, manicures, pedicures, leg wax etc. All kinds - EVEN do your hair! Phone for quotes: **Ruth @ (011) 616-4305 now!**

For your ONE-STOP beauty treatments. Call Ruth now. (011) 616-4305 House calls done

AUDIOLOGIST
KELLY NATHAN
Manor Medical Centre
189 Kelvin Drive
Morningside Manor
Tel: 0861-266-563
(0861-Book Me)
www.knaudiology.co.za
INDIVIDUALISED SERVICE FOR ALL YOUR HEARING NEEDS



CASH PAID IMMEDIATELY

For Gold, Jewellery, Coins, Diamonds, Gold Watches Old/Damaged Gold

For an honest deal

Call Piero 083-675-7069



RABBI CHAIM KLEIN
Expert and reliable Sofer

- Taleisim, Tzitzit, Tefillin, Mezuzos and more.
- On premises computer checking

49 Dovedale Rd. Cheltondale 2192 Tel: 485 4059

P.O Box 92237 Norwood 2117 Fax: 485 2304

email: klein@icon.co.za

LIFTS

BEST SERVICE
Modern spacious vehicle, pax 7 + luggage
PIP FRIEDMAN
083-267-3281
dialalift@gmail.com

Experienced, reliable driver able to lift you anywhere/ anytime 24 hours. Courier work undertaken.
Please call Paul 083-542-6480

OR TAMBO
Best efficient service. Also shopping & collections
Bennie 082-992-1443

EX-ISRAELI SERVICEMAN
Offers lifts to airport and appointments etc. Don't drink & drive ALL HOURS!
Neil 072-050-9927

IVAN WANTS TO LIFT YOU!
Punctual, reliable, trustworthy. Jhb/Sandton/ OR Tambo/ Lanseria/Pretoria outings for retirees
Cell: 082-962-5007

LIFTS

A-TAXI SERVICE
Let Warren Pogorelsky chauffeur you to your destination in Jo'burg and back only R100 round trip.
Tel: 082-399-6187

Airport Shuttle G'hazel to Tambo R140
Reasonable rates from all other areas
SAM (011) 728-5219 083-627-8516

SERVICES

GRANITE TOMBSTONES & MAINTENANCE
Best prices
SMS Issy
071-360-2271

PRINT

UNIPRINT
★ TRENDY ★
★ INVITATIONS ★
Also
ELECTRONIC INVITATIONS
HEBREW SETTING BENCHERS
ROCHI / JENNY
011 440-3188
uniprint@dashonline.co.za

TUITION & EDUCATION

SPEECH THERAPIST/ AUDIOLOGIST
Specialising in child language, articulation, phonology, ADD... Offering FREE hearing check-up and FREE initial consultation. Please call **Natalie Plaks 071-319-1956.**

PHYSICS TUTOR NEEDED FOR 1ST-YEAR BSC STUDENT IN GLENHAZEL. CONTACT DAVID 083-748-5873

HOME SERVICES

GENERAL

APPLIANCE REPAIRS ON-SITE
Stoves, washing-machines, tumblers, dishwashers & fridges. Free quotations!
Call Jason 082-401-8239

BOB BEECH
Painters & Renovators
Waterproofing
Building Repairs
072-766-8166 011-486-2236

GENERAL

Silver repair & replating
(011) 334-1102 or 082-473-6040

HANDYMAN NO JOB TOO ODD!
Reasonable rates and reliable. Beegone Bee-Removal !
Carl Meyer: 082-337-7237.

ALL CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE
* Water proofing
* Renovations
* Plumbing
* Paving
* Painting
* Electric fencing
071 332 5551

ERIN'S ELECTRICAL AND PLUMBING SERVICES
R300 PER HOUR
Need I say more?
Tel: (011) 656-3697 Lee: 082-425-6202 Tracy: 076-645-8349

PLUMBERS

MLALAZI PLUMBING MAINTENANCE CC
Prompt & professional service
Call Themba 082-671-1317 (011) 079-7898

A1 PLUMBERS
24 HOUR SERVICE
10% discount for pensioners
• MAINTENANCE?
• FLOODED OUT?
• NO HOT WATER?
• BLOCKED DRAINS?
• GEYSER REPAIRS?
(011) 646-3412
NO JOB IS TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL WE TRAVEL TO ALL AREAS AT NO EXTRA COST

PROPERTY TO LET

ACCOMMODATION TO LET/SHARE

Royal Linksfield/ Sandringham
Duplex townhouse on golf course, 3 x beds, 2 full baths, study or 4th bed.
2 x gardens, + pool. Maids available, double garage, R2 350 000 or to let at R18 000 plus deposit of R27 000.
Phone June 083-226-3741

ACCOMMODATION TO LET/SHARE

Beautiful 4-bedroom house situated in the heart of Rose Bay. 1.5 km from Bondi Beach. A stroll to the shopping strip, 1km to the bay. Walking distance to bus route.
2½ bathrooms. Main en-suite, 3 bedrooms downstairs with queen-size beds, Open plan kitchen and lounge area open onto a beautiful patio with full BBQ facilities, easy entertaining.
Satellite, TV and WIFI available. Dates December 22, 2012 to January 12, 2013. Flexible prior to the 22nd.
Price \$2 500 per week.
Contact info: Tanya Melamdowit. Mobile: +61 433885969, home: + 61(2)9343 0204 melamdowit@optusnet.com.au

Nice flatmate needed
Spacious, high security flat in modern block. Available March 1.
Contact: alan@eagle.co.za

VACANCIES

EMPLOYMENT AVAILABLE

A premier shul in the northern suburbs of Johannesburg
seeks to employ an experienced Baal Korah (ability to daven an advantage) commencing immediately
Applicants are invited to submit a CV on a strictly confidential basis to trust@law.co.za
Only short-listed candidates will be contacted

EMPLOYMENT WANTED

Energetic male senior citizen seeks vacancy. Expertise general, also catering and food. Own transport. Bernie 076-397-1990

AARON MATHATA A RELIABLE, HONEST AND PLEASANT MAN LOOKING FOR WORK.
His employer passed away recently after loyal, caring service of 12 years. He can drive, shop, fetch and carry, as well as doing regular house work and gardening. He is wonderful with old people.
Please call Aaron on 078-531-1904 or Linda Shapiro 082-653-5641 or Anna Louise Shapiro 083-610-0589

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE

Mature Jewish lady, looking for a position as a caregiver/companion, Monday to Friday.
Please call Ingrid on 082-854-111 or (011) 782-5171

Honest, reliable, trustworthy male 64, seeks employment. Willing to learn something new. Have been in liquor industry all my life.
Theo 082-419-3210.

GOING AWAY FOR SHORT/LONG PERIOD?
I can housesit for you, or call on your home! Excellent security background. Good with pets
Contacts or refs
Excellent fees
Call Wayne 083-351-1225

DRIVER
Reliable gent 43 seeks driving post. Preferably 08:00 - 13:00
Code 8 with pdp
Contactable refs
Wayne 083-351-1225

Need pamphlets distributed?
Young Jewish gent to deliver them in all areas at a nominal fee
David 073-345-4077

Looking for position in a shop or in telesales (have previous exp)
David 073-345-4077

VEHICLES

WANTED

IF YOU WANT TO BUY OR SELL A VEHICLE
Contact: Solly Kramer 082-922-3597

ARE YOU EMIGRATING AND WANT TO SELL YOUR VEHICLE?



Please contact Solly Kramer 082-922-3597 anytime

A huge library book sale coming up

ON MARCH 4, the Friends of the Johannesburg Public Libraries hosts a day-long sale of second-hand fiction and non-fiction, art books, Africana and collectables, at Mark's Park Sports Ground in Emmarentia.

Says Marsha Venter from the City's library and information services unit: "All books sold are books that the libraries do not need either because they are duplicated or superseded by later editions."

Even though the books are reasonably priced, the book sales are usually a big success for the libraries. "We average about R50 000 per sale," Venter says. All proceeds will go towards supplementing the book stocks of Johannesburg's libraries, particularly those in underprivileged areas, and to reading programmes to encourage residents to use their libraries.

It is hoped that this sale will be bigger and better than before. "The success of the book sale has grown from sale to sale," she says. "Each sale has raised more than the previous one and attracted more people."

AROUND THE WORLD

NEWS IN BRIEF

ISRAEL WILL NOT WARN US ON IRAN STRIKE

JERUSALEM - Israeli officials will not warn the United States if they decide to attack Iran's nuclear infrastructure, the Associated Press reported, citing an unnamed US intelligence official.

The decision was passed on in a series of private, top-level conversations, the news service reported on Tuesday.

The Israeli officials cited by the American source, said that they would not tell the Obama administration so that Iran would not hold the US responsible for failing to stop the Israeli attack, according to the AP.

Israeli officials, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defence Minister Ehud Barak, have met in recent weeks in Israel with several high-ranking US visitors, dispatched according to some reports, to convince Israel not to attack Iran, and to allow tough sanctions and international pressure to do its work.

Barak is currently in Washington for meetings with his counterpart Leon Panetta, and other key US security officials. Netanyahu is scheduled to meet next week with President Barack Obama.

The US official also told the AP that Israel was providing "key information" on Syria now that the US had closed its embassy and pulled all of its diplomats and intelligence officials from the country. (JTA)

ISRAEL, AZERBAIJAN INK \$1,6 BILLION MILITARY DEAL

JERUSALEM - A state-run Israeli company will have inked a \$1,6 billion deal to sell sophisticated military technology to Azerbaijan.

Under the deal, Israel Aerospace Industries will sell drones, anti-aircraft and missile defence systems to Azerbaijan, Iran's neighbour to the north.

Israeli defence officials told international news services that the deal had been in process for a long time and was not a response to recent allegedly Iranian attempts to kill Israeli diplomats or any potential Israeli plans to strike Iranian nuclear sites. (JTA)

sport

Yaakov willing to pass on wushu knowledge

JACK MILNER

YOUNG YAAKOV Pinchus is undoubtedly one of the best exponents of traditional wushu in South Africa.

This might appear to be a big claim, but one cannot argue with results. As a junior Yaakov twice represented South Africa with distinction at the World Championships and he was one of only a handful of Westerners to be invited to train with the Chinese Olympic team ahead of the Beijing Olympics.

Now he wants to give something back to the sport he loves and to transmit his passion for the sport to others. "I want to show people how magnificent wushu really is. I have seen it at this level.

"There are lots of people teaching traditional martial arts, but not traditional wushu as it should be taught," said Yaakov. The most famous exponents of wushu are Jet Li, Jackie Chan and Yuen Biao.

Yaacov spent the major part of last year in Israel where he trained with their National A team. He first had to have one session with the team to see whether they were happy with his level; they were more than happy and he was allowed to continue working with them.

During the day he spent time at a yeshiva in Jerusalem and at night he would spend three hours in Rehoboth to train.

"I picked up my level a lot. In China they tend to focus more on power but in Israel they concentrate more on technique," explains Yaakov.

"I have also trained under Master Li Hua, who is a six-time world champion."

Prior to his time in Israel, he spent 2010 completing a personal trainer's course and got a distinction in every subject. To add to the quality of his course, Yaakov did it through the Health and Fitness Professionals Association and wrote the international examinations.

Yaakov, a 3rd Dan, now trains out of the Waverley Guide Hall in northern Johannesburg and is teaching both fighting (full contact), forms (stances, kicks, punches, balances, jumps, sweeps and throws) as well as traditional martial arts.

"I will provide intense wushu and combat training, explosive plyometric exercises, core and strengths training as well as intense flexibility and agility training.

"I want to take kids to a professional level and have them tour overseas and train overseas as well," he said.

While all this is going on, Yaakov is also studying sports psychology at the University of Johannesburg. "And I also still plan to compete," he emphasises.

• Anybody interested in contacting Yaakov can call him on 071-491 3216 or e-mail him on jacko_athlete_fr_life@hotmail.com.



Yaakov Pinchus in action practising various wushu forms.

Maccabi Gold Trophy floats away

PSALM 23 has that famous line: "My cup runneth over." Well, in the case of Maccabi Golf SA, their cup "runneth off".

They will be holding their national tournament next weekend, but it has recently

come to their attention that the A division floating trophy, with its history dating back to the 1960s, has gone missing. If anybody knows its whereabouts, could they please e-mail info@maccabigolf.co.za.

AROUND THE WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

ISRAEL'S NEW ENVOY PRESENTS CREDENTIALS IN CAIRO

JERUSALEM - Israel's new ambassador to Egypt on Monday presented his credentials at a ceremony in Cairo.

Yaacov Amitai is the first Israeli envoy named to Egypt since the ousting of Hosni Mubarak a year ago.

The Israeli national anthem was played at Monday's ceremony, as is customary, as were the national anthems of the 13 other ambassadors that presented their credentials to Field Marshal Mohammad Hussein Tantawi, chairman of the Supreme Council of the Egyptian Armed Forces, according to Israel's Foreign Ministry.

The Foreign Ministry said the presentation of credentials was held in "a cordial atmosphere".

During speeches at the ceremony, both Amitai and Tantawi emphasised the importance of the peace agreement and co-operation between the two countries.

"I will do everything I can to enhance understanding and to foster co-operation between Israel and Egypt," Amitai said.

Amitai replaces Yitzhak Levanon, who left his post three months ago. The Israeli Embassy building in Cairo has been closed since it was attacked in September by Egyptian rioters. (JTA)

JOHANNESBURG MUSICAL SOCIETY

ALEXANDER LUBYANTSEV piano

PRIZE-WINNER TCHAIKOVSKY COMPETITION MOSCOW

LINDER AUDITORIUM * 20.00 * SAT 10 MARCH

HAYDN, BEETHOVEN, RAVEL, LISZT'S MEPHISTO WALTZ

Linder box office opens 10 March at 19.00

* (NO CREDIT CARD FACILITY AT BOX OFFICE)



BOOKING AT COMPUTICKET

WWW.JMS.CO.ZA

Maccabi Gauteng Junior Cricket trials

THE PURPOSE of the Maccabi Gauteng Junior (under-18) cricket trials at Old Eds in Houghton on Wednesday March 21, which is a public holiday, from 08:30, will be to select two squads of 14 players each to represent their province in the upcoming Maccabi South Africa Interprovincial/National Maccabiah trials at the end of April.

Maccabi Western Province has already selected its squad. The day will start off with the registration and eligible trialists must be born in 1995, 1996, 1997 or 1998. No exceptions will be made to these dates.

Thereafter, players will go into the nets for a warm-up session, followed by games on the two Old Eds cricket fields where the teams will be rotated and mixed up throughout the day. Lunch will be taken from 13:00 - 14:00, after which the trials will continue until 17:00, weather permitting.

At the last nine Maccabi Games in Israel, from 1973 until 2009, South Africa has dominated the senior cricket tourna-

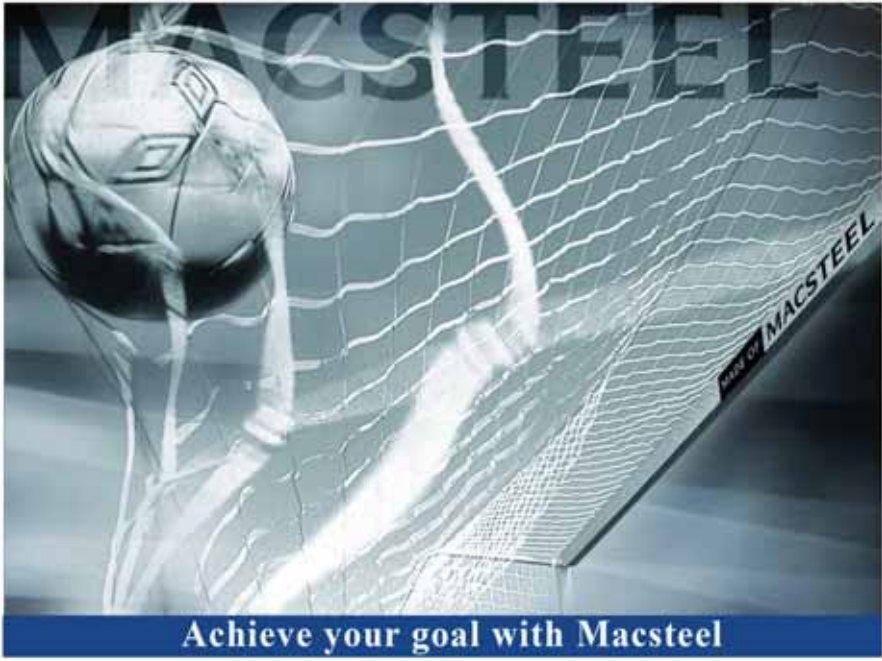
ment, having won six gold medals, two silvers and a bronze.

The junior tournament was introduced in 2005 and in that year and in 2009, South Africa has come away with the gold medal with wins over Britain and India.

South Africa will be defending its gold medals in both the Senior and Junior cricket tournaments at next year's 19th Maccabiah, from July 18 to 30. As it is preferable for interested players to preregister for the trials, they are urged by convener Myron Michel, to e-mail him their particulars to myka@mweb.co.za.

Upon receipt they will be sent the necessary forms so that they can provide a brief CV of their cricket achievements, as well as an indemnity form which has to be submitted preferably prior to the trials, or on the day of the trials at the registration, together with the entry fee of R100 per player.

Myron's cell phone number is: 082-327-3686.



Achieve your goal with Macsteel



SERVICE CENTRES SA

Africa's leading steel supplier

www.macsteel.co.za

THE MACSTEEL GROUP