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the Market
Theatre: *The
Brothers Size*
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• south african • jewish report

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Alec Wapnick: A true visionary and a mensch



The choice of property developer Alec Wapnick as winner of the Helen Suzman Lifetime Achiever Award at the Jewish Achievers Awards function in Sandton last week Wednesday, was a popular one. During his 55 years in the property industry, Alec - who has listed four companies on the JSE - has made a significant contribution to property development in Pretoria and Johannesburg. But above all, he has always remained close to the community and has been a pillar of strength for the Pretoria Hebrew Congregation. He is also an art collector of note and his 300m² private gallery is home to some of SA's greatest painters. Alec and his family's love for Israel is evident in his benevolence and generosity. He has received numerous awards from universities and other institutions for his tremendous contribution to the betterment of life in general in SA. (PHOTOGRAPH: ILAN OSSENDYVER)

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New shul in Umhlanga is up and running



"The exquisite new shul at the Umhlanga Jewish Community Centre is now complete. Regular services will commence when the Kollel members move to the location."

2

GOLDSTUCK: Kodak gets its next moment

"If Kodak survives the bankruptcy lawyers, it may well be able to define a new Kodak moment as the moment your photo emerges from your home printer."

7

Peres cock-a-hoop about renewed peace negotiations



"Pursuit of peace the realisation of the highest Jewish imperative," says Shimon Peres at the Presidential Conference in Israel last week.

6

Australian lawmakers vote for Olympic moment of silence

About 100 lawmakers - including Prime Minister Julia Gillard and opposition leader Tony Abbott - voted in Canberra earlier this week for the motion by standing in silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the 11 Israeli victims of the Munich massacre, at the Olympic Games in 1972.

20

A sad farewell to JWBS's ayshet chayil, Vera Davimes



"The Jewish Women's Benevolent has lost a legend whose memory will live on the pages of our history as well as in the hearts of all who knew her," writes Marlene Bethlehem.

4

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June 30 / 10 Tammuz		
Parshat Chukat		
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17:30	18:25	Cape Town
16:50	17:43	Durban
17:10	18:03	Bloemfontein
17:01	17:56	Port Elizabeth
16:54	17:49	East London

Kashrut Alert

BETH DIN LOGO SHOULDN'T BE ON SOME WOOLIES PRODUCTS
Woolworths Vanilla Flavoured Yoghurt with Crunchy Chocolate Balls and Woolworths Vanilla Yoghurt with Mini Bites erroneously bear the Beth Din logo.
These products are not kosher, the kashrut department of the Union of Orthodox Synagogues says in a media release. Woolworths will be taking corrective action.

The Pyotts range of biscuits is being phased out and re-branded as Bakers. The kashrut status of these products is unaffected.
For a full list of kosher Bakers products, see the online kashrut search at www.uos.co.za or via your mobile phone www.uos.co.za/mobi or call the kashrut department for details.

The secret of success

Everybody wants to be successful and everybody will invest enormous resources in order to achieve success.

In the corporate world, entire industries have sprung up discussing all aspects of how to be successful. The speakers on the circuit are themselves successful businessmen.
Workshops of this nature are extremely popular, but at the same time extremely expensive to attend. How refreshing is it then, to know that the Torah clearly spells out the secret of success in such a way that it is applicable to everybody and one doesn't need to look when the next business seminar will be held.
In this week's parsha, the Torah discusses the fascinating laws pertaining to the Parah Adamah, The Red Heifer. The ashes of this Red Heifer were used to generate tahara (usually translated as spiritual purity) from a situation of tumah (translated as spiritual impurity).
However, tumah and tahara are much



PARSHAT CHUKAT
Rabbi Shmuel Bloch
PE Hebrew Congregation

deeper concepts than the English translation implies. The Torah discusses a situation of what would happen if a person would die in a tent and what vessels would become tomei and what would be tohar. The actual verse begins "This is the Torah, if a person dies in a tent..." (Number 19:14).
The Talmud in Tractate Brachot 63B explains that this verse is teaching us a deeper lesson besides the simple understanding of the verse. The Talmud explains we should repunctuate the verse as if to say: "This is the Torah! if a person dies in a tent..." Which

means to say that if we really wish to acquire Torah, if we really wish to be successful in our Torah studies, we must "die over it".
We must give a 100 per cent of ourselves in our Torah learning. Nothing less will do.
Using one's ability to the maximum and focusing on your goal till the point of expending one's total capabilities and never giving up, together with Hashem's help, generate success.
It is not only in the field of learning Torah that this formula applies. In every endeavour, if we really wish to be successful we must "die over it". We must give our heart and soul to every project that we undertake and never be passively involved.
Giving everything of oneself, together with Hashem's help, will generate the success that we desire.
Try it! It is a formula that works. Guaranteed!

New shul in Umhlanga is up and running

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHS BY
LAUREN SHAPIRO

The shul at the Umhlanga Jewish Community Centre is now complete. Regular services will commence when the Kollel members move to the location. The exquisite facility is set to become a sought-after venue for smachot and communal functions like Sinai Indaba II, which was also held at the centre.
The essence of the shul's décor combines Judaism's rich history with cutting-edge design.
With capacity to seat 350 people, the atmosphere is airy and welcoming. Light wood and stone with accents of metal, create clean lines and functional access to the pews, while recessed downlights in the ceiling unobtrusively support the natural light flowing into the space.
The feel is contemporary, while tradition is embraced in artistic touches like the large stained-glass windows depicting the six days of creation. The seven sacred species of Israel are represented in mosaic columns which support the shul ceiling, as the fruits have sustained the Jewish people throughout our history.
The Aron Kodesh, set in replica Jerusalem stone, naturally forms the centrepiece and focal point of the shul. In a ceremony in February last year, the foundation stone was literally built by members of the community. Today that foundation stone lies at the base of the Aron Kodesh.
The new shul forms part of a unique development encompassing all aspects of Jewish life, including a Jewish day school, a Kollel with residential facilities, a library and auditorium, a mikvah and state-of-the-

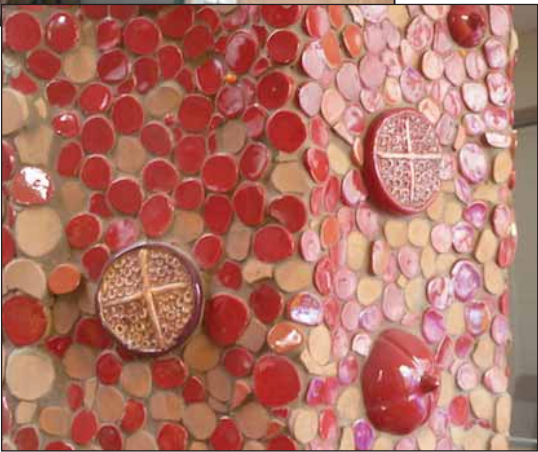
art milk and meat function facilities.
Umhlanga's Jewish day school, which opened in January this year, is running smoothly, with 44 children from grades 0 to 5. Kollel Otzar Chaim, staffed by five young families who moved to Durban to fulfil this dream, has initiated a vibrant schedule of individual and group learning programmes for members of the community, in addition to their personal Torah studies and teaching commitments at the school.
The development is part of the vision of Rabbi Pinchas Zekry who, along with his team of munificent donors (chiefly Dr Jonathan Beare), has brought this dream to fruition.
"We have been blessed with a unique opportunity here, to have all the facilities needed to live a celebrated Jewish life, all together in one campus and in such magnificent natural surroundings," says Rabbi Zekry. "We truly have everything we need here."
The shul and community centre are located mere minutes from Umhlanga's beaches, two kilometres from Gateway Theatre of Shopping, and a short 15-minute drive from King Shaka International Airport.
Just 20 minutes from Durban's central business district, this spiritual oasis is also connected with the heart of commercial life in Durban.
• To follow this exciting journey, read the What's Nu @ Umhlanga, their weekly blog on www.durbanshul.co.za/Blog.aspx



Interior of the new shul showing the Aron Kodesh mosaic pillars and stained-glass windows.



A stained-glass window depicting six days of creation allow soft light to flow into the shul.



Details of the mosaic column representing the seven sacred species of Israel.

• south african

jewish report

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The Jewish World

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The Jewish Journal, Los Angeles:
www.jewishjournal.com

“Writer Nora Ephron has died”

Writer and film director Nora Ephron, known for work on movies such as “When Harry Met Sally”, has died in New York at age 71, according to media reports Tuesday night, hours after it was first revealed that she was gravely ill and near death.

The Australian Jewish News, Sydney:
www.jewishnews.net.au

“Government needs to tighten up on cyber-racism and anti-vilification”

Australia needs tougher cyber-racism laws, standard nationwide racial vilification laws and more anti-racism education, according to the Executive Council of Australian Jewry.

European Jewish Press, Western Europe:
www.ejpress.org

“European Jewish Association denounces German court ruling against circumcision as ‘brutal attack on freedom of religion’”.

A court ruling made by the Regional Court of Cologne endangers the continuity of the circumcision ritual made to Jewish and Muslim infants in Germany. The judge ruled that circumcision presents a harmful intervention for the body and health of the infant

Baltimore Jewish Times, Maryland:
www.jewishtimes.com

“George Washington’s famous letter back on display”

A 1790 letter by George Washington decrying bigotry to a synagogue in Rhode Island will go back on public display for the first time in a decade. In the letter to the Hebrew Congregation in Newport, Washington said that America would give “to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance”.

Arutz Sheva, Beit El, West Bank:
www.israelnationalnews.com

“12 IDF soldiers arrested for passing info to Sinai smugglers”

The IDF has arrested 12 soldiers on suspicions of smuggling drugs into Israel on behalf of Sinai Bedouin, and of giving information on IDF troop movements and other restricted information to Sinai Bedouin.

The New York Jewish Week, New York:
www.thejewishweek.com

“Swastika banners startle New Yorkers”

A swastika on the banner of an airplane startled beachgoers in New York and surrounding states. It marked the third annual Swastika Rehabilitation Day sponsored by the Raelian movement which believes in alien life forms from other planets.

The Algemeiner, Brooklyn:
www.algemeiner.com.

“Big Apple welcome for Gilad Shalit given by Mayor Bloomberg”

Last Monday, standing free on the sixth anniversary of the day Hamas kidnapped him, Gilad Shalit came to meet New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and City Council President Christine Quinn, both of whom had visibly supported efforts to secure the young soldier’s release.

News in Brief

SOUTH AFRICAN PARTY RAPPED FOR ISRAEL SUPPORT, LACK OF CRITICISM

CAPE TOWN - A South African political party and its leader have come under fire for their support of Israel.

The Southern African Kairos Ministry said the attitude of the African Christian Democratic Party and Rev Kenneth Meshoe, conflicts with Christianity.

The ministry’s criticism comes in the wake of a proposal by Trade and Industry Minister Rob Davies to re-label goods from the West Bank as having been produced in the Occupied Palestinian Territories rather than Israel.

In response to the proposal, the African Christian Democratic Party, (ACDP) and other Christian organisations have planned a protest march on the Union Buildings in Pretoria on Wednesday, as well as a demonstration at Parliament in Cape Town on Friday.

HAREDI ORHODOX MEN ARRESTED FOR YAD VASHEM VANDALISM

JERUSALEM - Three haredi Orthodox men have been arrested for spray-painting anti-Semitic and anti-Israel graffiti on the Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum in Jerusalem.

The men, aged 18, 26 and 27, of Jerusalem and Bnei Brak and reportedly of the Neturei Karta sect, were arrested on Tuesday, and reportedly admitted to the crime, which occurred earlier this month.

They are also suspected of being connected to vandalism attacks at Ammunition Hill on Memorial Day and on memorials in the Jordan Valley.

The slogans written in Hebrew, included: “Hitler, thank you for the Holocaust”, “If Hitler did not exist, the Zionists would have invented him”, and “The war of the Zionist regime is not the war of

HAREDIM HOLD PRAYER PROTEST OF DRAFT

JERUSALEM - Thousands of haredi Orthodox Jews held a prayer rally early Monday morning to protest the forced enlistment of yeshiva students.

The early morning demonstration by men, women and children, was organised by the Eda Haredit organisation in Jerusalem. Participants reportedly read psalms and lamentations.

The protest came as the Plesner Committee was meeting to find an alternative to the Tal Law, which grants military exemptions

In a Cape Times report, the ACDP said it had been critical of human rights violations in Israel.

Kairos general secretary Edmund Arrison said the ministry viewed Israel as a racist, apartheid state and called on Meshoe to rethink his “uncritical and unbiblical” support for the Jewish state.

Arrison added that Meshoe and the ACDP were disregarding the rights of families who had their land confiscated to build an “illegal” wall, referring to Israel’s security fence, and the plight of farmers whose water wells were bulldozed.

ACDP National Chairman Jo Ann Downs, said the party had taken a stance on the Africans who were being deported from Israel, saying they should be treated as human beings. (JTA)

the Jewish people”.

Yad Vashem Chairman Avner Shalev praised the quick and effective work of the police.

“I believe that it was important to know the identities of those who spray-painted the graffiti. The suspects are extremist ultra-Orthodox Jews, anti-Zionists, who are on the fringes of society, and do not represent the majority who respect the memory of the Holocaust,” Shalev said.

“Numerous reactions that we received from Israel and around the world, expressing condemnation and repugnance of the graffiti testify that this warped action offended many, and I hope that the court will mete out justice to the criminals.” (JTA)

to haredi Orthodox Israeli men. The law is set to expire next month, and it is believed the committee will call for the required draft of haredi Orthodox men.

Eda Haredit leader Rabbi Tuvia Weiss told rally participants: “We will not allow yeshiva students to be taken to the army or police, and will not be fazed by their seductions.” He added that forced army service or designated service were being required by the government “in order to destroy the Torah world”. (JTA)



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Benevolent legend Vera Davimes, passes on

MARLENE BETHLEHEM

I write this in memory of my friend and my teacher, Vera Davimes (pictured).

The Torah advises us to find two important people in our lives: a friend and a teacher. In my case, my dear friend of over five decades, fulfilled both.

Eshet chayil mi yimtza v’rachok mip’ninim michrah.

An accomplished woman, who can find? Her value is far beyond pearls.

Vera was the chairman of the Jewish Women’s Benevolent when I joined in the early 1960s. She served our beloved Benevolent for more than 60 years.

Kapah parsah le’ani v’yadeiha shil’chah la’evyon.

She extends her hands to the poor, and

reaches out her hand to the needy. She firmly upheld and strengthened all the cherished ideals of our organisation. She came up through the ranks after becoming the Emmarentia branch chairman. She then held portfolios too numerous to mention.

Close to her heart was the 55 Club which she founded and organised for many years.

Vera’s quiet disposition belied her fierce determination to devote herself wholehearted to everything she did.

Oz v’hadar l’vushah vatischak l’yom acharon.

Strength and honour are her clothing, she smiles at the future.

Vera always had a smile and a quiet word for everyone.

Piha patchah v’chochma v’torat chesed al l’shonah.

She opens her mouth in wisdom, and the lesson of kindness is on her tongue.

Vera was an outstanding speaker and regularly attended meetings both within the Benevolent and in the greater community.

Tzofi’ah halichot betah v’lechেম atzlut lo tochel.

She watches over the ways of her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness.

She was a devoted wife to her late husband Jack and a devoted mother to her sons Michael and Steven and their extended families.

Kamu vaneha vay’ash’ruha ba’lah vay’hal’lah.

Her children rise and praise her.

Rabot banot asu chayil v’at alit al kulanah.

Many women have done worthily, but you Vera surpassed them all.

T’nu lah mip’ri yadeiha vihal’luha vash’arim ma’aseha.

Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates.

The Jewish Women’s Benevolent has lost a legend whose memory will live on the pages of our history as well as in the hearts of all who knew her.



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News in Brief

4 HAREDI ORTHODOX MEN INDICTED IN ALLEGED SEX ABUSE COVER-UP

NEW YORK - Four haredi Orthodox men in Brooklyn, have been charged with attempting to intimidate and bribe an alleged sexual abuse victim and her boyfriend in a criminal case against a local counsellor.

According to the indictment filed on June 21, Abraham Rubin, 48, offered the alleged victim and her boyfriend \$500 000 to recant testimony against Nechemya Webberman, an unlicensed psychotherapist awaiting trial on charges of sexual abuse. Webberman has been accused of 88 counts of sexual misconduct and allegedly molesting the victim in his home and office when she was aged 12 to 15.

Rubin and brothers Joseph Berger, Jacob Berger and Hertzka Berger, pleaded not guilty on charges of bribing a witness, witness tampering, coercion and aggravated harassment at their arraignment in New York State Supreme Court in Brooklyn and were released on bail, according to reports.

The Bergers are accused of trying to pressure the couple into not testifying by threatening to remove a kosher certificate in a restaurant owned and operated by the boyfriend.

It is the first case resulting from a new task force to address witness intimidation and harassment in Brooklyn’s Orthodox Jewish community. The task force was established in May by Brooklyn District Attorney Charles Hynes in response to media reports that the community regularly hid cases of child sexual abuse from the authorities.

At a news conference announcing the indictments, Hynes defended his office’s action and said that intimidation of victims and witnesses in sex-abuse cases in the Orthodox community had made prosecuting cases difficult.

“Hopefully these indictments serve as an example that we will not tolerate individuals who try to interfere with the pursuit of justice,” Hynes said. (JTA)

SWASTIKA BANNERS STARTLE NEW YORKERS, OTHERS IN AREA

NEW YORK - A swastika on the banner of an airplane last week Saturday startled beach-goers in New York and surrounding states.

The banner included the word swastika and a swastika intertwined with a Star of David, the symbol of the Raelian movement. It flew over New York, Long Island and New Jersey, while another flew over Los Angeles, according to reports.

The banners marked the third annual Swastika Rehabilitation Day sponsored by the Raelian movement, which was founded in 1974, and says it has more than 70 000 members in 104 countries.

Followers believe that “thousands of years ago, scientists from another planet came to Earth and created all forms of life, including human beings, whom they created in their own image.”

Police and Jewish organisations received complaints about the swastika banners.

“The swastika is one of the best traces left by those who created us, and the attempt to bury it as a symbol of violence and hatred only gives credit to the Nazi ideology,” Thomas Kaenzig, co-ordinator of World Swastika Rehabilitation Day, said in a statement. (JTA)



Members of the UJW Keshet Group together with Western Cape Minister of Social Development Albert Fritz, at the hand-over of a fridge, stove, chest freezer, washing machine, tumble dryer, cots and curtaining to Khuti Home Care and Development Centre for handicapped children.

UJW Keshet Group assists kids in need in CT

MOIRA SCHNEIDER
CAPE TOWN
PHOTO: ADELE GOLDBERG

The Union of Jewish Women's Keshet Group continued with its tradition of assisting and upgrading facilities for both able and disabled children in disadvantaged communities, with a recent handover of sorely-needed items to four facilities in Cape Town.

The group has this year adopted four new projects, namely, Khuti Home Care and Development Centre for children with disabilities in Khayelitsha, Yomelelani Day Care Centre for children with disabilities in Philippi, Babes Educare Preschool and Laphumilanga Seniors Club,

both in Du Noon.

Western Cape Minister of Social Development Albert Fritz, who was present at one of the handovers, described UJW Keshet as "strong women coming together to help in so many ways" and said that the government would be there to assist the centres.

An 82-year-old Khayelitsha grandfather, Tata Moshoeshe, who looks after many children, received a washing machine and no longer has to wash clothes by hand. In total, the beneficiaries received three fridges, three stoves, several large pots, two microwaves, three washing machines and 12 baby cots and mattresses, which were either sourced through donations or purchased by

the group, from a wish list provided by the institutions.

Keshet has specifically chosen projects related to babies, women and children. In many instances it has worked with projects to a point where they have become self-sustaining and then moves on to new projects.

Among its current projects are the Tygerberg Hospital - Kangaroo Mother Care Unit, the Elundini Educare Centre for the disabled in Du Noon, the Masikhululeke Educare Centre in Joe Slovo and Atlantic Hope, a safe house for newborns requiring emergency care.

Anyone wishing to assist these projects, please call Keshet Group's co-chairman Helene Rabinowitz at 082-659-0000.



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Sandy on [011] 645 2548 or e-mail: sandy@beyachad.co.za

On giants’ shoulders

Sir Isaac Newton, discoverer of the laws of gravity and one of history’s most influential scientists, wrote to a colleague in 1676: “If I have seen further, it is only by standing on the shoulders of giants.”

This is what Professor Barry Schoub said to the audience of some 600 people at the Jewish Achiever Awards in Sandton last Wednesday evening, after being honoured for his huge contribution to medical science in South Africa.

He named some of the greats of medicine who had mentored him at Wits University and elsewhere, enabling him to “see further”. One was former head of the Medical School and world-renowned scientist Phillip Tobias, who passed away earlier this month and to whom the Jewish Report paid tribute.

Every generation has its great people. It is very likely that some of this year’s eight achievers who were honoured at the gala dinner in a range of categories, will be among the “giants” on whose shoulders people from the next generation will stand.

If there were any doubts about the continuing vibrancy of this SA Jewish community, the calibre of the nominees and winners (see pages 10-13) showed the opposite. Any community producing people of such passion, creativity and excellence must be in great shape.

The business categories were selected by a panel of eminent judges in a formal, audited process. The other awards – lifetime achievement, humanitarian, arts/science/culture/sports, and community service, were chosen by the Jewish Report from a list of numerous nominees, encompassing the crème de la crème of the Jewish community, proposed by the general public.

We can be immensely proud of these eight individuals who stood before the audience, describing their personal philosophies and how they gave practical expression to their dreams and visions. Indeed, the quality of nominees in all categories, numbering some 200, was so high that it was difficult to make a selection - all of the nominees are essentially winners.

Who is an achiever? While the people recognised at last Wednesday’s banquet were operating at relatively high levels, “achievement” can take many forms. South Africa is a country where millions of people live in abject poverty and where unemployment is a gigantic - and dangerous - problem. A poor, uneducated man who follows a dream and raises himself through monumental effort to become skilled and productive - or helps someone else do that - has done something remarkable.

Recognising this, a theme permeating the gala dinner was how nominees and winners had a broader responsibility to help people in less fortunate positions make more of their own lives.

Some are doing it in very explicit ways. For example, by providing employment; running training programmes for young people to raise their chances of finding employment; helping sufferers of HIV/Aids; educating kids in rural schools with new technologies like iPads; and a myriad other ways.

The Jews represent a tiny percentage of the SA population, but we punch way above our weight - with our skills and resources, we can really make a difference.

The evening was a glittering success - truly a who’s who of SA Jewish society. We thank our major sponsors, Absa Bank and Chivas Regal, for their support. Absa has been a sponsor of this event for 10 years and has witnessed a prestigious line of winners ascending the stage. Chivas is on board for the first time this year; we are delighted at their eminent presence and look forward to a long, mutually beneficial relationship with them.

The Jewish Report has been running the Jewish Achiever Awards for 14 years, since the establishment of the newspaper in 1998. Over that time, it has become more and more of a high-profile affair, one of the most important occasions in the Jewish social calendar.

We look forward to hosting an even better one next year, when we will recognise a new batch of visionaries for whom excellence is their watchword.

Peres is cock-a-hoop about renewed peace negotiations

The Middle East was turbulent; the events unfolding before our eyes were unstoppable, President Shimon Peres remarked at the opening plenary of the Fourth Presidential Conference in Jerusalem, from June 19 - 21.

**TOM WHEELER
JERUSALEM**

“For me, passively waiting until the dust settles is not an option. Tomorrow has intrigued and excited me, my whole life. Only the human brain has the capability to imagine a reality that does not yet exist: To imagine tomorrow. History is not dust, but a wind that never stops blowing.”

Peres said the ME was still turbulent. The young people who led the revolution had not yet achieved their aims: freedom, employment, and an end to corruption.

“These youngsters make up 60 per cent of the population of our region. No-one can ignore their hopes. The Arab Spring does not need to be an Israeli winter. A spring of the youth is a blessing to us all.”

The Arab Spring does not have to be an Israeli winter.

Peres offered them a hand: “We are willing to lend a hand to their success, not from egotism but because we desire freedom.

“Uncertainty is a part of our lives. The tendency to wait with our eyes closed until the storm passes is naïve. And so, friends, to dream of tomorrow is realistic.”

He said what was required was the moral compass to navigate through storms and fog, a moral compass that was instilled with the nation’s values, a snapshot of 4 000 years of Jewish heritage.

He laid out the three foundation stones of that compass, namely the moral value, the pursuit of peace and love of learning.

“The first value typifies the history of our people.

“The Jewish people survived 4 000 years of history, not because of the might of its army, but because it maintained, in its heart, the Ten Commandments.

“The Children of Israel were raised on the admonishment of the sages: To be just; to not hurt the orphan, the widow, the weak, the stranger.

‘How inspiring are the words of the prophets of Israel and how human their foundations.’

“How inspiring are the words of the prophets of Israel and how human are their foundations: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself’; ‘Thou shalt not pervert justice owed to the stranger’; ‘All Israel is responsible for one another’; ‘Returning captives’, because, of course, we all remember,



Israeli President Shimon Peres speaking at the Israeli Presidential Conference on June 19. (PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY SHILO PRODUCTIONS)

the day Gilad Shalit returned home.

“A whole nation cried tears of joy, even when the decision was heart-breaking.

“Decisions require great determination and generosity, courage and humility. Vanity is a bad adviser: ‘Do not rejoice in your enemies’ fall.”

He said the second foundation stone was the pursuit of peace. “Peace is our aspiration and our

Pursuit of peace the realisation of the highest Jewish imperative.

strategy.”

In a state of peace, there were no limits to Israel’s ability to flourish. Peace would bring to the fore the vast pool of talent that existed in Israel.

“For us the pursuit of peace is the realisation of the highest Jewish moral imperative, but it is also a vital interest, a critical element in the perception of Israel’s strength.

“We must not forget that to make peace, Israel must be strong. I would not push for a historic compromise with the Arab world, if I was not totally convinced of Israel’s strength.

“The principle of two states for two peoples is an Israeli interest. That is the way to ensure that Israel remains Jewish, democratic and attractive.”

Peres said peace between Israel and the Palestinians was the biggest nightmare for the ayatollas, it was the bad dream of Israel’s sworn enemies.

“I believe that it is possible to renew the negotiations with the current Palestinian leadership. In the past few months I have met, on a number of occasions, with Palestinian President (Mahmoud) Abbas and his people.

“I was left with the impression that, like us, they want peace, and that they need it. Peace has enemies.

‘My impression is that Pres Obama will stop Iran getting a nuclear weapon.’

At their helm are the leaders of Iran, who are the biggest danger to peace in our region and to security in the world.”

Peres said US President Barack Obama was leading a complex international attempt to prevent this danger, through diplomatic moves and economic sanctions.

“We hope that these attempts bear fruit. A number of days ago I met with President Obama in the US. I left that meeting with the impression that the president will stop Iran getting a nuclear weapon and that all options are on the table.”

Peres’ third foundation stone was love of learning.

“The Jews have, since the beginning of time, held a special significance for learning and a widening of knowledge. Our heritage stimulates us to challenge the existing conventions.

“In Judaism there is a constant debate between different ideas and approaches. And when faced with danger we are united as one.

“I believe that the coming debate will be the most scientific and dramatic in human history. It will reveal possibilities that today look like science fiction.”

Peres said it was “only natural” that “our people, our nation”, would play a major role in that development. “It is our mission.”

Scientific research will focus on the human brain.

He believed that scientific research would focus on the human brain. The human mind would solve the riddle of itself.

“Today, we know more about what is happening around us than what is happening within us. If we now learn more about ourselves, we will be able to act with better self-control.

“With a lack of global governance, self-governance becomes even more significant.

“I am convinced that the collective wisdom assembled at this wonderful conference, which looks to tomorrow, will know how to characterise the components of the compass we need to successfully navigate the exciting journey ahead of us.

“Let us dare to talk about tomorrow, not only as those who are predicting it, but also as those who are creating it and marching towards it with a compass which contains justice, love of the other, wisdom and a grand vision.”

Kodak gets its next moment

Kodak may be dead as a camera and film company, but it is coming back to life in the “post-capture” world of printing, writes ARTHUR GOLDSTUCK.

The Kodak moment is back. When the company that invented popular photography filed for bankruptcy protection five months ago, it provoked a tut-tut that was heard around the world. The company had been undone by the advent of digital photography - a technology it pioneered, but never managed to turn to its own advantage.

The “portable all-electronic still camera”, invented by Steve Sasson in 1975, was awarded US patent number 4 131 919, but that wasn’t enough to convince Kodak executives. As Sasson would write many years later, they could not understand why people would ever want to view their pictures on a TV.

As a result, the project was not mentioned again until 2001, when the world was already changing. But Sasson’s technical report from 1975 was prophetic: “The camera described in this report represents a first attempt demonstrating a photographic system which may, with improvements in technology, impact the way pictures will be taken in the future.”

Over the next two decades, both Sony and Nikon would lead the way with professional digital cameras.

The consumer digital camera revolution began in 2000 with a device by Fuji - Kodak’s mortal enemy in the business. The evolution of devices was then as rapid as the disappearance of film from the shelves. This month, Canon announced the first digital SLR



GOLDSTUCK ON GADGETS
Arthur Goldstuck

camera with a touchscreen.

In the meantime, Kodak has laid off 47 000 workers and closed 13 film-manufacturing factories in the past nine years. In 2009 it stopped producing film altogether, and earlier this year built its last digital camera.

But filing for bankruptcy protection is not the same thing as going out of business. While the lawyers and accountants restructure the company’s debts and focus on preserving it as an operating entity, the researchers, marketers and strategists have set about reinventing the business.

Taking advantage of the area where it has been strongest in recent years, printing technology, it has abandoned the image “capture” market, and embraced the “post capture” market: everything you do with images after they’ve been captured.

This is best demonstrated with its wireless all-in-one printers, and a mini-application for mobile phones called the Pic Flick App. It is available for BlackBerry, Android phones and the iPhone.

This is where things get really interesting. Kodak has quietly become an innovator in printer ink. Where

most other printer ink is either pigment-based (lasts long, but not so bright) or dye-based (super-bright, but doesn’t last), Kodak has come up with a combination of the two that looks good and lasts.

It’s also addressed the single biggest complaint the entire world has about inkjet printers: the cost of cartridges. Typically, a cheap inkjet printer costs less than its replacement ink cartridges.

Kodak has standardised on a couple of low-cost cartridge ranges, under the easy-to-remember labels Series 10 and Series 30. Standardisation also makes them cheaper to mass produce, and suddenly makes it cost-effective to print out photos at home. For example, a black and white Series 30 cartridge, used in Kodak’s HERO and ESP all-in-one printers, costs R99.

The printers take photographic paper and, when an image is sent from a phone to the device, it prints almost instantly - in vivid colour.

The look, feel and format is indistinguishable from what you used to collect after handing in your film at the 1-hour photo kiosk.

If Kodak survives the lawyers, it may be able to define a new Kodak moment: your photo emerges from your home printer.

• *Arthur Goldstuck is managing director of World Wide Worx. Follow him on Twitter on @art2gee or at www.gadget.co.za*

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THE MANY THINGS FELDER LEFT OUT IN HIS LITHUANIA REBUTTAL

Now it is my turn to address the “inaccuracies” Steve Felder perceives in my June 8 letter in response to his earlier article on Lithuania. I am fully aware that his 48-hour tour of Lithuania was arranged by the JDC. I am also well informed about the outstanding work of The Joint which has always maintained distance from local politics and refrains from falling into the trap of applauding a far-right government which dispenses little gestures for the benefit of naïve foreign visitors.

Mr Felder should realise that the prime minister who welcomed him and his group so cordially, is the very same prime minister who signed off personally on the four-day reburial ceremonies last month honouring Nazi collaborator Juozas Abrazevicius (Brazaitis).

Felder notes that my statement of “significant increases in anti-Semitism” is unsubstantiated by any available data. I refer him to the April 19 Simon Wiesenthal Report: Lithuania 2012: Holocaust Distortion as Background for Increased for Anti-Semitism (see particularly page 8, “A Dangerous Increase in Anti-Semitic Incitement and Attacks”). A current SWC Report dated June 2012, “European Extremist Movements,” states that “the Continent’s oldest disease - Jew hatred - is metastasising... (see page 12 for the focus on Lithuania): http://www.wiesenthal.com/atf/cf/%7B54d385e6-f1b9-4e9f-8e94-890c3e6dd277%7D/FINAL_REPORT_62012.PDF

I agree that Lithuania should be commended for its passage of the \$53 million restitution package. However, here Mr Felder is inaccurate in referring to it as a “property restitution fund”. The payments are to be made over 10 years, ensuring that Holocaust survivors receive almost nothing.

The bulk of the funds are allocated to Jewish heritage/state heritage projects with a relatively small amount dedicated to communal property and nothing for private property. In reality the sum is but

a tiny fraction of the true current value of the property that was confiscated from Jews.

And who will be the beneficiaries of the Jewish heritage projects? The goal is to increase tourism to boost the ailing economy. The expectation is that foreign Litvaks will pump dollars into Lithuania, a country whose government has invested heavily in the distortion of the history of the Holocaust.

Mr Felder seems to be under the impression that I have suffered negative experiences during my visits to Lithuania. On the contrary, during my four lengthy trips there I have wandered into the most remote villages, meeting and befriending delightful Lithuanian people.

My judgement and my criticism of Lithuania is not the reflection of my personal visits to the country, but the result of 20 years of following and studying the policies and politics, the attitudes and actions of the Lithuanian government.

I have not met with prime ministers or other elites, but I have spoken heart-to-heart in Yiddish with members of the Jewish community - from its leaders to those who depend on Rabbi Krinsky’s soup kitchen for their daily meals. Perhaps I have got a more realistic reading of how they feel and live.

Felder’s rather naïve and exuberant evaluation of the country based on a mere 48 hours of being shuttled around to meet diplomats and selected members of the Jewish community seems to have left him clueless and even insensitive to the present and past suffering of the withering Jewish population. Which is why his article came across as little more than a PR-inspired narrative helpful only to the Lithuanian government’s PR projects.

Mr Felder should also know that while he was well treated in regard to his request for Lithuanian citizenship, this is hardly a general trend. The country’s citizenship laws are still widely condemned as racist.

Olga Zabłudoff, Washington, DC

SINAI INDABA 11 AN AWE-INSPIRING EXPERIENCE

Mazeltov and thank you to Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein and his wonderful team for the superb organisation of the Sinai Indaba.

The speakers were awe-inspiring and

the ruach at the venue was just incredible. I never expected to ever experience anything like this in South Africa, but it was pure magic. Kol hakavod.

Julie Toblib, Killarney, Johannesburg

CHIEF RABBI CONGRATULATED ON A SPLENDID SINAI INDABA

Well done to Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein and the Sinai-Indaba team for a fantastic event!

The speakers were wonderful, the venue was spacious and the music at the end added a nice final touch.

It was not possible to hear all the speakers, but I did want to comment on David Weiss, a Torah Jew in Hollywood. He was involved in Shrek 2 and The Smurfs movie and infused some Jewish values into the

FRANSMAN’S UTTERANCES SHOW HOW BANKRUPT ANC POLICIES ARE

Marius Fransman, Western Cape leader of the ANC, demonstrates clearly just how bankrupt the ANC’s policies are.

Instead of suggesting ways to overcome unemployment and starvation in the region, he and his cohorts propose to their constituents that “the plight of the Palestinians is

dear to local Muslims”.

Someone should tell him that when people are hungry and unemployed, the only thing on their mind is food and a job.

Fransman’s utterances are as devoid of logic as the party he represents.

Nathan Cheiman, Northcliff, Jhb

REMEMBERING PHILLIP TOBIAS FROM HIS EARLY DURBAN DAYS

Among the many accolades on the late Prof Phillip Tobias, here is one which I don’t think has been mentioned in his tribute.

I grew up in Durban with Phillip Tobias as a teenager in the city. We both went to the St Andrews Street Shul on Shabbos mornings.

Philip was the Baal Schacharis, up to the taking out of the Torah. He was fluent in Hebrew and in the nusach. It was pleasure to listen to his davening, he was full of confidence.

Bennie Puterman, Glenhazel, Jhb

HOW YOU WORSHIP THE ONE AND ONLY G-D IS IMMATERIAL

I’d like to respond to the letter in the SAJR of Friday, June 15, “Jews from both sides of the spectrum need to exercise tolerance “

It doesn’t matter if a Jewish person is religious or not, the fact that this person has a connection to Judaism from generations before makes this person Jewish, Hitler (mach shemo) murdered all Jews, irrespective of whether they were religious or not, as well as Reform Jews.

The late Professor Phillip Tobias was best known internationally for his work on human evolution and yet he regularly went

to shul and was proudly Jewish.

Orthodox Jews should remind themselves of Torah values such as Ve Havata Le Reacha Kamocha - “Love your fellow person/Jew as you love yourself,” and “Do not do to others what you do not want them to do to you.”

As long as you/we truly believe with all your/our hearts in the Master of the Universe as the True One G-d, then you/we can worship G-d as you/we see fit, Orthodox, secular, Reform etc .

Roni Lea, Johannesburg

POOR WORK ETHIC TO BLAME FOR MANY ILLS

Mark Wade writes about “SA on the brink of socio-economic collapse” in the Jewish Report of June 15.

Most of the ills can be attributed to a poor work ethic. The poor work ethic can in turn be attributed to a racist law ie affirmative action.

Once workers’ jobs are guaranteed, whether it be by affirmative action or trade unions,

Looking for

LOOKING FOR ROSALIND FEHLER

Roni Snitcher of Cape Town - tel (021) 439-7440; (021) 551-3976; 082-908-3460 or e-mail rmsnitcher@gmail.com – writes on behalf of her cousin, Haidene Vallance, née Meyers (telephone in Israel

0097235790644), who is looking for her cousin, Rosalind Fehler and Rosalind’s married daughter, Debbie. Rosalind’s last known address in Johannesburg was Sandringham Gardens. Is any of our readers able to help?

DOES ANYBODY KNOW WHEREABOUTS OF ROBERT MILLER?

Julie Toblib of Killarney in Johannesburg, is looking for Robert Miller, on behalf of a friend, Peter Cohen. Robert is married to Marion and they had two daughters at the time Peter knew them (one of the daughters

was called Natalie). Both the Cohens and the Millers lived in 5th Avenue, Edenvale from 1976 - 1980. Peter and Robert formed a music group Rope. Please contact Julie by e-mail jultob@mweb.co.za.

Community Briefs

KIMBERLEY’S MEMORIAL ROAD SYNAGOGUE TURNS 110

On the weekend of August 9 - 12 (including the public holiday of August 9), the African Jewish Congress in conjunction with the country communities department of the SAJBD and the committee of the Kimberly Hebrew Congregation, will host an exciting weekend of activities to commemorate the 110th anniversary of the Memorial Road Synagogue in Kimberly.

Featuring a communal braai, tours of all the major battlefields, museums and art galleries in the area and a game drive, the weekend caters for shomrei and non-shomrei Shabbat attendees and also features a tour of cemeteries and a Hazikaron ceremony. E-mail Jenni for information at jenni@beyachad.co.za

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Achiever Awards 2012 - again - a resounding success

HELEN SUZMAN LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Property developer Alec Wapnick, who has considerably changed the face of property in Johannesburg and Pretoria, receiving his award from Brian Joffe, CEO of Bidvest. Wapnick's son, Jeffrey, assisted him in his wheelchair.

ARTS, SCIENCE, CULTURE AND SPORTS AWARD



Renowned virologist Professor Barry Schoub receiving his award from former Protea cricket captain, Ali Bacher, a previous winner of this award. Schoub has been at the forefront of SA public health for over 30 years, and remains a prolific researcher, writer and HIV/Aids activist.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD



Community fundraiser and significant philanthropist in broader Johannesburg Jewry, Gerald Leissner, who has been instrumental in raising funds for Yeshiva College, among other important projects, being congratulated by Professor Michael Katz.

STAFF REPORTER PHOTOGRAPHS BY ILAN OSSENDYVER AND NEIL WEIDEMAN

Wayne Merris, marketing manager of Chivas Regal said his brand was an iconic global symbol of leadership and achievement, making it the obvious choice as a main sponsor, with Absa, for the Jewish Achiever Awards.

Howard Sackstein, chairman of the Jewish Achiever Awards, commented: "These awards celebrate the remarkable achievements of members of the SA Jewish community in all spheres of life. It is an amazing collection of people who have built South Africa in the arts, sciences, humanities and business and reflects the unique contribution of this entire community to the development of this country."

The objectives of the awards were three-fold, he said. Firstly, to celebrate the remarkable achievements of the Jewish community.

"It is an amazing collection of Jews who have built South Africa," he added.

Secondly, to raise money to fund the free publication of the SA Jewish Report

which is read by 50 000 people weekly and is the umbilical cord which connects the members of the community.

Thirdly, the awards are there to inspire others to both success and do good in the world.

'It is awe-inspiring to look at the people who have been recognised over the years as nominees and winners.'

"It is awe-inspiring to look at the people who have been recognised over the years as nominees and winners and realise just what a tremendous difference they have made to the lives of ordinary people in South Africa," he said.

Howard Feldman, chairman of the SA Jewish Report board of directors, said he was urging people to continue and support the paper and "view us as the gateway to our incredible community, a community that is diverse, vibrant and thriving - a community that we all have every reason to be enormously proud of.

UNLISTED COMPANIES AWARD



Louis von Zeuner Absa's deputy group chief executive, and last year's winner Wayne Plitt, flank this year's Unlisted Companies Award winner Selwyn Smith, for his companies Fore Good Group and One Property Holdings (including Periscopic Property Management).

LISTED COMPANIES AWARD



Chief Executive of Absa Retail and Business Bank, Bobby Malabie and popular singer Danny K, last year's humanitarian award winner, congratulate Asher Bohbot on winning the Listed Companies Award for his technology and business solutions company, EOH.

South African Jews are major role-players in job creation, technological progress and advancing the cause of humanity in creating prosperity in our country. These were the words of Bobby Malabie, chief executive Absa Retail and Business Bank at the SA Jewish Report Achiever Awards 2012 at the Sandton Sun last week.

כל הכבוד

Absa Bank is proud to be associated with the Jewish Achiever Awards.





CHIVAS HUMANITARIAN AWARD

On either side of Durban-based humanitarian award winner John Moshal, who received the award on behalf of himself and his family, are Rebbetzen Ann Harris, widow of the late Chief Rabbi Cyril Harris and Wayne Merris, marketing manager of Chivas Regal.



ENTREPRENEUR AWARD

Mark Levy of Blue Label Telecoms presenting awards to entrepreneurs Marc Sternberg of Cape Town-based Spark ATM Systems and Grahamstown-educated Jonathan Goldberg of Global Business Solutions (Pty) Ltd, who were both winners.

“The paper is yours - please support it. I would like to encourage our readers to continue to give us their comment, criticism and support that we have come to love and value,” he said.

- The Helen Suzman Lifetime Award went to Alec Wapnick.
- In accepting it, he said: “I have received a number of awards, but this one rounds it off. I have spent the last 10 years converting office buildings in Johannesburg and Pretoria into clean and secure housing units for previously disadvantaged people and have accommodated 40 000.”
- The award for Arts, Science, Culture and Sports went to virologist Professor Barry Schoub.
- “I am blessed and fortunate to have a career and a job which I love and find immensely satisfying. This award heralds the pinnacle of my career and it is profoundly and deeply appreciated,” he said.
- The Chivas Humanitarian Award went to the Moshal family of Durban.
- “I entered communal life at the age of 12 on a shul committee and have been there ever since. We have worked together

as a family and our life has been heaven. This is a great award,” said father John Moshal, who with his family is renowned for their outreach work.

- The Community Service Award went to Gerald Leissner whose community work has been recognised by former President Nelson Mandela for his outstanding leadership and for being at the forefront of the fight for human rights. In accepting his award Leissner said he was grateful to his employer who understood the importance of community work.

“I am blessed and fortunate to have a career and a job which I love and find immensely satisfying.”

“I could not have done my work without their support and understanding,” he said.

- The Entrepreneur Award winners were Jonathan Goldberg and Marc Sternberg. Goldberg is the founder of Global Business Solutions which has grown from one office employing six people, into a leading



Community Service Award winner, Gerald Leissner in conversation with Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein.



Chairman of the Board of Directors of the SA Jewish Report, Howard Feldman.



Professor Michael Katz, chairman of ENS; Brian Joffe of Bidvest; Howard Sackstein, Chairman of the Jewish Achiever Awards committee; and Louis von Zeuner, Deputy Group Chief Executive of ABSA.



Members of the band, Ensemble Borsalino.



Professor Barry Schoub with his wife Barbara, daughter Wendy Kahn, and son Peter.



Rebbetzen Chaya and Rabbi David Masinter, and Wayne Merris.



Geoff Rothschild, Head, Government and International Affairs, JSE, a judge on the business awards panel, with his wife Barbara.

national labour law, human resources, BBBEE and business consultancy with offices around the country and a labour force of more than 40 with more than 300 in related businesses.

Sternberg is the founder and managing director of the multi-million rand business Spark ATM Systems, the leading independent automated teller machine (ATM) deployer in South Africa. The company, which started with no external funding, has now grown into a national organisation across the country and employs nearly 90 people.

In accepting the award, they said it went to their staff.

“Our success humbles us. We are proud of our Jewish culture, values and religion that were instilled in us.”

- The Absa Unlisted Company Award went to Selwyn Smith, founder of the Fore Good Group, an FMCG (fast moving consumer goods) brand owner with numerous market-leading brands in its stable. Smith has simultaneously been assem-

bling a private equity commercial property portfolio while developing the associated asset management support. Over the past five years the Fore Good Group has become one of the leading FMCG brand custodians in the country.

‘I arrived in South Africa 30 years ago with R200 in my pocket.’

“I arrived in South Africa 30 years ago with R200 in my pocket. It has been an unbelievable journey and I thank and believe in my 4 000 employees,” he said.

- The Absa Listed Company Award went to Asher Bohbot, founder and chief executive of JSE-listed information technology firm EOH Holdings, which in its last financial year reached a major milestone when group revenue increased by 43,5 per cent to R2,429 billion.

It is now one of South Africa’s top three

Job creation is vital and is the responsibility of business, not government.

IT service providers and the largest enterprise applications provider in South Africa. It has an annual turnover of R3,6 billion and employs 4 000 staff. EOH has delivered 13 years of continued compounded annual growth in excess of 40 per cent. It was also ranked fourth in 2011’s Financial Mail Top 200 Companies survey. For the past 10 consecutive years EOH has been ranked as one of the top companies in the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE).

Bohbot, in receiving his award, said job creation was vital and was the responsibility of business, not government.

“There are nine million unemployed in South Africa and it is not because of job shortages but because of lack of skills. I am humbled by this award and I don’t think I deserve it,” he said.



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Geoff Sifrin, Editor of the SA Jewish Report; Howard Sackstein, Chairman of the Jewish Achiever Awards planning committee; Howard Feldman; Bryan Silke, Publisher of the SA Jewish Report.



Herby Rosenberg, board member of the SA Jewish Report, Emanuelle Manzon with Bobby Malabie.



The interior décor at the event.

Absa hosts breakfast for Achievers nominees



Benjy Porter, member of the Jewish Report board; Mark Notelowitz, nominee for a business award; Howard Feldman, Chairman of the SA Jewish Report; Sue Morris, Commercial Manager of the SA Jewish Report; Michelle Lissoos, nominee for a business award.



Marcel de Klerk, Head of Business Markets, Absa, a judge on the business awards panel.



Gina Schoeman, Senior Economist, Absa Capital.



Issie Kirsh, Vice Chair of the SA Jewish Report, and his wife Mushe.



Natalie and Zamie Liknaitzky.



Steven Blend, Director Alpha Holdings, a judge on the business awards panel with his wife Zoë.



Len Konar, Chairman Orca (Pty) Ltd, a judge on the business awards panel.

And the winner of the prestigious award is...

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2012

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Evian’s magnificent photographs touch the soul

ROBYN SASSEN

“The truth is, you are a photographer,” said Clive Evian, world-renowned epidemiologist, addressing a capacity attendance at the opening of his first exhibition of photographs, called “Soul Sanctity and Wilderness” at the Rabbi Cyril Harris Community Centre in Oaklands, last Sunday evening.

Showing close to 30 magnificent shots of our world’s landscape, juxtaposed with a selection of over 40 ceramic vessels made by his wife, Sara, Evian commented on how special it was to share a platform with his wife. “She

is the real artist in the house,” he maintained. For over 40 years, he has been “getting high on taking pictures. Photography has opened my eyes more. It is my soul, my yearning for solitude, for wilderness, for the beauty of this world.

“These landscapes are where you will find G-d.”

Indeed, you stand in front of an image of waves at Scarborough, or a food market in Tanzania, or a sand dune in the Namib, and you can quietly be swept away by the ringing and rumbling and thunder of what you see.

Sanctity, Soul and Wilderness is on show until July 28. (011)728-8088.



Sara and Clive Evian at the opening of their exhibition in the Rabbi Cyril Harris Community Centre last weekend. (PHOTOGRAPH: ILAN OSSENDRYVER)

Hawkins’ Hansel and Gretel something to look forward to



Johannesburg Youth Ballet dancers who performed in last year’s astonishing Peter Pan: Kaylee MacGinn (Wendy Darling); Megan Kurzewski (John Darling); Aviva Sher (Michael Darling); and Kate Retief (Mrs Darling). (PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN HOGG)

Mark Hawkins. (PHOTOGRAPH BY BRIAN HEATHFIELD)

ROBYN SASSEN

“It’s because everyone wants to reach out and touch magic in their lives,” renowned choreographer Mark Hawkins (pictured, inset), with more than 20 years’ dance experience to his credit, explains the reason for a brand new ballet of Hansel and Gretel which he’s currently working on with the Johannesburg Youth Ballet.

“It’s a tale of hunger, love, courage and triumph, but there’s a lot of enchantment thrown in on the sides, and a range of angels, birds, jewels, pebbles and swans to enhance it all.

“There is no extant ballet of Hansel and Gretel, just an opera, by Engelbert Humperdinck (1893), which I’ve researched intensively.

“This Hansel and Gretel has represented over eight months of logistical challenges for me, but it is incredibly exciting to work with the almost 60 youngsters, aged between 11 and 25 associ-

ated with JYB. I don’t teach them technique; I teach them breadth and how to perform from their souls; I teach them how to work like professionals.”

The JYB has been existence for 36 years and is Johannesburg’s longest running dance company, established by Audrey King in 1976, before it was considered acceptable (or even legal) for dance companies to be multiracial. Without a permanent home, the company rehearses only on weekends. “We’re reliant on favours for things like storerooms and rehearsal spaces.

“The work features brand new music composed by Nik Sakellarides, and a set and costumes by Andrew Botha. There are some surprises also, by the way of projections on gauze, which alleviates the pressure of working with a set, and which brings the magic.”

Dance fans might know Hawkins’ work from the astonishing ensemble pieces, Hotel which debuted at last year’s Dance Umbrella, and Dirty Laundry, on the boards this year, both choreographed on dancers from Moving Into Dance Mophatong. Or, you might remember him as a character in the outrageously camp Doo-

bie Boobies last year.

The founding director of the Fantastic Flying Fish Company, a trained dancer, who was employed by Capab, Napac and the Hong Kong Ballet, Hawkins has worked with the youth and in venues previously unexplored for their dance potential, like the Johannesburg Zoo.

The works he’s choreographed, have made audiences sit up and take notice, from his Four Seasons in 2010, to Shakespeare Dreaming last September, to his acclaimed ballet of Peter Pan, on stage last year at UJ.

“I’ve worked with and been influenced by everyone in this industry, from Tossie van Tonder to Robyn Orlin, but I have retained my choreographic independence.”

Dancers are selected via audition; not all of them have dance backgrounds. “Some go to the National School of the Arts,” says Hawkins, “but they are in the minority.”

Dancers of the calibre of Moya Michael, Ann Wixley, Leigh-Ann Cohen, Melody Putu and Iain MacDonald, today, big names in local and international ballet and contemporary dance, grew out of JYB.



Brutal sibling confrontation: Oshoosi Size (Roderick Covington) and his older brother, Ogun (Joshua Reese). (PHOTOGRAPH: RUPHIN COUDYZER)

Riveting vortex of sibling love, loss and letting go

Show: *The Brothers Size*, Barney Simon Theatre, Market Theatre complex, Newtown (011) 832-1641
Until: July 1

REVIEWED BY ROBYN SASSEN

There’s nothing quite like a totally brilliant piece of theatre to chase away winter blues. You may not be familiar with *The Brothers Size*, penned as it is by young American playwright Tarell Alvin McCraney, and given that its season in Johannesburg is so brief, but it will sweep you into a vortex of sibling love, loss and letting go in its 90 minute duration, like few other plays can.

A complex and supremely polished piece of theatre, it exploits American prison slang in a way that might at first make you feel as though

you’ve walked into Anthony Burgess’ *A Clockwork Orange*, but as the work unfolds and you become attuned to the three characters, the language becomes almost Shakespearean in its beauty, crafted as it is from these rough tools.

The resonance between western Africa, slave narrative and contemporary American black culture, utterly sings. The names of the characters are Ogun, Elegba and Oshoosi. These are also names of deities in Nigeria’s Yoruba culture, giving the play a dimension which makes it soar to great heights and depths.

The *Brothers Size* is about two brothers. Ogun (Joshua Reese) is the elder, more stable one; his younger brother Oshoosi (Roderick Covington) has a chequered past. They were orphaned as youngsters; their path

has been rough; prison being an intimate part of it, accompanied by drugs and misdemeanour.

But this is not a play about prison or social woes; it’s about the unrelenting toughness of loving someone who has digressed; it’s about how choir boys can turn into sirens, and it’s about a magic circle cast in sand that will hold you mesmerised and move you through the whole range of emotions you’re capable of.

You may look a mess when you leave the theatre, but your sense of privilege for having been in the presence of these three magnificent performers – the third is Oshoosi’s prison buddy who is a catalyst for the play’s devastating denouement, played by Sam Encarnación – will shift your sense of what is important in this world.

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Arts in Brief

BREINDY AND MATT MAKE A FORMIDABLE TEAM

Breindy and Matt are fast becoming a musical sensation with their hybrid of ancient tradition-cum-contemporary Jewish music. Their debut album, *Hallelukah* is breaking ground, inviting women to journey into the fresh Afro-mystic style of signature soulful and stirring melodies. Breindy is currently on a shul tour, performing live shows which offer something new and inspiring for the women of the SA Jewish community. Her show is known for its deeply spiritual and intimate ambience. Spanning from the urban streets of Braamfontein to the northern suburbs, her shows are providing Jewish entertainment and uplifting songs to all lovers of music. - Shira Druion

LEWIN AND HEYNS WINNERS OF SUNDAY TIMES LITERARY AWARDS

Winners of the 2012 Sunday Times Literary Awards were announced last Thursday: Struggle veteran Hugh Lewin and former Stellenbosch professor Michiel Heyns are the winners, in the categories of non-fiction and fiction. Lewin won for *Stones Against The Mirror* (Umuzi), which tells of Lewin’s journey to meet former colleague and friend, Adrian Leftwich, who had betrayed him to the security police in 1964, resulting in a lengthy jail sentence for sabotage. Lewin won the 2003 Olive Schreiner Prize for his book *Bandiet Out Of Jail*. A former journalist, he went into exile after completing his jail sentence, returning to SA in 1992.

A column of the SA Jewish Board of Deputies

Proudly Jewish South African

Two spectacularly successful events last week showcased the extraordinary vibrancy of the South African Jewish community, along with the equally remarkable depths of talent within its diverse ranks.

The first was the Sinai Indaba, which if anything, surpassed the phenomenal success of last year's inaugural event. The second was the Jewish Achievers Awards function in Johannesburg, which proved to be one of the most memorable and inspiring such occasion since that initiative was launched some 14 years ago.

All four Sinai Indaba programmes, in Johannesburg, Cape Town, Durban and Port Elizabeth, elicited an enthusiastic response, both in terms of high attendance and positive feedback for what was on offer.

The high proportion of those happy to devote their weekend to learning about what Judaism has to teach, belied the relatively small size of our community. For its part, the Jewish Achievers Awards demonstrated how much South African Jewry is contributing to the greater society.

Whether as entrepreneurs, human rights activists or in the social welfare and cultural realms, we continue to produce leaders and innovators of striking talent, vision and initiative. Those honoured this year, moreover, are all identifying, active members of the Jewish community and in some cases are or have been office bearers within our communal structures.

Currently, there has been much debate in the Cape Town press over an article by a Jewish community member publicly and emotively renouncing her Jewish heritage in protest against certain actions by Israel.



Above Board
Mary Kluk
National Chairman

Fortunately, such extreme overreactions by Jewish individuals are rare, and probably say more about the people concerned than what is ostensibly at issue. Despite the fact that there is today such a hostile climate being fostered, not just against Israel but increasingly against its supporters, Jews in South Africa are becoming more, not less connected to their Jewish heritage.

It is a striking testimony to the depth of residual Jewish loyalty, pride and resilience for which our community has traditionally been known.

Public holidays in South Africa

Last month, the Cultural, Religious and Linguistic Commission held a consultation with representatives of a wide array of faith communities regarding religious public holidays in South Africa and what the official policy should be in that regard.

The Jewish faith community was represented by our national director, Wendy Kahn, who has since been widely quoted in the many local and international media reports on the whole question.

As articulated by Wendy, we do not expect any of our holy days to be accorded national recognition. What we do ask is that our religious rights and freedoms concerning the celebration of these days be recognised and protected, particularly in such areas as the workplace and in the field of tertiary education.

We are fortunate in South Africa that these freedoms are indeed respected, and the SAJBD will continue to represent its constituents in ensuring that this remains the case.

New slot for "Jewish Board Talk" on 101.9 ChaiFM with Steven Gruzd - Fridays from 12:00 -13:00! Repeated Sundays 11:00 - 12:00. On Friday July 6 at 12:00, Steve chats to SA-born New York Times journalist Roger Cohen about reporting on the "Arab Spring", Raphaella Segal, deputy mayor of the Kedumim community in the West Bank, and Yaron Shaviv, head of the Israeli Movement for Progressive Judaism. Also streaming on www.chaifm.com



Community Briefs

ORT SA RAISES FUNDS IN A NOVEL WAY

On July 31, ORT SA hosts its gala dinner fundraiser, featuring performances by the Muses and their Electric String Quartet and mentalist Gilan Gork. Keynote speaker is Reserve Bank Governor Gill Marcus.

A part of a special ORT JET project, curator Natalie Knight hosts an exhibition of art by Jewish artists

in a silent auction. She says: "There is a wealth of talent in local Jewish artists. ORT-ART provides an opportunity to support them."

Tickets start at R1 800 per couple. Call Nicci to book on (011) 728-7154. All proceeds go towards ORT SA's educational and skills programmes, including ORT JET.

The CSO (Gauteng) invites candidates to apply for position/s as Area Security Supervisors:

Any candidate must be Jewish and motivated to be involved in community life.

REQUIREMENTS:

- 27 years and older
- Practical experience and skills in the security industry
- Security technology qualifications an added advantage
- Prior CSO training an added advantage
- Strong work ethic and an ability to meet deadlines
- Be able to physically accomplish tasks set
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Fully computer literate
- Leadership qualities

Each candidate will undergo a screening and interview process

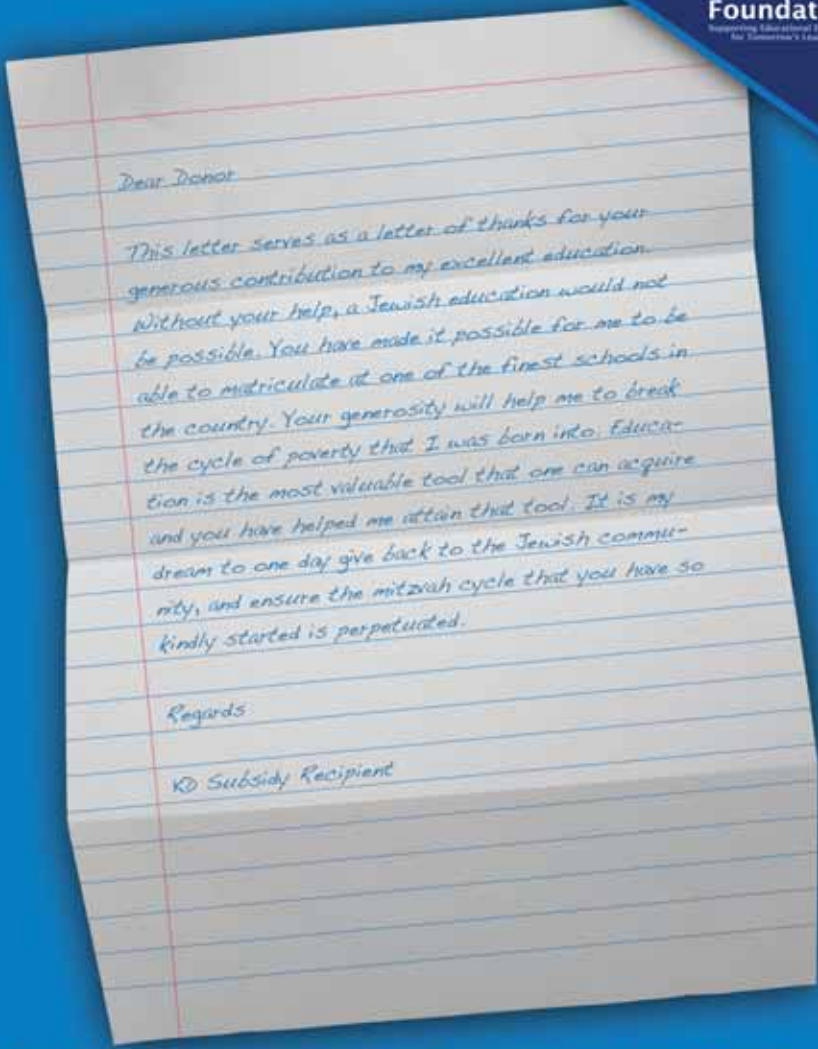
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*This letter is an excerpt from actual letters written by subsidy recipients, names have been left out to protect the identities of our students.

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Jewish Travel

Visiting places of Jewish interest

Portugal's ill-treatment of Jews still casts a dark shadow

You might think Portugal and picture glazed tiles on architecture, called azulejos, or of the Algarve's stunning beaches... you may think of girls with bigger moustaches than their brothers, courtesy local actress Sonia Esgueira who confronts her Portuguese identity in her Porra plays. SA Jewry has a place in Esgueira's work: we too live in a diaspora. But, Jewry in the land of azulejos is tainted by secrecy.



Rossio Square in Lisbon, mooted the City of Tolerance in 2000. This square in 1506 was the site of the burning at the stake of thousands of Jews.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY WWW.JETSETCASTLE.COM



The magnificent beach at Algarve, Portugal.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY WWW.HOLYDIEEXPLORER.COM

ROBYN SASSEN

Jews lived in Portugal, nurtured Sephardic culture and spoke Ladino for 2 000 years. The Golden Age of Jewish culture in the Iberian Peninsula in the 7th century was marred by Jews having to pay a special tax to the ruling Muslims. A century later, Jews

who knew Aramaic were exploited by Christians as Muslim spies.

Jews were Portugal's intellectual and economic elite. Openly anti-Jewish sentiment developed after the influx of Jews from Spain, in 1391 and again in 1492, in the Spanish Inquisition.

In fleeing from Spain to Portugal,

Jews were duped. King Joao allowed Jews to enter because he was preparing for war against the Moors and wanted Jewish wealth.

By the 15th century, Portugal's Jewry was flourishing with 150 distinct communities, before King Manuel decreed Jews must convert to Christianity or leave, in 1497. Less than 50 years later, the Portuguese Inquisition began.

Like the Spanish Inquisition, it focused on rooting out Christian converts not obeying Catholic tenets. Over 2 000 Jews were burned at the stake. It lasted until the 19th century, but the shadow it cast still exists today.

While thousands fled, many, including the family of philosopher Baruch Spinoza, stayed, taking their Judaism underground after nominally converting to Christianity.

Known as the New Christians, they were also called Crypto-Jews or Marranos. The Judaism they practised in hiding was toned down from conventional practice, and passed down as such through generations. Marranos must convert formally, to re-emerge into the community.

Jumping ahead to the Second World War, Portugal had to make key decisions. As a natural source of tungsten, which Germany needed for shells, Portugal was under Nazi

pressure. Portugal's Prime Minister, António Salazar who up until then had maintained neutrality, curtailed Germany's tungsten supplies. In retaliation, Germany sunk two Portuguese merchant ships in 1941.

England invoked a long-standing treaty with Portugal which Portugal honoured by granting the Allies a military base, in return for Allied help in the event of a German attack.

Under Nazi threat, Salazar prevented consuls from issuing Portuguese visas to "Jews expelled from their countries of origin". Even so, efforts to provide Jews entry into Portugal continued. Some 30 000 wartime visas were issued through Portuguese Consul-General Aristides de Sousa Mendes, later honoured by Israel as Righteous Among the Nations.

The current size of Portuguese Jewry is not clear. Sources cite between 300 and 1 000 Jews acknowledging themselves as such. The community has in recent years experienced significant firsts: In 1987 President Mário Soares, formally asked the Jews forgiveness for the Inquisition; in 2010, Rabbi Eli Rosenfeld became Chabad's first fulltime missionary in Portugal's history.

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TIPS FOR WHEN YOU VISIT PORTUGAL

- If you're holidaying in Portugal and hold an SA passport, you need a Portuguese Schengen visa, which will cost €50 (about R500). The Portugal Embassy is in Pretoria (012) 341-2340; consulates are in Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Durban, Welkom and Johannesburg. See <http://portugal.visahq.com/embassy/South-Africa/>
- If you are planning to travel to the Azores or Madeira region of Portugal, you should be inoculated for yellow fever.
- The Portuguese climate is Mediterranean in nature, with a warm temperate summer and a wet winter. The best times of the year to visit are in spring (April-May) and autumn (September-October).
- The official spoken language in Portugal is Portuguese, but there are 10 distinct dialects, depending on the area. English is spoken by an estimated 32 per cent of the populace.
- The euro is the currency of Portugal. At the time of going to press €1 will cost you R10,44.
- Traffic in Portugal is on the right hand side.
- Electricity in Portugal is at 230v, at a frequency of 50 Hz; there are two standard electrical plug types in Portugal, the europlug, which is a flat plug with two round pins; and the "Schuko" plug, which has two round pins and two grounding clips on the side of the plug.
- You can drink tap water in Portugal with no threat of immediate health risks.
- Portugal is one hour behind Johannesburg.



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Protecting you

You may have come across a wonderful book, *Founders and Followers*, published in 1991 by Mendel Kaplan (obm), which chronicles the birth of the SA Jewish community from 1887 - 1915 and serves as a very valuable resource.

Naturally the Chev features prominently in it and is consistently portrayed in a strong leadership role as a paternal, protective and guiding influence for the fledgling community.

Among quotes too numerous to replicate, are these: “..... the Chevrah Kadisha was the one great unifying factor”, and “Its sound principles and methods of conducting welfare work became a model for all Jewish charitable organisations founded in Johannesburg after 1888”.

Reference is also made to the fact that “...the Chevrah Kadisha’s boardroom was neutral territory and it was instrumental in bringing together in amity all the different congregations and benevolent associations”.

As with many of the objectives of the Chev’s founding pioneers, this role of protective leadership remains a solemn responsibility 124 years later.

That’s why we hosted a meeting last week - the second of its kind in the past year - to establish a coalition of charity organisations (gemachs) to safeguard the community against unscrupulous con artists who prey on the good nature of



ChevrahKadisha
AT THE HEART OF COMMUNITY WELFARE

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Michael Sieff
Group CEO

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Some of these perpetrators are not Jewish, though they parade as such. Others may suffer from addictions and for them cash is toxic, merely enabling their illnesses and providing no rehabilitative advantage.

The coalition, named the Red Alert Group, will enable the sharing of information, the elimination of duplication and the protection of the community. Details will be made available to you in case you wish to join the Group as an organisation or establish the credibility of someone you support as an individual. Please watch out for publicity bearing the logos of those who have come on board to help us protect you.

Dispensing your hard-earned charity is a duty to be carried out with great diligence. If you’re not sure how to guarantee that your donations reach those who are legitimately in need, rather give your tzedakah to those best equipped to dispense it responsibly for you.

We assure you that the Chev will continue to step in to assist in every authentic case of need and to work toward providing solutions to community problems in a protective leadership manner, as it always has done.

May our partnership continue to thrive!

Please feel free to communicate with me on feedback@thechev.org.za

Celebrating our 1st Anniversary under new management

Willowbrook Retirement Village Sandown

Flower Foundation Retirement Homes is proud to have taken over the management of Willowbrook Retirement Village in July 2011. This prestigious and upmarket home has joined our family and is unlike any of our other homes or villages. Offering unique services and accommodation choices, it will satisfy the requirements of many elderly in the Sandton and surrounding areas. Willowbrook now offers Residential living from only R13 350pm for full board and lodging. Residents are accommodated in sunny rooms with en-suite facilities. All meals and laundry are catered for, monthly functions, daily activities and entertainment is arranged. Manager and Matron are on-site and there is 24 hour security. Needing a little more assistance, like help with bathing / dressing and administration of medicines? No problem, for a little extra each month, this assistance is brought to you, in the comfort of your room. Willowbrook also offers Assisted Living from R15 500pm, and Full care from R17 950pm in large sunny en-suite rooms.

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LOOK WHO’S COMING TO LIMMUD JHB 2012

LIMMUD JHB
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Shmuley Boteach | Rabbi | Pioneer | Celebrity

Described by the Jerusalem Post as one of the 50 most influential Jews in the world, and by Newsweek as 'the most famous rabbi in America'. Shmuley Boteach is the author of the bestselling *Kosher Sex* and *Kosher Jesus*.

Vanessa Hidary | Actress | Writer | Solo Performer

The Hebrew Mamita can be found at high schools, universities, poetry lounges and cultural centres from the Bronx to Tel Aviv, performing and speaking about Jewish identity, tackling stereotypes and dissecting the complicated question of 'What does Jewish look like to you?'

David Hazony | Philosopher | Writer | Thought-Leader

An American-born writer based in Jerusalem, David Hazony, has a PhD in Jewish Philosophy from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. His first book, *The Ten Commandments: How Our Most Ancient Moral Text Can Renew Modern Life*, was a finalist for the 2010 National Jewish Book Award.

Gershon Baskin | Negotiator | Think-Tank Founder | Middle East Analyst

Key negotiator for the Gilad Shalit deal. Baskin has published books and hundreds of articles in the Hebrew, English and Arabic press about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

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Madiba’s legacy a light for our path forward

RADLEY MAX AND ILAN MALKIN
PHOTOGRAPH: MANDY GRUZD

The grade 9s of King David High School Victory Park visited the Apartheid Museum at Gold Reef City recently.

We were subjected to feelings of inequality and racism by being forced into different racial categories at the entrances of the Museum, in order to experience the feeling of people living under apartheid.

We followed the path of history and learnt about the creation of Johannesburg, beginning with the

discovery of gold and diamonds. We were also privileged to visit the temporary Nelson Mandela exhibition at the Museum.

This exhibition featured his car, François Pienaar’s rugby jersey that Mandela wore at the 1995 Rugby World Cup (which SA won) and even an old pair of his boxing gloves. We learnt so much about the inspirational leader, his history and the history of our country.

The introduction to early South Africa was next on the agenda, and we watched a video about pre-apartheid South Africa and the causes of

racial tension.

After this enlightening film, we were educated about the horrors of apartheid and the stringent laws and punishments, as well as the instigators and creators of these laws.

We then came to the most brutal aspects of apartheid, learning about the various uprisings, protests and political hangings. The story told at the Apartheid Museum ended with the 1994 election and the move towards the new South Africa. It was a very valuable and enlightening experience for all.

KDL supports Afrika Tikkun’s book drive

TYLER FOCHE, CASSIE FORMAN, DAN EDGES
PHOTOGRAPH SUPPLIED

It was Dr Seuss who said: “The more that you read the more things you will know; the more that you learn the more places you’ll go...”

King David High School Linksfield maximised the opportunity to help create a library for Afrika Tikkun, providing underprivileged children with a chance to gain both entertainment and education from books.

The Afrika Tikkun book drive is a national drive to collect and encourage reading and learning among the many young learners.

This drive is held by KDLHS in order to help the education of the underprivileged youth as well as giving our learners a chance to give back to the community.

This drive has opened our eyes, and as scholars we know how a book can make such a difference. It impacts



Bok Week at King David Linksfield High School: Dan Egdes; Abigail Joffe; Tyler Fouche; Cassie Forman; Amanda Blankfield; Lynne Katzenellenbogen; and Ruth Johnson.

on so many of our daily lives.

The Mini Ambassadors of Afrika Tikkun at the school - Tyler Fouche, Cassie Forman and Dan Egdes - motivated the high school to donate books of any nature to the book drive.

Over 500 secondhand books were

collected over a period of three weeks and were handed over to the delighted Afrika Tikkun to stock their libraries at their different recreation centres.

This is a gratifying achievement, and as a school we are proud to say that we make a difference.

Having a ball with blobs of paint

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPH BY RABBI MOTTI HADAR
PRINCIPAL, TA BOYS’ HIGH SCHOOL

As a reward for their performance in mes-

tiva, grade 7 to 10 learners from Torah Academy Boys’ High School were taken paintball shooting by their teachers, Rabbi Azriel Usvolk (back row) and Rabbi Reuven Finkelstein (front), who are pictured with the boys.



Banango Traders - learning in a fun way

JAMIEE TAITZ
GRADE 12, KDLHS

On Monday June 11, the matric accounting learners of King David High School Linksfield, were privileged to experience and host an eye-opening, educational day.

“Banango Traders” is a concept that uses the knowledge of the learners and challenges them by putting them in a real life scenario with the responsibilities of pressures within a business.

We had to market, price and sell an imaginary fruit called a “Banango”. The learners were divided into groups and had to work in synergy to make decisions that would entice customers.

Each business had to

make these decisions according to what they expected their competitors to do. The game was exciting and beneficial for the learners. The day wasn’t just fun and games; we also had to apply what we have learned over the matric year, including ratios, companies, expenses and profits.

With enthusiasm and commitment, the learners excelled in this project.



The ins and outs of shopping explained

OWN CORRESPONDENT
PHOTOGRAPH BY SUZANNE BELLING

A practical lesson in how to shop was recently given by Rachel Pels to her class from Torah Academy Nursery School.

They were taken to a kosher outlet in Glenhazel, where they wheeled their trolleys down the aisles and made “purchases” of their choice.

Pictured are Gavi Admon and Jesse de Villiers, who chose educational games and books.



Sydenham PPS tots learn about Kilimanjaro

LESLEY BLOCH
PHOTOGRAPH: SUE BENJAMIN

The grade R children of Sydenham Pre-Primary School, were fascinated to learn about the geography and strategies required to summit a mountain! Tali Frankel, who is preparing to summit Kilimanjaro with a team of women, had the tots enthralled.



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What's On

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

Today, Friday (June 29)

• UZLC hosts Chantal Rutter Dros, from Carte Blanche, who will talk on “Lessons Learnt From Unlikely Sources”. Venue: Our Parents Home. Time: 12:45 – 14:00. Contact: Gloria at 072-127-9421 or (011) 485-4851.

Sunday (July 1)

• RCHCC shows an Israeli film, “Out of the Blue”. Hebrew with English subtitles. Venue: Clive M Beck Auditorium. Time 19:30. Donation: R60 (incl refreshments). Booking: Hazel or René (011) 728-8088/8378. After hours (011) 728-8378. E-mail: rchcc@telkomsa.net or rene.s@telkomsa.net

Monday (July 2)

• UJW adult education division hosts Daphne Kuhn of Theatre on the Square, on “The Jewish Contribution to South African Theatre”. Venue: 1 Oak Street, Houghton. Time 09:30. Tel: (011) 648-1053. Donation: R25.

Wednesday (July 4)

• UJW CT adult education division hosts Patrick Vee’s “A Photographic History of Cape Town”. Venue: Stonehaven. Time: 10:00 for 10:30. Entrance: R20 (incl refreshments). Enquiries: (021) 434-9555 (mornings only).

Wednesday (July 11)

• UJW CT adult education division hosts Gina Flash who will relate her adventures in “Burma Revealed”. Venue: Stonehaven. Time: 10:00 for 10:30. Entrance: R20 (incl refreshments). Enquiries: (021) 434-9555 (mornings only).

Sunday (July 15)

• Second Innings is hosting Gerard and Bets Grobler, Gauteng representatives for the SA Association for Retired Persons (SAARP), talking on the Association. Time: 10:00 for 10:30. Venue: The Gerald Horwitz Lounge, Golden Acres. Contact Grecia Gabriel (011) 532-9718. Cost: R20 members, R40 non-members.

Wednesday (July 18)

• UJW CT adult education division hosts Sheryl Ozinsky who will talk on “A Topic of Interest”. Venue: Stonehaven. Time: 10:00 for 10:30. Entrance:R20 (incl refreshments). Enquiries: (021) 434-9555 (mornings only).

Sunday (July 22)

• Second Innings is hosting Professor-Emerita Rosalie Finlayson on “Intercultural Understanding”. Time: 10:00 for 10:30. Venue: The Gerald Horwitz Lounge, Golden Acres. Contact Grecia Gabriel (011) 532-9718. Cost: R20 members, R40 non-members.

Monday (July 23)

• Chevrah Kadisha Community Services is offering an 8-week “Divorce Support Group” for people who have been through, or are going through a divorce. It starts today. Reconnect. Rebuild. Renew. Gain support and need to know practical and legal information. Bookings or more information, call Sheila on (011) 532-9653.

Wednesday (July 25)

• Chevrah Kadisha Community Services is offering an 8-week “Parenting Skills Group” for parents of teenagers. Gain practical parenting skills, understand your teen’s world, learn to connect to and assist your teen on their journey into adulthood. Starts today. Bookings or more information call Lara on (011) 532-9793.

Tuesday (July 31)

• Morris Rutstein - SAZF Hebrew Ulpan Course starts today and terminates on Tuesday, November 27. Times: Every Tuesday night from 19:00 - 21:15. Venue: Yeshiva College (in the classrooms). Registration will take place on Monday July 30, at 18:30. Secure parking. Enquiries: SAZF, tel (011) 645-2531 (office hours)

Sunday (August 5)

• WoW Annual National Women’s Day Brunch will explore “Brain and Nutrition” by educationist Gavin Keller, psychologist Dr Sandy Gluckman and applied nutritional scientist Mary-Anne Lindenberg. Venue: Sandton Sun Hotel. Time: 09:30 for 10:00. Cost: R500. Bookings close end of June. Call Mandy 083-380-5268 or womenoftheworld.org.za

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

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

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

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

Noam earns Israel’s No 1 tennis ranking in his age group

JACK MILNER

Sport has always been high up on the list of many South Africans and those who go on aliyah find that love emigrates with them.

Vivienne Kalifi (nee Reich) went on aliyah and her 12-year-old son, Noam, won the under-13 Israeli Tennis Championship.

As a result, young Noam, who is now the No 1 ranked player in his age group in the country, has been selected to play in two European tournaments, firstly in Italy and then France. The Italian event takes place from July 16 to 23 and the French event from July 24 to 29. However, they plan to get to Italy early, so the youngsters can practise on a clay court.

Noam has been playing tennis for six years and started training at the tennis centre in Maccabim with Avichai Tzaela, the same tennis centre that set Shahar Pe’er, Israel’s top women’s player, on her road to international success.

It all started out with a telephone call that Vivienne made to her parents, Juliette and Leon Reich in Johannesburg, to tell them that Noam was asking to play tennis. His mother was not keen, because his programme was already full with other sporting activities - even at the age of six.

Barry Spitz, a friend of the Reichs in Johannesburg, overheard the conversation, and immediately intervened, and told Vivienne to let him play tennis.

Since then, they have not looked back. Avichai and the other tennis coaches in Maccabim immediately recognised Noam’s potential, and have been working with him all along to develop his technique, improve his level of fitness and strengthen him all-round in order to give him the best chance possible of success.

Noam started out the year ranked 18 in the country, and then surprised even himself



Noam Kalifi, 12, with his trophy, and coach Avichai Tzaela (left) and one of the other club coached after Noam won the Israeli Masters tennis tournament.

in the first tournament of the year, at Purim, by reaching the No 2 ranking. He continued to work on his technique and make progress with Avichai, who worked tirelessly at improving his forehand and serve. At the same time, he recognised Noam’s determination and mental strength.

All the hard work paid off in the next tournament - the prestigious Masters at the Country Club in Ramat Hasharon. This is an invitation-only event for Israel’s top eight players in each age category. Here, with around 500 spectators looking on and in the presence of Israel’s Channel 5 sports cameras, Noam overcame one opponent after the next, to win the tournament and earn the No 1 spot in the country.

Among his prizes is a week’s all-expenses-paid training camp at the renowned Sergi Bruguera Tennis Academy, Barcelona, Spain. Bruguera won the French Open in 1993 and 1994. However, Noam, now has a problem in that he will not be able to go to Barcelona to take up his prize in the allotted time, so he is hoping they will allocate him another time slot.

His two role models are Israeli players Dudi Sela and Shahar Pe’er.

Australian lawmakers vote for Olympic moment of silence

SYDNEY - Australian lawmakers unanimously backed a motion supporting a moment of silence at the London Olympics in memory of the 11 Israelis murdered in Munich 40 years ago.

About 100 lawmakers - including Prime Minister Julia Gillard and opposition leader Tony Abbott - voted in Canberra on Tuesday for the motion by standing in silence as a mark of respect to the memory of the victims of the Munich massacre.

Proposed by Liberal lawmaker Paul Fletcher, the motion, which said the impact of the massacre by Black September terrorists in 1972 “has been seared on world consciousness”, urged the International Olympic Committee to commemorate the anniversary during next month’s Olympics.

Joshua Frydenberg, the only Jewish federal lawmaker in the opposition Liberal Party, seconded the motion. “Only by remembering this tragedy can we impart the message that it must never happen again,” he said.

The motion was also supported by Michael Danby, a Jewish lawmaker for the

governing Labour Party, who blasted the intransigence of the IOC, which claimed a minute’s silence would politicise the Games.

“Perhaps their reluctance to acknowledge the 40th anniversary of the massacre is not simply a desire to kowtow to the Organisation of the Islamic States,” he added. “Perhaps they don’t want people to remember their incompetence.”

Last month IOC President Jacques Rogge rejected an official request from Israel to allow a moment of silence for the Munich 11 at the July 27 opening ceremony of the London Games. Fletcher said he would be writing to Rogge, advising him of the unanimous resolution.

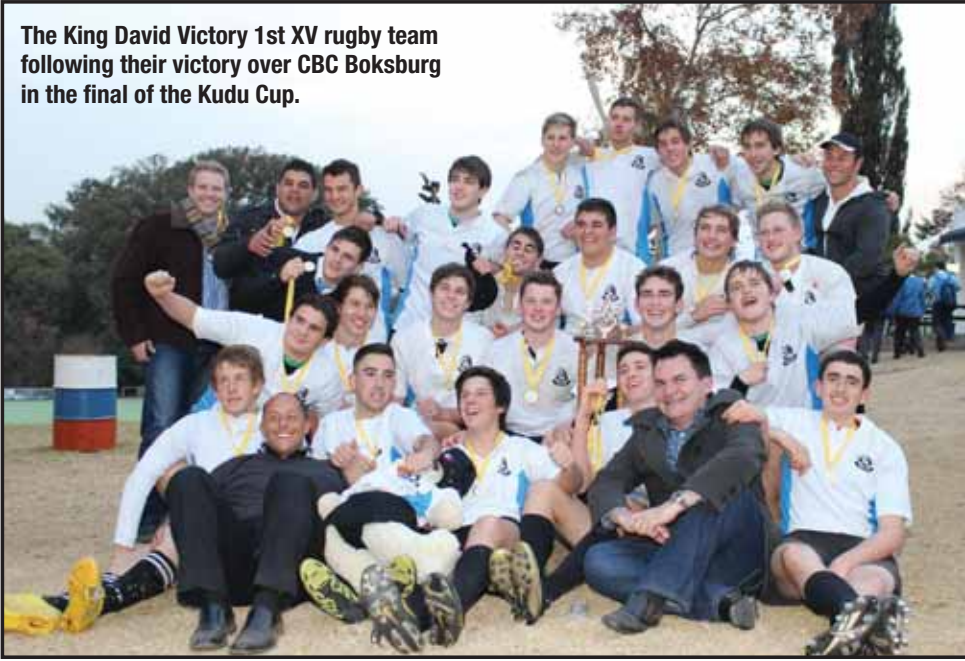
The Australian resolution, which is non-binding, comes less than two weeks after Canada’s parliament also passed a unanimous resolution supporting the memorial. Earlier this month the US House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee unanimously approved a non-binding resolution to honour the memory of the Munich victims, and last week the London Assembly joined the growing chorus of organisations urging the IOC to back down. (JTA)

Maccabi SA seek Maccabiah swimmers

With the Maccabi Games just one year away, Maccabi South Africa is looking to find a swimming team to take to Israel.

Maccabi SA is looking at all age groups which include Juniors, Open and Masters. Those interested in participating in the Games, should e-mail their details to swimming@maccabi.co.za

Victory Park buck up to win Kudu Rugby Cup



JACK MILNER

King David Victory Park High School won the Kudu Cup rugby competition last Wednesday when they defeated CBC Boksburg 23-11 in the final. Prior to that 1st XV beat Willowridge to set up a final with the only team they had not previously beaten.

“This has again been an outstanding year for rugby at King David High School Victory Park,” said Director of Sport Darren Jordaan. “Our record of success as a relatively small school, competing against schools with well over 800 learners, shows that our system of development and coach-

ing is definitely showing benefits.

“Our 1st XV has played 18 games, of which we lost only two. In addition, four players have achieved provincial selection.”

The Kudu Cup started in March this year and the team did not lose a match in the round robin phase, although they did draw with CBC Boksburg.

“In the Cup final on Wednesday the boys played like professionals, showing a good understanding of the game and of what they should be doing at all times on the field. It was an intense and hard-fought game and was a fitting end to an outstanding season,” said Jordaan.

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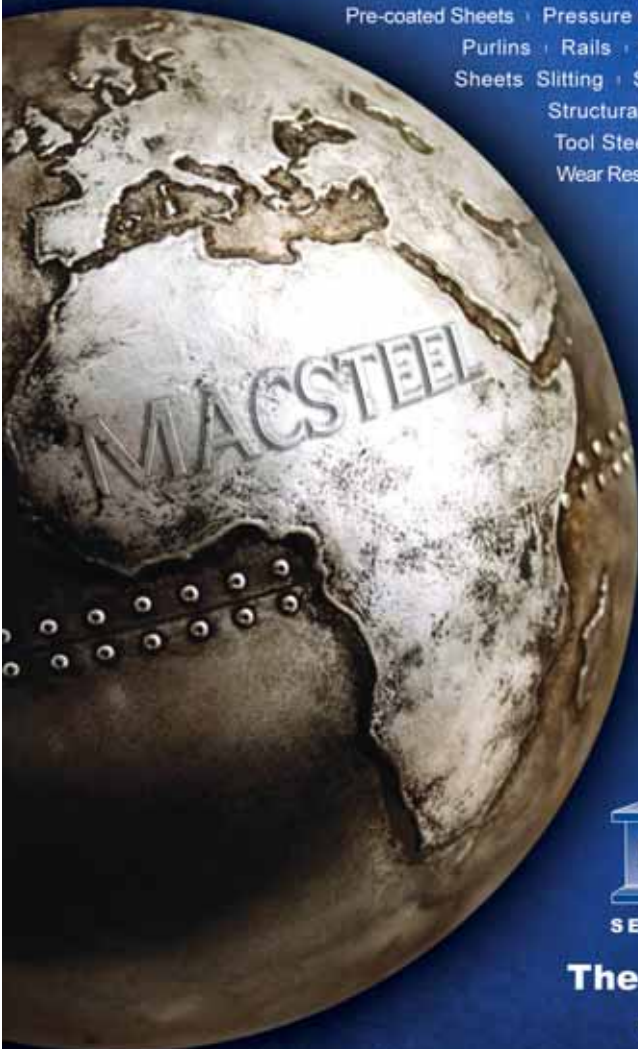
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