



For the year ahead, fasten your seatbelts! South Africans should be worrying about the economy. (page 4)

South African Jewish Report

www.sajr.co.za



The energy was palpable at a march in Cape Town last week to protest against BDS-SA for inviting terrorist Leila Khaled to do a fundraising tour for them in South Africa. Mary Kluk, chairman of the South Jewish Board of Deputies, who organised the protest, said in her address that BDS was importing its own narrow and distorted agenda of demonising Israel and that its actions were leading to a conflation of anti-Zionism with anti-Semitism. The protesters chanted: “No to Terrorism” and expressed their pride in being “proudly South African, and proudly Jewish”. Demonstrators pictured include (front row) Li Boiskin, past chairman of the Cape SAJBD; Gwynne Robins, senior researcher at the Cape SAJBD; Wendy Kahn, national director of the SAJBD; and Mary Kluk, national chairman of the SAJBD. See page 4.

DUT SRC has to backtrack on anti-Semitic demand

DUT student leaders had to apologise for a demand that Jewish students should leave.

3

Khaled's visit leaves bitter taste

Terrorist Leila Khaled comes up with bizarre conspiracy theory regarding Israel.

4

Denmark synagogue attack seen as 'wake-up call'

Police officers with machine-guns are an uncommon sight in Denmark.



6

Maligned Israel comes up smelling roses

South Africa has a lamentable record for opposing global tyranny.

9

Irwin Cotler: Keynote speaker at SAZF Conference

Champion of human rights in Canada and across the globe, Prof Cotler is no stranger to SA.

11



YOUR KEY TO SUCCESS IN

Linksfield, Senderwood, St. Andrews, Bedford Park and Surrounds



R6 500 000



R4 600 000



R4 500 000

For exceptional marketing, unparalleled service and positive results call Hilton and Lourayne **FIRZT!**
Hilton Steinfeld 082 455 8630 | hilton@firzt.co.za - Lourayne Hersch 082 780 0253 | lourayne@firzt.co.za

FIRZT
REALTY COMPANY

011 731 0300
www.firzt.co.za

Mikvah Maayan Ganim launches ‘A Guide to Teaching Mikvah’

OWN CORRESPONDENT

Two years ago, Great Park Mikvah Maayan Ganim which was built in memory of Rabbi Gavriel and Rivka Holtzberg who were killed in Mumbai in a terrorist attack, opened its doors at the Great Park Synagogue in Johannesburg.

Some expressed concern that a maximum of two to three women might use the mikvah and that the cost would not be justified. At present over 100 women are, in fact, using the facility, Great Park said in a media release.

“Great Park Synagogue community has seen first-hand how the mitzvah of mikvah and family purity has been a catalyst for growth and spiritual development for many individuals and families.”

The shul says that after the initial opening of the mikvah, creative ways had to be found to continue to engage the community in learning about this mitzvah. A website - www.greatmikvah.com - was set up and a newsletter was launched to share inspirational thoughts.

“The annual women’s spa-day features prominent speakers, including women in the community who have recently embraced mikvah and many other mitzvot.

“Many women who previously did not know about mikvah or did not know how it could become a part of their lives, appreciated a short session or two, outlining the basic process required to visit the mikvah. A short PowerPoint presentation was created for this purpose.”

Women also asked to learn one-on-one. The visual presenta-



Sheina Hazdan (centre with the laptop) with delegates at the book launch at the International Women’s Conference Resource Fair, Lubavitch Headquarters, New York.

tion has been a useful tool guiding the discussion about mikvah.

Thus was born “A Guide to Teaching Mikvah: a Visual Presentation & Teachers Manual” authored by Goldie Simpson and published by Mikvah Maayan Ganim, Great Park. The launch took place last Sunday at the International Conference of Women Leaders and Teachers at Lubavitch Headquarters in New York.

“This publication is endorsed by Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein, Rabbi Jonathan Sacks and rabbis and rebbetzins worldwide,” the release said.

• For more information, e-mail greatmikvah@gmail.com

More news on our website www.sajr.co.za

My identity crisis



Parshat Terumah

Rabbi Pini Hecht
Assistant Rabbi
Marais Road Shul
Sea Point

Who is the real me? The one who sets my bedside alarm for an early morning rise determined to fill my day with meaning? Or the one who hits the snooze button to relish a few more minutes under the covers?

Is the real me the one who is sensitive to the needs of others, committed to sharing and uplifting? Or is the real me the one who turns a blind eye to the collector supporting a worthy cause?

Am I the one whose sole aim in life is to ensure that I’ve put enough away for a luxurious retirement? Or the one who is driven to invest in things of the spirit that money cannot buy?

The dichotomies of life are such that we often find that the directions we are pulled in are dia-

metrically opposed. At one moment I’m soaring with inspiration, reaching for all that is holy and true and the next moment I’m consumed with the desire for some immediate gratification. The results are confusing and frustrating and at times we become anxious and depressed. If I am - as we all tend to think - a good person, why am I drawn to such selfishness? And how do I reconcile the tension in order to remain upbeat and joyful?

Parshat Teruma relates the instruction from Hashem to build the Mishkan - a home for the Divine that would be placed at the centre of the Jewish encampment in the desert. Now beyond the physical structure, the Mishkan and its holy vessels, serve as a paradigm for individuals to reach our own idyllic state and produce a place for Hashem to rest within.

The holiest of all the vessels in the Mishkan was the Ark in which the Luchot, the tablets of the covenant, were housed. The details of its construction are outlined in the Torah. We learn that it consisted of three boxes: an inner golden

box, a middle wooden box and an outer golden box. In effect, the bulk of its construction was wooden but on the inside and from without it was gold.

While gold and wood may complement each other, these two materials differ quite drastically. Gold is beautiful and shines; it is also one of the most resistant metals. It won’t tarnish, discolour or crumble. Wood on the other hand, although it too can be made beautiful, is prone to rot and decay.

The mystical teachings of Torah see in this construction a parallel to three layers of the human being. At the core each of us has a pure golden neshama, a soul that shines and never decays, one that remains singularly dedicated and connected to its Divine source.

On a conscious level though, we all experience vacillation, swinging to the possibility of wooden crumble and decay; at times we are distracted by selfish thoughts, tempted by inappropriate desires and negative emotions. And then there is our outer layer, our con-

scious expression in thought and speech and our behaviour and actions.

The message we are to learn from studying this holy vessel is that, despite what we may be drawn to or tempted by, we ought to remember that at our core we are pure and golden. When I remember to identify the real me with that core, then I am strengthened and motivated to ensure my outside matches my inside, that my every conscious thought speech and deed is golden and shines.

Shabbat Times		
February 20 / 1 Adar		
February 21 / 2 Adar		
Parshat Terumah		
18:15	19:18	Johannesburg
18:15	20:07	Cape Town
18:15	19:11	Durban
18:15	19:29	Bloemfontein
18:15	19:38	Port Elizabeth
18:15	19:28	East London

South African Jewish Report

General Manager Karen Knowles - 082 855 2131 - karen@sajewishreport.co.za • Editor Vanessa Valkin - vanessa@sajewishreport.co.za • Sub-editor Paul Maree • Ed Co-ordinator Sharon Greenblatt - sharon@sajewishreport.co.za • Advertising: Britt Landsman: 082-292-9520 - britt@sajewishreport.co.za • Classified sales: Susan Walunda: jrclassified@global.co.za • Distribution manager Britt Landsman • Design and layout: Bryan Maron/Design Bandits – bryan@designbandits.co.za • Website: Anthony Katz • Subscription enquiries: Avusa Publishing (Pty) Ltd. Tel: 0860-13-2652. Board of Directors: Howard Feldman (Chairman), Bertie Lubner, Benjy Porter, Herby Rosenberg, Howard Sackstein.

Advertisements and editorial copy from outside sources do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors and staff. Tel: (011) 430-1980.

abc
Audit Bureau of Circulations
of South Africa
transparency you can see



Stax proudly supports the
Go Kosher Campaign
www.gokosher.co.za

BUY ONLINE WWW.STAX.CO.ZA
Change the way you shop and visit any Stax today!

HOTTEST PREMIER WARMER THICKLY

- One Place Boilys Connection
- 4 Removable Stainless Steel Slicing Decks
- Top & Bottom Steamers
- Steel Slicing Connections

SAVE R600
R4599

Russell Hobbs

of DIGITAL SLOW COOKER RH587

- On/Off Switch
- On/Off LED Display
- 2 1/2 Hour Settings

NOW ONLY
R699

salton

4.5LW HOT TRAY SLOW COOKER

- 4.5 Litre Hot Tray
- 4.5 Litre Hot Tray
- 4.5 Litre Hot Tray

NOW ONLY
R729

KENWOOD

5.5LW SLOW COOKER CP555

- 5.5 Litre Hot Tray
- 5.5 Litre Hot Tray
- 5.5 Litre Hot Tray

NOW ONLY
R499

salton

16L STAINLESS STEEL URN SS116

- 16 Litre Hot Tray
- 16 Litre Hot Tray
- 16 Litre Hot Tray

SAVE 100
R799

mellorware

10L GRANADA STAINLESS STEEL URN 22500

- 10 Litre Hot Tray
- 10 Litre Hot Tray
- 10 Litre Hot Tray

NOW ONLY
R849

STAX
UNDER PROMISE-OR DELIVER

TEDELEX

DIGITAL SLOW COOKER RH587

- 2 1/2 Hour Settings
- 2 1/2 Hour Settings
- 2 1/2 Hour Settings

NOW ONLY
R109.90

Stax Dunkeld
Tel: 011 771 7600 | Dunkeld West Shopping Centre

Stax Fourways
Tel: 011 467 0486 | Fourways Crossing

Stax The Glen
Tel: 011 435 0189 | The Glen Shopping Centre

DUT SRC has to backtrack on blatant anti-Semitic demand

OWN CORRESPONDENT

The public furore over last week’s call by the Students Representative Council (SRC) of Durban University of Technology (DUT) for the expulsion of Jewish students, especially those who do not support the Palestinian struggle, forced a quick apology from the Durban student leaders.

SRC spokesman Ayanda Ngidi apologised “without reservation to anyone offended by recent demands made by us regarding Jewish students”.

But the “unreserved apology” came across as surly and forced and included a clarification.

“We would like to clarify that our position is, in fact, that Israel is an apartheid, genocidal and terrorist state and that in solidarity with our Palestinian people who are currently oppressed and colonised by Israel we demand that ANY student Jewish, Muslim, Christian even atheist or any other that is funded by the Apartheid State of Israel and its institutions, must not be students in DUT, and if there are any, they must be immediately de-registered. Our campuses will not be breeding grounds for apartheid.”

The SRC also confirmed that it had adopted a complete cultural and academic boycott of Israel in line

with BDS.

The original demand by the SRC was made on Tuesday, a day after Palestinian plane hijacker Leila Khaled had visited the Durban campus. The university’s vice-chancellor, Prof Ahmed Bawa swiftly denounced the call, calling it “preposterous, unjust, unfair, unreasonable and unconstitutional.

“It’s in violation of our values and principles. DUT does not discriminate against any person based on their race, religion, colour, ethnicity, sexual orientation or political affiliation.

“I have made it very clear to the student leaders that we will not agree to their demand,” said Prof Bawa.

In the SRC’s apology, made by SRC

President Mqondisi Duma, it called DUT management “mischievous”.

“We would like to also put it on record that the DUT management is being mischievous by focusing on this one issue when in fact we have recently submitted various other demands to it including the question of access to institutions of higher learning by disadvantaged working class students.

“As young people the DUT must not just point out our errors but must engage with the full bouquet of demands that have been put forward to it including the boycott against Israel as well as the academic exclusion issues raised recently.

“We are against all forms of racism including Zionism and anti-



MARINA WIJN
CONSULTANTS
search

joods
cultureel
kwartier
jewish cultural quarter

The Jewish Historical Museum in Amsterdam is looking to hire a

Director

full details: jhm.nl/vacancies
to apply: office@marinawijn.nl

joods historisch museum
jewish historical museum

Semitism. Once more we repeat our position: Israel is an apartheid state that should be fully isolated; on this point we will not concede.”

Howard Feldman, chairman of Jewish Report board of directors, on his blog reacted: “February 11, the anniversary of the day when Nelson Mandela achieved his freedom and ushered South Africans toward a non-racial future, will now be remembered by Jews the world over as the day a South African university demanded the expulsion of its Jewish students.”

He said that “as a South African I am ashamed. As a Jew I am mortified, and as a father and a husband, I wonder for how much longer I can pretend that my family of Jews are welcome in this beautiful country”.

Feldman wrote that “the children of the Durban University of Technology who have demanded that Jews be removed from the university, are doing what children do. They are mimicking and emulating the behaviour of their parents. They are following the examples that they

have been shown. They are doing what their parents do and not what they say.

“Our children have been told that it is acceptable to hate Jews if they are Zionists. Because we can get away with it then. But children aren’t fooled, they see things for what they are, and the children of this university have removed the veneer and revealed the reality that there is a hatred for Jews simply because they are Jewish.”

Alana Baranov, vice-president of the Council of KwaZulu-Natal Jewry, said the KZN council was appalled by the SRC’s call. “It is blatantly anti-Semitic.”

Mary Kluk, national chairman of the Board of Deputies, said it was no coincidence that the DUT SRC call came a day after Khaled had visited the campus.

Nathan Pollack, chairman of the SA Union of Jewish Students said: “We are appalled by the SRC statement. We believe that such a statement goes against our freedom of speech and right to freedom of association.”

unreserved* deceased estate **auction**

Contents of the home of **Joy Santarelli Interiors**

OVER 30 YEARS OF COLLECTING

Over 850 items from the contents of the home of the late Joy Santarelli
(Ex Joy Santarelli Interiors, Bedford Centre)



*unreserved except for the classic jaguar

Sunday, 1st March 2015 | 09h30

32 Norman Road, Bedfordview

Viewing times

Friday 27th & Saturday 28th February | 09h30 – 16h30 & from 08h30 on the day of auction

russelkaplan 
auctioneers

www.rkauctioneers.co.za • 083 675 8468 • rka@global.co.za
Corner Garden and Allan Roads, Bordeaux

Khaled’s visit leaves bitter taste



A scene from the Cape Town protest.

OWN CORRESPONDENT

“Depicting Leila Khaled as Mother Teresa is like awarding the Nobel Peace Prize to Osama Bin Laden.” This was a comment read out to a crowd protesting Khaled’s visit in Cape Town last week Friday and formed part of a message from a man who wish to be identified only as Adam and who was on an El Al flight from Israel to New York that was hijacked by Khaled and her cohorts in September 1970.

“The real issue is the hypocrisy of those who give a platform to people like Khaled, someone who explicitly supports all terrorist attacks wherever they may be,” read the message from Adam.

“Khaled laid the foundation for many other attacks that are even happening today under the slogan ‘if you are not with us then you have no right to exist, and we dare you to go or speak against us’.”

The protest, organised by the SA Jewish Board of Deputies, took place outside a press conference being hosted for Khaled by BDS-SA. The participants stood with banners saying “BDS wants blood... BDS’s true colours” and chanted: “No to Terrorism”. They also wore T-shirts saying: “The SA Government condemns all forms and manner of terrorism”.

SAJBD chairman Mary Kluk, who addressed the crowd, noted that it was no coincidence that the day after Khaled spoke on the campus of Durban University of Technology, the SRC had called for the de-registration of Jewish students. “Welcoming hate-mongers like Khaled to South Africa sends out a message that it is legitimate to discriminate against Jews, something that runs completely counter to the South African ethos of non-racialism, equality and tolerance,” she said.

Khaled, now in her seventies, was hailed during her trip as “a leader in exile of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine” by her South African hosts, BDS. She was also feted by the ruling Tripartite Alliance of the ANC, Cosatu and the

SA Communist Party - as a “struggle icon” for the Palestinians.

Khaled returned to Jordan - where she lives - on Monday after concluding her South African tour with a visit to Soweto on Sunday which was co-hosted by BDS and the Umkhonto we Sizwe’s Veterans’ Association (MKMVA).

According to Rebecca Hodes, writing in Tuesday’s issue of the Daily Maverick, conspiracy theories, involving not just the usual suspects like Israel, ‘Zionists’ and the CIA, but also Julius Malema and the EFF, abounded.

Khaled warned in her speech that “vicious” imperialists were “collaborating with the Zionists to control the whole world...” She also informed the raucously enthusiastic crowd that the US and Israel were the hidden hand behind Islamic extremism worldwide.

“ISIS, I tell you, is a Zionist, American organisation. Boko Haram is another Netanyahu. [Its leaders] are more Zionist than the Zionists,” she said.

Deputy Defence Minister Kebby Maphatsoe said that, like “Comrade Khaled”, MKMVA rejected the notion of two coexisting states, one for the Jews and one for the Arabs in Palestine. He further advised the SA Jewish Board of Deputies “to arm itself with real facts and rid itself of misplaced self-pity and begin to become part of the resolution of the conflict in Palestine, rather than to serve as the insidious hand of the terrorist apartheid Israel Zionist state in South Africa”.

Hodes reported that: “dozens of audience members vied for a decent angle for a cell phone snap” with Khaled while she was being presented with a gift.

BDS made much of the fact that Khaled had been “personally invited” by President Jacob Zuma to his State of the Nation address (Sona) in Parliament last week Thursday. However, the organisation quickly backtracked on their announcement, saying that Khaled had been invited to the Sona, not by Zuma,

but by senior parliamentary staff.

The South African Jewish community, through the SA Jewish Board of Deputies, voiced scathing criticism of Khaled’s visit, noting that she’s persona non grata in a host of European countries as well as the US.

In a statement released last week ahead of the protest, the Board said: “The SAJBD has been consistent in its argument that BDS-SA is using the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to import anti-Semitism into South Africa.

“The South African Jewish community is committed to the ethos of tolerance, diversity and respect that is enshrined in our Constitution. This is the climate that we have experienced until recently, and we believe is being eroded by the BDS’ continual intimidation and maligning of the South African Jewish community and use of threats of violence against those who reject their radical agenda. That agenda is epitomised by their glorification of terrorism and violence, as demonstrated by their hosting Leila Khaled, whose organisation the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestinian (PFLP) is responsible for the deaths of numerous Israeli civilians and remains committed to perpetrating such acts of terror.

“The SAJBD believes that it is only through negotiation that a resolution to the conflict will be found and it reaffirms its commitment to seeing a two-state solution in which Israeli and Palestinians live in secure borders, alongside each other. This is in line with what the majority of Israelis and Palestinians want. It is also consistent with the official position of the South African Government.”

The Tripartite Alliance’s support of the BDS movement in a sense shows up the ruling party’s confusing stance on the Israel-Palestine issue. Official government policy, as far as Israel is concerned, is “business as usual”. Government continues to emphasise that it supports a two-state solution to resolve the Middle East conundrum, yet Khaled’s warm reception by the ANC appears to tell a different story.

For the year ahead, fasten your seatbelts!

STAFF REPORTER

South Africans should not be living in calm or comfort in the present economic and political environment - they should be worrying, Sasfin economist David Shapiro (pictured) told the Union of Jewish Women last week.

Worrying, he said, actually helped to clarify things.

January was an unsettled month. Normally, it is a good month on the markets.

“It usually signifies a fresh new start, and hope, and markets usually go up. Not this time. We started the first week with problems in Greece, then terrorist attacks in Paris - the world is troubled and it created uncertainty,” he said.

Then came the massive fall in the oil price as a result of fracking in the US, which changed the balance of oil supply, resulting in the fall of commodity prices. Added to that, was the fact that growth in China was lower than expected.

South Africa had its own issues with Eskom’s load shedding which is not attracting investors.

“It is a huge problem and we shouldn’t underplay it. While we don’t want to be negative, if we don’t understand and face problems, we will never fix them. We have to worry and make sure we improve. We can’t ignore failings on so many fronts. We are no longer the sweethearts of the world with Mandela at our head; we have become the mutts of the world that need grooming,” he said.

Shapiro explained the drop in the oil price. The US added more oil to the world supply as a result of fracking, which revealed huge reserves which were tapped using improved technology.

“In the past few years, new technology was developed to unleash this oil. The cost of oil had previously risen to \$100 a barrel, so it was worth the price. As a result, when the world believed oil was in short supply, the black liquid started to flow into world markets with the US becoming self-sufficient,” he said.

It had previously come to a point where Opec controlled the markets and held back supply when prices went down.

“Now they aren’t holding back anymore because the US is pushing oil out. It has become a war of attrition and the result is that the price, per barrel, has halved to about \$50. We are now starting to see producers in the US holding back. This is not a big deal in US life.

“It doesn’t mean they will be short of oil, but investment in fracking projects will be put on hold. As the US



holds back on drilling, the oil price should recover - not to \$100, but to above \$50,” he said.

This had huge ramifications politically and economically, added Shapiro.

“I don’t think the positive impact has been felt yet in the world. With petrol now 30 to 40 per cent cheaper, markets have responded to the negative side, not to the consumers’ benefit. Who suffers? Oil-producing countries like Venezuela, Nigeria, Angola and the Middle East will be hurt. Revenues will come down,” he said.

Another reason for the drop in commodity and oil prices was that everyone had been pinning their hopes on a Chinese expansion and making use of the excess oil supply.

This did not happen. China, said Shapiro, was reshaping its economy from fixed investments such as roads, bridges and infrastructure, moving to social spending and a social service economy where there was no more need for commodities such as copper and iron ore.

Commodity producers expected the growth in China to continue another 10 years and many opened new mines as a result of this expectation. The price of copper, iron ore and platinum has decreased.

In South Africa, the prices are also down with no demand for platinum which is now lower in price than gold. This is going to result in lower and shrinking profits and less money for government with many new projects being withdrawn.

“This is going to hurt construction companies and allied industries. As South Africans, we rely on mining expansion and ancillary industries. This is also going to put pressure on the whole of Africa.

“Ninety per cent of Angola and Nigeria’s revenue comes from oil. This cutting back will have an impact on developments which will ultimately also affect South Africa,” he said.

More news on our website www.sajr.co.za

Berger's & Co

TM

Appliance

Repairs & Spares

We keep them working

SHOP 7

LYNDHURST SQUARE

CNR JOHANNESBURG ROAD

& DROME STREET

LYNDHURST

LYNDHURST

011 264 0228

'WHY SHOULD YOU PAY RETAIL?'



Brio 5-door, manual, 1.2 litre trend

'AT EASTVAAL MOTORS, YOU WILL NOT!'

Don't pay ~~R132 200~~
Pay only **R112 900***

2 / 30 000 KM
YEAR SERVICE PLAN

* while stocks last

MORE NEVER TO BE REPEATED GREAT DEALS



CRV Comfort 2.0 FWD

5-door, polished metal, metallic, automatic, leather seats
only **1** available
5 YEAR / 90 000km SERVICE PLAN

~~R362 400~~ **R339 000**

BALLADE Trend 1.5

4-door, titanium, red, manual
only **2** available
4 YEAR / 60 000km SERVICE PLAN

~~R204 800~~ **R176 000**

BALLADE Trend 1.5 CVT-Automatic

4-door, red, titanium, brown, CVT,
only **3** available
4 YEAR / 60 000km SERVICE PLAN

~~R219 500~~ **R192 000**

CIVIC Tourer Executive 1.8

5-door, polished metal, automatic
only **1** available
5 YEAR / 90 000km SERVICE PLAN

~~R392 700~~ **R349 000**

CIVIC Elegance 1.8

4-door, white, manual
only **1** available
5 YEAR / 90 000km SERVICE PLAN

~~R305 000~~ **R264 000**

CIVIC Urban Elegance 1.8

5-door, titanium, manual
only **1** available
5 YEAR / 90 000km SERVICE PLAN

~~R291 200~~ **R258 000**



Follow us:



Eastvaal Motor City Witbank Honda
Tel no.: 013 656 1511
Contact Tiaan: 082 330 1659 or
Brendan: 079 981 3316 to book a test drive
www.eastvaalmotors.co.za



Countering the Israeli apartheid metaphor in SA

When former Deputy Foreign Minister Ebrahim Ebrahim in 2012 instituted a de facto ban on South African government ministers visiting Israel, it epitomised the souring of a once very close relationship between the two states. This was echoed by International Relations Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, who remarked at the time: “The last time I saw a map of Palestine, I couldn’t go to sleep... It is just dots, smaller than those of the homelands, and that broke my heart.”

What a stark contrast to the intimacy of the relationship that the Israeli government had with the National Party in the ‘70s and ‘80s. Although Israel, at times, expressed criticism for South Africa’s apartheid, the two countries, surrounded by hostile nations, were almost driven into one another’s arms, becoming close military and economic allies.

Today there is no official policy of boycotting Israel nor cutting diplomatic ties, but support for BDS and the Palestinian struggle is very strong among ANC members. Grabbing the banner of the apartheid struggle to compare the plight of Palestinians to the plight of disenfranchised black South Africans pre-1994, has become a very motivating slogan for both ANC elite and younger struggle activists of all ethnicities

I heard one South African student leader say last week that “If you are pro-human rights then you are pro-the Palestinian cause (and against Israel)”. Today, most of the South African political leadership is too intimidated to visit Israel. For many there is a genuine affinity for the Palestinian struggle and a desire to boycott Israel, but for those who would be open to engaging in dialogue, there is a genuine fear of ostracism.

How we are countering the propaganda war

Luckily our community never just throws their hands up in hopelessness. As you read this, the largest ever delegation of MPs from the Democratic Alliance (DA) to visit any foreign country are spending a week in Israel, visiting the territories and meeting with members of Israel’s Foreign Ministry as well as with representatives of the Palestinian Authority.

The trip is being organised by a very innovative group called the South Africa-Israel Forum, run by a dynamic young American, Dan Brotman. Working closely with DA Deputy Shadow Minister of Labour Michael Bagraim, they managed to convince the 12 participants to join.

The group even includes DA Deputy Shadow Minister of Higher Education and Training Yusuf Cassim, South Africa’s youngest member of parliament in history, who sits on the Muslim Judicial Council and who helped organise a rally last July in support of the Gazans during Operation Protective Edge. Any previous attempts to get a big delegation to go, had failed.

“The Jewish community should not take it for granted-that DA MPs would

go to Israel,” says Brotman. “They are very concerned about the Muslim vote.”

SAIF is taking a whopping 200 individuals to Israel this year. They include journalists, politicians, and student leaders. Their strategy is to focus on the country’s younger political leaders - future job creators and opinion makers who are also more likely to be persuaded to go than their older more established counterparts.

In conjunction with the South African Union of Jewish Students, SAIF took a delegation of 16 Student Representative Council (SRC) members from Wits, University of Johannesburg, Pretoria, Cape Town, Stellenbosch and Rhodes, to Israel in January--many with ties to the ANC Youth League and Sasco.

Jamie Mithi, one of the delegates, spoke about how the six-day trip “cleared the fog” of propaganda and information he and friends are continually fed on campus and through the media.

Although Zionist church groups visit Israel all the time and the South African Jewish Board of Deputies takes 10 journalists a year, there has to be more done to take non-Jewish decision-makers and politicians to Israel to see matters for themselves. Durban University of Technology SRC’s call last week for the deregistration of any students who did not support the Palestinian cause, makes trips like these all the more vital.

We have a lot to learn from North American Jewry with strong lobby groups like AIPAC in the US and CIJA in Canada, who have extensive human and financial resources behind them to win the propaganda war and to build as many bridges as possible between Israel, their Diaspora communities and government leadership in Washington and Ottawa respectively.

We, within South Africa, of course have a much more hostile environment than North America, to contend with. But we are not powerless at all. Our community, both here and in Israel, has a glittering reputation for success - academically and financially.

Our fellow-South Africans do want to learn from us. For example, a privately funded trip to Israel in 2013 took seven powerful South African business leaders, many with strong ties to ANC and government, who wanted to learn about Israel’s business practices and build economic ties. Like the SRC leaders last month, they were overwhelmed by the innovation and entrepreneurial spirit they witnessed and were anxious for further connection and collaboration.

We cannot change the minds of a whole nation, many of them attached to the apartheid struggle metaphor for the Israeli-Palestinian issue, nor can we fund trips for even a fraction of them. But there is power in individual connections and in giving leaders the opportunity and exposure to make up their own minds about Israel. We need to commend and support these game changing initiatives.

– Vanessa Valkin, Editor



Denmark’s mourners pay tribute to victims.

Denmark synagogue attack seen as a belated ‘wake-up call’

CNAAN LIPSHIZ
COPENHAGEN

From the window of the Jewish community of Copenhagen’s crisis centre, Finn Schwarz can see his country changing before his eyes.

Hours after the killing of a guard outside the Danish capital’s main synagogue early Sunday morning, two police officers toting machine-guns were on patrol outside the centre - a common sight in France, Belgium and other trouble spots for Jews, but which authorities in Denmark had previously considered both excessive and unpalatable.

“I think this attack was a wake-up call,” said Schwarz, a former community chairman who has lobbied the authorities for years, often in vain, for greater security. “What we have long feared, happened and we will now see a changed Denmark. We have never seen this much security and guns before.”

Denmark has approximately 8 000 Jews, according to the European Jewish Congress.

The deployment of armed officers at Jewish institutions came within hours of a shooting at a Copenhagen cafe where a caricaturist who had lampooned Islam was speaking. One person was killed at the cafe in what Prime Minister Helle Thorning-Schmidt called a terrorist attack.

Later that night, Dan Uzan, a 37-year-old volunteer security guard, was with two police officers at the Great Synagogue when a gunman opened fire with an automatic weapon, killing Uzan and wounding the officers. The trio were standing guard over approximately 80 people who had gathered for a batmitzvah celebration in a building behind the synagogue. Guests reportedly took shelter in the basement after the shooting and later were escorted out under heavy guard.

On Sunday morning, Danish police killed a 22-year-old man, who they said was a Muslim extremist responsible for both shootings, in a shootout. The shooter was later identified as Omar El-Hussein.

Throughout the day on Sunday, heavily armed police remained deployed across the capital and beyond, as authorities hunted for accomplices.

The attack comes amid an escalation in anti-Semitic incidents in Denmark, including one this summer in which several individuals broke into a Jewish school just weeks after the conclusion of Israel’s seven-week conflict with Hamas in Gaza. No-one was injured in the incident, but some weeks earlier Jewish educators had instructed students not to wear yarmulkes or other identifying garments to school.

“This reality and the attack hurt the Jewish community both by encouraging emigration and by forcing people to distance their children, for security reasons, from the Jewish community, its schools and institutions,” Schwarz said.

Yet Danish authorities often resisted requests for greater security measures, an issue that Rabbi Andrew Baker raised last September during a visit to Denmark

in his capacity as the representative for combating anti-Semitism of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

Noticing the absence of the sort of security arrangements familiar in Paris and Brussels, Baker asked Danish officials whether they were worried about an attack on Jewish institutions.

“The officials I met recognised the risks but said that Denmark had a ‘relaxed approach to security’, as one interlocutor put it, and that having armed police in front of buildings would be too disturbing to the population at large,” said Baker, who also serves as director of international Jewish affairs for the American Jewish Committee.

“I was taken aback because I never encountered in other countries this argument of rejecting security measures while fully acknowledging the threat,” Baker told JTA. “I left knowing it was only a matter of time before I got the call.”

Schwarz said authorities had improved security around Jewish institutions after the slaying last month of four Jews at a kosher market near Paris. But he said there remained a gap of tens of thousands of dollars between the security funding sought by the community and what the government was offering.

“I think the heavy security is good, but I’m also sad to see it because a Denmark where armed officers stand outside [the] synagogue doesn’t seem like the peaceful country I know and love,” Schwarz said. “But it’s necessary.”

EJC officials stressed that the problem of Jewish security is not Denmark’s alone and called for continent-wide countermeasures, including legislation that provides national governments with improved tools to counter the threat.

“We are dealing with a pan-European problem which is being dealt with individually instead of on a pan-European basis,” said Arie Zuckerman, a senior EJC official who oversees the group’s Security and Crisis Centre. “This is part of the reason our enemies are the ones who have the initiative.”

EJC President Moshe Kantor called on the European Union to establish an agency devoted to fighting anti-Semitism.

“European governments and leaders who in the name of upholding liberties refrain from acting effectively against terrorists, are endangering those very freedoms because they are exposing them to the terrorists’ attacks,” Kantor said.

In Copenhagen, Dr Ilan Raymond, a Jewish physician and father of two, spoke of an uncertain road ahead.

“What happened Sunday is a shock that will stay with us for a long time,” said Raymond, who learned of the attack while on vacation when his 16-year-old son sent him a text message that read “I am alright.”

The attack “will have a profound effect and may cause some to leave,” Raymond said. “It’s early days.” (JTA)

Could South Africa go the French route?



TAKING ISSUE

Geoff Sifrin

One effect of the cringe-worthy circus Parliament became last week during President Jacob Zuma’s State of the Nation Address, was to revive the whinge-sessions many whites - Jews and others - frequently indulge in. “How terrible it is here! The crime, corruption, Eskom switching off the lights, potholes in the roads which never get fixed, Nkandla...”

The well-known script usually ends like this: “The country is going down the tubes! If only we had left for Australia, the UK, Israel or other places as our relatives and friends did years ago!”

Zuma’s gleeful face as EFF parliamentarians were physically thrown out of the Chamber didn’t help. He seemed contemptuous of the effect this spectacle had on citizens.

In stark contrast, European Jews’ desire to leave countries like France, is not about whether they are well-run, but fear for their safety. European countries are experiencing their worst levels of anti-Semitism in decades, including killings, desecration of Jewish graves - some 300 in France reported this week - and rabid hate speech on social media.

In the UK, an all-party Parliamentary inquiry into anti-Semitism, is suggesting that on social media like Twitter and Facebook, prevention orders like those restricting sex offenders’ access, could be used to ban users spreading racial hatred.

People who carry out hate crimes could be prevented from using social media, increasingly a hotbed for anti-Semitism and other bigotry. The report said the terms “Hitler” and “Holocaust” were among the top 35 phrases relating to Jews during last year’s Gaza conflict. The hashtags “Hitler” and “genocide” featured with “high frequency”. The “Hitler Was Right” hashtag spread worldwide in July 2014.

In a bizarre reaction to the fear European Jews live in, in the wake of the recent Paris and other killings, an Israeli salon is producing a hair-based kippah as a camouflage for Jews who don’t want to stand out in public - they could wear this “kosher” kippah, but outsiders would see only hair. South Africa is not Europe, but we live

in dangerous times. The vigour which South African Jews spend whining about the country would be better spent getting involved in improving things. The need is enormous.

There is so much anger under the surface due to poverty, unemployment and racism, that it doesn’t take much to ignite a xenophobic rampage like we saw in 2008 against foreigners perceived to be stealing jobs from South Africans. A Malema-like populist could channel the rage into sinister directions to suit his own agenda - including fostering hate against Jews or others.

Nurturing interfaith links is crucial to counter this. They must be strong, so when trouble comes there is something to lean on.

An intriguing example of interfaith co-operation happened recently in Bradford in the UK, where for the first time a Muslim was co-opted onto the governing council of the Bradford Reform Synagogue. Established in 1880, it is the oldest Reform shul outside London, located in the heart of the Muslim community, who has helped look after it.

Jani Rashid, a Muslim, raised funds last year to repair the roof of the historic building when subscriptions from the 45-strong Jewish congregation were insufficient. He will help make decisions about the building’s day-to-day running, though not the religious aspects. The incident reflects a pocket of unusually close links between Jews and Muslims there, in stark contrast to what is happening in Europe generally.

Rudi Leavor, the synagogue’s 87-year-old chairman, said: “We want to show the two religions and communities can and will stick together.”

Could this sort of thing happen in South Africa? Could a historic synagogue in Cape Town or Johannesburg have a Muslim on its board? Or could a historic mosque be assisted by a Jewish benefactor? Interfaith co-operation has a proud history here, and through all the recent bad times, relations between Muslims and Jews have remained relatively good.

But in these times, complacency is dangerous, particularly with the appalling standard of our national leaders, as we witnessed in Parliament. We need to keep thinking out of the box to ensure South Africa never goes the route of France.

Geoff Sifrin is former editor of the SAJR. He writes this column in his personal capacity.

Read the South African Jewish Report online www.sajr.co.za



An exciting position exists for a dynamic, hardworking and enthusiastic individual in the role of:

Executive Director

Beit Mordechai Campus Kollel on the Yeshiva College campus



Competencies must include:

- Passion for Torah education
- Excellent communication skills
- Initiative
- Sound administration and project management skills

Interested applicants are to please send their CVs to:
alon@campuskollel.org.za



IMAGINE THE PERSON
YOUR CHILD WILL BECOME

Don't miss our
OPEN DAY
3 MARCH

visit www.crawfordschools.co.za for details



CrawfordSchools™

Pre-Primary · Preparatory · College

CrawfordSchools™ Fourways (Grade 000 - 7) · CrawfordSchools™ Italia (Grade 0 - 7)
CrawfordSchools™ Lonehill (Grade 000 - 12) · CrawfordSchools™ Sandton (Grade 000 - 12)
CrawfordSchools™ Village (Grade 000 - 0) · CrawfordSchools™ Pretoria (Grade 000 - 12)

Every child a masterpiece · 0860 SCHOOL

Join the CSO. There’s something you can do.

The CSO was founded 20 years ago with the mission of “protecting Jewish life and the Jewish way of life”, but more than that we empower our community to protect itself. We offer training, tools and security best practice in implementing appropriate protection plans for our community. We also work closely with local authorities and the private security industry to ensure an all-encompassing security solution.

We encourage you to join our network. Participate in some of our training courses and actively contribute to the safety, security and wellbeing of our unique community. Our strength as Jews comes from being united and taking responsibility for ourselves. No-one looks after your family better than you. A new era is unfolding.

• For further information, contact the CSO on 0860 276 276 or jhbtraining@csso.org.za

Arachim Seminar

INTERNATIONAL TEAM OF LECTURERS, GREAT NEW LECTURES

Two nights accommodation @ Orion Safari Rustenberg all inclusive

Fun-filled kiddies’ program / Babysitting facilities / Gr8 low prices

Contact: Office (011) 887-2773 • Yisroel: 079-694-7551 • arachim@netactive.co.za

REFRESH,
RECHARGE
and
INSPIRE
your
essence...
13-15
March 2015



Maligned Israel comes up smelling roses



BARBARIC YAWP
David Saks

Apart from South Africa, I don’t know if there is any other country that has been referred to as a “rogue democracy”. Quite probably there isn’t one. It is rare to find a country quite as schizophrenic as South Africa, one in which liberal democratic and Afro-authoritarian impulses are pitted against one another in a fight whose final outcome is far from certain, regardless of what the Bill of Rights might say.

For the time being, at least, the country remains a bona fide democracy, with all the basic pillars of a free society - judicial independence, freedom of expression and thought and universal suffrage among them - in place. Why it has earned the more ignoble title of “rogue democracy” in certain quarters is because of its morally compromised foreign policy. I think it was Tony Leon who once said that the South African government had yet to meet a dictator it did not like.

So lamentable has been South Africa’s record in opposing global tyranny, that even the leftwing (and, certainly when it comes to Israel, notoriously biased) Human Rights Watch had some sharp words to say...

So lamentable has been South Africa’s record in opposing global tyranny, that even the leftwing (and, certainly when it comes to Israel, notoriously biased) Human Rights Watch had some sharp words to say about it in its latest report.

While “repeatedly supporting resolutions on Palestine”, it had “abstained on the votes of all other country situations, including on North Korea, Syria, Sri Lanka, and Iran”. Moreover, despite having supported the establishment of the International Criminal Court, it had frequently failed to stand against impunity for human rights violations. For example, it had been in favour of the proposed African Court providing immunity from prosecution for serving heads of state and senior government officials, including war crimes and genocide.

If anything epitomises South Africa’s contradictory foreign policy, it must be how it has three times in five years refused to grant a visa to the Dalai Lama, whereas notorious Arab and Islamic extremists have been able to come and go as they please. In light of this, no-one should be surprised at unrepentant PFLP terrorist Leila Khaled not only being allowed to enter the country, but being given a rapturous welcome by ruling party representatives.

Domestically, at least, South Africa remains solidly democratic, even if certain worrisome inroads have been made. In its latest Countries’ Report, Freedom House, an influential US-based research organisation that monitors democracy, political freedom and human rights around the world, gives it a score of two, based on a scale of one representing the most and seven the least free.

In African terms, this is an impressive rating, given that 88 per cent of African countries were adjudged to be either “Not Free” or at best, “Partly Free”, with scores of four upwards. That it was graded only two (all Western European countries, by contrast, receive a “one”) is because of, inter alia, government encroachment on the editorial independence of the SABC, the pressure under which judicial and prosecutorial independence has come in recent years, the fact that senior-most ANC leaders “generally retained impunity from punishment” and xenophobic violence by police (including torture).

Not that it will make one jot of difference to those bent on believing otherwise, but Israel, with 1,5, scores higher than South Africa. This record is even more striking when compared with the rest of the Middle East, which is something of a horror story.

Only Lebanon (“Partly Free”, with a score of 4,5) escapes being classified as “Not Free”, while Syria and Saudi Arabia are ranked among “The Worst of the Worst” (the others being the Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, North Korea, Somalia, Sudan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan).

The general failure of Islamic societies to operate in a democratic milieu, is shown by the fact that overwhelmingly, Muslim-majority countries fall into the “Not Free” or, at best (and less frequently at that), “Partly Free” category.

Among the very few exceptions are Senegal and Tunisia, with the latter being the only country where the so-called “Arab Spring” resulted in genuine freedom rather than leading to intensifying repression.

Virtually all “Not Free” countries are in Africa and Asia. In Europe, only Belarus and Russia (if one regards it as being part of Europe rather than of Asia, which is an interesting question) fall into that category, whereas in the Americas - both North and South, and including the Caribbean - only Cuba continues to be regarded as “Not Free”.

This certainly surprised me - it was not so long ago that countries like Chile, Bolivia, Columbia, Nicaragua and Haiti were among the most authoritarian regimes on the planet.

The overall import of the latest Freedom House findings is that while the world unquestionably remains a far freer and more democratic place than was the case prior to the collapse of the Soviet Union at the end of the 1980s, worrisome trends are afoot that threaten to reverse many of those gains.

The overall picture appears to be one of increasing polarisation...

The overall picture appears to be one of increasing polarisation, where on four of the inhabited continents, freedom is overwhelmingly the norm whereas in the remaining two (the largest, in terms of population), authoritarianism holds sway and is in fact intensifying.

That Israel, objectively speaking a genuinely free and democratic society (despite being in a situation of continual war) is among the most vilified countries on the planet, speaks volumes about the prejudice and perversity that dominates so much of global human rights discourse.

RE: THE LATE DANIEL COPANS

The family of the Late Daniel Copans would like to express their grateful thanks and appreciation to all persons who graciously donated funds towards the considerable medical costs incurred as a consequence of Daniel's condition.

The funds were paid into an account administered under our control, and were utilised and applied as and when required.

As a consequence of Daniel's premature death, it became unnecessary to utilise all the funds, and we are in a position to refund donors with a pro-rata share of the balance.

A suggestion has been made by certain donors that the funds be donated to either a cancer-related charity, or apply the funds to establish a Foundation in memory of Daniel. This Foundation would assist desperately ill children with medical costs in the case of life threatening conditions.

As certain of the donations were made anonymously, we appeal to all persons or institutions who made donations, to contact us, in confidence, with instructions as to how you would prefer your share of the refund to be applied.

All queries can be directed to
Lucille Liebowitz c/o Tuffias Sandberg KSi
E-mail: lucillel@tsksi.co.za
Telephone: 087 940 9080



ISRAEL

Nation of Creation

48TH SAZF CONFERENCE

7 MARCH 2015 - 20h00

INTERNATIONAL GUESTS



NIR BARKAT
Mayor of Jerusalem



IRWIN COTLER
MP Labour Party Canada



NATAN SHARANSKY
Chairman Jewish Agency Israel



GADI MAZOR
2013 Entrepreneur of the year



Avishai Braverman
MK for the Labour Party



Pre booking essential

Please have credit card details, full name, ID number and contact number of each person attending when booking

Please arrive promptly with ticket and ID on person

For Bookings:
www.ticibox.com
0861 444 225

For Queries:
sazf@beyachad.co.za
011 645 2531 / 011 645 2510







Advertorial

Irwin Cotler: Keynote speaker at SAZF Conference

Champion of human rights in Canada and across the world, Liberal MP Professor Irwin Cotler is no stranger to South Africa. This time he will be here as the guest of the South African Zionist Federation 48th Conference on Saturday night March 7. His talk at the official gala opening of the Conference will focus on Iran, one of the greatest threats to the continued existence of the State of Israel, and a matter of singular importance to us all.

Articulate and expert on issues ranging from trafficking to politics, Professor Cotler was recently and deservedly honoured by the Law Society of Upper Canada, which represents some 46 000 lawyers in Ontario, for his tireless humanitarian work.

Professor Cotler, formerly a law professor at McGill University in Montreal, was first elected to Parliament in 1999, and served as justice minister under former Liberal Prime Minister Paul Martin from 2003 to 2006.

As justice minister, he introduced Canada’s first-ever human trafficking legislation and initiated the country’s first prosecution under the War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity Act. He crafted the Civil Marriage Act, which granted marriage equality to gays and lesbians; he has received 10 honorary doctorates; and is an Officer of the Order of Canada.

According to the Montreal Gazette of February 13, “for 45 years, Liberal MP Irwin Cotler has been at the forefront of campaigns to fight for the rights of dissents - including Natan Sharansky, released by the Soviet Union in 1986 after nine years of forced labour, and Nelson Mandela, who was freed in 1990 after 25 years and went on to lead South Africa.

In his words: “Each case of a political prisoner represents a deprivation of liberty, a violation of fundamental freedoms and untold suffering for the individual and his or her family. While the abuses meted out by oppressive states show us their true nature, the international response reflects

the strength of our own convictions. We must not forget these brave souls.”

Professor Cotler is indeed a brave soul. He was at the forefront of the international struggle against apartheid. He has spoken for justice on all of the issues in the Middle East. He lectured in Arab countries and Israel long before he ever went into public life. And his knowledge of Middle East politics is extraordinary.

When the decision was made to present the award to Professor Cotler, Prime Minister Martin had this to say about him:

“Long before the Charter of Rights in this country, Irwin Cotler was the living embodiment of what the Charter of Rights is. Where it comes from I, think, is just his huge, huge sense of fairness - his huge understanding of the inequities that so many people suffer.

“While he’s leaving politics, he’s not leaving the fight for human rights. He never will. I think that he will be fighting for peace, he’ll be fighting for fairness, and he will be fighting for human rights, and he did it before he went into public life. He did it magnificently when he was in public life, when he was a minister, and he has continued to do it.

“I’ve never seen anybody rise to the height that he did when he was talking about just what an obscene thing the trafficking in persons is, and why it is so important that governments take the action to stop it. It’s a blight on humanity, and there’s nobody that has ever spoken against it with his vehemence and nobody ever worked against it with the vehemence that he has taken to the issue.”

With Irwin Cotler as the keynote speaker at our Conference, all of us present that night will be far better informed and educated, and able to understand even more clearly the future of the Middle East.

- Bookings for the Conference can be done online through www.ticibox.com

Purim is also for the elderly, says Chabad House

Chabad House in Johannesburg kicks off a media release on Purim, by stating: “Purim is not just for kids.”

Calling Purim one of everyone’s most favourite holidays, Rabbi Ari Kievman appealed for the elderly not to be forgotten during this holiday.

“Every shul plans its uniquely themed party, especially attracting the kids to rejoice in the festive holiday’s celebrations. Although Purim is a time for kids to masquerade in fancy dress and for adults to have a good time too, we mustn’t forget the elderly.”

He pointed out that many elderly people are suffering from depression, health issues, financial constraints, loss of a spouse, children far away, loneliness et al. “So Purim is a natural time to celebrate and put our worries and concerns aside. It’s a time to reflect on previous celebrations and make this year’s exceed them all. It’s a time for real reJewvination.”

Every year when Purim comes around, he says, Chabad House invites all seniors to attend

its annual Seniors’ Purim Party. This year’s festivity takes place on Purim, Thursday, March 5, at 11:30 at 27 Aintree Avenue in Savoy in Johannesburg. Admission is free.

“Come nosh on Hamantashen and other treats and spend an entertaining afternoon schmoozing with friends and neighbours in a cheerful holiday setting. You’ll hear the Megillah, along with a fun multimedia wall projection.

“Have some l’chaims, listen to holiday music, enjoy delicious food and share shalach manot gifts with one another prepared by Chabad House. Who knows, maybe you’ll win one of the great prizes in the raffle!”

- Rabbi Ari Kievman is director of Chabad’s Chai Seniors programme and can be reached at 079-434-1293 or via e-mail rak@chabad.org.za, or call (011) 440-6600 for more information.

Ownership

Empowering Supplier

Management Control

Skills Development

Enterprise & Supplier Development

Preferential Procurement

Socio-Economic Development

Is BBEE a challenge?

WE SEE IT AS AN OPPORTUNITY

LAST CHANCE FOR BBEE POINTS

If your financial year end is looming you can earn BBEE points by making ORT SA your BBEE partner

To find out more information Contact: (011) 728- 7154 www.ortsa.org.za ora@ortsa.org.za

CAJE ANNUAL LEARNING LAUNCH 2015

Sunday 22 Feb, 7:45pm

THE GREAT DEBATE

“Who is a Better Jew: Born *Frum* or Born *Free*?”

Rabbi Gidon Fox, Pretoria Hebrew Congregation
Rabbi Dovi Goldstein, Ohr Somayach, Savoy

Monday 23 Feb, 7:45pm

THE CONVERSION CONUNDRUM

Should We Want More Jews or Better Jews?

Rabbi Ron Hendler, Registrar of Conversions, Beth Din
Mr Adam Gross, a Personal Story

Wednesday 25 Feb, 7:45pm

HEAVEN, HELL... AND THE HERE & NOW

Journeys of the Soul; Life, Afterlife...Get a Life!

Rabbi Dovid Wineberg, Marais Rd Shul, Sea Point, Cape Town
Dr Shelli Sandler, Psychiatrist, Johannesburg

With Grateful Thanks to the Isaacson Family – In Memory of Miriam bat Yosef.

CAJE

The Johannesburg College of Adult Jewish Education

FOUR SECOND CHANCE TO KNOW

Sydenham Community Centre, Seeff Hall, 24 Main Street, Rouxville | Info/ Bookings 011 640 5021 | R50 each

Stan & Pete’s ‘delicious’... Ready to change the kosher world

Our on-site generator ensures our food is always fresh, always available.

Naale

Join an exciting, one-of-a-kind program that offers independent, motivated Jewish teens the opportunity to complete 9th-12th grade in Israel.

Naale Elite-Academy, The World's Jewish High School In Israel

Mosenson - The Alexander Moss High School in Hod Hasharon - A world famous international high school.

Ein Gedi - A Kibbutz high school for environmental studies, arts and communication in the most unique place on earth!

Anieres - An honors program for outstanding students: Engineer your way straight to the Technion.

Shaalavim - The famous yeshiva high school for boys. Excellence since 1961 and winner of top 10 high schools in Israel.

Amana - Best yeshiva high school for girls in Israel. An international environment with students from around the world.

Beith Chana - Chabad Yeshiva High School for girls where excellence meets spirituality.

A School for Everyone

www.elite-academy.org



Free
3-4 year program
including full room
board plus much
much more!
(one-time
registration fees only)

JPO Johannesburg
Philharmonic Orchestra

FIRST SYMPHONY SEASON 2015 THE NLDTF SEASON

February • Wednesday 25 & Thursday 26

Naum Rousine conductor

KLATZOW The Healing Melody

TCHAIKOVSKY Violin Concerto, op.35, D major

BRAHMS Symphony No.3, op.3, F major

Avigail Bushakevitz violin

March • Wednesday 04 & Thursday 05

Daniel Boico conductor

OPERA Highlights: Famous Arias, duets, ensembles and chorus works from operas Aida, Il Trovatore, La Traviata, Tosca and Lucia di Lammermoor in collaboration with Big Wig Opera Company

Stéfan Louw, Elizabeth Lombard, Natalie Dickson with the Big Wig Opera Chorus

March • Wednesday 11 & Thursday 12

Daniel Boico conductor

SCHUBERT Overture, D 590, D major (In the Italian Style)

BEETHOVEN Piano Concerto No.3, op. 37, C minor

MENDELSSOHN Symphony No.4, op.90, A major (Italian)

Lucas Vodracek piano

March • Wednesday 18 & Thursday 19

Michal Dworzyński conductor

ZAIDEL- RUDOLPH Fanfare Festival Overture

RACHMANINOV Piano Concerto No.1, op.1, F-sharp minor

HOLST The Planets (with visual display courtesy Wits Planetarium)

Pallavi Mahidhara piano

(The JPO reserves the right to alter scheduled programmes or artists as necessary)

Linder Auditorium • St Andrews Road • Parktown • Time: 20h00 • Free Pre-concert talk: 19h15
Booking for all concerts through Computicket or Box Office on the night. Season tickets available from the JPO.
011 789 2733 • info@jpo.co.za • www.jpo.co.za



Principal Funder



Bringing in the spirit of Shabbat early

SHEVA MESSIAS

Last Friday, Rebbetzen Tova Goldstein came to visit King David Linksfield Pre-Primary School with three young women from the DIJE (Department of Informal Jewish Education).

They spoke to the children about the specialness of Shabbat and how it is celebrated by Jews all over the world. They taught catchy Shabbat songs which the children loved and joined in

with the words and actions.

The school looks forward to them joining pupils every second Friday; they certainly inspired the children and brought in the spirit of Shabbat early. From the DIJE are Chedva Ziskin; Chaya Lipshitz; and Bati Welcher. Children who can be identified in the photograph are from the back: Ben Goshier; Ethan Spector; Chad Pearlman; Jed Menachemson; Sienna Hirschman; Jaimie Price; and Simone Kitley.



YC Primary announces its house captains for 2015



OWN CORRESPONDENT

Yeshiva College has announced its primary school house captains for 2015, for houses Tzion, Judah and Israel. Mazeltov to all!

Pictured are Levi Jacobson; Doron Romberg; Eyal Mindel; Raphy da Costa; David Rapp; and Jake Shapiro. Principal Joseph Beer; Adina Sender; Sarah Zimmerman; Sara Joselowsky; Dani Moritz; Rivka Alpert; and Eden Liebowitz.

Mishloach manot packages available from TA Girls' High

OWN CORRESPONDENT

It's that time of year again - Torah Academy Girls' High School's biggest fundraiser of the year, the making up of special mishloach manot packages for Purim, which falls this year on Thursday, March 5.

All gifts come in branded luggage with a combination of imported chocolates and sweets, dried fruits, nuts, sauces, whisky and grape juice or wine.

Prices range from R30 to R1 000, with free deliveries for orders over R1 000. Deliveries will be made on Purim.

Pictured are grade 11 girls showing off part of the selection of gifts: Yocheved Cohen; Toubia Nikfard; Sara Bacher; Hadassah Carlebach; and Kayla Drutman.

• For further information: e-mail girlshigh@torahacademy.co.za or call (011) 485-3871.



It’s fifty shades of controversy...

DINA DIAMOND

First the book, now the movie, has got-ten millions of tongues wagging across the globe. However, wagging is just the begin-ning. Fifty Shades of Grey became the fastest book to sell one million copies, beating pre-vious records by Dan Brown for The Da Vinci Code and JK Rowling’s Harry Potter series.

It was also the first book to sell a mil-lion copies on Kindle. It has since sold over 100 million copies. The movie has been no different, smashing all previous box office records around the world, even before it opened.

Taking into account the immense, pre-dominantly female interest in the movie and the obvious fact that women of all ages, marital statuses and cultures would flock to the cinemas, it seemed only a natural choice that this movie would be used by a women’s charity organisation to host a premiere and raise funds for a very worthy cause. Yes? No!

The Aviv (younger) arm of WIZO - the Women’s International Zionist Organisa-

tion – hosted a premiere last week for Fifty Shades of Grey in an effort to raise aware-ness and funds for projects that include, but are not limited to, battered women, women empowerment, day-care centres, youth villages, youth centres, foster homes - the list goes on.

These premieres were hosted across the world and all over South Africa as well. All events were an instant sell-out and in fact proved to be the fastest selling tickets to any fundraiser in WIZO’s history.

Despite the success of the events, the film choice certainly sparked some controversy in the South African Jewish community, particularly among traditional and religious Jews. The email invitation from WIZO got responses like, “not the kind of movie an organisation like WIZO should be showing” and that any money raised from this event would be “tainted.”

However, after viewing the movie, many could ask what the fuss is all about.

The storyline is, in essence, your typi-cal love story. It centres on a fictitious Anastasia Steele, a young college student

and Christian Grey, a suave billionaire that sweeps her off her feet. He falls for her and likes to indulge in a little, not very graphic or even violent, bondage in his playroom...

All of the interaction between the two is consensual and Anastasia is continually reassured that she can leave at any time. In fact in this movie, it is the woman who is in control of herself and her relationship and has the ability to indulge and the freedom to walk away.

“For any of those who chose rather to stay at home and watch the State of the Nation Address, (which was on the same night), they were surely exposed to far more violence than actually appeared in the movie,” said one of the event organisers.

Some moviegoers even expressed disap-pointment that the movie was “too soft”. A journalist in the Sunday Times echoed this sentiment, stating that there is “not a great deal of actual flesh” on view and quipped that she had “seen more explicit scenes on Discovery Channel”.

For the organisers, it felt like a storm in a tea cup was created by those who merely sat

on the sidelines and complained, instead of rolling up their sleeves, volunteering personal time and doing some real work to help those in need.

Laurienne Baitz, World WIZO Aviv’s representative, agrees. “In a world where viewing the real mutilated bodies of humans’ spoils of war is an all-day, every-day visual reality oozed across every news channel that our children view out of the corner of their eyes while playing games on the Internet with unrestricted access to more unspeakable real horrors, exercis-ing the personal choice to view (or not) a strictly-rated adult movie that has passed the international censorship boards, seems more in perspective.” In South Africa the PG rating is 16, whereas in other countries such as France, it is a mere 12 years.

Baitz added: “WIZO is capitalising on the movie’s hype to raise funds. An additional motivation is to change the organisation’s reputation from ageing women who organ-ise luncheons and bridge parties. This does not attract a younger membership without whom WIZO will have no future.”

Keep moderation in mind

RABBI VELVY BOKOW
YESH CAMP SA FOUNDER AND MD

With Purim fast approaching, there is a lot of worry regarding the exposure of children to alcohol and its irresponsible consumption and distribution.

Through experience with the youth and with informal education, I have become very aware of a dangerous trend of excessive alcohol consump-tion within our community.

It is common for parents to have a more relaxed mindset regarding alcohol on Purim, excusing the illegal element of their underage kids consuming alcohol. However, there’s even greater concern when minors are drinking beyond what mom and dad are supervising, when kids go to Purim parties and drink further without the knowledge or consent of their parents and without awareness of the dangers thereof.

Besides for the minors’ drinking, adults need to be careful and mindful too of their own drinking habits when there is less control during Purim.

Some pointers are:

1. Before you pour someone else a drink, have you established that he or she is not driving?
2. Have you established how much they have had?
3. Have you clarified if they’re on any chronic medication that may conflict with alcohol? What about non-chronic medication?
4. Have you labelled your juice punch with a sign “contains alcohol”?
5. Have you verified with a parent whether pour-ing for their child is okay?
6. Are you going to take responsibility for whatever may occur to the person you are pouring for?
7. Has it occurred to you that some people strug-gle to say no to a drink?
8. Have you asked yourself if alcoholism can be nurtured?

I’m not saying don’t drink on Purim, I’m saying be responsible and think about the consequences of your potential actions.

Although Purim is a celebration, please don’t al-low it to become the starting point of a long-term addiction or short- and medium term damage to those around you.


Take note of the halacha called dina demal-chusa dina ie: that the law of the land effectively becomes the halacha and as such, it is halachi-cally prohibited for minors to consume alcohol and it is prohibited for adults to provide alcohol for minors.

www.kia.co.za

WHATEVER WORKS AND WORKS AND WORKS FOR YOU.







Choose from a range of deals on the KIA K2700 and the KIA K2500 that makes business sense, including payment holidays, free accessory bundles, upgrades on maintenance plans and zero deposit offers.

Go to kiacommercials.co.za before 31 March to get work done.

Limited stock available, only valid until 31 March 2015.
Terms and Conditions apply. E&OE.

The Power to Surprise

17979OFyt

A column of the SA Jewish Board of Deputies



Above Board
Mary Kluk
National Chairman

Proof of BDS’ toxic motives

The two issues that most involved the Board last week were the demonstration we held in Cape Town to protest against the presence of PFLP terrorist Leila Khaled and the related scandal over the student leadership at the Durban University of Technology calling on Jewish students there to be “deregistered” because of their links to Israel.

That the DUT incident was related to Khaled’s visit is undeniable. It is hardly coincidental that the “Juden raus” call followed immediately on her speaking at DUT. It was just the latest in a growing number of outrageous threats being made against our community as a direct result of BDS incitement. Two especially serious incidents were the chanting of “Shoot the Jew” by BDS supporters at Wits and the depositing of a pig’s head in a Woolworths

store in support of the BDS boycott by the Congress of SA Students, but there have been others.

Increasingly, radical anti-Israel groupings are not even making a token distinction between “Zionists” and “Jews”. It only serves to confirm what we believed from the start to have been BDS’s toxic motives in inviting a speaker like Khaled in the first place.

It was nevertheless heartening to see the outpouring of support and sympathy for our community following the DUT call, both locally and from our Jewish counterparts abroad. I commend our Council for KwaZulu-Natal Jewry, in particular their president, Ronnie Herr and Vice-President Alana Baranov, for the strenuous, but always measured and dignified manner in which they dealt with the matter, in the media and in their interactions with the university itself.

Over the weekend, Denmark, experienced something very similar to what took place in Paris last month, with the murder of someone adjudged to have offended Islamic sensibilities being quickly followed by a lethal attack, in this case by the same individual, on a Copenhagen synagogue.

In both cases, avenging a perceived slur against Islam was combined with an attack on people solely on account of their being Jewish. It shows how deeply rooted has become the notion in radical Islamist circles that Jews are in

some way responsible for the myriad ills being experienced by the Muslim world. Such a mindset puts Jews everywhere at risk.

In taking to the streets to protest against Khaled, we were sending a forthright message that we are proud Jews and proud South Africans, and that we will not be intimidated, whether by BDS, SRC students or any other lobbies who seek to deny us our fundamental rights to freedom of expression and association.

As events around the globe, and particularly in Europe, show, the hostility we are experiencing is not new to South Africa but part of an international trend. Looked at in this perspective, we can take heart from the fact that despite the virulent nature of much of the rhetoric we are dealing with, acts of violence against our community have been virtually nonexistent, even during the overheated atmosphere generated by last year’s Gaza conflict.

A few days ago, our community in Umhlanga took to the streets to participate in a rousing Hachnasat Sifrei Torah ceremony. It demonstrated our ability in this country to live a full, unfettered Jewish life, regardless of the efforts in certain quarters to make us feel unwelcome.

With this reassurance, we must be careful not to over-react when those wishing us harm presume to threaten us, but rather deal with each case as it arises in a considered, proportionate manner.

• Listen to Charisse Zeifert on Jewish Board Talk, 101.9 ChaiFM every Friday 12:00-13:00.

This column paid for by the SA Jewish Board of Deputies

Will the 2015 Budget make light work?

Given the impact of South Africa’s power crisis on our country’s economic growth, the question is... how much tax will you have to fork out to keep the lights on?

For answers to this question and insights into the budget’s impact on you and your business, read our online budget review and analysis.

Just go to www.gt.co.za



Grant Thornton
An instinct for growth™

Audit • Tax • Advisory

www.gt.co.za

2015 Grant Thornton South Africa. All rights reserved. Grant Thornton South Africa is a member firm of Grant Thornton International Ltd (GTIL). GTIL and the member firms are not a worldwide partnership. Services are delivered by the member firms. GTIL and its member firms are not agents of, and do not obligate, one another and are not liable for one another’s acts or omissions. Please see www.gt.co.za for further details.

World News in Brief

France’s PM appeals to Jews to stay

PARIS - Prime Minister Manuel Valls of France has appealed to his country’s Jews to stay in the wake of a call by his Israeli counterpart Benjamin Netanyahu for European Jews to move to Israel.

“My message to French Jews is the following: France is wounded with you and France does not want you to leave,” Valls said on Monday following a weekend that saw two deadly shootings in Copenhagen that mirrored two attacks in Paris last month.

In the wake of the Copenhagen attacks, including one outside a synagogue that left a Jewish volunteer security guard dead, Netanyahu said on Sunday in a statement: “To the Jews of Europe and to the Jews of the world, I say that Israel is waiting for you with open arms.”

On Monday, Valls said: “The place for French Jews is France. I regret Benjamin Netanyahu’s remarks. Being in the middle of an election campaign doesn’t mean you authorise yourself to make just any type of statement.”

Valls also said that the threat of terror attacks remained high in France and that security measures would remain stringent for as long as necessary. France deployed 10 000 troops to protect Jewish buildings and other public sites

in the wake of the two Paris attacks by Islamists last month that left 17 dead, including four Jewish men at a kosher supermarket.

On Sunday, it was reported that several hundred graves were vandalised at a Jewish cemetery in northeastern France. Valls on Twitter called the vandalism “a vile, anti-Semitic act, an insult to the memory” of the dead and vowed to find those responsible. (JTA)

Majority of Americans: Obama should meet Bibi

WASHINGTON - More than half of Americans believe that President Barack Obama should meet with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu when the latter visits Washington, DC next month to address Congress. According to a YouGov/Huffington Post survey of 1 000 US adults, 58 per cent believe Obama should meet with Netanyahu. Forty-six per cent believe that their members of Congress should attend the Netanyahu address, compared with 24 per cent who said their elected representatives should not attend and 30 per cent who were undecided.

The White House is opposing the speech on the grounds that House Speaker John Boehner (Republican Ohio) did not consult with Obama prior to inviting Netanyahu. (JNS.org)



Peace of Mind for the Jewish Community

Jewish Emergency Response • Jewish Emergency Network

Our Information Technology Company has developed a highly specialized and functional Life Saving Mobile Phone App.

Our objective is a World-wide 'Jewish Emergency Network Initiative' [JEN] to provide an enhanced level of personal safety and security with our mobile app and service, with the added peace of mind that it will provide to family and loved ones.

The JEN Mobile App provides a very convenient and potential life-saving 'Emergency Touch Panic Button' which is permanently located on the users Mobile Phone.

Therefore when the Panic Button is activated on the users mobile phone, an automated 'Emergency Response SMS' message is instantly sent to all your saved Contacts, which should include your Private Security Armed Response phone number, as well as all your Family and Friends

numbers.

The Emergency SMS's that are automatically received by all of your saved Contacts also displays your Photo ID, and your exact GPS location so that all of your saved contacts know that you are in trouble and exactly where to find you.

The great benefit of having all of this important information linked to the 'Emergency Response SMS' is that often a person may be in trouble outside of their home or business, they may be attacked, car-jacked or abducted in a public street, or broken down in a dangerous location.

Every activated 'Emergency Touch Audio Button' is also recorded in our 'Activated Emergency Response Database' which is accessible through our associated website www.Jewish-Emergency.net for 'Authorized Private Security Companies or Police Services' to be able to remotely view all of the Activated Emergency Response SMS details.

Investment Opportunity: Global Income

We are offering limited shares in our Australian Company 'Innovative Technologies Pty Ltd' who has designed, developed and deployed the 'Jewish Emergency Response' Mobile App to enhance the safety, security and peace of mind of Global Jewish Communities.

Funds will be utilized promote and market the JEN Mobile App to Global Jewish Communities in numerous languages. France for example is desperately in need of such a product and service.

There is potential to earn significant global income whilst providing a potential life-saving product and service.

Expressions of Interest:

For details of potential income and shareholder investment, please email me at: Jack@innotech.mobi
Mobile App Website is: www.jewish-emergency.net
and our Company Website is: www.innotech.mobi

TO BOOK YOUR CLASSIFIED NOTICE OR ADVERT CONTACT:

Tel (011) 430-1980, Fax 086-634-7935, email: jrclassified@global.co.za

SERVICES
NOTICES

Hawley Marble and Granite Works Est. 1948. Monumental masons. We are proud to have served the Johannesburg Jewish community for many decades. Your support is much appreciated. Colleen Hawley Tel: (011) 828- 9010 Chaim Silver (011) 485-3005

BEAUTY & HEALTH

AUDIOLOGIST

KELLY NATHAN
Manor Medical Centre
189 Kelvin Drive
Morningside Manor
Tel: 0861-266-563
(0861-Book Me)
www.knaudiology.co.za

INDIVIDUALISED SERVICE FOR ALL YOUR HEARING NEEDS

LIFTS OFFERED

A TAXI SERVICE
Let Warren Pogorelsky chauffeur you to your destination in Johannesburg and back. OR Tambo from R170. Mercedes Benz Tel: 082-399-6187
Sun City & Game Reserve

SMILE-LEE'S LIFTS
A reliable lift service. Specialising in lifts to and from airports, shops, appointments, casinos and courier.
Charna 083-391-6612

BEST SERVICE
DIAL A LIFT

Comfortable
7 seater.
083-267-3281
Pip Friedman
www.dialalift.co.za
dialalift@gmail.com

LIFTS OFFERED

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

CAPE TOWN
HOWIE'S SHUTTLE
Since 2007

- AIRPORT TRANSFERS
- GENERAL TRANSPORT

www.howiesshuttle.co.za
Please phone Howard
082-711-4616

Alex's Lift Service
Experienced, reliable driver specialising in lifts to shops, appointments and wherever you need to go. Contact Alex: 083-409-4378

AIRPORT SHUTTLE SAM
(011) 728-5219
083-627-8516
To OR Tambo from R180.
To Lanseria from R220.
Reasonable rates to all other areas.

ACCOMMODATION
AVAILABLE

Accommodation to share in Benoni Looking for a female flatmate between 40 & 50 years to share asemi-furnished flat in a secure complex, Shul nearby.
R2 500 incl p/m
Call Alex
082-211-1957
082-665-1097

To place your classified advert call
(011) 430-1980 or email
susan@sajewishreport.co.za

ACCOMMODATION
AVAILABLE

TO LET
Royal Linksfield / Sandringham.
Ground floor with garden. Available April 1.
3 Beds (2 with bics), 2 baths, 2 tiled lounges, open plan kitchen / dining area, small study, lock-up garage, carport.
R12 400 pm plus deposit
R14 000.
Call June 083-226-3741 or (011) 640-4967

Flat with garden for large family in Glenhazel 5 bedrooms, large sunroom with pool in complex. Immediate occupation. Close to everything. Call 083-443-9503

SERVICES
HOME SERVICES

SILVER REPAIR & REPLATING
(011) 334 1102
082-473-6040

Italian builder
35 years exp, reliable and refs avail.
Renovations/ new houses built to spec.
Tiling, painting elec, plumbing.
Maurizio
082-443-7313

DECEASED ESTATE HOUSE CLEARANCES
Entire households cleared, professionally and confidentially. I'll take the burden off your shoulders and pay you for it. Please contact
Ladislav Miklas
079-810-8837
for a trusted and professional service. Also clear garages, cellars, storage rooms and storage facilities.

SERVICES
HOME SERVICES

WANTED
All household furniture, linen, kitchenware, clothing & more. All size beds & bases. Call Terry: 071-082-2752

The Fridge Doctor

083-228-2277

Appliance repairs on-site
Fridges, stoves, washing machines, tumble dryers and dishwashers. Free quotations.
Call Jason 082-401-8239 / 076-210-6532

OFFICE SPACE
AVAILABLE

OFFICES TO LET
with option of warehouse as well.
22 Commerce Crescent, next door to Action Cricket.
Eastgate Ext 12, Kramerville, Sandton
Contact robin@tregersports.co.za
084 6961095

EMPLOYMENT
WANTED

Amazing & experienced caregiver available. Contactable references.
Call Thandi
073-627-9809
Amazing & experienced caregiver available. Contactable references.
Call Maureen
082-267-2967

FOREIGN CITIZENSHIP

TORONTO REAL ESTATE RELOCATION
Thinking of moving?
We are a relocation team who can assist with renting/buying and more! Call Daniel Bloch @ 416-666-0311
daniel@danielbloch.com
Or visit www.DanielBloch.com

LITHUANIAN / POLISH / GERMAN CITIZENSHIP
Many South African Jews are eligible for EU citizenship. If you are interested, please contact me. I specialise in obtaining Lithuanian, Polish and German citizenship. I am able to obtain the required documents from archives in Europe.
RAEL CYNKIN CA (SA)
INFO@NOBORDERS.CO.ZA
083-346-4627

VEHICLES
WANTED

IF YOU WANT TO BUY OR SELL A VEHICLE
CONTACT: SOLLY KRAMER 082-922-3597

Hasofer Rabbi Yisroel Drutman
סופר חת"ם
Est. 2003
t: 2711 640 1834
c: 2782 347 8744
yisroeldrutmansofer@gmail.com

Qualified Sofer (Scribe) to write, check and sell Mezuzos, Sifrei Torah, Tefillin and Megillos

Member Vaad Mishmeres Stam Johannesburg Under Auspices JHB Beth Din Ordained Jewish Scribe

B'D

Vaad Mishmeres Stam International

All sizes of Mehudar Mezuzos and Tefillin at affordable prices Collection and affixing service offered. Computer checking of Mezuzos and Tefillin

Today, Friday (February 20)

• UZLC is hosting Isaac Reznik on "Lights Out". Venue: Our Parents Home. Time: 12:45 - 14:00. Contact: Gloria, (011) 485-4851 or 072-127-9421.

Sunday (February 22)

• Chabad's Goodness & Kindness Centre presents "Power Sundays; Learn, Shmooze, Pray". Venue: 8 Stella Street, Sandton. Time: 08:15. Information: Rabbi Ari Kievman 079-434-1293 www.SandtonCentral.org.za rak@chabad.org.za

• RCHCC presents the movie "Headmaster, Headmaster", a comedy featuring Neil Jardine. Venue: Clive M Beck Auditorium. Time: 19:30. Donation: R100 (incl refreshments). Booking: Hazel or René (011) 728-8088/8378, after hours (011) 728-8378, or e-mail rchcc@telkomsa.net or rene.s@telkomsa.net www.greatpark.co.za

• CAJE in conjunction with Sydenham Shul hosts Rabbis Gidon Fox and Dovi Goldstein who will square off in The Great Debate: "Who is a Better Jew: Born Frum or Born Free?" Come along and help decide who wins this debate. Venue: Sydenham Community Centre. Time: 19:45. Cost: R50 pp. Special series tickets which include all events are available at a reduced fee of R200 from Sydenham Shul (011) 640-5021. Speak to Shirley. Secure parking and tea will be served.

• Second Innings hosts Brenda Lasersohn on "The Healthy Ageing Brain - Inspire To Rewire". Venue: Gerald Horwitz Lounge, Golden Acres. Time: 10:00 for 10:30. Cost: R20 members, visitors R30 (incl tea and light refreshments). Contact: Hylton Marks: (011) 532-9616.

Monday (February 23)

• Chabad Seniors Club includes

"Memory Enhancement" with Cynthia Liptz. iPad lessons, and much more. Refreshments and lunch, Venue: Chabad House, Savoy. Time: 09:00 - 13:00. Information: Rabbi Ari Kievman (011) 440-6600 or www.chabadsouthafrica.org/seniors

• CAJE in conjunction with Sydenham Shul confronts the conversion conundrum: "Should We Want More Jews or Better Jews?" Registrar of Conversions Rabbi Ron Hendler will present the Beth Din's case. He will be joined by Adam Gross who has a personal story to share. Venue: Sydenham Community Centre. Time: 19:45. Cost: R50 pp. Special series tickets which include all events are available at a reduced fee of R200 from Sydenham Shul (011) 640-5021. Speak to Shirley. Secure parking and tea will be served.

• UJW hosts Robyn Sassen, freelance art writer and academic, on "Dulce et Decorum Est", focusing on SA artist, Paul Emmanuel, Wilem Boshoff and Manfred Zylla and their focus on war. Venue: 1 Oak Street, Houghton. Time: 09:30. Donation: R35. Contact: (011) 648-1053.

Tuesday (February 24)

• Chabad House's Miracle Drive Dinner. Venue: Sandton Convention Centre Time: 19:00. Contact: Chabad House (011) 440-6600 or rak@chabad.org.za

• CAJE in conjunction with Sydenham Shul will ponder the mysteries of life and beyond. "Journeys of the Soul" will bring together Rabbi David Wineberg of Cape Town's Marais Road Shul and psychiatrist Dr Shelli Sandler from Johannesburg on "Heaven, Hell and the Here & Now". Venue: Sydenham Community Centre. Time: 19:45. Cost: R50 pp. Special series tickets which include all events are

available at a reduced fee of R200 from Sydenham Shul (011) 640-5021. Speak to Shirley. Secure parking and tea will be served.

• WIZO Women Inspired presents "Live your Life in a Frenetic World" with Roz Basserabie. Time: 09:30 for 10:00. Cost: R80 (incl tea and refreshments). For venue details and more information: Joceline 082-441-4375; Lorraine 083-268-8016; Maureen 082-445-1515; Isarae 083-375-1212; Leslie 083-456-3911; Ilana 082-601-2519; or Merlene 082-410-4976.

• UJW hosts Estelle Sher, musicologist and JPO lecturer, on "A Programme of Music and Discussion Based on the Current JPO Programme". Venue: Home of Stella Beder, 104 Pembury Lodge, 1 Kernick Avenue, Melrose North. Time: 10:00. Donation: R35. Contact: (011) 648-1053.

Wednesday (February 25)

• Chabad Seniors Club presents "Nicky's Family", a documentary on Sir Nicholas Winton, Britain's Schindler, who saved the lives of 669 children in Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia. Venue: Chabad House, Savoy. Time: 12:00 - 13:30. Information: Rabbi Ari Kievman (011) 440-6600, rak@chabad.org or www.chabadsouthafrica.org/seniors

• Chabad's Goodness & Kindness Centre presents "The Art of Parenting: Will our Children Listen to us? Should they?" Venue: 8 Stella Street, Sandton Central. Time: 19:15. Information: (011) 440-6600 or jli@chabad.org.za www.JLI.org.za

• UJW hosts Dr Lorraine Chaskalson, former lecturer in Dept of English at Wit, on "Contemporary Poetry". Venue: 1 Oak Street, Houghton. Time: 09:30. Donation: R35. Contact: (011) 648-1053.

• Second Innings hosts an outing to Doonholm Herb Farm. Meet the bus at 09:00 at Golden Acres. Cost: R180 (all-inclusive). Booking: Betty Jankelowitz (011) 532-9616.

• Temple Israel Port Elizabeth hosts a fundraising Zion Adar Dinner in honour of its past and present Chevrah Kadisha and Bikur Cholim members. A three course parev buffet-style dinner including wine and lucky draws with prizes. Booking: Yonah, (041) 373-6642.

Thursday (February 26)

• Chabad's Goodness & Kindness Centre offers a "Hebrew Reading Crash Course for Beginners with Ephraim Zaslansky". Venue: 8 Stella Street, Sandton Central. Time: 19:00. Information: (011) 440-6600 or jli@chabad.org.za www.JLI.org.za

• Chabad Seniors Club daily presents "Educational Academy for the Elderly". It includes free transportation, occupational therapy, lectures and discussions, refreshments, lunch, Yiddish Club, iPad lessons, blood pressure and sugar tests, and much more. Venue: Chabad House, Savoy. Time: 09:00 - 13:00. Information: Rabbi Ari Kievman (011) 440-6600 or www.chabadsouthafrica.org/seniors

• CAJE in conjunction with Sydenham Shul contemplates "The Israel Issue", with Israel's Ambassador to SA Arthur Lenk, on "Sharing Start-Up Nation... in a Complex Neighbourhood" while Olga Meshoe, COO of DEISI will be insisting that "Right is Might" - "We Saw the Truth They Don't Want You to Know About." Venue: Sydenham Community Centre. Time: 19:45. Cost: R50 pp. Special series tickets which include all events are available at a reduced fee of R200 from Sydenham Shul (011) 640-5021. Speak to Shirley. Secure parking and tea will be served.

SAUJS gets massive worldwide support

SUZANNE BELLING

The South African Union of Jewish Students is continuing with its global campaign against the Durban University of Technology's SRC in spite of DUT's apology after calling on Jewish students

to deregister - especially "those who do not support the Palestinian cause".

"Their apology added in other religions and atheists and they are still continuing their anti-Israeli activities, unequivocally targeting Israel. Their call came after Leila Khaled addressed DUT. We do not accept it - the Jewish community and the students in particular, found their call horrendous and we will continue our campaign," said Natan Pollack, national chairman of SAUJS.

On Friday afternoon last week, before Shabbat the Jewish students in South Africa sent out a global call for support for the practice and exercise of their Judaism. The call went viral and "people were overwhelming eager to be involved".

Last Sunday SAUJS had a massive sign-up from Bnei Akiva, Netzer, Deisi (a Christian Zionist movement), the World Union of Jewish Students, Habonim Dror, Betar and the National Union of

Israeli Students.

Their pictures were displayed on Facebook, with the hashtag DUT SRC Disgrace, where supporters placed messages such as: "DUT SRC has learnt nothing from apartheid", "South Africans are proud to be Jewish", "South Africans have a right to



A student protestor flies the Zionist flag.

freedom speech" and "We won't tolerate anti-Semitism".

The campaign has received support from students in Johannesburg, Melbourne, Sydney, Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, Paris, Belgium, the Ukraine, Austria and London. "South Africa prides itself on a democratic society, encompassing all religious, races, ethnicities and political standpoints - the rainbow nation. South African universities encourage both rights to freedom of speech and freedom of association. This is in line with our national constitution," Pollack said inter alia

in a statement.

"To discriminate against a person because of their religious beliefs or political standpoint will not be tolerated by a nation that has fought so hard to uphold these ideals. The recent demands of the DUT SRC has humiliated the freedoms of students. Moreover, it is and explicit violation of human rights guaranteed to all who live in South Africa."

Werbeloff leads new Maccabi tennis initiative

JACK MILNER

Ever since most people can remember, the South African tennis team chosen for the Maccabi Games has been selected based on whether you can reasonably hit a ball over the net, how available you were and if you could afford to go.

Not quite, but selections were made more often on an arbitrary basis. However, that is all about to change if Byron Werbeloff has his way. Byron, 24, has been appointed convener and head coach for Maccabi South Africa and he intends setting up a national structure, similar to that of Maccabi Golf SA.

“Maccabi has not had an organised programme,” said

Byron. “We want to have regular tournaments and a ladder with rankings based on performance. In that way selection to the Maccabiah will be prestigious.

“We will set up a system that will help us get to know the players and give them the chance to play against members of other clubs.”

Byron was top junior in the country. He has set up a number of very good initiatives in the past and hopefully Maccabi will be another success story.

The courts at King David High School Linksfield will be the home base in Johannesburg and to help him co-ordinate the venture, Byron has enlisted the help of Kayleigh Sher. Eight years ago Kayleigh, now 21, was one of South Africa’s biggest prospects and she twice qualified for the International



Byron Werbeloff and Kayleigh Sher have big plans for Maccabi tennis.

Masters of the Nike Junior Tour, representing the country in Nice in 2005 as an under-12 player and again in 2007 at Turin in the under-14 category.

For a while Kayleigh hung up her racquet to concentrate on her studies, but over the past few years she has coached tennis and has also represented South Africa at the International University Games.

There will be a small charge to be part of the Maccabi set-up, but this will be a nominal amount. Part of the money collected will be used to sponsor the team going to the Maccabiah.

The training will be open to anybody between the ages of six and 25. “The under-10s will be known as our ‘Rising Maccabi Stars’,” explained Byron. “The idea is to plan for the future and give them something to work towards.”

He added that the training and tournaments would be open to all, irrespective of race and religion. “We are trying to create an inexpensive way of training. The more people we have, the better it is for everybody. Of course, when it comes to selection for the Maccabiah, only Jewish members will be considered.”

With this in mind Maccabi will be holding an open day at King David on Sunday March 1. “We will have a competition format based on the level of the players. Anyone can attend, irrespective of age or race and it will be free.”

Byron is also looking at setting up a similar structure in Cape Town.

Boyd to represent SA seniors in Turkey

JACK MILNER

Jacqui Boyd is one of those tennis players who has really matured well and appears to be thoroughly enjoying her tennis as a senior player. For the second successive year she has been selected to represent South Africa in the Women’s 35+ age group at the Young Seniors World Team Tennis Championships in Antalya, Turkey, next month.

The Seniors World Championships is held each year in a different country with age divisions ranging from 35+ to 80+. This year’s tournament is once again expected to field an extremely strong list of players from countries all over the world, including tennis power houses from Spain, France,

US, Argentina and Germany, to name but a few.

Jacqui, a former SA No 1 junior and current No 1 in the 35+ division, competed in her first Senior World

Championships last year where the team did exceptionally well to finish sixth of the 16 countries in a very strong field which included numerous former top 120 players in the world.

Jacqui has represented South Africa at three Maccabi Games where she has won medals on each occasion and still says competing in Israel every four years is one of the highlights of her career.

Jacqui plays premier league tennis for Camps Bay Tennis Club and over the years has helped the club to win ladies and mixed league titles.



Jacqui Boyd

JAWITZ

PROPERTIES

Invest in Property in Israel

Visit our stand at the ISRAEL / SOUTH AFRICA EXPO to view a selection of Property Investment Opportunities from R2,5 million - payable over 2 years.

For more information call

Herschel Jawitz 082 571 1829 | Ari Shapiro +972 54 3332525

Read the South African Jewish Report online

www.sajewishreport.co.za

MACSTEEL

Offering you the most comprehensive range of steel products and value added processing services in Africa

- Aluminium
- Blanking
- Bright Bar
- Castellated Beams
- Cellular Beams
- Cold Form Sections
- Cold Saw Cutting
- Conveyance Pipe
- Corrugated Roofing
- Drilling
- Expanded Metal
- Fencing Products
- Flame Cutting
- Flanges
- Fluid Control Systems
- Freestock
- Galvanized Sheets
- Galvanized Tubing
- Grating
- Guillotining
- Harveytiles
- Heat Treatment Services
- High Strength Steels
- Hollow Bar
- IBR Roofing
- Laboratory Services
- Laser Cutting
- Laser Cut Tubing
- Lipped Channels
- Open Sections
- Palisade Fencing
- Pipe Fittings
- Plasma Cutting
- Plates
- Plate Bending & Rolling
- Pre-coated Sheets
- Pressure Vessel Steels
- Profile Sections
- Purlins
- Rails
- Reinforcing
- Roofing Solutions
- Sheets
- Slitting
- Special Steels
- Stainless Steels
- Stretcher Leveling
- Structural Steels
- Technical Consultancy
- Tool Steels
- Tubing
- Valves & Actuators
- Wear Resistant Steels
- Zincalume Roof Sheets



Best Quality, Service, Value!

The Macsteel Group - Africa's leading steel supplier - www.macsteel.co.za

KosherWorld



TRULY KOSHER

BUY BULK & SAVE

Mishloach Manot

פורים שמח

MANY IN-STORE SPECIALS

1 LONG AVENUE CNR RIDGE AND SUMMERWAY GLENHAZEL | CALL: 011 440 9517 | info@kosherworld.co.za | www.kosherworld.co.za
TRADING HOURS: MON-THURS 7AM-10PM | FRI: 7AM-4PM | SAT: 1/2 HOUR AFTER SHABBOS -10PM | SUN: 8AM - 10PM

ORDER ONLINE