



Alexis Preller,  
oil on board  
**SOLD R550 000**



Georgian London  
silver six arm  
candelabrum  
**SOLD R340 000**



Pablo Picasso,  
wool tapestry  
**SOLD R80 000**



Villa Edoardo,  
abstract  
composition  
**SOLD R85 000**



Pair of Chinese and  
brass mounted  
horseshoe-shaped  
armchairs  
**SOLD R40 000**

# South African Jewish Report

[www.sajr.co.za](http://www.sajr.co.za)

March 17 2017 / 19 Adar 5777  
Volume 21 - Number 9



Photo: Ilan Ossendryver

## Looking beyond the ink to find the real heart of Israel

Bringing out some Jewish street artists as "support" for SAUJS on the Wits campus during Israel Apartheid Week was an unusual, but popular, venture. This avant garde, "well-inked" global group, Artists4Israel, had students queuing up for a spray-painted T-shirt. Craig Dershowitz is the driver behind this initiative and his group were guests of the SAZF, the SAJBD and SA Friends of Israel. Pictured above is Mike "2ESAE" Baca, one of the street artists, painting a wall on Wits Campus. More on Israel Apartheid Week on pages 3, 5 and 8.

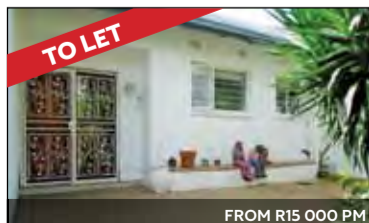
### GLENHAZEL & SURROUNDS



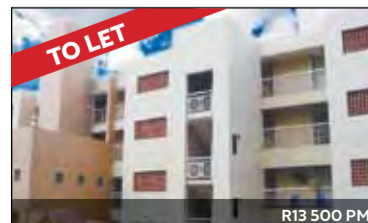
**FOR SALE**  
R6 999 000 / R7 999 000 / R8 999 000  
**BENCHMARK HOME IN GLENHAZEL!** State-of-the-art kitchen, undercover patio & pool. 6 Beds (en-suite), pyjama lounge plus study. Within walking distance to Yeshiva College. Features galore & more!  
Sean Kramer 083 263 7164 | Jodi Dayan 083 777 8948



**FOR SALE**  
R5 999 000 / R6 250 000 / R6 500 000  
**SERIOUS SELLER WILL CONSIDER ALL WRITTEN OFFERS!** 4 beds, plus study, 2.5 baths, chef's eat-in kitchen. "Julian Michaels" designer open-plan living areas. Generator & excellent security.  
Sean Kramer 083 263 7164 | Jodi Dayan 083 777 8948



**TO LET**  
FROM R15 000 PM  
**4 BEDROOM FURNISHED FAMILY HOME.** Lovely four bedroom, two bathroom home, lounge, dining and playroom. Garden and pool. SQ. Carports, security gates. Close to Shuls and schools.  
Hilton 082 455 8630 | Lourayne 082 780 0253



**TO LET**  
R13 500 PM  
**3 BEDROOM UNIT IN GLENHAZEL.** Lovely 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom apartment. Open-plan lounge and dining room. Staff accommodation. 2 Parking bays. 24Hr Security. Occupation available immediately.  
Hilton 082 455 8630 | Lourayne 082 780 0253

**FIRZT**  
SALES | RENTALS | DEVELOPMENTS  
COMMERCIAL SALES & RENTALS  
011 731 0300 | [www.firzt.co.za](http://www.firzt.co.za)



# Strong Cape Town Jewish support for affordable housing in Sea Point

**MOIRA SCHNEIDER  
CAPE TOWN**

Over 250 Cape Town Jews sent a petition to the Western Cape government in support of developing social housing on prime Sea Point land that had been “earmarked” for a Jewish day school.

In last week’s SA Jewish Report, they placed an advert with their signatures that read: “We, Jewish Capetonians, call for social housing in Sea Point and on other sites in an inclusive Cape Town.”

This is the latest turn in the controversial Tafelberg saga.

In November 2015, the Phyllis Jowell Jewish Day School (PJJDS) was notified that it was the preferred bidder in a public tender process for the almost two hectare property, but the sale was halted last May, with the Western Cape High Court ordering the provincial government, owners of the land, to conduct a public participation process in the matter.

Thirty-year-old signatory Daniel Linde, an attorney who is the deputy director of the Equal Education Law Centre, says their submission and advert was aimed at expressing support for the use of well-situated public land for public good and in particular to support the campaign to build social housing at Tafelberg.

“It was really about giving a voice to some



Photo: Mary-Anne Gontisana

**Activists have been campaigning for affordable housing in the City Bowl and Sea Point for low-income families, such as this one in January this year.**

members of the Jewish community and to make it clear that there are significant portions of our community that do support that kind of policy. Many of us are really excited about the prospect of social housing near to the city centre and Tafelberg is obviously one of the best-situated places,” he told Jewish Report.

“We wanted to say that the state must ensure that working class people who work in Sea Point or town and are travelling great distances, can be closer to work, can experience Sea Point’s amenities and don’t have to leave their children back home early in the morning.”

In January, an e-mail signed by Samuel Seeff, chairman of the Western Province Priorities and Planning Board, and Lance Katz, deputy chairman of the board of governors of the PJJDS, was circulated in which the Jewish community was discouraged from participating in a meeting called to discuss the issue by activist group Ndifuna Ukwazi “as it may be

detrimental to the community’s interests”.

Katz told Jewish Report it was never their intention to dissuade people from attending the meeting. “Unfortunately some interpreted it that way which caused some upset and that is regrettable.

“We have a diverse Jewish community with a range of views on different issues. That diversity is the strength of our community.”

Similarly, with regard to the petition (submission), individuals were within their rights to express their views. “Much of what the petition says about the importance of affordable housing in creating an accessible and inclusive city, are views we ourselves have expressed.”

The province’s feasibility study to which the submission was a response, proposes a mixed-use development that would include social housing as well as a school or a community centre. Would the PJJDS in that case be willing to be part of such a facility?

“It is impossible to say until Province makes their decision and their intentions for the site clear,” says Katz. “If they resile from the sale agreement with us, we will need to look afresh at all options, including the possibility of being part of a mixed-use development.”

Aside from increased awareness and support in the Jewish community since the petition’s publication, Linde says there has been a spin-off further afield. “People across different classes, races and religions, see also that there’s a big section of Capetonian Jewish people, many of whom connect deeply with their Jewish identity, who feel that social housing on available public land around the city, including Tafelberg, will make Cape Town a more just and equal place for all to live in,” he says.

“Reclaim the City (a campaign for affordable housing development in the inner city) posted our submission on Facebook a few days ago - there are a lot of comments from South Africans who have expressed positivity around the letter and seeing so many members of the Jewish community supporting affordable housing close to the city.”

## Shabbat Times

**March 17/19 Adar  
March 18/20 Adar  
Parshat Ki Tisa**

Starts	Ends	
18:04	18:53	Johannesburg
18:15	19:35	Cape Town
17:53	18:42	Durban
18:12	19:01	Bloemfontein
18:15	19:06	Port Elizabeth
18:06	18:56	East London

## Parsha

## Prince Unisex Barber Shop

**RAEDENE:** 5 Durham Street, Raedene  
**LYNDHURST:** 14 Lyndhurst Place, cnr Johannesburg Rd and Kernick Ave, Lyndhurst (opp MacDonalds)

☎ 084 451 0517 ☎ 072 024 8142

Haircut R 50  
Shave R 30  
Colour R 60  
Facial R100



Bring your family for a haircut...

**HAPPY PURIM!**

## VEHICLES WANTED



**Any make, any model, any condition  
Accident damaged vehicles and non-runners also wanted**

☎ **Arnold Orkin 082-823-7826  
AUTO AFRICA**

## Picking up the pieces



*Parshat Ki Tisa*  
**Rabbi Yossy Goldman,  
Sydenham Shul**

“It’s too late.” “I’m too far gone.” “It’ll never be the same...” How many times have we heard those words? Or, worse still, said them?

This week’s parsha tells the story of the Golden Calf, the worst national sin in the history of the Jewish people. How humiliating to the Jews! Just weeks after the greatest revelation of all time, when they saw and heard G-d up front and personal, they go and bow down to a cow?! How fickle can you get?

But the Torah is unflinchingly honest and records this most unflattering moment of ours in all its gory detail.

Why? Perhaps the very important lessons we need to draw from this embarrassing episode are, firstly, that people

do sin, human beings do make mistakes, and even inspired Jews who saw the Divine can mess up - badly. And, secondly, that even afterwards there is still hope, no matter what.

In the very same parsha we read how G-d tells Moshe to carve out a second set of tablets to replace the first set he smashed when he came down the mountain and was shocked by what the Jews had got up to.

The Torah does not intend to diminish our respect for that generation, but rather to help us understand human frailty, our moral weakness and the reality of relationships, spiritual or otherwise.

G-d gave us a perfect Torah. The tablets were hand-made by G-d, pure and sacred, and then we messed up. So, is it all over? Is there really no hope now? Are we beyond redemption? After all, what could possibly be worse than idolatry?

We broke the first two commandments and the tablets were shattered into smithereens because we were no longer worthy to have them. It was the ultimate infidelity.

So, Torah teaches that all is not lost. As bad as it was - and it was bad - it is possible for man to repair the damage. Moshe will make new tablets.

They won’t be quite the same as G-d’s, but there will be tablets nonetheless. We can pick up the pieces of life. Hope springs eternal.

I once heard a good vort from a colleague about the significance of breaking the glass under the chuppah. Besides never forgetting Jerusalem and praying for her full restoration, this ceremony teaches a very important lesson about life to a bride and groom who are about to embark on their own new path in life.

What happens immediately after the groom breaks the glass? Everyone shouts mazeltov! The message is clear. Something broke? Nu, it’s not the end of the world. We can even laugh about it and still be happy. Nisht gefערlich. Lo nora. This too shall pass. A very practical, peace-keeping tip for the new couple.

There are second chances in life. It is possible to pick up the pieces in life. Whether it’s our relationships with G-d, our marriage partners, our kids, our friends or our colleagues, we can make amends and repair the damage. Falling off a horse or a bicycle dare not mean that we never ride again.

If the Jews could recover from the Golden Calf, our own challenges are small indeed.

## South African Jewish Report

Editor Peta Krost Maunder - editor@sajewishreport.co.za • Sub-editor Paul Maree • Senior Writer Suzanne Belling • Editorial Co-ordinator Martine Bass - editorial@sajewishreport.co.za • Design and layout Bryan Maron/Design Bandits - bryan@designbandits.co.za • Website Anthony Katz • General Manager Roni Lea - roni@sajewishreport.co.za • Advertising Britt Landsman: 082-292-9520 - britt@sajewishreport.co.za • Small ads Lilly Harmse - admin@sajewishreport.co.za • Distribution manager Britt Landsman • Subscription enquiries Avusa Publishing (Pty) Ltd. Tel: 0860-525200 • Board of Directors Howard Sackstein (Chairman), Herby Rosenberg, Dina Diamond, Herschel Jawitz, Shaun Matisonn, Benjy Porter.

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



**Just because you’ve made a mistake doesn’t mean you are one.**

At Chabad Addiction Recovery Centre, our skilled counsellors, rabbis and psychologist **help heal the shame and self-loathing that lie at the core of addiction.** Acceptance, compassion and spiritual insight for addicts and their families open a path to sustainable recovery.

To get in touch please call the CARE Hotline on 0636639704 24/6 or email CARE@chabad.org.za



Driven by Miracle Drive



# Israel irked by ANC bigwigs

ANT KATZ

The Israeli government is furious after at least three senior ANC members lambasted the country during Israel Apartheid Week (IAW) events last week. On Monday, South African Ambassador to Israel Sisa Ngombane, was called into the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) in Jerusalem to respond to this.

Israel's Ambassador to South Africa Arthur Lenk, in the meantime went to the Department of International Relations and Co-operation (Dirco) in Pretoria, to deliver a message from his government.

During an IAW speech last week, South African Minister of Water and Sanitation Nomvula Mokonyane, accused Israel of practising apartheid to subjugate Palestinians, and accusing Israel of "lacking any humanity".

ANC Deputy Secretary-General Jessie Duarte, at an event in Klerksdorp in North West, drew a parallel between Israel today and South Africa under apartheid when, she said, people "were detained without trial, tortured and mishandled by members of the army and police".

This came after former SA President Kgalema Motlanthe, at the launch of the perennial anti-Israel hate week, advocated for a "one-state" Middle East solution, as a two-state solution was dead.

This flew in the face of both SA government policy as well as that of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

Motlanthe wrote afterwards in the Sunday Times that he envisaged a secular, federal state "where ethnicity and religion are no longer dividing features of life".

Mokonyane, a member of the powerful ANC National Executive Committee said that while "the ANC has seen the dawn of democracy", this had not been the case for their old allies, "the PLO".

"The Palestinian struggle rages on, even more fierce than ever before. The viciousness and inhumanity with which the Israeli regime handles the resistance of the Palestinian to oppression, has not abated; it now seems to be on steroids," she said.

Palestinians had endured the "dispossession of (their lands)" said the minister, "through a systematic policy

of colonial expansion, ethnic cleansing and military occupation of the most brutal kind."

Mokonyane, also accused Israel of conducting a system of water apartheid against the Palestinians and accused the Israeli Defence Forces of being a "murderous machine".

Israel was particularly irked by her reference to "the shooting of a Palestinian protester who was lying on the ground", and her calling it a "demonstration of the culture and character of the Israeli army". The minister, say the Israelis, was referring to Elor Azaria's shooting of a wounded terrorist and not a protester.

Duarte said that although this week's flurry of diplomatic activity included her calling on the South African government to strip South

African Jews who had participated in Operation Cast Lead in 2010 of their citizenship, this was something she had said years ago, not now.

Ngombane was met by Ambassador Elron Yoram the deputy Director-General at the MFA, who conveyed the displeasure of the Israeli government about the statements made by Duarte and Mokonyane "which they described as being unacceptable and harmful to the bilateral relations", a highly-placed source who asked not to be named, told Jewish Report.

"Ambassador Yoram made the point that the water figures cited by Minister Mokonyane (used to try and prove that Israel was subjugating the

Palestinian community by cutting off their water) were not true. The Israeli government has done better than the requirements of the signed agreements. He also indicated that the reference to Israel as an enemy was unusually very strong and problematic."

Mokonyane had sent a delegation headed by one of her senior advisers to Israel to investigate Israeli water technology last year. Also, when Dirco's director general, Jerry Matjile, invited his Israeli counterpart, Dore Gold, to South Africa last year, they signed an agreement on mutual interest in water co-operation.

Following his dressing down, Ngombane promised to convey these issues to South Africa.

"Rallies like these normally lend themselves to this type of language and should solicit no big surprise from Israel," said the ambassador.



## INVEST IN MORE THAN JUST A HOME.

## INVEST IN ISRAEL.



Hold Real Estate brings you the opportunity to invest in Israel by owning your dream home in Jerusalem, Netanya or Tiberias.

Personally meet with Julian Nathan and Ari Shapiro to discuss your investment opportunities. Julian and Ari will be in Jhb, Durban and CT from 23rd March until 30th March and Sunday 5 March until Thursday 9 March.

Make an appointment today to discuss your tomorrow.

Contact Julian or Hershel today to discuss your tomorrow.

julian@hold.co.il | 087 551 0734 or herschel@jawitz.co.za 082 571 1829 | or visit [hold.co.il](http://hold.co.il) for more information.



Securing your future in Israel

JAWITZ

PROPERTIES

INVEST IN PROPERTY IN ISRAEL FROM R5 MILLION

Contact Herschel Jawitz in strict confidence: 082 571 1829 | [herschel@jawitz.co.za](mailto:herschel@jawitz.co.za)



ON SHOW THIS SUNDAY

Morningside – R7.299 Million

**Cluster. Offering richness of detail,** this is a home that provides a lifestyle beyond your imagination, with spacious bedrooms and generous living areas, an over-sized patio and lovely garden. Set in one of the most desirable complexes in Morningside, it offers an immaculate fully fitted study, excellent staff and 24-hour security. This home proves that the grass is greener on the other side. Across the road from the Shul. Web Ref: 111435

Directions: Rivonia into Outspan, left into West Road South, follow pointers.

Norma Robinson 082 554 7260 | 011 656 0888



Waverley – R6.495 Million

**Waverley Acre Wonderland.** Experience the warmth & charm of this traditional family home on a Waverley acre. Offering 3 receptions, 2 studies, entertainer's kitchen, guest cloak room, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, cottage, staff, 3 garages, top security & magnificent parklike garden. Web Ref: 113798

Chrissie Hammer 082 568 0440 | 011 880 3550



ON SHOW THIS SUNDAY

Sydenham – R3 Million's

**Kinfauns Street.** A 5 bedroomed beauty set on 1485sqm land with self contained 2 bedroomed cottage. Welcome to this gorgeous 5 bedroomed magical home, 3 spacious reception rooms onto beautiful garden setting, luxurious covered patio onto games room and built in bar, modern kitchen, 3 stunning baths (mes), SQ, off street parking for 12+ cars, fort knox security. An absolute rare gem. Web Ref: 108140

Directions: Along 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue into Kinfauns Street  
Joel Harris 082 926 0287 | Marco 082 048 2644



ON SHOW THIS SUNDAY

Glenhazel – R1.499 Million

**Northdowns. A gorgeous renovated 2 bedroom apartment.** Unpack your bags and move into this beautiful north facing apartment, stunning gourmet kitchen, spacious reception room onto patio, under cover secure parking. Lovely complex, garden and pool. Hurry to view this new release. Web Ref: 111888

Directions: Along Northfield into Mansion

Joel Harris 082 926 0287 | Marco 082 048 2644



# Being observant in a secular workplace needs fancy footwork - and understanding

SUZANNE BELLING

Jews who keep Shabbos have every sympathy for Deidre Faris, a Seventh Day Adventist who was discriminated against and fired from her job at TFD Network in Cape Town, after refusing to work on Saturdays.

Before she signed her employment contract, she had pointed out to her employers that her religion prohibits her from working on a Saturday. A senior manager, Jurie Smith later told her he did

not care about her religion.

Faris was awarded R60 000 compensation by Acting Justice Omphehtse Mooki, who called her humiliation in public “an affront to society”.

Labour lawyer Michael Bagraim, who is DA shadow deputy minister of labour, told Jewish Report he knew about the case, which “was indeed an unfair labour practice”.

However, he said he had represented a Jewish man, who “became dati (religious)” well into his employment contract.

“He worked for a bottle manufacturing plant, which only had access to the machinery on Saturdays and Sundays and he said this no longer suited him.

“They told him ‘sorry you either work or leave’. We challenged this, went to the CCMA and were going to Labour Court, but the company settled a small amount beforehand. Unfortunately, my client was in the wrong because he did not point it out initially and only became observant later.”

Bagraim said his client’s case was not one of discrimination and was unlike the Seventh Day Adventist case.

He warned observant people “to speak out up front. You cannot accept the terms of employment and then change them



if you change. It is like suddenly saying: ‘I cannot work Wednesday afternoons because I play golf!’”

Wendy Kahn, national director of the SA Jewish Board of Deputies, said it was one of the responsibilities of the Board to assist the Jewish community in upholding its religious rights in South Africa.

“The Board works closely with Jewish students at universities around the country ensuring that they are not disadvantaged due to their religious observance.

“We engage with the universities to find ways that the students with exams scheduled on Shabbat or chagim can be accommodated.

“The SAJBD, together with the Union of Orthodox Synagogues (UOS), has also assisted newly-qualified doctors with their internship and community services placements ensuring that observant Jewish doctors are placed in a proximity to Jewish life to assist them with Shabbat and kashrut observance.”

## America’s most controversial Trump supporter

OWN CORRESPONDENT

British-born Milo Yiannopoulos was forced to resign from Breitbart News, a far-right wing news site in the United States two weeks ago, over comments he made that appeared to endorse sex between “younger boys” and older men.

Yiannopoulos was a virtual unknown until he started campaigning for Donald Trump pre-elections and publicly standing up to the anti-Trumpers.

He is an enigma who thrives on ultra-right rhetoric. He is openly gay, makes spurious claims to some Jewish blood on his maternal grandmother’s side and calls Trump “Daddy”.

His father is half Greek, half Irish, while his mother is British. Although he loves referring to his “Jewish side”, he calls himself a “practising Catholic”. Yiannopoulos’ claims of Jewish ancestry has put him at odds with neo-Nazi adherents in the alt-right.

Some call him a “shock jock” who thrives on sensation and the limelight. His “claim to fame” is - or was - closely linked to the notorious right wing website and his former boss Steve Bannon’s - close link with Trump, first as an election adviser as chief political strategist and since Trump’s election, filling a major role in national security policy at the White House.

Many commentators, such as well-known American columnist James Kirchick - who is Jewish - are viciously scathing of Yiannopoulos and his “credentials”. Kirchick, headlined an article on Yiannopoulos last June: “Donald Trump’s little boy is a gay half-Jew with jungle fever” with the subhead: “The sad story of Milo Yiannopoulos: The Trump troll with Daddy issues”.

As a self-proclaimed “cultural libertarian” and “free speech fundamentalist”, he is a vocal critic of feminism, Islam, social justice, political correctness, and other movements and ideologies he deems authoritarian or belonging to the “regressive left”.

He considers himself a reporter of and “occasional fellow traveller” with the alt-right movement. The “alt-right” is the largely Internet-based, populist movement that has surged to prominence on the heels of Trump’s success.

In July 2016, he was permanently banned from Twitter for “inciting or engaging in the targeted abuse or harassment of others”.

But comments in a two-year-old video clip in which he said that sexual relationships between 13-year-old boys and adult men and women “very often” are “perfectly consensual” and positive experiences for the boys, was a tipping point, with the irony of commentators on the left, centre and right in unison condemning the remarks.

Yiannopoulos has strenuously denied that he is advocating paedophilia, but he was forced to resign from Breitbart News where he headed Breitbart Tech; a speaking tour was cancelled and a lucrative book deal was scuppered.

In a previous Breitbart article, Yiannopoulos and a co-author described the alt-right movement as “dangerously bright”. Tablet, the American Jewish general interest daily online magazine, noted that many of these intellectual backers write for publications it describes as racist and anti-Semitic, like VDARE and American Renaissance.

The Breitbart article was criticised by opponents of the right-wing for excusing the extremist elements of the alt-right, and also by neo-Nazi website The Daily Stormer who claim that racism and anti-Semitism are pillars of the movement.

As Yiannopoulos has said: “Trust me, alt-right hardliners don’t like me any more than they like the Republican establishment or Hillary (Clinton): I’m a degenerate, race-mixing gay Jew, and they don’t let me forget it!”

He joked to The New York Times: “I call myself a Trump-sexual. I have a very antiwhite bedroom policy, but Trump is kind of like the exception to that rule.”

Yiannopoulos states: “I don’t care about politics, I only talk about politics because of Trump.”

Writes Kirchick last year when Trump was still a presidential candidate: “When I recently asked Yiannopoulos to name the Trump policies he favours, he replied Trump supporters don’t care about the man’s policies, he said. “They want to burn everything down.”



**DECEASED ESTATE HOUSE CLEARANCES**

Entire households cleared professionally & confidentially.

We will take the burden off your shoulders and pay you for it.

For a trusted service call Ladislav Miklas on 079 810 8837 ladimiklas22@gmail.com

**TAXI**

AIRPORT TRANSFERS

7 seater

Pip Friedman 083 267 3281 dailalift@gmail.com

**Appliance Repairs on Site**

Fridges, Dishwashers, Washing Machines, Stoves Tumble Dryers & more

Call Jason 082 401 8239 / 076 210 6532

**FREE QUOTATIONS**

**HAROLDS REMOTES** Est. 1977

Keys & Key Cutting

Remote Control – Transmitters for: Alarms ★ Gates ★ Garage Doors

81 Hathorn Ave Cnr Durham St RAEDENE ESTATE (free parking) Tel: 082-881-3720

**CARPET CLEAN MACHINE** Est. 1980

Pesach Cleaning Special **20%** DISCOUNT

(011) 640-5441 • (083) 929-8811

**PAM GOLDING PROPERTIES**

Didn't think you could have a career in Real Estate?

We've got good news for you.

Talk to me, Bedfordview Office Manager  
Mike Mosselson: 082 942 4242 | 011 455 6666



# Even pro-Palestinian supporters shocked at Wits anti-Semitism

ANT KATZ

While there is much said about how anti-Zionism is not anti-Semitism, there were clear acts of anti-Semitism on the Wits campus perpetrated by supporters of Palestinian Solidarity Committee (PSC) and other anti-Israel groups during Israel Apartheid Week.

So much so that even hardened anti-Israel activists were shocked enough to take to social media and react to what they called “outrageous” acts and “atrocities”.

In one incident, a BDS supporter did the goosestepping (traditionally associated with the Nazis) with his finger under his nose like a Hitler moustache. When someone called him an “idiot” for what he was doing, he responded unrepentantly: “And you are a wanker...” This was filmed and went viral on the Internet.

Another incident - also caught on video - shows someone saying: “It makes people want to kill Jews, because Jews don’t behave when they are visiting in other people’s countries!” When the crowd is asked: “Who said that?” a student quite brazenly waves her hand to indicate it was her.

There were other outrageous incidents as well. And there was extremely aggressive behaviour on the part of the BDS supporters, which could also be construed by

some as anti-Semitism. “They vandalised our stuff at every opportunity,” said Cayla Urdang of SAUJS.

Last Thursday, says Liat Ilouze, one of SAUJS’ keynote speakers, Israeli Arab Yahya Mahamed, was addressing the crowd at the piazza at lunchtime when PSC supporters cut the power cable to the public address system to try and suppress his speech.

But it didn’t work, as the students who were listening to him, simply moved closer and he spoke louder.

This failed attempt to stifle Mahamed, Urdang says, so infuriated Rashad Dadoo (leader of PSC on campus) that he wanted to attack Mahamed and had to be restrained by some of his colleagues.

A pro-Palestinian supporter Vashna Jagarnath, read about the goosestepping incident and wrote on Facebook: “This is outrageous. I am not sharing it because it is too disgusting.”

Another pro-Palestinian supporter wrote: “The progressive forces in South Africa really need to understand that BDS-SA is a major liability to the Palestine solidarity project both here and internationally.

“The repeated anti-Semitic acts during and around their campaigns are both disgusting in themselves and... a gift to the Zionist forces.”

Another pro-Palestinian supporter, Tariq Ramadan, commented on the

social medium: “While criticism of Israel is legitimate and justifiable, it cannot be an excuse - in any way, shape or form - for anti-Semitism.”

Wrote another: “My own view is that there have been such frequent instances of gross anti-Semitism (and over such a long period, and across the country) at or proximate to BDS events in South Africa, that they shouldn’t be seen as aberrations.”

Another posted the following: “I echo these concerns as someone who has been involved over the past 10 years in efforts to promote freedom for Palestinians from Israeli occupation and violence... Last year I spoke at Wits’ Israel Apartheid Week. Spotting, the racist hate group that filmed the Nazi goosestepper at Wits, has depicted me as part of the ‘axis of hate’ for my efforts.

“So the comments I make come from a place of solidarity... Importantly, Wits Palestine Solidarity Committee issued a good statement in response, which had the integrity to point out that this goosestepping Hitler impression was far from the only anti-Semitic thing during Israel Apartheid Week 2017.”

A screen-pull of an anti-Israeli student doing a goosestepping march and imitating Adolf Hitler by using his finger to depict a moustache. (See full video of anti-Semitic incidents online.)



# I am not an anti-Semite, stresses the ANC’s Jessie Duarte

ANT KATZ

ANC Deputy Secretary-General Jessie Duarte insists that she is not an anti-Semite, but she believes Israel is an apartheid state.

Duarte spoke alongside Palestinian Ambassador to South Africa Hashem Dajani at an Israel Apartheid Week event in Klerksdorp in North West, last Tuesday.

In an interview with Jewish Report, Duarte says she is often tarred as an anti-Semite, but this was untrue and was simply because of the views she holds about Israel.



Jessie Duarte

She firmly believes Israel is an apartheid state and spoke about what she believed to be similarities between the Middle East situation and what was happening in South Africa, pre-democracy.

“During the troubles of the people in South Africa, we were divided into homelands,” she explained, and she believes that South Africa can play a role in assisting the Palestinian people, who “are similarly divided”, to unify. “All Palestinians must come together - as we did - and speak with one voice,” she said this

week.

Duarte says that in her Klerksdorp address, she “called on the SA Jewish Board of Deputies - given that most of its members have lived through apartheid - “to stand up with all of us against all atrocities, whether by Palestinians against Israel, or by Israel against Palestinians”.

Duarte says she is angry at being branded an anti-Semite, saying that anyone who says anything negative about Israel, “is branded as being anti-Semitic”.

She emphasised: “This is not a religious matter; it is a human rights matter.” Duarte says she “will fight for the right of every person to practise their religion, whatever that may be”. She explains that she takes a secular approach on all matters.

Palestinian Authority Ambassador Dajani, speaking at the same IAW event, had said how “unfortunate it is that Israel does not recognise Palestine”.

Duarte, in her interview, accepted that Palestinians also do not recognise the State of Israel. “I hope in our lifetime we will see Israelis and Palestinians recognising each other.”

Duarte disagreed with former President Kgalema Motlanthe who said last week that the two-state solution was dead and the Middle East should look to a one-state solution.

“Only a two-state solution can work because our friends in the PLO say to us that they are only interested in a two-state solution,” Duarte said.

She believes a two-state solution is attainable, but only when there are two, united voices at the table.

“We are saying to our friends (the Palestinians): ‘Unite and speak with one voice,’” she said. “Only then will they be able to talk to the Israelis.”

ב"ה

**THE PESACH RETREAT**  
— SOUTH AFRICA —

**Thinking about Pesach?  
Looking to avoid all the cooking and cleaning?  
Lock up your home and come join us for an  
unforgettable Pesach experience!**

**Bon Hotel Riviera on Vaal**  
**Only a 45 minute drive from Johannesburg**  
**10 April - 19 April 2017**

Entire hotel Kosher for Pesach • Gourmet cuisine  
Supervision of Johannesburg Beth Din • Non-Gebrochts • Shmurah Matzah  
Chalav Yisrael • Semi Private, Private or Communal Seder options

Spa • Golf club • Swimming pool • Fitness centre • Elegant dining rooms • Shul facilities  
Wifi • Riverboat cruises • Secure parking • Great Entertainment  
Children’s Services & Activities • Babysitting options • Chol HaMoed outings

For more information visit [www.pesachretreat.co.za](http://www.pesachretreat.co.za)  
Reservations: Batya Kievman +2772 801 7491 or email [pesachsa@gmail.com](mailto:pesachsa@gmail.com)



## South African Jewish Report

# Laughter is the best medicine

Temperatures rose across our readership this last week - some with laughter and others with ire - at our Purim shpiel, "Government to expropriate Yeshiva College, Sandringham Gardens".

I fielded some calls from some of the irate people, who were first mad that the ANC would consider taking our prized Sandringham Gardens and Yeshiva property. Once they found out they had missed the joke, for some, it was even less amusing.

"This is not something to joke about - it could happen!" said one caller.

"We have enough problems as Jews, we shouldn't be frightening people like this," said another.

It was even suggested that we could have caused heart attacks in the old age home. Apologies! No harm was meant. It was all in the name of good clean fun and - in truth, we really did put so many obvious clues in the copy. Also, I do believe that we all - myself included - need to step out of our, sometimes, tough lives and laugh.

Laughter is such great medicine.

I had a giggle when our two full-page ads were thought to be our Purim shpiel, or part thereof. In the one, Jewish Capetonians called for social housing in Sea Point and other prime sites in Cape Town. See our story on page two this week to see this is totally true.

Clearly these Jews really do care about the less fortunate and are happy to include them in their suburbs.

I was proud to read in the ad: "We support the dismantling of spatial apartheid in the city of Cape Town so that working-class people and their families can afford to live in and around the city centre. This will mean a united, diverse, safe, prosperous and welcoming city."

I chuckled at the fact that readers thought that Jewish people wouldn't really do this. To the contrary, clearly!

Then, the second advert that people thought could have been a shpiel, was the massive increase in subsidies for youth trips to Israel. As a mother, I too did a doubletake at the huge subsidies that the Israel Centre and the Jewish Agency are now offering for youngsters to get a real taste of Israel.

What a fantastic win for Jewish youth! Having spent a few precious years in Israel, I know how valuable this is. Also, when I spent those years there, it was a whole lot more affordable. In this week's issue we dig into what this really means. See page 13.

There was one irate comment over this issue that really hit home to me. This was: "If you put one fake news story in - no matter the reason - how can we believe anything else you publish?"

And at a time where fake news has almost become a trend, this matters to me as I am so averse to actual fake news.

You need to know that I won't commit to never running a Purim shpiel again because - just like every media tries to catch out its various audiences on the first of April - it is a fun tradition in Jewish media.

I will, however, promise you that other than that one "shpiel" every year, every story will be done with absolute honesty and integrity.

Here's to a peaceful weekend and a dignified Human Rights Day.

**Peta Krost Maunder**  
Editor

# Russia the very active kid on the Middle Eastern bloc

PAULA SLIER

MIDDLE EAST - Russian President Vladimir Putin once famously called the demise of the Soviet Union "the greatest geopolitical catastrophe of the (last) century".

Since in power, many would argue he's been trying to restore some of that failed Empire. Just as many would point out that the best place to do that is in the Middle East, the traditional stamping ground of the United States, and certainly the place where what one does, matters.

Fact check: Over the past two years Putin received leaders of Middle Eastern states on 25 occasions - five times more than former American President Barack Obama during the same period.

Fact check: In the last six months, Moscow has altered the course of the Syrian war and taken control of the peace process there; Russia has forged a close relationship with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan (when not so long ago many worried the two countries hovered on the brink of possible war) and has been courting traditional American

allies like Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Israel.

Fact check: After 30 years on the sidelines Russia is again a major player in the Middle East. The country's successful flexing of its military power has led to the rapid expansion of its political clout - among America's adversaries and traditional partners. And Obama, and now US President Donald Trump, do not seem too intent on stopping the Russian bear.

It flies in the face of American foreign policy since the Second World War when Washington defined the blocking of Soviet expansion as among its highest national security priorities. The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (Nato) set up in 1949, aimed to "to keep the Russians out, the Americans in, and the Germans down", according to its first Secretary-General Lord Ismay.

But the times they are a changin' and unpopular American military interventions and a domestic shale gas revolution that has left the US less dependent on Middle East oil, sees Washington slowly withdrawing from the region.

The problem is that far from triggering a kind of self-sustaining equilibrium, such a withdrawal creates a vacuum that can often lead to conflict and chaos - which we're certainly witnessing now - as well as giving room to new players to come to the fore - Russia, Iran, Islamic State...

The Middle East, though, has never been a priority for Russian foreign policy; the post-Soviet space is much more important to her - and unlike the US, whose foreign policy is in part driven by the ideals of creating democracy and transparency, Moscow's foreign policy is much more pragmatic and limited in ambition.

But whereas the US is geographically far from the Middle East, the region is on Russia's borders. Stopping the spread of Islamic fundamentalism is a mainstay of Putin's foreign

policy, especially in Syria, where an estimated 7 000 Russian nationals are fighting among the ranks of Islamic State and other groups. The concern of course is that they'll return home to carry out terror attacks within Russia's borders.

When it comes to Israel, ties between the two countries are strong, especially after more than a million Jews from the former Soviet Union made aliyah over the past 20 years. Members of the Russian-speaking community hold influential political posts in Israel and multiple agreements have been signed between the sides over the years in the fields of technology, culture, education, counter-terrorism and more.

Ever the pragmatic politician, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu reads the changing political map and although America has always been Israel's closest and arguably most important ally in the region, it didn't surprise many that Netanyahu flew to Moscow to meet with Putin no less than four times last year - double the number of times he met with Obama during the same period.

But now Donald Trump is in office and Netanyahu is smiling. Still, last week Thursday he was back at the Kremlin. This raised a few eyebrows. Netanyahu said the meeting was

After 30 years on the sidelines Russia is again a major player in the Middle East. The country's successful flexing of its military power has led to the rapid expansion of its political clout - among America's adversaries and traditional partners. And Obama, and now US President Donald Trump, do not seem too intent on stopping the Russian bear.

to discuss Iran's attempts at establishing a permanent military presence in Syria.

Trump, however, had already earlier promised to extend economic sanctions against Iran after their latest ballistic missile test. If so, then the Israelis might not need Russia's support for tougher action against Iran and its affiliated Hezbollah cells, something Netanyahu has been pushing for, after all.

So, why then the meeting? Is Netanyahu unsure of Trump's reassurances; is he deferring to Putin; or is he simply trying to balance a delicate political tightrope between the sides?

To be sure, there's a lot Israel and Russia disagree on. Netanyahu is concerned over Moscow's close relationship with Tehran, of weapons being passed to Hezbollah in Syria that will land up being pointed at Israel from Lebanon - but this is all old news.

Putin doesn't need to be reminded of it again - no doubt it came up during all those earlier meetings. Netanyahu knows he'll come away empty-handed if he asks Putin for a major shift in regional allegiances or Russia's promotion of Israeli interests.

Russia certainly has no interest in provoking Israel, but it also sees no necessity to stand on Israel's side.



President Vladimir Putin and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.



# Alternative education - where 'wriggle room' is the name of the game

MAYA LOON

I'm a parent and I'm a teacher. As a parent, I understand the fears of sending my child off to a schooling system where teachers may have different beliefs than my own.

As a teacher, I dislike many aspects of the mainstream schooling system, but I'm aware how the term "alternative education" can inspire sniggers among some, evoking images of feral-looking, bare-footed children running wild with intermittent pauses to knit a few more rows of their woollen tents while sipping kombucha.

Alternative education is simply, as the word implies, just about applying other available possibilities from the conventional school.



A major aspect of schools resisting the mainstream, has to do with "wriggle room". How much space does the teacher have to respond educationally to what's happening in the conversation in the classroom?

How much space does the student have to negotiate that conversation (while still meeting the requirements of their syllabus)?

My first teaching post was different. I joined a very conservative, "good" boys' high school in Cape Town. On my first day I was handed the detention file and advised, by the head, to "go in and show them who's boss".

Against my intention, I did try that approach. And I failed miserably. It became clear to me that teaching by imposing fear in my pupils was both useless and damaging. I thought that was the end of my teaching career as I did not imagine that schools that rejected the usual tactics of punishment and terror existed.

I was therefore very fortunate to come upon an alternative high school in the UK inspired by the ideas of Jiddu Krishnamurti (Brockwood Park School).

Returning to South Africa, I was again doubtful I'd find anything like that here, but was heartened to discover Kairos School of Inquiry in its fledgling stage and I went on to help to build that school further.

Both of these schools have, at their core, the principle of open-ended and free-thinking inquiry. This principle ensures wriggle room for the students. Posing questions themselves, classroom conversations become more relevant and more alive than conventional school lessons.

Inquiry-based learning confronts the assumption that the teacher is the source of all knowledge and the final judge of students' opinions. Skillful teachers are able to incorporate these conversations into the standardised curriculum, honing critical thinking skills and improving general skills of literacy.

At the same time, the students improving their abilities to see the bigger picture, to think out of the box, learning to listen to each other's point of view, and exploring what they personally believe. How very different to the conventional syllabus which is so often meaningless for the majority.

So often mainstream schools do not honour children for the varied ways in which they may excel, nor are the typical "school geniuses" challenged for their weaknesses in the

intelligences less frequently valued, such as social diplomacy or artistic ability.

Employing the idea of "Multiple Intelligences" into the school system, such as in school assessments, offers a far more comprehensive sense of a child's development and progress in a whole sense. Children learn holistically if they are taught holistically - holistic learning requires wriggle room.

For wriggle room to be effective in a school, requires healthy relationships. Developing meaningful and caring relationships between students and teachers is fundamental to any learning environment. This ethos tends to spread to the relationships between children. It usually naturally manifests as caring relationships between the staff in the school as well.

How might a school achieve this? Daily "check-ins" are a practical possibility: when practised sincerely, regularly sharing what's alive for each person - student and teacher - can release negative emotions and build understanding each other more fully.

Inviting students to teach each other across age-groups is another example, and, doing chores together - cleaning or fixing or creating: these are ways for students and teachers to interact beyond the bounds of the top-down authority model the mainstream entrenches.

A valuable tool for achieving wriggle room in a school is the use of "Integrated Studies" - immersing a class of students in a field of study for period of at least a few weeks, rather than teaching distinct and sometimes arbitrary topics from lesson to lesson and teacher to teacher.

This immersion achieves a simulated adult workplace where students can role play being zoologists or historians or economists, the educational impact of which can be profound.

Perhaps the most fundamentally different thing about the schools I have taught in has been the development of a language that does not shame, blame or inspire fear among the children.

Using a framework like Marshall Rosenberg's model of "Nonviolent Communication" can help to create an ethos of mutual respect and empathy in a school, and improves the students' skills of conflict resolution.

Imagine if even mainstream schools had this kind of wriggle room for their students and teachers. I dream of a future where this is so.

• *Maya Loon is co-founder of Kaiross School of Inquiry. She has diverse educational experience in both mainstream and alternative schools.*

Please support our newspaper advertisers

**Freshfellas**  
 (011) 440-8352  
 3 Long Avenue Glenhazel  
**MANGOES R29<sup>99</sup>** box  
**STRINGLESS** while stocks last  
 MON – WED 7:30am – 6:00pm • THURS 7:30am – 6:30pm  
 FRI 7:30am – 5:00pm • SUN 8:00am – 1:00pm  
**"WHERE QUALITY COSTS YOU LESS!"**

**Rosen Electrical**  
 ★ Installations and repairs  
 ★ Residential  
 ★ Commercial  
 ★ Industrial  
 Tel: (011) 885-1713 • Cell: 082-442-7124  
 LICENSED & REGISTERED CONTRACTORS

**PHONE US LAST FOR TYRE PRICES!!**  
**011 440-9540**  
 PIRELLI • DUNLOP • KUMHO TYRES  
**FOR THE PRICE OF A PHONE CALL YOU CAN SAVE HUNDREDS OF RANDS!**  
 Cor. LOUIS BOTHA & 11TH AVE HIGHLANDS NORTH  
**MOTOMAGS & TYRE**  
**WHERE THE BOSS DOES IT HIMSELF!**

**25% DISCOUNT ON ALL SERVICES AND REPAIRS LABOUR RATES\***  
 Bring your 2005 or Older Honda Jazz, Accord, Civic or Ballade for a service and save.  
**HONDA**  
 HONDA BEDFORDVIEW  
 010 593 2866  
 www.hondabedfordview.co.za  
 A discount will be estimated on the final quote based on recommended retail at R750 per hour, less 25% excluding VAT and all parts will get a 10% discount. This is limited offer and discount rates cannot be negotiated.  
**supergroup** dealerships



We herd udder manure that Mooz Brothers is closing the barn. Please believe that the friendly brothers are here to stay and are not mooooooving anywhere.

Come to Mooz...to shmoooooz

# Chloé Valdary follows Jewish path of 'original Christians'



Chloé Valdary ... changing the conversation about Israel.

SUZANNE BELLING

Chloé Valdary - who was born and raised in New Orleans - was only six when she was introduced to Judaism when her father switched from being a Baptist to a non-denominational faith.

"We believe the original Christians were Jews, so we followed their path. We go to church on Saturdays, observe Shabbat, eat kosher-style and stay in condos - our temporary dwelling places - on Succoth," she explains.

They believe Judaism is the true religion from which all monotheistic faiths stem. Valdary is not a convert, but practises the age-old traditions of the Jewish people and is dedicated and passionate in upholding the tenets of Judaism. She is a fierce fighter against apathy and anti-Semitism directed against her "adopted" race. She makes no distinction between the Jews and Israel, saying: "I was raised in this way of life, unlike my friends."

But Valdary, who was brought to this country by the South African Friends of Israel to be keynote speaker at its conference on Sunday, went several steps further than her family. She is changing the conversation about Israel, both on campuses and in the political sphere "through educational Jewish thought".

Her aim is "to get our generation to fall in love with Israel in a fashionable way with which they can resonate".

Valdary served as a Tikvah Fellow under Pulitzer prize-winner Bret Stephens on the Wall Street Journal. There she developed an 82-page white paper on Israel advocacy and engagement with the millennials, looking at what works, what doesn't and how to make it better.

She has been named one of the Algemeiner's (a top New York Jewish newspaper) top 100 people positively affecting Jewish life today.

She initially studied film and screenwriting in

high school.

She then majored in International Studies at the University of New Orleans (UNO) and immersed herself in pro-Israel activity, arranging many events and social media campaigns and was chosen as creative consultant for CAMERA - the Campaign for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting.

"I want to change the way Zionists market themselves - away from the paranoia and knee-jerk reactions."

She says: "Israel should be defined neither exclusively nor primarily by the conflict. Israel gives expression to the sum and substance of peoplehood: the dignity of difference, the challenges of power and the cultural revival that comes with self-rule."

She is involved with Jerusalem U, an organisation she says shares her vision - "believing we can inspire millennials using the power of film and narrative. We can uplift a generation by telling and sharing stories that connect us all."

Her philosophy on Israel is threefold:

- "If we are to instil Jewish pride in my generation, we need to know the language my generation speaks. We must understand its pop culture obsessions, what brings us together as a (young) community and what makes us tick. Once we tap into that and use this language to create Israel programming, we will be unstoppable."
- She believes Israel gives expression to the "sum and substance" of peoplehood and the dignity of difference. Israel should be viewed for its achievements.
- "Make it real," she says, "create engaging Israel-related content relevant to the lives of our generation. We need enchantment, the process by which one's audience sees itself and its potential reflected in the content."

# Breaking down barriers through graffiti dialogue

ROBYN SASSEN

One may be forgiven for thinking someone with tattoos all over his body, who does graffiti for a living is a felon. So says Craig Dershowitz (39), the driver behind advocacy initiative Artists4Israel: these forms of low art have a bad rap. But there are always two sides to the story.

Dershowitz and his wife Sgula, both of whom are well-inked, with street artists from all over the world, were in South Africa during Israel Apartheid Week, as guests of the SAZF, the SAJBD and SA Friends of Israel.

Dershowitz told Jewish Report that by last week Thursday on the Wits campus, many students were turning away from the violent confrontations (instigated by the Palestine Solidarity Committee against SAUJS) and lining up in their hundreds to get T-shirts from Artists4Israel. The price of the shirts? To share

the SAZF, was in the audience and the result is evident on the walls of Johannesburg's CBD, Kliptown in Soweto, the tunnel between Wits' east and west campus, and elsewhere.

Last week Thursday at Wits, Artists4Israel "were prepared for the worst". Still, they set themselves up for spray-painting T-shirts, which immediately changed the energy on the piazza. "We ran out of shirts and spray paint before we ran out of people who wanted them."

It was about more than T-shirts: "The students leaving the anti-Israel side asked my artists about things the PSC side had told them; suddenly they were engaging in dialogue. This is the power of our art."

Dershowitz is savvy about the importance of graffiti. "At this point, we're a leading organisation not just in Israeli advocacy, but in the graffiti art world too. We've worked with over 5 000 artists in various capacities



Photo courtesy Artists4Israel

A positive Israeli fact earns you a T-shirt: Artists4Israel's Craig Dershowitz (centre in the yellow T-shirt), brings his point home.

a positive fact about Israel.

Artists4Israel started at the time of the Gaza/Israel conflict six years ago, when Dershowitz mounted an art show to raise money to help build bomb shelters in Sderot.

"It was attended by the kind of hip, urban people who protest against Israel on campuses," he remembers. This exhibition made him realise his advocacy work was cut out for him. These were the people he needed to reach.

Not only was the fledgling Artists4Israel focused on raising money, it also wanted to bring beauty to a violent context. The decision to bring out people to paint bomb shelters, became central to Artists4Israel's founding principles.

It hasn't been all plain sailing, however. "For a long time, Artists4Israel was considered an 'odd duck'," he says. "We were frozen out of the community; they couldn't see beyond my tattoos and didn't understand the value of street art," but times have changed.

Artists4Israel survives through small donations and agreements with big organisations. "We're very grass roots. We're also incredibly careful with our money. We do not have the overheads of big organisations."

Because of its express anti-BDS views, Artists4Israel was invited to speak at an anti-BDS conference in the United States a few months ago; Ben Swartz, national chairman of

and we've brought over 100 to Israel from 21 different countries.

"We're not so much giving graffiti a new face; we're allowing the face that's always been there to be seen. There are two sides to street art."

2ESAE, also known as Mike Baca, one of Artists4Israel's artists, explains how he fell in love with graffiti: "You know how dogs pee on trees? I was like that, writing my name everywhere: staking my claim. I went to jail for it, and in jail I received fan mail from all over the world. It blew my mind."

Armed with a degree in graphic design, 2ESAE realised kowtowing to the corporate world wasn't his thing; graffiti became his outlet. In partnership with Fernando Romero, known as SKI, 2ESAE started URNY, a collective about making New York boil with brightly coloured drawings.

"I do this because I want to dull the fire between the fighting factions," he says. "Nothing's going to be solved with anger. We're all human. I'm for peace."

SKI explains: "We are the voice of the unheard"

Graffiti is distinguished as an artform by its territorialism. "I see its ugliness, but I'm mindful in how I do things," he adds. SKI and 2ESAE are travelling with Artists4Israel to Cape Town this week, where they will be conducting graffiti and tattooing workshops.

**GLENHAZEL** On show this Sunday from 2- 5pm

Say hello to a Good "buy". Price reduced - offers from R3,9mil. 3 recep, 2 patios, sparkling pool, mod kosher kitchen, 4 beds, gym / PJ lounge, 3 baths (mes) + guest loo. WFH office, exec maids. Walking distance to shuls, schools & shops.  
Meet Lauren 083-789-0229

**HIGHLANDS NORTH** On show this Sunday from 2- 5pm

A symphony of a sunlight and space!! Bring in those offers R3,5 - R3,6 - R3,7mil Renovated & mod - 4 recep, 5 bed (Dual fam home/WFH), 3 baths (mes) o/plan ultra mod kitchen, pool  
Meet Lauren 083-789-0229

**THE GARDENS** On show this Sunday from 2- 5pm

Sun filled oasis R3,2mil Peace & Quiet to enjoy in this n/f ranch-style home, 3 recep, 4 bed, 2.5 bath. Fabulous condition + flatlet + pool & plenty more. Close to shuls & schools.  
Meet Jessie 082 229 3147

**JESSIE K ESTATES**  
REAL ESTATE  
**HERE FOR YOU**  
admin@jkestates.co.za  
www.jkestates.co.za  
011 728-1151  
082 449 3147



# From hating to defending Israel

## NEWSMAKER

### Q & A



*Yahya Mahamed is an Israeli Arab who was one of the Israelis who was brought out to South Africa by the SA Zionist Federation for Israel Apartheid Week. He is a member of StandWithUs, an international Israel educational organisation.*

begging for money on the streets - sometimes they are not older than seven - I feel their pain. And every time I try to communicate or start a conversation with an anti-Israel individual and I get shut

up or lambasted and they claim that I don't care about the Palestinians, I feel the same pain. I feel that I am the one standing up for the future of the Palestinians, alongside every Zionist in the world. Because the Palestinian future starts with peace for the Israelis.

not an Israeli - and I heard every possible lie, accusation, misinformation.

I explained to those who accused soldiers of "just killing" Palestinians, the IDF code of ethics. Also, the concept of how important human life is in Judaism.

#### What kind of things were people saying to you on campus?

I wasn't surprised by the questions on campus, such as: "Where is Israel?", "Is it true what they say about Israel?" or they would simply say: "Tell me about Israel".

Also, the questions and accusations from the BDS activists did not surprise me. During my childhood I was told that I am a Palestinian,

#### What are your thoughts on Israel Apartheid Week and how this is dealt with by the authorities?

Universities should have a strict policy on those supporting terrorism on campus and there should be major consequences. Freedom of expression is a right that should be preserved but hate speech should not be allowed.

#### Can you tell us about you and your life?

I grew up in an anti-Israel place and I was fed lies and misinformation. I was anti-Israel until 2010-2011. During my school years, I found work in Tel Aviv and when I was out of my community, I realised that what I had been taught there was not true.

#### How would you describe yourself?

I am "Yahya" first, a normal guy from Umm al-Fahm. I have the right to be a proud Israeli just like any other citizen.

Whenever the anti-Israel people start spreading lies, such as that Israel is an "apartheid" state, they are using my name to spread lies and destroy the only place I call home.

#### What was your experience on the Wits campus over Israel Apartheid Week?

When I first went onto the campus (at Wits) before IAW, I thought it was beautiful and the people were wonderful. Then on the Monday I went back and was shocked to see the hideous lie (that) "Zionism is racism" painted on a wall the BDS activists put up.

What shocked me more was how Wits University did not co-operate, nor did they act appropriately when it came to maintaining order.

The BDS activists took our spot on the first day, physically attacked us and ripped down our posters. And not a single action was taken against them.

Also, they raised the flag of Hezbollah, an internationally recognised terrorist organisation. And in a Vox interview, one of their members said: "We are Hamas, and Hamas is us." Hamas is a terrorist organisation that has called for the annihilation of the State of Israel. And both organisations oppose freedom of speech and incite against the Jewish people and Israel. The BDS activists even raised the flags of both terror organisations on campus. Despite this, they say they have "no problem with Jews".

#### How did you feel being lambasted by those who are anti-Israel?

I feel sad, not only for the anti-Israel individuals, but also for the Palestinians who have to suffer through generations and generations until we clear all of this misinformation so we can actually achieve a real solution for the Israelis and the Palestinians.

Unfortunately, a lot of the anti-Israel (group) conveniently forget that boycotting Israel hurts the Palestinians' economy as well.

I feel sad, because every time I am in the West Bank and I see young souls who are now

# Matza Man

# Needs You

to help feed Jewish families this Pesach

## Win R16 000 in shopping vouchers!

**How to enter**

- Step 1 Buy a Pesach product.
- Step 2 Drop it into the special Matza Man trolley or bin you will find at selected Jewish schools, Pick n Pay Hypermarket Norwood and (selected times only) Pick n Pay Fairmount, Genesis.
- Step 3 Fill in your details on a entry form and drop it in the Matza Man trolley or bin, together with the item you are donating.

[www.jhbchev.co.za](http://www.jhbchev.co.za) | #Pesachfooddrive

facebook: chevmatzaman



# Aliyah – the good, the bad and the meshuga

**Benita Levin**

It hasn't even been two months since our family touched down in Tel Aviv and with increasing regularity I find myself saying: "It's such a small world." I keep on messaging my twin sister in Cape Town saying: "You'll never guess who we bumped into today!"

In this short space of time here, we've met up with our first friend from nursery school in Durban, a fabulously tall Johannesburg woman who stayed at our house during a netball tour when we were teenagers and a married couple we first met when we were all students at the University of Cape Town. Today, they all live in Ra'anana. They're all walking distance from our home.

Bumping into a familiar face while walking down the main road of the city - Ahuza Street - is always a great feeling when you're new in town. It's also incredible to see so many familiar new faces

too. That's because the community here wastes no time welcoming new families to town.

People arrive at your flat with home-made meals, cakes, fruit baskets and gifts. WhatsApp messages are sent from mothers at the school, with their contact details in case there is anything you need.

People are eager to help, advise and share experiences. There's a strong, genuine group of men and women who go out of

their way for you, and that certainly helps one feel at home in your first few weeks in a new country.

**Community speed dating**

It's very clear that the South African community here is known for its warmth and hospitality. They are always happy to have people for Shabbos meals, festivals and dinners.

Invitations have come from British, Australian, American, Indian and Swedish olim too. When you go to people for a meal, they often invite other families with children around the same age as yours, so your network continues to grow. Those guests often then invite you to a meal at their place.

It's like community speed dating, with each family helping introduce you to more people from the area. It's a special, warm group of people that have made our integration here so much easier...

It feels like most people here were either new immigrants three months ago, 30 years ago or somewhere in between. They're happy to guide you and tell you where they could have done things differently.

They check in on you regularly, asking if

they can help with anything from setting up arrangements for the children to checking if you understood the latest invite for a school event.

There's a "Directory" WhatsApp group here for city residents - questions include anything from the best plumber, specialist, fruit shop, tour guide or where to get your child's Purim costume. Responses are fired off almost immediately - it's like a cyber support group and Yellow Pages rolled into one.

The welcoming committee isn't restricted to olim, though - an Israeli neighbour in our building arrived at our door while we were still unpacking boxes, with biscuits and drinks for us and the men who helped hoist our furniture into our flat.

A lovely, eccentric looking woman from the building next door arrived with delicious date and nut sweets and a home-made kugel. She insisted I take her number and made me promise we'd come for a meal.

She seemed to shout at me a few weeks later though, when she realised my husband had been out of town and I hadn't told her. "Next time he's away," she scolded, "you just tell me and come eat at us. Mevinah - understand?"

One of my favourite messages I love to share in life coaching sessions, is to surround yourself by good people - it's such an important life lesson for young and older! You can't help but do that here.

Whether it's an invite for a meal from a childhood friend, a quick coffee meeting with another mom at the school, or an apparent "reprimand" from the kind-hearted lady next door, you simply can't help but love your neighbour.

**Favourite explanation for the week:** Sabra – a nickname for people born in Israel, because like the fruit the sabra, they are prickly and hard on the outside, but soft on the inside.

**Most used phrase of the week:** Sliy-cha - excuse me or sorry, usually used while trying to get through a crowd of people.

**Favourite food experience of the week:** Kosher Indian curry that rivals the original Durban cuisine.

**Smile of the week:** Discovering an app that not only tells you the quickest bus route to take to any local destination, but also sends you an "alert" when it's time to start heading to the bus stop to catch that bus in time.

More news on our website [www.sajr.co.za](http://www.sajr.co.za)



**WOOLWORTHS**

**Woolworths expansion now includes a new bakery & coffee shop**

**SO MUCH MORE TO LOVE**

Woolworths will be launching on the 23rd March 2017

Monday to Friday	: 08h00 – 20h00
Saturdays	: 08h00 – 19h00
Sundays	: 09h00 – 17h00



LIFESTYLE  
**NORWOOD MALL**

your mall, your moments

Tel: 011 728 6640/42 | Fax: 011 728 6643 | 26°08'47.20"S 28°04'43.82"  
African Street & Sarie Marais Street or Corner Hamlin Street & 6th Avenue, Norwood | [www.norwoodmall.co.za](http://www.norwoodmall.co.za)





# Nothing can stop filmmaker Lance Gewer

PETER FELDMAN

The man who gave a cinematic face to the Oscar-winning movie, "Tsotsi", has once again been honoured for his work on another local production, "Happiness is a Four Letter Word".

Lance Gewer, a King David Linksfield alumnus and an internationally recognised South African cinematographer, recently received the African Magic Viewers Choice Award, beating a field of 300 from all over the continent.

"What makes it so special," Gewer told Jewish Report, "is that it's an all-Africa award, which is interesting in that we are in competition with filmmakers from all over Africa. Filmmaking is growing throughout the continent and competition is fierce."

Articulate and passionate about his art, Gewer has certainly left his mark in a competitive industry with an impressive body of work.

Apart from "Tsotsi", he applied his own special magic to 17 other films which include "Master Harold and the Boys", with Freddie Highmore and Vingh Rheimes, the "Spud" series, with Troy Sivan and John Cleese and "Kite" with Samuel L Jackson. His last project, "Mandela's Gun", has not yet been released.

Talking about working on "Happiness is a Four Letter Word", he said it made a nice change from previous assignments. "It gave me the opportunity to work on a film that is not dark and heavy. Happiness is light and appealing."

"The aim was to make a movie about upper-class women in the northern suburbs and their dysfunctional relationships. And it succeeded."

Describing his job on Happiness, Gewer said simply: "It's to make everybody feel and look good, from the director down to the stars. I always try to put myself in the shoes of the actor and I take my lead from the director and his vision."

He cited "Tsotsi" as an example where his gritty camera work made the audience experience the same emotions as the actor, a key facet in the success of the Gavin Hood production. Director Hood told an American magazine at the time: "Lance has a very classical eye, as well as a certain restraint that really allows the performances in the pieces he photographs to shine, and that's very much what I needed for 'Tsotsi'."

"With Happiness", Gewer said, "it was a completely different approach and it needed a glamorous touch with clean, strong visuals."



Lance Gewer

In his youth, Gewer was a champion trampolinist, earning Junior Springbok colours and attending three World Championships. At the first one held in Toronto in 1974, he came a close second.

"I received a telegram of congratulations from the then Prime Minister BJ Vorster and I was delighted. Years later, when I was 28, I found out that the reason I didn't win was because of the boycott and South Africa was not allowed to compete."

A single parent with two grown-up children, the 53-year-old Gewer revealed that at school he had no clue what he wanted to do with his life after school. He couldn't afford to attend university, so he did his compulsory military service, and during that time managed a video store.

"I would watch movies until three in the morning. I saw every movie. I loved films. My uncle owned a 16mm film rental video store and I loved rewinding the movies by hand after customers returned them."

He then applied to the Pretoria Technikon Film School because of his love for the medium. "Within a week I knew what I wanted to

do with my life."

Gewer honed his craft during the 80s and 90s directing a host of TV documentaries and dramas and filming glossy commercials and music videos. His passion remains cinematography and is not influenced by other famous cinematographers.

"I had to find my own style of storytelling and this varied from film to film. It is always a challenge to get it right. You have to study the actors and watch their facial features but it is also important in what you are trying to convey with a character, whether he is a powerful individual or plain scary. You also work with the make-up and costume teams."

Gewer also talked about the pleasures of working with professionals like Hollywood icon Samuel L Jackson on "Kite". Jackson brought his whole team along.

"My favourite actors were young Freddie Highmore from 'Master Harold and the Boys', and Troy Sivan on the two 'Spud' films. Troy is so mature for his age and so calm and collected. John Cleese was also great on the 'Spud' set - a real gentleman."

An important facet of Gewer's work is to get the actors to trust him with the shots and to help make them look good. "By the look on their faces you can tell whether it was a good take," he said.

Overall, it's a tough, competitive business. "I work from project to project, so it's an insecure existence. However, there are a few exciting things in the pipeline..."

# Working to 'change the world'

SUZANNE BELLING

Pam Green - who has turned compassion and caring into an occupation - was this week awarded the 2017 Woman of the Year/Woman in Community award under the auspices of the organisation Woman of Stature.

She was chosen because of how she has saved strangers, brought relief to victims of xenophobia and done whatever general community work she could do.

"I believe you can do anything you put your mind to. One person truly can change the world," says Green.

She came out of her hospital bed fighting for others.

She recently hit the headlines by alerting emergency services when she stopped late at night to save a woman, who was thrown - allegedly by her husband - from a moving car. Because of Green, that woman is now in a place of safety.

Green finds jobs for the unemployed through her non-profit organisation

Second Chances and started her new career last year while driving back from the office and spotting a man holding a sign under the Sandton Bridge.

He was looking for work, but instead of the usual "Need Work" on the sign, he had put his CV on. Through her contacts, the next day he was employed.

Her initial good deed snowballed into finding jobs for the underprivileged and unemployed, leading to the founding of Second Chances, "an online platform where I find employment for those in need of jobs", she explains.

The award was presented to Green by Charlotte du Plessis, director and founder of Woman of Stature, and Carolyn Steyn, last year's winner in the same category.

"I am overwhelmed and humbled, especially as I was up against women of incredible calibre."

Green also is employed by outreach organisation Afrika Tikun in cause-related fundraising and is starting an outreach project for schools.



Pam Green

Please support our newspaper advertisers

## POSTNET GLENHAZEL



Tel: 011 440 6189 • Email: glenahazel@postnet.co.za

Shop 2 Glenhazel Court, 7 Long Avenue  
Glenhazel Johannesburg 2192

POSTNET  
Copy & print

## ACCOMMODATION

Budget Rooms, Studios & Cottages  
Daily • Weekly • Monthly

Easy walk to Pine Street Shul, Torah Academy, Chabad Norwood & Kolel

Shabbat Special  
Pay for Friday and get  
Saturday Free



GUEST HOUSES

★★★★

53 Garden Road Orchards (next to H.O.D.)  
(011) 485-3800/1 • info@gardenplace.co.za

**BRIOCHE**  
**TASTES FROM THE Mediterranean**

Winter may be around the corner, but our **Mediterranean Chefs Table** will take you back to those warm Summer nights. To book for the 28th of March, email info@brioche.co.za or SMS Linda on 0829444018.

Shop 1 Longridge, No. 2 Long Ave, Glenhazel. Email: info@brioche.co.za

**Brioche**  
CHALAV YISRAEL

## RADICAL REFURBS

FACTORY REFURBISHED NOTEBOOKS, LAPTOPS, DESKTOPS AND SERVERS.



No 11, cnr Long & Study Rd, Glenhazel  
Tel: (011) 440-0594



# Human intersection weaves through Maboneng

PETER FELDMAN

Johannesburg conceptual artist Kim Lieberman unveiled a new set of works, entitled Human Intersection, in the Maboneng precinct.

Lieberman, a renowned artist with an impressive body of work, told Jewish Report that her new public sculpture has been in the making since the idea was born six years ago. It has recently been installed in an area known as “Walking Street” and was where the old canal used to be.

Propertuity, the developers of the area, and the City of Johannesburg, partnered to make this thoroughfare a sculpture park.

Lieberman and Jonathan Liebmann, the core developer of the area, wanted to establish a “commentary of the community” by using sculptures of the pioneers and visionaries of Arts on Main, as well as some of the earliest community members.

Lieberman said she and William Kentridge took the initial step in 2008 to develop this area into an arts community, which she described as one that is “alive, growing and typical of what a community should be.

“It should not be separate people living in a city, but rather people who know each other, and work and socialise together.”

The work, she says, communicates this by sewing together the people and their environment into the architecture.

Her work involves the making of lace circles from cable that are designed to symbolise the power of events, or the impact and influence people have on each other and their surrounds. The lace, the figures and the buildings, are all drawn together by cable that stretches across the divide, weaving in and out of the people.

Said Lieberman: “Even before ‘Human Intersection’ was completely installed, the realisation that the magic of the precinct is not only balanced on the people who got there first, but rather that it is joined to what is happening there all the time and every day.”

Lieberman began creating lace circles in 2006, using the

Kim Lieberman surrounded by sculptures on “Walking Street”.



Photo: Daron Chatz

thread in a specific way to express a concept. After a trip to Sydney in 2011, where she met Dutch designers, Joep and Joroen Verhoeven, at a lace symposium, she explored larger pieces of lace using cable (covered wire rope).

The recently unveiled work encompasses more figures of people who are relevant and active in the area.

The initial sculptures included creations by William Kentridge, Jonathan Liebmann, Mikhael Subotzky, David Krut, Given Giyani, Shruthi Nair and Lieberman herself.

The second phase was expanded to include the works of such artists as Deone Billings, principal of Spark School,

Jarlyne Joel, founder of the Chef School, Bheki Dube, founder and owner of Curiosity, Kasa from the Ethiopian restaurant Little Addis, and Ziggy from Patapata and others.

Lieberman said that although some of the people in the work are pertinent to the success of the area, William Kentridge has played a pivotal role in starting the Maboneng community and continues to have a strong pull of both the national and international art world into the area. Jonathan Liebmann, whom she calls the “driver”, is also a significant figure in the development.

## JOHANNESBURG MUSICAL SOCIETY

ANDREY BARANOV violin  
MARIA BARANOVA piano

1st Prize Queen Elizabeth of Belgium Competition • Superb Russian Duo

Sun 26 March – Linder Auditorium – 17:00

Devil's Trill Sonata, Tchaikovsky, Ravel, Paganini

www.jms.org.za BOOKING AT COMPUTICKET \*No credit card facility at Box Office



## A seven-year-old's dream comes true

SUZANNE BELLING

Amber Kaganson, at seven-and-a-half, says she has always wanted to be on the stage and now she is Roo in Winnie the Pooh.

“This has been my dream since I was little. When I was asked, ‘what do you want to be when you grow up?’, I told people ‘an actress,’” she said.

And even though Amber, a grade 2 learner at Yeshiva College in Johannesburg, has a long way to go to be properly “grown up”, her dream is fast being realised.

“It all started when I took her to see Annie, the musical, in December,” said her mother, Marissa Kaganson. “She was riveted and said she would like to do something like that.

“We saw an ad for the People’s Theatre. They wanted a child between seven and nine to audition for the part of Roo. We were on our way to school - she hadn’t rehearsed and only knew one song. We didn’t even have a backing track and I had to download it from my cell phone. Nothing was prepared, but she got the part.”

The production of Winnie the Pooh follows author AA Milne’s story very closely and, according to Marissa, is along the lines of a Disney-type production.

Amber, who started learning ballet, modern dance and musical theatre since she was two-and-a-half, is a natural. “She has to miss some school - and also performances when they coincide with Shabbat,” said Marissa, a physiotherapist, who, from the same age as her daughter, took part in the Children’s Theatre productions under Jill Girard. “We even have the same director!” she added.

Marissa had parts in the Jungle Book, Heidi and Noddy and wrote and acted in many productions at King David, where she went to school.

“We have come full circle. Amber now wants to take drama lessons and I am encouraging her with both her acting and singing.”

With the heavy schedule of rehearsals, Amber has to give up her extramurals. Her peers are very supportive and will be attending the show en masse.

The production runs until April 30.

Amber Kaganson as Roo, flanked by Kanga (Carmen Tromp) and Tigger (Thokozani Jiyane).



Photo: Candius Photography

**FEIGELS**  
KOSHER DELICATESSEN  
SINCE 1969

### Feigels are catering for Pesach

We will have all your favourites and more!

**Fish** – Herring, Gefilte, Mock Cray, Snoek, Fish Balls, Cakes, Fingers

**Meat and Chicken** – Roasts, Curries, Casseroles, BBQ, Crumbed

**Bakery** – Apple Crumble, Biscuits, Ginger Loaf, Kichel, Macaroons

**Extras** – Mayonnaise, Tomato Sauce, Schmaltz, Salad Dressing

**Specials** – Kugels, Charoset, Kneidelach, Tzimmes

**Salads** – Beetroot, Potato, Coleslaw, Cucumber

**Soups** – Butternut, Vegetables, Chicken

To make it easy please complete our order form

Get it at [www.feigels.com](http://www.feigels.com) or email ‘request’ to [orders@feigels.com](mailto:orders@feigels.com)

Exciting new delicacies in our Lyndhurst and Glenhazel stores

SANDTON / WYNBERG  
**Battery Centre**  
THE BATTERY SPECIALISTS

Sandton/Wynberg

Tel: 011 887 7336

Cell: 082 823 0655

Motor City

Cnr Rautenbach

& 6th Street

Jorge & Jean

Balfour/Highlands North

Tel: 011 440 8980

Cell: 073 559 1053

Cnr 11th Ave

& Louis Botha

Also from Athol Street

Tony



# Increased subsidies make Israel more affordable for Jewish young

ANT KATZ

South African Jewish youth, who choose to spend between four and 10 months attending one of the hundreds of projects in Israel, are now eligible for hugely increased subsidies. This is going to be a “game changer”, says Jewish Agency and Israel Centre Shaliach Aviad Sela, last week.

Subsidies have taken a leap, making it very affordable for South African youth to spend time in Israel. For example, someone who went for one academic year of studies at an Israeli university, in the past would have received a \$500 subsidy; this week they would get \$9 100 to help them along, according to Sela, who drove this initiative.

“This opens new opportunities to every 18- to 30-year-old in our community,” says Sela.

“I believe that the implications for our community (will be) earth shattering,” Nicci Raz, national executive director of the SA Zionist Federation, says.

“The need to ensure that every Jewish child is given the opportunity to experience Israel during their critical formative years, lies in being given the opportunity to go and see, live and taste Israel for themselves,” adds Raz.

At the end of February, a decision was taken by MASA in Israel to hugely increase subsidies for young South African Jews who wish to take time getting to know Israel.

MASA, (which translates as “journey”), is an umbrella body for hundreds of projects available to Diaspora Jewry to spend four to 10 months of “meaningful time” in Israel. It is co-funded by the Israeli government and the Jewish Agency for Israel.

Research shows that young adults who have been on a MASA programme, become more connected to Israel, says Sela. “Statistics among American youth show those who do a MASA programme have a lower assimilation rate. Israel and the values of Zionism become more central to their lives.”



Sela quickly realised after taking up his South African job two years ago, that MASA is the ideal platform for youth and young adults, but that “it has become too expensive to South Africans”.

Today, South African students pay two and a half times as much as they did seven years ago to attend a MASA programme.

The gap between what community

members want to do, and what they could afford to do, has grown exponentially. At the same time, the Jewish Agency and Israeli government want to see more southern Africans becoming more connected with Israel.

Over the past two years Sela has put a lot of pressure on the Israelis to understand

more in the next year.

“This decision by the Jewish Agency to step in and ensure our children and young adults access to the privilege of connecting with Israel, has created a means that will have a monumental impact,” predicts Raz.

Previously, MASA had assisted with a \$500 flight voucher for participants between the ages of 19 and 21 and a \$3 000 grant for the age group 21 to 30. Now, there is no age differential and assistance is up by as much as 20 times.

Sela says that many South African youngsters (and their parents) don’t see their future in South Africa, due to political and financial insecurity. But, he says, it took him two years to get the Israelis to become aware of the financial pressure and risk the community in South Africa were under.

“Once they saw the full picture, we started trying to make it affordable,” he says.

The Israel Centre undertook a survey last year among grades 10 to 12 pupils (and their parents) at Jewish schools in Johannesburg and Cape Town. “This proved that there is a huge gap between desire and affordability,” Sela says.

This outcome, says Sela, helped clinch the deal. “It was now the community that was speaking to the MASA leadership,” he says.

The second change in South Africa’s favour, was that MASA changed their modelling. They would stop viewing Diaspora Jews geographically, but as communities. They didn’t look at the assistance needs of US Jewry, but rather saw Chicago Jewry as more in need of assistance than New York Jewry.

South Africans benefited from this policy change by being nudged into a new place in MASA’s hierarchy, one where increased subsidies applied.

**Kosher World**  
**19 MARCH**  
**2017**

BUY  **KOSHER** *Wines*.co.za

Once a year  
**Pesach**  
**SPECIALS**

ORDER ONLINE  
and receive  
**FREE DELIVERY &**  
**a FREE bottle of**  
**GRAPE JUICE**



PROUDLY MADE  
IN THE USA

**THE TORAH ACADEMY**  
Partnering with the  
Torah Academy School

+ many other ranges and wines available on special

**Order Online: [www.buykosherwines.co.za](http://www.buykosherwines.co.za)**

**KEDEM**  **BARON HERZOG** **RASHI**

**KosherWorld**  
TRULY KOSHER 

  
**ADAM**international

[info@buykosherwines.co.za](mailto:info@buykosherwines.co.za)

Tel: 011 466 2994 | Fax: 011 466 1719 | Unit 5 Tuscan Place, 138 Dytchley Road, Kyalami



# It's reckless for Israel to shut out critics



## TAKING ISSUE

Geoff Sifrin

Amidst heated confrontations between Israel's supporters and adversaries during Israel Apartheid Week on the Wits campus last week, there were also small clusters of students engaged in passionate debate rather than conflict.

That is what Israel's supporters call for - genuine debate, even with opponents. Their posters urged: "Go to Israel and see for yourself."

Which makes it strange that the Knesset passed a new law last week banning entry to Israel for foreign nationals who call for economic, cultural or academic boycotts of Israel or areas under its control, including the West Bank.

Education Minister Naftali Bennett, leader of the far-right Jewish Home party, said it will help Israel defend itself against those "who wish it harm".

This entry ban symptomises the chasm between the current government's resolve to keep control over the West Bank, and Diaspora Jews and others who want to end the occupation. It also echoes intense internal debate in Israel over the issue.

Supposedly designed to oppose BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions), the new law doesn't distinguish between people boycotting Israel proper and those boycotting settlements.

It doesn't define who Israel's enemies are. Many pro-Israel Jewish activists against the occupation could potentially be labelled "enemies".

Boycotts against settlements are gaining ground worldwide. MK Dov Hanin, who voted against the new law, said disparagingly that it is "a law to boycott the world".

The foolishness of the law is palpable. Former South African President Kgalema Motlanthe was a keynote speaker at BDS' launch of IAW last Sunday at Constitution Hill. Might he now be barred entry to Israel to "see for himself" because he supported a BDS function?

Jews can be proud of Israel's achievements - economically, technologically, militarily and

diplomatically.

It remains the United States' staunchest ally; ties to India, China and other countries continue to grow. US chip giant Intel has just bought Israeli driverless technology firm Mobileye for a gigantic \$14.9 billion, reportedly the largest ever acquisition of an Israeli hi-tech company.

Why does Israel act like an insecure country suppressing protest against government policies?

Essentially, the extreme settlement-supporting right, which is a minority, has taken control of the government and is acting with reckless abandon, spurred on by what they believe is unqualified support from US President Donald Trump.

If unchecked, it will lead to a one-state outcome and eliminate Zionism's goal of a democratic Jewish state. Most Israelis want a two-state solution.

American Jewish bodies such as the American Jewish Committee and the Anti-Defamation League, condemn the new law. Academics staunchly fighting academic boycotts of Israel, fear it will damage links between Israeli academics and those elsewhere.

The Association for Civil Rights in Israel says it violates democracy "in that it sets a political position as a reason to prevent foreigners from entering Israel and occupied territory".

Rabbi Rick Jacobs, president of America's largest Jewish movement - Reform Judaism - said the law will be "a giant sign up by the door of the Jewish state: 'Don't come unless you agree with everything we're doing here'."

In South Africa, supporters of Israel have organised numerous successful trips, taking a wide range of journalists, politicians and others to Israel to "see for themselves". Participants did not necessarily come back pro-Israel, but were exposed to perspectives from all sides.

The new law could mean potential participants would have to be vetted to ensure they have never called for a boycott of Israel or the settlements, or they won't be allowed in.

When students at next year's Israel Apartheid Week at Wits denounce Israel, it might be futile for supporters of Israel to say: "Go to Israel and see for yourself", because Israel could bar them entry. Let's hope Israel's High Court strikes down the law as unconstitutional - which it probably will.

• Read Geoff Sifrin's regular columns on his blog [sifrintakingissue.wordpress.com](http://sifrintakingissue.wordpress.com)

# Purim's many parallels with Women's Day

We have just celebrated Purim, one of the most popular and joyful holidays on the Jewish calendar.

It is considered a mitzvah to be joyful on Purim, because Purim is the historic celebration of the resilience of the Jewish people and a reminder of the heroic story of one woman who forever changed the lives of Jews.

Purim tells the story of Esther, a Jewish woman who had the courage to save her people from Haman's plot to destroy and annihilate them. With her tremendous leadership and wit, Esther was able to hide her identity and, against all odds, reverse her people's fate.

Her inspiring story has parallels wherever Women's Day is celebrated in the Free World, and resonates with the Heroines of the Struggle in South Africa, who were commemorated a week earlier on International Women's Day.

We salute the power of women who seek better lives for their families and their communities, and at the same time we need to draw attention to the 130 million women who live in countries where they continue to be denied basic human rights, and suffer abuse at the hands of others in their societies.

In today's world, Jewish communities and individuals all over the world are facing a new and threatening wave of anti-Semitism and hate crimes.



**WIZO South Africa**  
Moonyeen Castle  
President

We are witnessing acts we thought can only be found in the history books. And once again, it is us, Jewish women around the world, who serve as a beacon of hope for our communities to unite and come together.

WIZO plays an important role in this worldwide effort as every member is an ambassador of WIZO and of the State of Israel. Each one of us strengthens our communities and our homes. Each one of us supports and empowers the Jewish people who need us in Israel and around the world.

WIZO women continue with their sacred work for our State of Israel, for our Jewish state which gives

every Jew, wherever they may live, the chance to always walk tall and never have to hide their identity.

Like Esther, the heroine of Purim, WIZO women, must continue with this ancient tradition of protecting and unifying the Jewish people.

I would also add that on Tuesday, March 21, it is Human Rights Day. WIZO continuously strives to promote human rights; we are proud to be represented at the United Nations in New York, Vienna and Geneva. Of course, our main concern is children's and women's rights and we are wholeheartedly committed to protecting their rights and freedoms.

*This column paid for by WIZO SA*

south african  
**Jewish Report**

**WE  
WANT YOUR  
ADVERTISING**



**Tel: (011) 430-1980**

## COMMUNITY SURVEY PROJECT MANAGER

**CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 24 MARCH 2017**

### GENERAL

- **Location:** Kaplan Centre - UCT
- **Reporting to:** Director
- **Hours of work:** Full time
- **Nature of contract:** 1 year fixed-term project contract
- **Salary Range:** R30,000 – R40,000 p/m (subject to qualification and experience)
- **Benefits:** Annual leave and all Jewish holidays off

### ABOUT THE ORGANISATION AND THE ROLE

Based at the University of Cape Town, the Kaplan Centre promotes Jewish studies research with a special focus on South African Jewry. This is an exciting opportunity for an individual with project management experience and research skills to run a year-long community study and needs analysis of the Cape Town Jewish community.

### KEY DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The Project Manager is required to take full ownership of all stages of this project including:

1. **Planning Stage:** Devise a Project Plan for the project
2. **Data Gathering Stage:** Consult with the leadership of the Cape Town community, gather new data and analyse existing data and hire and coordinate researchers if and when appropriate.
3. **Focus-groups and interviews:** Conduct and coordinate focus groups and interviews
4. **Large-scale community survey:** Manage the selection of an appropriate survey firm; orchestrate survey design and oversee and liaise with the survey firm.
5. **Report writing / Analysis:** Produce reports and presentations that analyse the data

### REQUIRED SKILLS & EXPERIENCE

1. Post-graduate degree is essential with previous project management experience
2. Background in quantitative research and/or experience conducting research projects and/or experience with survey methodology is desirable
3. Confident and outgoing individual who is comfortable being in the public eye
4. Able to work in a calm, rational, systematic, sensitive and discrete manner
5. Excellent written and verbal communication skills with the ability to explain complicated information
6. Strong consulting, networking and inter-personal skills as well as the ability to effectively communicate with a wide variety of stakeholders
7. Highly organised with strong coordination skills and comfortable working in an unstructured environment
8. Flexible, self-driven individual who is able to multi-task and work autonomously while able to manage and work well with others
9. An accountable, responsible and reliable individual who takes pride in their work
10. Strong PC knowledge (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) is essential: excellent attention to detail, comfortable working with databases
11. Good quantitative skills and/or experience in statistics is essential.

**Interested?**

Please contact Loren for an application form: [loren@ctjc.co.za](mailto:loren@ctjc.co.za)  
Please note if you have not been contacted within 2 weeks of submitting your application, please consider your application to have been unsuccessful



**WARRENS GENERAL SERVICES**  
Painting  
Rubble removal  
Furniture removal  
Garden cleaning  
...and repairs  
**(071) 546-7810 or (011) 346-3001**

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

**AIRPORT SERVICE JHB**  
  
8-seater  
Tours/Day Drives  
**CONTACT ARNOLD,**  
**082-447-0185 or (011) 454-1193**



# Trump looks positively traditional on Mideast peace

**RON KAMPEAS**  
WASHINGTON

Trump administration rhetoric about Israeli-Palestinian peace is typical of a president who would make everything great: President Donald Trump is going to bring about a “historic” deal, the White House has said, one that would “reverberate positively throughout the region and the world”.

What isn’t typical, at least for a president who has shattered conventions in so many other sectors, is how typically Trump is going about reviving talks.

Jason Greenblatt, a real estate lawyer and trusted long-time adviser to Trump, is in the region drumming up interest in new talks, and he’s partying like its 1989:

Press Israel to limit settlement building? Check.

Emphasise economic capacity-building for the Palestinians? Check.

Talk about a grand deal involving the surrounding Arab Sunni states? Check.

Except for the hyperbole, the statements emerging from Greenblatt’s “listening” tour of the region this week could have been lifted from boilerplate dating back to the administration of George H W Bush, the first president to get Israelis and Palestinians into the same room and through his successors, including Bill Clinton, Bush’s son and Barack Obama.

“I have a lot of differences with this administration on a lot of issues, but on the issue of Israel and Palestinians they have been probably more cautious and more responsible than on almost any other issue,” Daniel Shapiro, who was the Obama administration envoy to the region from 2011 until January, said in an interview.

“It’s striking to hear quite similar language in describing their approach, their goals, their understanding of the relationship between the issue of settlements and prospects for success in negotiations,” said Shapiro, who is now a senior visiting Fellow at Israel’s Institute for National Security Studies. Trump’s pro-Israel supporters hailed his election as an opportunity to reset the relationship between the two countries. Israel’s right crowded after his victory, with Education Minister Naftali Bennett saying it was a chance for Israel to “retract the notion of a Palestinian state”.

Settlements were a key bone of contention between the Obama administration and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’s government, culminating in December when the US allowed the UN Security Council to pass an anti-settlements resolution.

Nothing quite so contentious has emerged yet in the Trump-Netanyahu relationship, but it hasn’t disappeared, either. Trump straight out asked Netanyahu to hold off on settlement building for a while when they met at a White House summit last month, and Greenblatt raised the issue in his five-hour meeting on Monday with Netanyahu.

“With respect to settlements, we see them as a challenge that needs to be addressed at some point,” Marc Toner, the State Department spokesman, said this week.

Other differences in tone and emphasis are emerging between the Trump and Netanyahu governments.

After Greenblatt met on Tuesday with Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, a US readout of the meeting said they “reaffirmed the commitment of both the Palestinian Authority and the United States to advance a genuine and lasting peace between Israel and the Palestinians”.

Notably, Netanyahu - who has made no secret of his preference for Trump over Obama has spent the three years since the collapse of the last round of talks saying Abbas appears anything but committed to advancing peace.

Jewish officials who favour the new



President Donald Trump attending a meeting on healthcare in the White House, on Monday

administration’s Israel posture say they see a difference in how Trump and his team emphasise the need for Abbas to tamp down Palestinian incitement, particularly the payments handed out by the Palestinian Authority to families of imprisoned or killed terrorists.

“President Abbas committed to preventing inflammatory rhetoric and incitement,” the meeting readout said.

But the notion that Obama downplayed incitement was always something of a myth. Obama and his top officials repeatedly decried incitement, as recently as his farewell speech to the United Nations in September. Those calls, however, tended to receive less media coverage than his tensions with Netanyahu.

There are some differences of tone - most dramatically in how Trump has retreated from explicitly endorsing the two-state solution.

Danielle Pletka, vice president of the American Enterprise Institute, said that should be seen less as a rejection of the two-state outcome than a means of returning the ball to the court of the Israelis and the Palestinians.

“All that Donald Trump said” to Netanyahu “was: ‘If you’re comfortable with it, I’m comfortable with it,’” Pletka said. “And Netanyahu is comfortable with it. What he didn’t say was: ‘Here’s a two-state solution, it will look like this.’”

The Obama administration grated on Israel by prescribing the outlines of the two states - although even that pressure had diminished after the last round of talks collapsed in 2014.

Pletka said one reason for the lack of surprises from Trump on the Middle East was his focus on other areas of security and foreign policy, where he is trying to bring about real and dramatic change, including limiting the intake of immigrants and refugees, pulling out of multilateral trade deals, recalibrating ties with China and raising the stakes in the fight with the Islamic State.

“Those are issues he deeply cares about,” she said. Another factor was the administration’s slowness in filling second and third tier jobs in national security and foreign policy, which would inhibit the advancement of dramatic policy changes.

Shapiro said Trump and his team were learning that ideological postures taken during a campaign bang up against reality after the election.

Combating incitement, limiting settlement expansion, seeking a broader buy-in to peace by Israel’s Sunni Arab neighbours and advancing two states “are structural US interests, they are not ideological fixations of one administration or another, one that any administration interested in US interests in the region will coalesce around,” Shapiro said.

Tamara Cofman Wittes, who directs the Brookings Institution’s Centre for Middle East Policy, said Trump - who is meeting with an array of Arab leaders in coming weeks - is seeking Arab investment in his bid to crush the Islamic State.

“Every administration comes into office, they confront the array of American interests and partners in the Middle East, and it makes it hard for them to do what they want to do if

Arab-Israeli conflict is at risk of becoming an Arab-Israeli conflagration,” said Wittes, who was a senior Middle East policy official in Obama’s first term.

“One of the things Arabs always ask a new administration is: ‘Please avoid doing things on the Arab-Israeli issue - and tell the Israelis not to do things that would create a crisis,’” she said. “That, which would be a normal thing for Arab governments to do, is magnified by the anti-ISIS imperative,” she said, using an acronym for the Islamic State.

Jeff Ballabon, a Republican with deep ties in the Orthodox Jewish community who advocated for Trump, said the narrative of same-old, same-old was deceptive.

“I have tremendous faith in the president as a negotiating prodigy,” he said, referring to Trump’s decades as a real estate dealmaker. “They clearly have America’s and Israel’s best interests at heart. We finally have a team that’s realistic and isn’t beholden to any failed past policies.” (JTA)

MOO-Z

011 485-5589  
74 George Avenue  
nicky@mooz.co.za

We herd udder manure that Mooz Brothers is closing the barn. Please believe that the friendly brothers are here to stay and are not mooooving anywhere.

Come to Mooz...to shmoooooz

## Hearing Aid Labs

NORWOOD MALL  
NORWOOD (011) 483 1795

norwood.hearingaidlabs@gmail.com

FREE  
HEARING  
SCREEN TEST



\*HEARING TESTS \*SERVICING & REPAIRS  
\*PROGRAMMING \*ALL MEDICAL AIDS ACCEPTED




We are specialist manufacturers and installers of granite kitchen tops, vanities, staircases, windowsills, flooring and much more, since 1988.

We are the largest supplier of Rustenburg granite kitchen tops to the market direct to the public at a wholesale price of R790.00 + VAT per L/M INSTALLED

\*JUST ARRIVED\*

Pure White Glass Stone kitchen tops exclusive to us. Maintenance Free, Toughened with a LIFETIME GUARANTEE at R2200.00 + VAT per L/M INSTALLED

011 786 3565/8/9 • sales@granitecity.co.za • 083 269 6040



**Disclaimer:** The letters page is intended to provide an opportunity for a range of views on any given topic to be expressed. Opinions articulated in the letters are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor, staff or directors of the Jewish Report. **Guidelines for letters:** Letters of up to 400 words get preference. Provide your full name, place of residence, and daytime phone number. We do not publish letters under noms de plume. Letters should preferably be e-mailed. Letters may be edited or shortened. *The Editor, PO Box 84650, Greenside, 2034 email: sharon@sajewishreport.co.za*

### SAUJS'S DIGNIFIED RESPONSE TO PSC HYSTERIA, EARNS THEM OVERALL ACCOLADES

The predictable outpouring of hate and intimidation again took place on Wits University campus during this year's "Israel Apartheid Week". It was characterised by frantic PSC (Palestine Solidarity Committee) attempts to silence the SAUJS speakers, lest the Wits community be exposed to messaging about the Israeli Palestinian situation that deviates from their own narrow catchphrases.

Those who were present, witnessed the shouting down of speakers, cutting of the wires of the SAUJS sound system, storming of the SAUJS demarcated spaces, tearing up of posters, cutting down of SAUJS banner and of course the feeble attempt by the PSC to get the University to move SAUJS far away so that their "dangerous" messaging may not contaminate their "noble crusade".

Apparently, there is little they will not resort to in order to silence academic debate and freedom of expression. As expected, the pretence of a "human rights" agenda got stripped away and the true anti-Semitic motive of BDS exposed, with one IAW activist seen goose-stepping and making stiff-arm Nazi salutes while mimicking a Hitler-style moustache. Another informed Jewish students that the reason why people wanted to kill Jews was "because they don't behave when they are in other people's countries".

But that is not all that I saw during my week on the Wits campus watching the IAW circus. That was a small part of what actually happened last week. I observed an exceptional team of SAUJS students spending a week engaging and debating on the important issues of the Israeli/Palestinian situation. There was no aggression on their part, no silencing of debate and no

flouting of University rules as demonstrated by the PSC.

Our students were knowledgeable - they had been well trained and were respectful and engaging in their conversations.

The interesting thing for me was the response to these dialogues. The majority of students passing by the IAW encampment were more interested in the opportunity to stop at the SAUJS exhibitions and have conversations with our students, asking the important questions, challenging assumptions in a respectful way and trying to understand the difficulties better.

The SAUJS team ensured that the debate and dialogue was meaningful and respectful, never shying away from the tough issues and providing a high level of debate that was conducive to a university environment.

It contrasted so strongly with the shrill, hysterical cacophony of sloganising and abuse from the other side.

I felt so proud watching our students engage with the vast array of the diverse Wits community. Their points were made eloquently, intelligently and convincingly.

The SAUJS students, together with the outstanding Israeli students who joined them, ensured that their space became a place of learning and engagement. The objective was creating understanding and focusing on solutions. I congratulate the SAUJS leadership and each of the many SAUJS members who throughout the week withstood the grossest intimidation to ensure that their messaging is what was remembered.

**Wendy Kahn**  
National Director, SAJBD

### INCONCEIVABLE THAT JEWS COULD APPLY FOR GERMAN PASSPORTS

"Thousands of South African Jews are claiming German passports". The headline in last week's edition of the Jewish Report will send strong feelings of revulsion through the minds of any Jew with pure emotions.

The headline appears in the same week of the "maftir" reading in shuls throughout the world. Shabbat Zachor reminds us what Amalek did to the Jewish people... "and to wipe out the memory of Amalek from under the heaven - you shall not forget!"

Four times a year Jews recite the profound and moving prayer honouring those who have passed away. The Yizkor prayer includes the millions of those who perished as martyrs in the Holocaust committed by the Amalek of the generation.

These are the words of the Yizkor prayer: "May G-d remember the souls of the holy and pure ones who were killed, murdered, slaughtered, burned, drowned and gassed, for the sanctification of the name, through the hands of the German oppressors. (Yemach sh'mom v' zichron - may their name and memory be obliterated.)"

In addition, the Jewish people are taught (Sanhedrin 45b, and Rambam Hilchot Sanhedrin 15:9) that it is forbidden for a Jew to derive any benefit whatsoever (passports?) from those countries which oppressed Klal Yisrael with unspeakable horrors.

How can any Jewish person look at these places, never mind seek passports? Who can

forget how many were killed, burned, gassed, plundered in these murderous countries? How can any pure-hearted person associate with such places after what they inflicted on us so intensely, that nothing in our entire history can compare to it?

While it is true that many Jews, including those seeking German (and other) passports, have been blinded by material conveniences and have no emotions of past afflictions and are ignorant of our sages' warnings of not obtaining any benefits from Germany, it is with great dismay when one hears of influential Orthodox groups who are spending much time and resources on resurrecting Judaism in these murderous countries.

Chabad have built a replica of the Kotel in Berlin using 19 tons of Jerusalem stone at the cost of millions of dollars. Any Jew who wishes to obtain a German (or any) passport is always "welcomed" in these countries by Chabad. Is this the way to obliterate the name and memory of our oppressors? NO!

Hashem will surely avenge the blood of our millions of martyrs in His own time. All of Israel should remember our holy men, women and children who were murdered by obliterating the names and memory of those killers and their countries down to the last "passport".

**Choni and Miriam Davidowitz**  
Golden Acres, Johannesburg

### JOEL POLLAK AS US AMBASSADOR TO SA, MERE AIRY-FAIRY SPECULATION

I nearly did a double take when I saw the article "SA-born Joel Pollak touted as next US ambassador to SA, in the February 24 edition of Jewish Report.

Where in the world do people get their ideas from? Apparently this ambassadorship is a long way from being deliberated and Pollak's mother-in-law, Rhoda Kadalie, seemingly was in shock by this rumourmongering. Pollak would have to be insane to expose his young family to the virulent jealousy and hatred swirling around these shores.

Shannon Ebrahim (wife of Ebrahim Ebrahim), foreign editor of the not-so-Independent Group and ANC mouthpiece of note, has already written a lengthy article about the selection of Pollak as US ambassador to South Africa, describing it as a first step towards President Donald Trump's attempt at regime change. As if South Africa even features on Trump's radar screen!

Shannon Ebrahim quickly seized the opportunity to take a nasty swipe at Rhoda Kadalie in a clear case of the pot calling the kettle black.

Naturally this was followed by a hysterical letter from a member of the Media Review Network in the same newspaper. Need I say more?

"The Donald" is cutting foreign aid and it would not surprise me in the least if he decided that South Africa can manage very well without an ambassador.

**Pamela Koonin**  
Sea Point, Cape Town

*This story was very cautiously researched and written and we stand by it 100%. – Editor*



Discover. Explore. Adventure into Excellence

## Jewish Education Coordinator & Teacher

### Ruth Landau Harp Early Learning Centre

Perth, Western Australia

The Ruth Landau Harp (RLH) Early Learning Centre provides care of a high standard and excellent education that cultivates a connection to Jewish values and traditions.

We are looking for a qualified and highly experienced Jewish Education Coordinator & Teacher who is passionate about children's education and has outstanding leadership and mentoring skills to join our team.

#### The successful applicant will:

- Have experience in developing and implementing dynamic, effective Jewish curriculum and Hebrew language programmes in early learning environments
- Have a Bachelor's Degree in Education
- Have minimum five years' experience in Early Childhood Education including pre-school administration, supervisory experience and Jewish program development, implementation and management.
- Be fluent in both English and Hebrew and have excellent verbal and written communication skills with strong interpersonal skills.
- Have a strong Judaic background with knowledge and appreciation of Jewish culture including Jewish holidays, customs, and values
- Have strong leadership skills and the ability to plan, implement programmes, lead, mentor and train staff.

We offer a highly competitive salary package, relocation allowance for overseas and interstate candidates, extra annual leave, professional development and training in a dynamic and well established Centre with supportive management and a friendly team environment.

Please go to [www.thepertshule.asn.au](http://www.thepertshule.asn.au) for the full position description.

To apply, please submit your resume (max 4 pages) with a covering letter outlining how you meet the role requirements and 3 contactable references (no mobile numbers) to: [director@ruthlandauharp.com](mailto:director@ruthlandauharp.com).

Applications close 5pm Friday 31 March 2017. Position will commence May or June 2017.

#### Friday (March 17)

- UZLC hosts SAJBD National Director Wendy Kahn on "Israel Apartheid Week". Venue: Our Parents Home. Time: 12:45-14:00. Contact Gloria 072-127-9421 or (011) 485-4851.

- Lunch hour classical music concerts at the Auto & General Theatre on the Square every Friday at 13:00. No booking. Unreserved seats at R50 (incl coffee and biscuits) available at the box office from 12:30. The Sunset Serenade with Peta Ann Holdcroft (cello), Malané Hofmeyr-Burger (flute), Irene Tsoniff (violin), Ivo Ivanov (viola) and Rosemary Kane (harp). Information: Daphne Kuhn or Mika Stefano (011) 883-8606.

#### Sunday (March 19)

- JJAC hosts an "Adventure Weekend" for Jewish singles and dating couples ages 25 - 49, starting from 08:00 today until late afternoon, Tuesday March 21. Venue: Big Creek Guest Lodge. Sunday: at Hartebeespoort Dam and going on the cable car and a late afternoon cruise on the

dam. Monday: Saddle Creek Adventures where we'll take the day at our own pace and choose the activities we want to do. Tuesday: a chill day at the lodge around their dam. Cost: Paying by March 16: R1 750 (latest registration). Payment: JJAC, Nedbank 1120998077, branch code Benmore Gardens 198765'. Reference 'Your name - Weekend'. Additional cost of optional activities: Horse trail ride: R220; go-karting: R165; quad trail: R330; archery: R160. Combo deals also available. Self-catering - bring your own food.

- JWBS hosts a cooking demo with top chef Paulo Santo, from Gemelli. Venue: TAC. Time: From 10:00 for registration and light breakfast. Cost: R450 pp. Contact: Leigh 083-441-7287.

- The JJAC invites Jewish singles and dating couples between ages 27 - 49 to a tour of "Jozi on the Hop" on the Hop off Bus and the SA Breweries' "World of Beer" tour. Information: E-mail [whatson@jjac.co.za](mailto:whatson@jjac.co.za) or Sheli Berger 082-929-9765

- Second Innings hosts Rosalie Lotis on "Peter Lotis". Venue: Gerald Horwitz

Lounge, Golden Acres. Cost: R20 members, R40 visitors (incl tea and light refreshments). Information: Linda Fleishman (011) 532-9701.

#### Monday (March 20)

- UJW hosts David Shapiro, deputy chairman of Sasfin Securities, on "Possible Economic Wows & Woes During the Course of 2017". Venue: 1 Oak Street, Houghton. Time: 09:30. Donation: R40. Contact: UJW Office (011) 648-1053.

#### Friday (March 24)

- Lunch hour classical music concerts at the Auto & General Theatre on the Square every Friday at 13:00. No booking. Unreserved seats at R50 (incl coffee and biscuits) available at the box office from 12:30. Piano and violin duo with Sonja van Zyl (piano) and George Ntuli (violin) from the KZN Philharmonic Orchestra. Information: Daphne Kuhn or Mika Stefano (011) 883-8606.





A column of the SA Jewish Board of Deputies

### Mission accomplished for our Jewish students

At the time of writing my last column, "Israel Apartheid Week" had just started. I reported then that already there had been some acts of harassment and intimidation against SAUJS students on the part of the organisers.

Despite a code of conduct being agreed to by the relevant parties following extensive discussions with the university authorities, things deteriorated. Palestinian Solidarity Committee supporters resorted to acts of vandalism, disruption and intimidation against SAUJS, no doubt annoyed by the interest shown by members of the broader Wits community in what "the opposition" had to say.

Such disdain for basic principles of academic freedom has epitomised IAW campaigns on university campuses throughout the world. SAUJS has since laid a formal complaint against the PSC, and it is envisaged that decisive action will be taken by the university against those who violate its rules and core values.

It is noteworthy that not once did SAUJS students respond in kind to this blatant provocation, even when anti-Israel rhetoric spilled over into anti-Semitic statements and demonstrations.

The incidents of anti-Semitism that took place, yet again show the fallacy that IAW's goal is solely to promote Palestinian rights.

In reality, it seeks to defame and demonise the Jewish state in the most extreme terms possible, and in doing so creates an environment in which anti-

Semitic acts are not only likely, but almost inevitable.

IAW-related activities, particularly in the media sphere, also dominated the work of the Board's staff last week. Virtually every article promoting the BDS narrative that appeared in the mainstream media was answered by an opinion piece from one or other member of the Board's professional team.

It is important to note that while regularly publishing material provided by anti-Israel activists, editors of the various newspapers almost always allow a response from our side to appear.

We were further able to arrange extensive publicity, both in the print and broadcast media for Craig Dershowitz of Artists 4 Israel, whose message of how arts and culture can bring about social change, peace and understanding between different communities, provided a powerful counter-balance to the negative, hate-filled messaging promoted by IAW proponents.

#### Exams and Yomtov

The Board's national office has so far been successful in resolving certain cases of exams set on Shavuot that have been brought to its attention. As I have frequently stressed in previous columns, it is critical that students affected by scheduling clashes inform us as soon as possible, so as to allow us sufficient time to come to an acceptable alternative arrangement with the institution concerned.

In particular, we ask that Unisa students who might be in this position, to check their timetables and contact us immediately should there be any problems. All communications should be sent to [sajbd@sajbd.org](mailto:sajbd@sajbd.org) and marked for the attention of Wendy Kahn.

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

*This column is paid for by the SA Jewish Board of Deputies*

A column of the Chevrah Kadisha

### Johannesburg, not Jerusalem

At the end of the very busy Purim day a message went out to the community saying: 3 608 generous donors; 2967 Jews in need reached.

I watched it all unfolding as I visited collection points in shopping areas and saw from afar our staff distributing cash and food parcels to recipients of welfare support. The collecting and distributing happened simultaneously throughout the day to ensure that the Purim mitzvah of matanot le'vyonim - gifts to the

poor - was fulfilled strictly in accordance with the letter of Jewish law.

There are few occasions during the year that are as heart-warming to witness as Purim. I always find myself deeply moved by our exceptional community that responds, with warmth and open-handedness, to the call of the chag.

It's not only that the message of charity on Purim is so closely aligned with the Chev's work of looking after widows, orphans and the poor and helpless among us. It's also that everywhere you look you see families in wonderful costumes, little ones in tow, rushing off to hear the megillah, distribute shalach manot, give tzedakah or attend a party.



**Partners in Chesed**  
**Michael Sieff**

Absorbing all this positive energy and activity one might be forgiven for imagining we were in the heart of Jerusalem. But this is Johannesburg, and even here Jews embrace a generosity of spirit and a love of tradition and halacha that must surely reverberate in Heaven.

People visited our residents at Sandringham Gardens, Our Parents Home and Selwyn Segal, to distribute ready-to-eat goodies and our dining-rooms provided festive

Purim meals.

Volunteers throughout the community came to assist. Our amazing staff put in extra-long hours manning the collection points, call centres and monitoring the website.

It was a day packed to capacity with kindness and good deeds - all executed with a sense of joy and purpose. It was magical - just like the story of Purim.

For those dependent on the Chev, Purim will forever be a day of miracles. A day when they are remembered with dignity and respect; when their privacy is protected and their needs met by a gracious and loving community.

May our partnership continue to thrive.

[feedback@jhbchev.co.za](mailto:feedback@jhbchev.co.za)

*This column is paid for by the Chevrah Kadisha*



**KING DAVID  
HIGH SCHOOL  
VICTORY PARK  
OPEN  
DAY**

**23 MARCH 2017** EMAIL: [vpadmissions@sabje.co.za](mailto:vpadmissions@sabje.co.za)

# WHAT DO BLACK SOUTH AFRICANS THINK OF JEWS?

A groundbreaking UCT research study was undertaken to establish what black South Africans think of Jews. The results will be shared in Johannesburg and Cape Town and you are invited to attend.

**PRESENTERS:**  
**Adam Mendelsohn**  
Director of the Kaplan Centre for Jewish Studies, UCT  
**Deborah Posel**  
Professor, Institute for Humanities in Africa (HUMA), UCT  
**Phumlani Majozi**  
Policy Fellow & Member of Council, South African Institute of Race Relations  
**Tali Nates**  
Director of the Johannesburg Holocaust & Genocide Centre

*Groundbreaking UCT Research Study*

The event will take place on Human Rights Day, Tuesday 21 March, 10 am – 11.30 am at the Johannesburg Holocaust & Genocide Centre, 1 Duncombe Rd, Forest Town 2193

To book please email [kim@jhbholocaust.co.za](mailto:kim@jhbholocaust.co.za) or call 011-640-3100  
**CAPE TOWN LAUNCH: Monday, 3 April 2017 at 6pm, Albow Centre**  
 Contact [kaplan-centre@uct.ac.za](mailto:kaplan-centre@uct.ac.za)

**R50 DONATION**





Great Park Shul



Herzlia Weizmann



Herzlia Highlands Primary



Greenside Shul

# Purim fun and games

Jewish people across the world were celebrating Purim last weekend. In South Africa, everyone, from the elderly to nursery school children, were included in some wonderful innovative way of commemorating the story of Queen Esther, her uncle Mordechai, the evil Haman in Shushan. The Jewish Report decided to show you as many photographs of these festivities as possible as - in this case - they tell the story.



Sydenham Pre-Primary



Minnie Bersohn



King David Linksfield Senior Primary



Torah Academy



Yeshiva College



Hirsch Lyons Girls' School



King David High, Linksfield



King David Linksfield Pre-Primary



King David Sandton



King David Victory Park



Klerksdorp community



K Space & The Arch party



**Freshfellas**  
 (011) 440-8352  
 3 Long Avenue Glenhazel  
**MANGOES R29<sup>99</sup>** box  
**STRINGLESS** while stocks last  
 MON – WED 7:30am – 6:00pm • THURS 7:30am – 6:30pm  
 FRI 7:30am – 5:00pm • SUN 8:00am – 1:00pm  
**"WHERE QUALITY COSTS YOU LESS!"**

**Frank Solomon Hearing Centre**

- Affordable Hearing Aids for Pensioners
- 2 Year Warranty
- No Follow-Up Charges
- Latest Technology
- Small and Discreet Hearing Aids
- Extensive Wireless Communication Portfolio Available
- Supplements for Tinnitus, treatment approved by the American ENT association

**FREE hearing screen TEST**

**WORLD'S FIRST Built-in Lithium-ion Rechargeable Hearing Aid**

**PHONAK**  
 life is on

**Fairmount:**  
 George Ave, Sandringham  
 Johannesburg  
 Fax: 011 849-3027  
 CONTACT US: (011) 849-6256

Open on Sundays 09h30 to 13h00

Additional Branches:  
 Bedfordview • Benoni • Germiston

**MACSTEEL**  
 Africa's leading steel supplier

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
- Harveyties
- 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
- Purfins
- 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

Like us on MACSTEEL Service Centres SA (Pty) Ltd  
 www.macsteel.co.za

**MACSTEEL**  
 SERVICE CENTRES SA



# There's lots happening at KosherWorld



**EITANVAAL**  
THE FARM FRESHNESS YOU DESERVE!

**Inspected & ready to use  
Exclusive in our fridges**



**Widest range of local & imported Pesach products**

**LOTS OF SPECIALS IN-STORE**



**Wine Sale**  
Sunday 19th - 9am - 2pm

**Torah Academy & Adam International**





**THE TORAH ACADEMY**

## Team Israel baseball gear a home run with American Jewish fans

**ANDREW TOBIN  
TEL AVIV**

A couple weeks ago, Adam Atkins (33), based in New York, didn't know Israel had a baseball team. But since the squad started winning games last week in the World Baseball Classic, in Tokyo, he has become a fan. Atkins and his friends wanted team caps, but were frustrated to discover they were sold out online.

Team Israel's improbable five-game run in the international tournament has many American Jews kvelling, and looking to purchase a piece of their people's baseball history. The supply of official caps has since been upped and expanded, and the team's "Jew Crew" T-shirts worn off the field, are a mini-sensation.

"I think the league probably underestimated the number of American Jews who would be interested in merchandise," Steve Adler, who owns the company that makes the "Jew Crew" shirts, told JTA. "You can't really blame them. Who could have predicted this?"

Israel was the lowest-ranked team to qualify for the World Baseball Classic, coming in at 41st. Yet the club, with seven former major league players and 20 minor leaguers, started the tournament by beating third-ranked South Korea, fourth-ranked Taiwan and ninth-ranked the Netherlands, to win its pool in the first round and become the only team to come out of the qualifying round and go undefeated.

In the second round this week, Israel beat fifth-ranked Cuba before losing badly in a rematch with the Netherlands on Monday.

Before each game, the players removed their caps for Israel's national anthem, "Hativkah", to

reveal matching yarmulkes, featuring Israeli flag colours: royal blue embroidered in white with the team's logo, a stylised Star of David with an "I" in the middle. The kippahs were still sold out online by Tuesday.

Another Judaism-related option for fans is a life-size stuffed "Mensch on a Bench", who Team Israel adopted as its mascot. The toy, based on a character from a children's Chanukah book, was on sale as of Tuesday.

Major League Baseball's vice president of business public relations, Matt Bourne, told JTA that the Israel cap has outsold those of all the other teams in the WBC with the exception of the United States.

The "Jew Crew" T-shirts are in demand, too. Adler said he had sold hundreds since the team started winning last week. There was a big spike after ESPN's Darren Rovell tweeted an image of Cody Decker, an outfielder and designated hitter for the team and a member of the Milwaukee Brewers, wearing one at a news conference.

"After Rovell's tweet, we went from selling one or two a day to being back-ordered," Adler said.

Most of the orders have come from the American Northeast, with a few from Canada. The company has rolled out new styles, including for women and children.

Nearly all the Israeli players are American Jews. According to WBC rules, a player may compete for a country if he is eligible for citizenship under its laws. Many members of Israel's small baseball community have American backgrounds, too. Otherwise, the sport is little watched or played in the country, which has just three baseball-specific fields and about 1 000 active players. (JTA)

## Hatzolah Garden Route cycle fundraiser a huge success



The cyclists participating in the Hatzolah Cycle Tour Cape Invasion 2017 are about to embark on their 600 kilometre journey.

**JACK MILNER**

In the name of raising funds for Hatzolah, 45 cyclists went on a week-long luxury cycle tour of the Garden Route.

Unlike the rough and tumble of the customary tours, this event sees cyclists put up in five-star accommodation and enjoy fully kosher cuisine. The only difference is that after breakfast, you don't continue your journey from Plettenberg Bay to Cape Town in a Bentley, but on a bicycle.

The Hatzolah Cycle Tour Cape Invasion 2017 is the brainchild of Steven Blend, who devised the concept while competing in the Alyn Cycle Tours in Israel.

"I thought to myself how many Jewish road cyclists both locally and from around the world would love to come to South Africa and cycle the entire Garden Route plus the Cape Winelands and then, if they want, participate in the world famous Cape Argus Cycle Tour, the world's largest individually timed road event, all in a safe and secure cycling environment with full back-up, patrols, ambulance services -

and 100 per cent kosher."

He approached his friend, Mark Kruger, who proposed the concept to Hatzolah, the Jewish ambulance service. They first tried it out two years back with just nine cyclists and last year that number increased to 20. This year there were 45 Jewish male cyclists who departed from Keurboomstrand near Plettenberg Bay. The majority were South African, but there were also some riders from the US and Israel.

But don't kid yourself, this is no armchair fun. The route may be aesthetically pleasing, but it is almost 600 km long with serious climbs and is not for the faint-hearted.

According to Blend, the tour was a great success as a fundraiser. "I'm still waiting for all the pledges to arrive before we can balance the books. We've started to penetrate the offshore market. At the moment, it is weighted about 60-40 in favour of South Africans but we would like to see it at around 50-50.

"We were sold out in no time and, in fact, we sold out more places than we had, but we knew some people pull out at the last minute," said Blend.