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SA NATIONAL ELECTIONS 2024: hope for a better future?

A new hope?

“A new government may be a new hope for the Jewish community. We should all work together, share ideas, create solutions and learn from experience to create a South Africa where everyone is equal and in which everyone can prosper.” See Daniel Bloch’s column on page 8 for more.

Pictured Right: Tzvi Brivik, immediate past Chair Cape SAJBD with other interfaith community leaders outside Parliament on Friday 14 June.



Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein recites a prayer at the inauguration of the new President at the Union Buildings on 19 June



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Bonny's Beat



A different type of loss

At a recent Shabbat supper at the home of a family member, I was struck by the severity of the feelings of loss when families become divided because of adult children leaving the country.

A young couple at the supper were explaining with great excitement their plans to move to Australia soon: the new jobs they will have, where they are planning to find a home, what they have been explaining to their child about the move, and so on. Clearly, for them, this is something positive, something to look forward to.

Their parents, however, exhibited a very different set of emotions. They are clearly not looking forward to a time when they won't be able to have regular in-person contact with their children and grandchildren. For them, the emigration is not something they look forward to. After all, even with FaceTime, WhatsApp, Zoom – and the other technologies that help us keep in contact in ways that a previous generation could never have imagined – they won't be able to experience the joy of fetching the grandchildren from school, attending a 7-year-old's school concert, or cuddling up together to read a book.

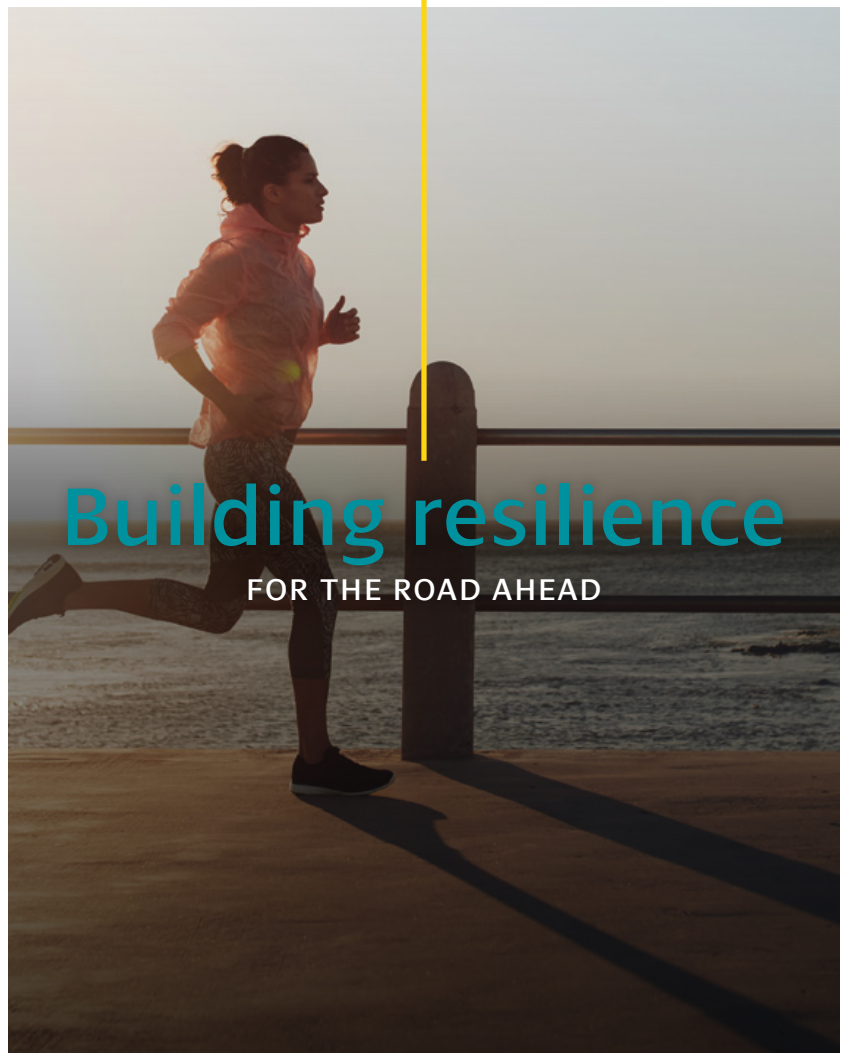
It's a very real issue among South Africans today – and certainly among our own community, which is yet again seeing the exodus of many younger people. One certainly understands the motivation for choosing to leave South Africa, which has unfortunately suffered from a failed and corrupt government, but the

emotional impact on the family is really problematic.

The situation also brought to mind what it must have been like for the families of our forebears who came to this country in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. For them, the loss was even more profound because, when one said the final goodbye, one knew pretty much that one would never, ever see the remaining family again. It's an emotion so poignantly expressed in the movie *Fiddler on the Roof*. I also thought about my own father, who was born in Lithuania. He had two sisters who left for America before he (the youngest of nine children) was born. He didn't know them at all, bar from the bits of information about them and their families that he got in letters from America.

And, in an article we carry this month on page 17, a similar sense of loss is expressed by Judge Dennis Davis, who talks about the realisation of the loss of potentially treasured friendships that never developed because so many of his schoolmates left South Africa in earlier years.

Continuing the theme of leaving one's home country, we carry a review of the new David Kramer musical on page 27, which provides a fascinating insight into a local story with an American element. We also draw your attention to the amalgamation of a few schools into one educational institution, the Jewish International School, Cape Town (page 15). There's also the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Cape Town Holocaust & Genocide Centre (page 26).



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SHABBAT TIMES

DATE	PORTION	CANDLE LIGHTING		
		earliest	latest	ends
5 July	29 Sivan	16:49	17:32	
6 July	30 Sivan Korach, Rosh Chodesh Tammuz			18:28
12 July	6 Tammuz	16:52	17:36	
13 July	7 Tammuz Chukas			18:31
19 July	13 Tammuz	16:55	17:40	
20 July	14 Tammuz Balak			18:35
26 July	20 Tammuz	16:59	17:45	
27 July	21 Tammuz Pinchas			18:39



UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS JULY 2024

<u>COMMUNITY ORGANISATION</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>FOR MORE INFO</u>
CSO Cape Town	CSO Annual Call-a-thon	10 – 11 July	dani@csocape.org.za
Melton	Conscious Parenting Course	11 July, 13h30	lauren@snitcher.org
SAZF CC	Film Club	14 July, 18h00	sazfevents@ctjc.co.za or 021 464 6714
ORT Jet	Business Network	17 July	nicole@ortjetcapetown.org.za
CTHGC	Cemetery Restoration in Poland	17 July Webinar	admin@holocaust.org.za
Melton	Conscious Parenting Course	18 July, 13h30	lauren@snitcher.org
Temple Israel	SAUPJ Biennial	19 – 21 July	executive-director@templeisrael.co.za
Temple Israel Green Point	Mandela Day	21 July, 15h00 – 17h00	executive-director@templeisrael.co.za
Mensch	Community Mandela Day Event	21 July, 10h00 – 13h00	admin@mensch.org.za
Melton	Israeli Literature Course	24 July, 18h00	lauren@snitcher.org
Melton	Conscious Parenting Course	25 July, 13h30	lauren@snitcher.org
Melton	Israeli Literature Course	31 July, 18h00	lauren@snitcher.org

You and I will change the world



Alon Zimel and Debbie Chitiz presented awards to two outstanding students at Telfed's Annual Scholarship Ceremony, in memory of Major Dor Zimel z"l and Lieutenant Yaron Chitiz z"l

“It will be tough for us but it doesn't matter. You and I will change the world.” These words from iconic Israeli musician Arik Einstein z"l resonated at Telfed's recent Annual Scholarship Ceremony. 425 students received Telfed scholarships during the 2023-2024 academic year through PRAS community service scholarships, need-based

scholarships and SASI – South Africans Studying in Israel.

In her address to the students, Telfed Scholarship Committee Chairman Shely Cohen thanked the students, among them reservists, for continuing with remarkable resilience despite the incomprehensible challenges. Shely introduced two awards dedicated in

memory of Major Dor Zimel z"l and Lieutenant Yaron Chitiz z"l.

PRAS is Telfed's community service scholarship programme. Students perform two hours of community service a week to help Olim integrate into Israeli society. At the PRAS opening event in December, Dor Zimel (one of five PRAS student co-ordinators) arrived in uniform, taking a short break from his unit in the North to support his students. 'Dor fell in battle just before Pesach, and it is unbelievable that he isn't here today,' said Shely. When asked what character trait best exemplified him, Dor's family answered: 'perseverance and commitment'. 'Dor committed to big things – to the survival of Israel (he served in the IDF reserves almost without a break), to his family and fiancé, to his studies, and to Telfed.' The Dor Zimel Award for Commitment and Perseverance was awarded to Michael Illouz, who volunteers with a young Oleh with special needs.

At the PRAS opening event, the community was reeling from the pain of the tragic death of Yaron Chitiz while fighting in Gaza. "In a world of limp handshakes, Yaron was a bear hug," said Shely. 'He didn't just

belong to a community – he made communities wherever he went... radiating warmth and drawing people together.' The Yaron Chitiz Award for Outstanding Community Service was awarded to Noam Goldberg, who volunteers at Bayit Balev, an old age home in Jerusalem.

Telfed CEO Dorrn Kline paid tribute to a former colleague, Shula Rubinow. Shula never had children of her own; instead 'she had hundreds of children – the Olim she dedicated herself to helping. I was one of her children,' said Dorrn. 'Shula personally helped about 13 000 Olim during her time at Telfed,' said Naama Or, Shula's niece. 'To perpetuate her legacy and a lifetime dedication to helping Olim, the Rubinow family has chosen to support Telfed's scholarship programme.'

This year, thanks to the generosity of our benevolent donors, Telfed granted over NIS 2,000,000 in scholarships. As an organisation and community, we are proud to empower our youth and to show our immense gratitude to this generation of heroes. They have proven, beyond doubt, their exceptionalism and their ability 'to change the world'.

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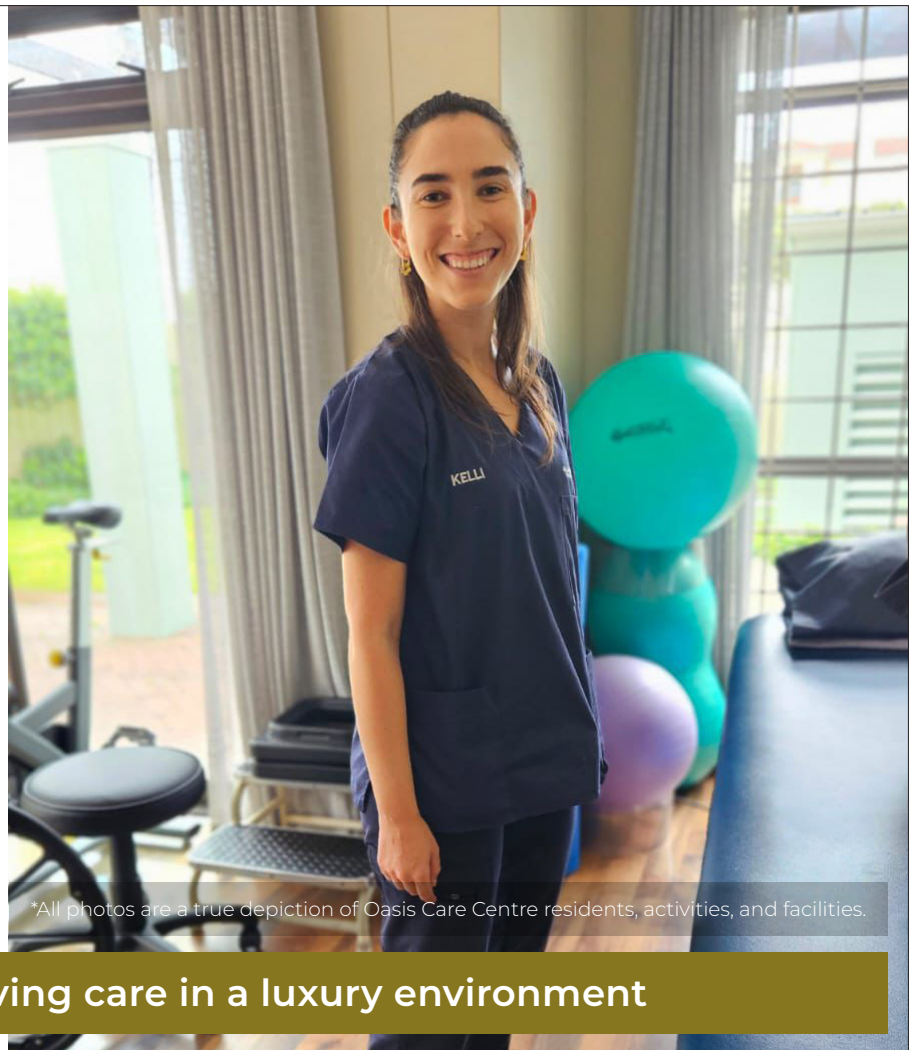
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ARTS & CULTURE

A CELEBRATION OF UNIQUELY AFRICAN JUDAICA

Many a parent whose son or daughter wants to study art is plagued by sleepless nights. ‘While I know it’s a passion, will they be able to make a living from art?’

While making a living from art or from craft can be quite a challenge, it helps if the value chain in the industry is supportive, in particular if the value chain provides the artist with exposure to markets. After all, selling your product is a crucial element in the sustainability of your endeavours.

This is certainly true of the South African Jewish Museum’s Shop – a treasure of a retail outlet that is well worth a visit. The store – located at the Gardens Community Centre campus in Gardens – stocks an incredible array of craft and art items, produced by South African artists from around the country. “We are also an outlet for the items made by the beneficiaries of Astra Sheltered Employment, which provides for members of the Jewish community with special needs,” comments Adele Fish, a co-Manager of the Shop.

According to Mandy Edison, Executive Director of Astra, “Our collaboration with the SA Jewish Museum Shop is a crucial element of our success. Our beneficiaries are actively engaged in producing products for sale at the Shop, as well as for sale at our own venue, Gifttime, and other outlets. The approximately 60 people who do the work – some of whom reside at Glendale Home – have more purpose in their daily lives. The pride in what they do – coupled with the fact that they earn a stipend for their work – is an important element in their feeling of self-worth and confidence.”

The collaboration between the two organisations has allowed for the creation of products for the Museum Shop. As Lee Solomon, co-Manager

of the Museum Shop, explains, “When we identify a particular need for a product – something that our customers ask for but that we don’t currently stock – we discuss with Astra or other craftspeople whether they can supply the item. So, for instance, we have introduced items for gifts for children that Astra has started producing. The Busy Books for children aged about three have proved to be particularly successful.”

In terms of the Judaica items available through the Shop, many are unique and cannot be found elsewhere. “Our approach has been to combine traditional Judaica items with our African heritage,” explains Adele. “So, for instance, a Zimbabwean wire- and beadworker, Peter Namupira of African Home Creative, has responded to our need to provide wire and beaded works containing Jewish symbols. His bowls with Magen David adornments are hugely popular with foreign Jewish tourists who visit the Shop.”

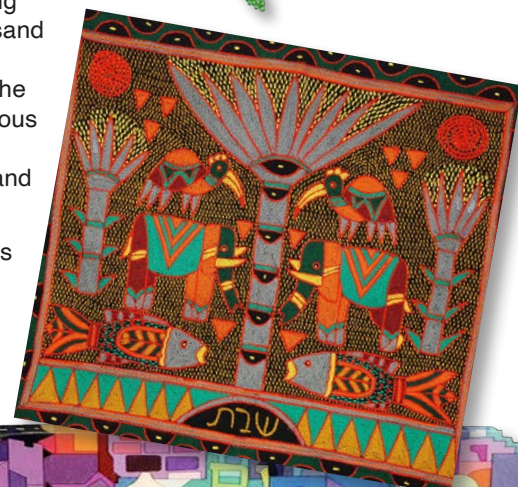
Products are sourced from private individuals, commercial manufacturers and non-profit organisations. Some of the most exciting providers include:

AFRICAN HOME CREATIVE – mentioned above – which provides a chance for people who otherwise struggle to earn a living, such as refugees from Zimbabwe and Malawi and residents of Cape Town’s townships, to practise their crafting skills and so derive an income. The founder of the business, Peter Namupira, comments that, “The Jewish Museum Shop has become a pillar of the African craft market in Cape Town. We are privileged to be able to sell through the Shop because, even when it’s a slow time for us otherwise, the Shop maintains its regular orders. This has been crucial for our sustainability.”

Peter also highlights the fact that the Shop – unlike many other retail outlets – allows him to put a tag on the items he sells there. Providing information about the business, this has become an important marketing element for African Home Creative. “We have secured a number of orders because of this,” Peter explains. “We’ve had bulk orders for items for Bat Mitzvahs, for instance, because the tag was displayed on an item in the Shop.”

KAROSS, a co-operative of farmworkers from Limpopo Province. When harvesting season is over on the citrus farm they work on, women apply their traditional embroidery skills (traditional to the Vatsonga and Northern Sotho people) to produce their distinctive embroidered items. The project has allowed for the revival of these needleworking skills, and today over a thousand embroiderers earn additional income through their work. The Museum Shop stocks numerous items from Kaross, but the shweshwe challah covers stand out for their popularity.

POTTERSWORK, a business with an impressive history of job creation, joined forces



Each handcrafted product creates employment for members of disadvantaged communities, many of whom battle effects of TB, HIV/AIDS and poverty related issues. Made in South Africa



with the College of Cape Town, Gugulethu Campus, to employ members of their Fine Arts Diploma programme. The business operates from Capricorn Business Park, employing a number of men from surrounding communities. “We developed a tactile, bead-like style of ceramic painting, which has become a signature style for the business,” explains Chris Silverston, who founded the company in 1986.

The bead-like painting on the bowls and platters produced can be seen in numerous items sold at the Museum Shop, including the unique Pesach Seder Plate that the Chronicle featured on our April 2024 cover.

WOZA MOYA, the economic empowerment project of the Hillcrest AIDS Centre Trust in KwaZulu-Natal which provides economic opportunities for people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS.

The Museum Shop stocks a range of their beautiful beaded items.

SIVAN'S HANDMADE GIFTS is a Jewish-owned Johannesburg business known for a range of Judaica products. Sivan's candlesticks are a particularly popular item.

TIN CITY produces distinctive African items from tin. Their large menorahs are a hit at the Shop.

The Museum Shop offers items for any occasion: whether it's something to put on the wall or table of your own home, or a gift for a Yom Tov or a celebration, you can certainly find a uniquely beautiful item at the Museum Shop. And there are great gifts available from Astra, too – see the Astra website, <https://astrajse.com/shop/> to view the product range.



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CONNECT, COLLABORATE, COMMUNITY

By DANIEL BLOCH

A NEW HOPE?



In the original Star Wars movie, we meet Darth Vader and Luke Skywalker. The forces of evil have spread their hatred to all the corners of the galaxy, creating despair for everyone. From the darkness comes the light and a new hero rises to save the day – hence the title ‘A new hope’. Whilst the past few months have seemed like something from a movie, where evil and terror have tried to intimidate, threaten and tear us apart, it does seem as though we too have ‘A new hope’. The recent South African elections have given all South Africans and our Jewish community something to hope for and be positive about.

Whilst our government has been very anti-Israel and quite possibly given the Jewish community the proverbial cold shoulder, the potential Government of National Unity may be just what is needed to pull our flailing country from the ashes and allow us to restore faith in our leadership. And in particular, having political parties which will implement foreign policy which will actually help us and not potentially alienate us from the rest of the world, is something extremely positive.

For the first time since Madiba led this great nation, we have something to look forward to. By the time you read this, I pray that the title I have selected for this article is correct and that I don’t have to change it to ‘Let’s hope for change’.

A new government may also be a new hope for the Jewish community. Already the signs are promising. Having been excluded from two previous Interfaith events, the Cape SAJBD was invited to say a prayer on behalf

of our community, at Parliament on Friday 14 June, when the new President was voted in.

We can also take comfort in the fact that the majority of South Africans reinforced their support for the Jewish community and Israel through their votes. The naïve and misguided anti-Israel election campaign implemented by several political parties and their attempts to use the war in Gaza for their own selfish agendas backfired miserably. Not only did many of these parties lose votes, but the so-called ‘Zionist party’ retained leadership of the Western Cape, and the most pro-Israel political party on the ballot, the Patriotic Alliance, came third in the province and fifth in the country.

What does this really mean? It means that the hopeless attempts by the BDS movement and their useful idiot sister organisations have not fooled anyone. They continue to be a desperate minority clinging to misinformation and lies in order to further their own agendas – something which will not assist or benefit anyone caught up in this awful war where countless innocent lives are lost on a daily basis. It also means that maybe, just maybe, our new government can now focus on improving the lives of all South Africans. Perhaps we can finally put an end to load shedding, create more jobs, reduce poverty, strengthen our economy, and create the South Africa which Nelson Mandela dreamed of.

On June 16th we commemorated Youth Day and all the young people who sacrificed their lives to end Apartheid. We should not only honour their memory, but look to the younger generation of today for hope. These are our new heroes who will provide ‘A new hope’ for all South Africans. The new Government of National Unity must work with the youth to produce our leaders of the future.

We should all be working together, sharing ideas, creating solutions and learning from our experiences to create a South Africa where everyone is indeed equal and where everyone can prosper.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

By ADRIENNE JACOBSON



I have just returned from the American Jewish Committees conference in Washington, where, together with National SAJBD Chair, Professor Karen Milner, and our Cape SAJBD Executive Director, Daniel Bloch, we had an exciting opportunity to engage with global Jewish leadership and provide some valuable briefing and lobbying on the work we do in SA to an international political platform. We were listened to intently, asked many questions and received much positive response from our briefings.

While it was uplifting to see how the world Jewish heart beats in unison, it was poignant and reflective to see how the global Jewish mind is grappling with the same questions in the post-October 7th climate – asking of their country, “Do I belong here? Is there a Jewish future for me and my family and, if so, what will that look like?”

Difficult questions, as the rising tide of antisemitism and pro-Hamas rallies wash across Europe, UK, Australia, Chile, Latin and South America, and the USA. Even during the conference, protests were happening outside the White House and at our conference venue.

As Jewish South Africans, on the one hand, we have been at the forefront of the global set of challenges facing our community as our ANC government led the effort to bring Israel before the ICJ on charges of genocide, creating an incredibly challenging political climate for us. On the other hand, it’s clear that the ANC strategy to campaign a national election on a foreign policy Israel/Palestine platform has failed miserably. The politicking around this has achieved little in the hearts and minds of South Africans, who remain committed to a constitutional democracy and upholding its freedoms and the rule of law, evident in the formation of a government of national unity.

The SA Jewish community continues to experience low levels of antisemitism, and our Jewish way of life is unhindered. Our work over the last 15 years at SA universities has ensured that the situation is far better than in the USA, especially at Columbia. We successfully combat all forms of hate speech and promote tolerance and respect.

Jake Sullivan, US National Security Advisor to the White House, spoke about fighting global antisemitism, and said that the difference between this point in history and pre-Nazi Germany is that, “We’re already doing the work now”. It’s happening through understanding that antisemitism is not just a Jewish issue, but that the tropes about Jews controlling the world are a threat to democracies and constitutional order the world over. We understand that antisemitism is coming from Iran and Russia, so the US is building global allies.

Jewish leaders are continuing that work and fighting fiercely and tirelessly. Jewish people have every right to contribute to our communities, our societies and our countries.

We will not tolerate a world that treats us as if we deserve antisemitism, or allows even one person to be a hostage, or that regards loss of life anywhere as acceptable. We will not accept a world where Jews have to hide their identity in order to feel safe.

We were asked the question, “What gives us hope in our country?”

Our biggest hope in South Africa has been that the hostility has not come from ordinary citizens but from the ANC government’s foreign policy, which has not brought it the domestic support it was trying to get. That we as a community have not been alone, but have had tremendous support from many allies, political parties, religious groups and friends of our community. That the concept of *Ubuntu* (I am a person because you are a person) still underpins our society. There can be no stronger message against hate between human beings than recognising the person within all of us.

We have a proudly Jewish and South African way of life and a warm, vibrant community. As we landed back at the airport, the fresh Cape sea-tinged air filling my lungs, and I breathed it in gratefully.

AJC Global Forum 2024 – Washington DC

By DANIEL BLOCH, Executive Director, Cape SAJBD

From 9-11 June 2024, more than 2 000 Jewish leaders from over 50 countries gathered at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in Washington D.C. as the US capital played host to the annual AJC Global Forum. The American Jewish Committee (AJC), is one of the world’s largest advocacy groups fighting for the rights of both the Jewish people and Israel.

Our Chairperson, Adrienne Jacobson, and Executive Director, Daniel Bloch, joined the SAJBD National Chair, Professor Karen Milner, SAUJS Western Cape Chair, Erin Dodo, and other South Africans and Jewish leaders from around the world to learn from one another, share concerns, identify solutions and ultimately come together in a great show of unity.

The opening plenary was filled with both heartache and inspiration as we heard from two courageous couples. Orna and Ronen Neutra spoke of their unwavering hope that their son, Omer, who is currently a hostage held in Gaza, will return home safely. Zvi and Dorit Reder recounted their harrowing experiences on October 7th when they saved hundreds of innocent lives.

A global panel convened, and SAJBD National Chair, Prof Karen Milner, shared feedback from the recent elections and, importantly, about how the South African people voted against the anti-Israel campaign – a true representation of how South Africans truly feel about Israel and the Jewish community.

The next two days were spent in various breakaway sessions hearing about the issues on American university campuses and international campuses, including South Africa, the impact of technology and social media on antisemitism, the relationship between Israel and the Diaspora, and more. The entire programme featured some incredibly inspiring speakers including Congressman Ritchie Torres, Hanna Veiler – Chairperson German Union of Jewish Students, Noa Fay – Student Activist, Columbia University, Jake Sullivan – United State National Security Advisor, and more.

Follow this link to YouTube to watch the various plenary sessions at the AJC Global Forum - https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=AJC+Global+Forum+2024

What was the key takeaway aside from the incredibly important networking and the opportunity to learn from other community leaders? Whilst we may all have similar problems to deal with, whether in the US or Europe, back home in South Africa, our Jewish way of life is still accessible and enjoyed by most Jews. The levels of antisemitism are low, and we do not experience the violent antisemitism that we see happening around the world. And whilst not everyone may agree with the strategy of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies, there are many things which we are doing right now to work tirelessly to protect all our civil rights and our way of life – no matter what! And we will continue to do so.

SAJBD National Chair, Prof Karen Milner, shared feedback from the recent elections and, importantly, about how the South African people voted against the anti-Israel campaign'



Daniel Bloch and Noa Fay – Student Activist at Columbia University



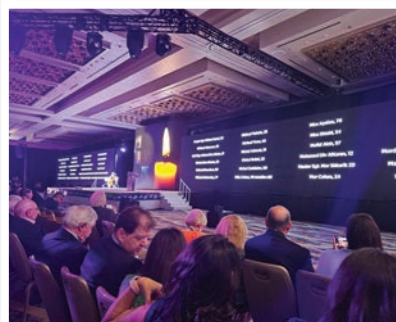
SAJBD National Chair Professor Karen Milner, SAUJS Western Cape Chair, Erin Dodo, Cape SAJBD Chair, Adrienne Jacobson, and Cape SAJBD Executive Director Daniel Bloch



Daniel, Adrienne, Karen and Ted Deutch, CEO, AJC



Outside the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum



AJC opening plenary session



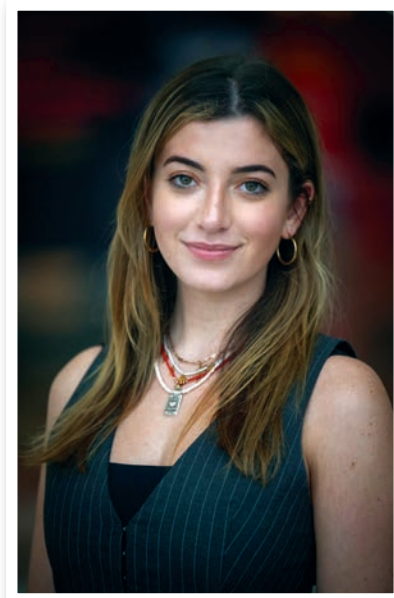
Cape SAJBD Executive Director Daniel Bloch standing with a colleague from Abu Dhabi, Shelly Wolkowicz – CEO World Union of Jewish Students and Michael Pelisek – Executive Director, Federation of Jewish Communities Czech Republic



The power of saying

Yes!

By ERIN DODO



Erin Dodo writes a column reflecting the voice of Jewish youth in Cape Town. A student at the University of Cape Town, she serves as Chairperson of the Western Cape branch of the South African Union of Jewish Students.

I didn't go to a Jewish day school growing up, but I have found myself more immersed in Jewish life than I would have had I gone to a Jewish day school. The reason for this: I didn't grow up having easy access to Jewish education.

I also didn't go to Jewish summer camp – which is something I wish I had experienced.

I recall how I felt when I got to university in 2021: hungry for more Jewish learning, more involvement, more experience. This motivated me to seek out the South African Union of Jewish Students (SAUJS) in Cape Town. Whilst it was well established in Gauteng, it had lost its footing in the Western Cape as a result of Covid, and no longer held the same influence on campus as previously.

Craving a stronger Jewish identity and immersion in my culture, I decided to take it upon myself to bring SAUJS Western Cape back. By 2022, I was Chairperson of SAUJS Western Cape – and I was terrified. I had never led a society, let alone a Jewish student organisation. I didn't know how to do it – but I was determined to make a difference and enhance Jewish pride at UCT, so I seized the opportunity for this incredible lesson.

A few months in, I was asked by the SAUJS National Body to represent SAUJS at the American Jewish Committee (AJC) Global Forum in New York. I was surprised and delighted to be given such an incredible experience, especially since, after coming to

UCT with very little experience in Jewish life, I could make it to New York on the team representing South African Jewry.

When I got back, I was desperate for more. Desperate to engage, to learn, to grow. I decided that I wanted to get onto the Student Representative Council (SRC) – a greater challenge than anything I'd ever done before. To get there, I took every opportunity to attend any talk, with every political party, creating alliances with whoever was willing to engage with me.

I pushed and pushed and was eventually elected onto the SRC, and proudly held the position as Deputy Secretary General of the UCT SRC for the better part of the next year. Although I didn't finish my term, I still see it as a success since I understood that there was more for me beyond the SRC, and that I was not growing in that role as much as I could in another.

By the time I left the SRC I had applied to the incredible Lauder Fellowship – an experience that has truly changed my life. I first found out about the Fellowship at my first year of Global Forum in New York, and by then I already understood that being a part of this would be a life-changing experience – and it truly has been. In my time as a Lauder Fellow, I've travelled to New York, Orlando, Belgium and Switzerland. I've spoken to UN ambassadors, NATO leaders and EU spokespersons. I've had a seat at tables I didn't even know existed.

In my second year at AJC Global Forum in Tel Aviv, I decided to apply to the AJC Campus Global Board – another exceptional opportunity that led me to where I am now: speaking at my 3rd Global Forum on a panel on antisemitism on campus in Washington D.C., preparing for my Summer Internship as a Goldman Fellow in the Office

of the CEO, as Ted Deutch's summer intern.

I got to where I am now by saying "Yes" to every opportunity offered to me. So often, we are hesitant to take risks, fearing the unknown or doubting our capabilities. But embracing these opportunities, no matter how daunting they may seem, is essential for growth and discovery.

Through my journey, I've learned that seizing the moment can lead to unimaginable experiences and personal development. Whether it was revitalising SAUJS Western Cape, representing Jewish students at international forums, or engaging with global leaders, each step was a leap of faith that paid off immensely.

Looking back, I realise that these opportunities were not just milestones but transformative experiences that shaped my identity and aspirations. They taught me the importance of stepping out of my comfort zone and the power of resilience and determination.

As I continue my journey, I remain committed to embracing the opportunities that come my way, with gratitude and humility. These experiences have taken me to phenomenal places, and have given me the chance to make a difference. That is the power of saying "Yes".





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Cape Town's Connection to Israel

ADVOCATE EDUCATE CELEBRATE

RUNNING THE MARATHON OF LIFE!

By SAZF CC MEDIA

‘It’s not about dreaming big – dream HUGE! If you don’t put those big goals out there, you will never know.’ Inspiring words that Beatie lives by, in order to live life to the fullest. Beatie Deutsch, a religious mother of five, a wife and, on top of it all, an elite female athlete and Olympic marathon qualifier.

The Cape Town community had the privilege of listening to Beatie’s inspiring journey on ‘winning the marathon of life’. She was brought to South Africa in celebration of Yom Yerushalayim and in collaboration with Mizrachi, SAZF CC and the Israel Centre. She also spoke to various age groups at each school, leaving the students inspired.

Beatie discovered her running talent in her mid-20s and has only been running for the past 10 years. ‘There is nothing that stands in the way of your willpower.’ Her early marathon goal was to win the Jerusalem Marathon, which is famous for its hills. With her dedication and training, she managed to complete the marathon in record time for the women’s division. This sparked the beginning of her new-found talent and purpose, which brought about endless opportunities.

Beatie is active on social media, a powerful speaker and has inspired thousands through her posts and speeches. She is an advocate for Beit Daniella – for adolescents struggling with mental health

issues – and uses her public profile to advocate for the organisation. When the organisation was still only just a dream, she ran to raise funds for Beit Daniella to get off the ground, and managed to raise \$50 000.

In 2019, Beatie was ranked as one of the Top 50 most influential Jewish women in the world. She has won multiple national titles, several international races and is the first and only elite marathoner in the world with five children.

‘We all have a unique G-D-given role in this world.’ Beatie’s story resonates with people of all backgrounds and ages. Through her uplifting and entertaining speeches, she shares the lessons she’s learned through marathoning and offers practical tools to achieve one’s dreams.

In Beatie’s words: ‘Your failures bring you closer to your potential!’



A real Cape Town running experience with Beatie

FILM CLUB



KADOSH
a film by Amos Gifaj
קדוש

SUNDAY 14 JULY 2024

AT	6:00	PM
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LIGHT REFRESHMENTS SERVED FROM 5:30PM

RSVP: SAZFEVENTS@CTJC.CO.ZA
021 464 6714

MINIMUM R50
DONATION







Beatie meeting the students and teachers at Phyllis Jowell



Community event with Beatie at Morasha Shul



Beatie and her son Ben Tzion touring Cape Town



Beatie meeting the girls at Cape Town Torah High



Beatie with the students of Phyllis Jowell



Cape Town's Connection to Israel

ADVOCATE EDUCATE CELEBRATE

Bonding with Bnei

By JESSICA CONNÉ



Bnei Akiva Cape Town Madrichim on their maddies Shabbaton

Bnei Akiva Cape Town had a June filled with bonding! Most excitingly, Bnei Akiva's superhero madrichim went on their bi-annual maddies Shabbaton. We celebrated this year's achievements so far and planned in anticipation for the next six months.

This month, we also celebrated Jerusalem Day with pita bread making, krav maga, prizes, and

dancing! Shavuot was also a blast! The first night was filled with learning and snacks. The first day hosted a braai and games for madrichim, with everyone making their way to play soccer later on.

We cannot wait for the next six months ahead of us! We're fired up and ready to grow!

Kadimah Bnei Akiva!

Ready for our Spain Experience!

By EYTAN LABE



Our Diller community is buzzing with excitement as we prepare for our Spain Experience trip, joining 16 communities worldwide. We'll explore Spain's rich Jewish heritage, delving into stories of resilience and hope during challenging times. This seminar emphasizes Jewish unity and identity, fostering conversations with Jews from diverse backgrounds.

In today's world, with antisemitism

and anti-Zionism at high levels, creating a safe space to share our stories and experiences is more important than ever. This trip will allow our fellows to learn, teach, and grow in their leadership, deepening their connection to Judaism and Israel. We've been building up to this trip, setting goals and objectives to make the most of this incredible opportunity. Stay tuned for updates – we can't wait to share our journey with you!

Holiday time!

By BRAD GOTTSALCK

After early school mornings and exam stress, holidays are finally here! And with the holidays, comes epic Habo programming. We are so excited to send our Shorashim group for the first ever Europe Trip. Boat tours down the Danube and crazy travel stories await! We are also looking forward to our winter camp – although winter on the campsite comes with a chill, the best part of winter camp is heating up with hot chocolate and a bonfire with friends.

On a more national level, Habonim madrichim across both cities took part in vote counting. It was an insightful look into our democratic process and we all learned a great deal.



COMPILATION: Netzer is what?

By NETZERNIKS (Channichimot & Madrichimot of Netzer)

Often people in the community come up to us, madrichimot, asking, "What is Netzer?"

Well, we thought we'd lay it out here for you all.

Netzer is a place...

'Where I feel I can truly be myself'

'Where I can see all my Jewish friends'

'Machanayim' (A ball game everyone joins in on)

'The dam'

'A place of togetherness'

'A place with like-minded people'

'Where I can make new friends' Machaneh!'

'Ma'amad' (Prayer services)

'Family'

'Fanan!' (Chilling!)

'Where I feel most connected to my Judaism'

'My second home'

Netzer South Africa is for the dreamers, the builders, the believers, the explorers, the philosophers, the nerds, the artists, the academics, and the idealists...

Netzer is for everyone.



Machaneh Chevra

Find us



YOUTH DAY SPORTS EVENT 2024: A celebration of unity and diversity

On Sunday, 9 June 2024, the Herzlia High Multi Purpose Hall was alive with excitement and camaraderie as Jewish and African youth gathered for a special Youth Day sports event. Spearheaded by the Cape South African Jewish Board of Deputies (Cape SAJBD) in partnership with the Union of Jewish Women (UJW), Maccabi Western Province, the South African Zionist Federation Cape Council (SAZF CC), and the UJC, this intercultural event commemorated Youth Day and celebrated the spirit of the Soweto Uprising through the unifying power of sports.

Hosted at the sports facilities of Herzlia High School, the event featured thrilling netball and soccer matches that united young people from diverse backgrounds. Jewish youth, co-ordinated by Maccabi Western Province, played alongside teams from the Noluntu Soup Kitchen project in Khayelitsha, supported by the UJW. The day was filled with mixed-team matches, where Jewish youth teamed up with members of the Silverstars Netball and Friends Football Clubs, fostering a spirit of inclusiveness and mutual respect. The Noluntu Teams were treated to

a delicious lunch pack after the event to enjoy on the bus on the way home.

The 2024 Youth Day sports event was more than just a day of games; it was a celebration of diversity, unity, and the enduring power of community spirit. Through the joy of sports, Jewish and African youth came together, building bridges of understanding and friendship that will undoubtedly have a lasting impact.



REPORT ANTISEMITISM & HATRED

The Cape SAJBD closely monitors and investigates all acts of antisemitism in South Africa — but **we stand against all forms of hatred.**

Our 'No Place for Hate' campaign fights hatred directed against anyone to combat a culture of racism, antisemitism and prejudice in our country.

Report incidents of antisemitism and hate by sending a **Whatsapp message to the Antisemitism Hotline on 079 994 5573.**



YOU ARE NOT ALONE!

COMMUNITY WELLNESS HELPLINE

if you are feeling overwhelmed, anxious and would like access to a trained counsellor, please contact our Cape SAJBD's Community Helpline to support your emotional wellbeing.

Send a WhatsApp message, voice note or call the Emotional Wellness Helpline on 079 875 3902



REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

Please report any suspicious activity or potential security threats specifically related to the Jewish Community or Communal facilities as well as medical emergencies to the **24-hr CSO Control Room on 086 18 911 18**



INTRODUCING

B”H



JEWISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL CAPE TOWN



We are proud to announce a milestone moment for the Cape Town Jewish community, the amalgamation of the City’s three Torah schools into one united school, the Jewish International School.

United in our diversity, Phyllis Jowell Jewish Day School, Sinai Academy and Cape Town Torah High have come together as South Africa’s first Internationally accredited Jewish school from Pre-School to Grade 12.

Guided by Torah values and learning and committed to academic innovation and excellence, the Jewish International School, Cape Town is a home for every Jewish family. From nurturing, individualised learning inspired by the most innovative educational thinking to some of the highest SAT results globally, our school is already making its mark both locally and globally. Join us!



Academic excellence



Torah values



Community building



Educational innovation



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021 557 7560

A whole
new look.
The same
big goal.

30 YEARS
OF CSO

For 30 years we've been **passionate** about **protecting Jewish Life and the Jewish way of life**. To celebrate this milestone, our **fresh new look** showcases our **love for** – and services to – the **community**, so be sure to check out our new website:

www.csocape.org.za



CAPE TOWN

We're always ready to answer your call.
On **July 10th & 11th**, we're counting on you
to answer ours.

Thriving Together.

Old Herzlians reconnect after 56 years



Dennis Davis pictured at centre with others from the Herzlia Matric Class of 1968. L-R: Raun Melmed, Charles Gurland, Howard Dubowitz, Sharon Chazan, Dennis Davis, David Richardson, Michael Hayden, Alan Richter, Leslie Koski, Darryl Isaacs.

Although the Covid pandemic came with many devastating effects, there were also some surprisingly positive ones, including the forming of new friendships and enhancing existing ones. That's been the experience of Cape Town's Judge Dennis Davis, who reconnected with 10 schoolmates as a result of the pandemic.

"With lockdown came isolation," Dennis explains. "I had kept contact over the years with Alan Richter, who was in my class at Herzlia, and Alan set up a WhatsApp group for some of the members of the Herzlia Class of 1968 during the pandemic so that we could find out how everyone was doing." The group became quite active, and numerous conversations

flowed from it, continuing even when Covid was over.

With the renewal of friendships and the creation of new ones through the group, a meet-up ensued in May this year. The members of the Class of '68 have moved to countries across the globe: America, England, Canada, Israel, Australia – and just a few still in South Africa. Since the majority of this group were in North America, New York was selected for the get-together.

It was serendipitous that the Metropolitan Opera ('the Met') was performing Bizet's opera, Carmen, at the time: the group went to a performance, recalling their first exposure to the opera in 1967, when Herzlia arranged for the class to attend the opera at the Alhambra Theatre in Cape Town.

"It was a remarkable week," Dennis comments. "I found it very moving. I hadn't seen most of the people for decades, and some were classmates I hadn't been friendly with at school. But now I experienced a sense of closeness that I found very meaningful. We found that we have so much in common, and so the discussions flowed. We chatted about growing

old, about parenting adult children, about our careers – and, of course, about the Herzlia days!"

Returning home, Dennis says that he has been left with a deep sense of loss. Loss because of the friendships that could have blossomed years ago had more of the Class of '68 remained in South Africa. "There's also a strong sense of loss for the country," Dennis explains. "When I look at this group of people and consider their achievements in a range of fields – medicine, architecture, workplace culture – I realise that, had they stayed in South Africa, we could have benefited hugely as a society and an economy through their contributions. This is the sort of scenario which highlights what the South African brain drain really means."

Dennis wonders what it is that gives this sense of togetherness among a group of people who last saw one another over 50 years ago, and who have trodden very different paths. Is it because of their particular school experience? Is it the sense of family one may get from having grown up in the same city? He isn't sure, but he does know that he gets a very warm feeling about the group.

Flash Facts

When thinking about the milestones in establishing SA Jewry, we think about a "world within a world": immigration into a foreign world of religion, language, community and society. Yet, SA Jewry has not only survived, but it has thrived, etching a major footprint for our size.

Catch a glimpse into The Eliot Osrin Leadership Institute's Curriculum on Community in Context:

What do Surveys and Year Books have in common?

Both give us info on their context that assists us to understand a snapshot of a period in time. Both offer a window into community life, analysis and questions, that is the evidence needed for reflection and projection.

What are some of the features of a pioneering community identified in the 1929 Year Book?

The early days of a sprawling and fledgling community starts to build longevity with key organisations that support Jewish life from cradle to grave, from welfare to Jewish education, and strong protections and Zionist support. A decentralised community across the landscape of far flung dorps, deepened roots and established trades which

sewed seeds of economic activities. A signature was landsleit support, with closeknit networks originating from their common pasts. Interesting fact due to climate and time: Shuls mostly were called *Hebrew Congregations*.

What makes 1967 as represented in its Year Book, unique?

National organisations emboldened urbanisation and the tapestries of rich and diverse Jewish life. While ensuring continuity of Jewish identity and community, other opportunities emerged amidst the challenges: a focus on language (Yiddish & Hebrew); a vibrant Jewish Press – weekly & monthly; culture, outreach and holocaust studies.

All the while surrounded by neighbouring Jewish communities across 8 countries.

What does an urbanised Jewish community look like? Checking out the elaborate 2020 community directory?

Depicted by richly diverse; served by thousands (volunteers and later professionals); funded by millions raised and spent; impacted by/impactful for young and not so young. Our community boasts interfaith and political advocacy, religious institutions, gastronomies, security and health protections, womens' activity groups, annual festivals, social activism and outreach, informal/formal/adult Jewish education, focusing internally and externally.

Onboarding is essential for lay (volunteer) and professional leaders to serve. What does this acutally mean?

Before taking a deep dive into one org, it is useful to understand the Community in Context.

EOLI teaches the big picture view of community, and all its parts, individual and collectively, as sectors, looking back to look forward.

The models for ensuring a sustainable community with good governance have been laid decades back and require a review and refresh as new eyes and talents reassess.

Stats as facts for our current context*:

■ Currently 52 300, SA Jewry is half its former size (+/-1975) with 3 dominating centres 54% Johannesburg, 24% Cape Town, 7% Durban, and a splintering of Jews elsewhere.

■ Ages 40-80 constitutes the belly of the community, to stabilise and ensure succession.

■ With a stat of double deaths compared to births, calls for a strong demand on the belly of community to step up rather than play into a "shrinking and dying" doomsday scenario.

■ Attachment to Israel increases with age, especially above 50 yrs – so de(re)fining affiliation today across generations requires our important attention.



What have the legendary pioneers and builders of our community had in common?

There is a common set of qualities and accomplishments of our community trailblazers: Each person has fully invested themselves over decades in community, serving from one area to the next, relying on mentors to steer them to the needs. Each frequently served inside the community and outside, as patrons of the arts, sports, legal and business, as active citizens. EOLI curates inter-generational conversations between architects, builders and designers, all to future-proof the community by people-proofing.

Closing Comments:

Legacy-making is defined by transformation, education, development, people, sustainability, volunteerism and professionalism. Quality services are driven and shaped by passionate people. With EOLI's slogan of **Investing in People who Invest in Community**, we match mentors with emerging leaders to pass on the baton for succession.

Find your path! Meet your match! Become an active citizen and get involved in (y)our community's next chapter!

*(Acknowledgement of the EOLI Leadership Development Programme Curriculum. Professors Adam & Richard Mendelsohn expert knowledge on the History of SA Jewry and the Kaplan Centre surveys).

www.osrinleadership.org

CONSIDER THIS

Judaism exhorts us to learn from one another

By RABBI EMMA GOTTLIEB



Lately, I've had all too much occasion to see what happens when we don't talk to one another. We make assumptions. We limit our understanding of other ways of thinking. We risk rooting ourselves too deeply in our own, sometimes erroneous, perspectives. When we take

the time to speak directly to one another, we can't help but to learn. We find ourselves saying things like, "Oh! I had assumed you believed X but now I'm realising you actually believe Y!" Or, "Wow, hearing you speak about this has opened my mind to a different way of thinking about it." Or, "That's interesting. I had never heard that before!"

Not only is learning from one another a good general practice, but it's actually a Jewish imperative. The tradition of learning in *chevrutah* – in partnership – is encouraged by Jewish tradition exactly because it ensures that we are able to take our understanding of a text or idea beyond the limitations of our own knowledge, perspective and experience, by including and

incorporating at least one other person's knowledge, perspective and experience into our consideration, reflection and learning.

Some of the earliest Jewish references to learning in groups or in pairs come from the Talmud, which itself asserts that Torah can only be acquired in a group (*chavurah*) (BT Berakhot 63b). Elsewhere (BT Ta'anit 7a) it teaches, "Two scholars, through discussion and debate, help to sharpen each other's insight into the text". Later on, the same tractate (Ta'anit 23a), gives us the powerful statement, "Give me *chavrutah* or give me death."

The rabbis seem to be insinuating that learning with and from one another is vital to a healthy and successful life. They may even be

pointing to the dangers of not learning from and with one another.

As I am writing this, we are preparing to receive Torah together and anew on the festival of Shavuot, and to celebrate with gratitude the revelations from the time of Matan Torah, the giving of Torah, until today. As we are living in particularly tumultuous and fractious times, the idea that Torah (learning) can only come to us in groups, is particularly powerful. Our tradition implores us not to separate from one another and build walls of misunderstanding between us, but rather to do the sacred and sometimes difficult work of sitting down together, listening, and opening ourselves up to what we don't already know.

Temple Israel's annual Lag B'Omer bonfire

After a delicious dinner of baked potatoes, members of all ages had a wonderful evening around our magnificent bonfire drumming away the darkness with the Drum Café.



Shavuot Tikkun Leil



A panel of authors, Steven Robbins, Glenda Kruss van der Heever (moderator), Julia Ruchman and Hedi Lampert



The Annual Cheesecake winner two years in a row - Samuel Warner



Jamie Hansen and Daniella Beswick (2nd place) and Lisa Sandler (3rd place)



Rabbi Guershon from Brazil sharing his thoughts on Torah



SAUPJ Biennial Cape Town 19 – 21 July 2024

שיפור קשרים Cultivating Connections

Join the SAUPJ for its 2024 Biennial as we cultivate connections and workshop how to collaborate for an interconnected and thriving community.

Together we'll set forth a plan for shaping and nourishing South African Progressive Judaism.



Scan her to find out more



What does it really mean to be part of our Cape Town Jewish community? That's the big question we dived into while filming our latest UJC community video.

Picture this: The coldest day of the year, hundreds of people showing up from all walks of life, different ages and genders, and understandings of their own unique take on being Jewish, coming together to chat, get to know one another, and figure out what makes our Cape Town Jewish community so special. Spoiler alert: it's the awesome similarities that bind us, not the differences.

Throughout these lively discussions, our videographers and photographers were on the move, capturing fascinating conversations and meaningful insights.

Here are some standout highlights from our conversations:

- **What defines us as Jews? Well, we're known for our good-natured complaining, and we love to eat and talk—a lot!**
- **The incredible story of the Jewish ambulance service, known today as CSO, and how it saved a man's life.**
- **How the community has become a welcoming home for those who choose to convert to Judaism.**
- **The vital role the community plays in protecting vulnerable individuals.**
- **Providing a rich Jewish cultural life, or Yiddishkeit, for our children.**
- **A strong emphasis on supporting others, which goes beyond just financial help; it's about giving time and lending a hand.**

Our aim is to showcase the UJC as the ultimate unifier within Cape Town's Jewish community—the glue that holds all the diverse elements together. And you'll see this theme woven throughout the video.

Scan the QR code below to check out the video - you may even spot someone you know!



JEWISH STUDENT LIFE



JEWISH PRIDE LIKE NEVER BEFORE Israel Apartheid Week: Jewish students respond to hate with love, singing, dancing and uplifting one another

During the annual hate fest (known as Israel Apartheid Week (IAW) – run by pro-Hamas groups across campuses worldwide Jewish Students at UCT stood stronger and

prouder than ever before as roughly 500 protestors attempted to intimidate the barely 50 Jewish students with slurs, threats and shouting. In response, the students sang songs,

danced and uplifted one another with Mitzvot and public displays of Jewish pride. Big YaSher koach to the SAUJS team for managing such a complex situation.



Despite their identity under attack, Jewish students celebrate their Jewishness with pride!

“I am overflowing with immense pride and hope. I am SO proud of everyone for how we united, maintained composure, and stood up for one another. I thought it was incredibly powerful.”

Lia – 2nd year film student

Singing arm in arm: ‘Am Yisrael Chai’



Jake Whitesman



Joseph Valkin



Chad Silver says the Shema



Matthew Furman



The Chabad House
13 Rhodes Ave, Mowbray
info@jewct.com | 072 363 0351 | facebook.com/jewct



JEWISH STUDENT LIFE

Powered by:
 Chabad
on Campus



Jewish students led by Rabbi Nissen Goldman stand their ground against the protestors



The protestors were a perfect backdrop for a great mitzvah photo op

Mitzvah Matzah Campaign across campuses

Every student who requested Matzah received their very own box of Shmurah Matzah both at UCT and Stellenbosch U. Some who couldn't attend the public student Seder were sent Seder-to-go including wine, matzah, maror and a haggadah.



Shema Yisrael



Only too happy to flex my Judaism



Mitzvah Matzah Campaign: Students Jade Gershowitz, Layla Chait, Talya Leeman



Mitzvah Matzah Campaign: Students Cain Letschart, Adam Lieberman, Zack Waters

Weekly Torah learning sessions



Stellenbosch Lunch 'n Learn



UCT Lunch 'n Learn in the Kaplan Centre Bet Midrash

In partnership with:
 ESF
ERIC & SHEILA SARASON
FOUNDATION

The Chabad House
13 Rhodes Ave, Mowbray
info@jewct.com | 072 363 0351 | facebook.com/jewct

A beneficiary of:
 UJC
OUR COMMUNITY



HEALTH FOCUS

Achoo! It's winter!



Dr Orit Laskov

Common winter respiratory viruses include a variety of illnesses like influenza “the flu”, the common cold which can be caused by a few different viruses, and a few others like RSV and COVID19. These are all distinctly different illnesses but there are overlaps in terms of symptoms.

While there are no vaccines for many of the respiratory viruses, there are vaccines against the flu which are highly effective. They are not live vaccines, meaning that the vaccine cannot give you the flu, but sometimes there is an immune response to the vaccination where occasionally people get a mild fever or body aches within a day or two of being vaccinated. This immune response is usually a good sign of your immune system responding to the vaccination and building up the body's defences.

Flu vaccines are safe and effective, but take two weeks to work so you could still contract the flu in the two weeks after being vaccinated. It is still of benefit to get vaccinated even once the flu season has begun as the flu circulates in the population for a number of months.

The vaccines are reformulated annually based on international trends of the strains circulating. The current flu strains circulating in South Africa are all covered by both the three-strain and four-strain vaccines currently available in the country, including the A(H1N1) strain (previously known as 'swine flu' because it was also causing disease in pigs).

Flu symptoms typically come on very quickly and can include a sudden high

temperature, body aches, fatigue, a dry cough, a sore throat, diarrhoea or stomach pain, and a headache.

Small children have similar symptoms but can also appear less active and may complain of earache.

A cold tends to come on more gradually, predominantly affects the nose and throat, and makes you feel unwell, but usually well enough to do daily activities.

If you have these symptoms you should rest, drink plenty of water to avoid dehydration, keep warm, and take over the counter medication to treat the high temperature and the aches and pains. Antibiotics do not work for viral infections such as the flu and will not speed up your recovery.

For babies and children, people over 65 years, pregnant individuals, people with underlying chronic medical conditions, and people with weakened immune systems, the flu can result in more serious illness and various complications. If you fall into one of these groups you should consult with a doctor if you develop symptoms suggestive of the flu.

If you develop any sudden onset of chest pain, have difficulty breathing or cough up large amounts of blood, you should seek urgent medical attention.

Flu is very infectious and spreads easily to other people. You are more likely to infect others within the first five days of your illness. It is spread through germs from coughs and sneezes which can live on hands and surfaces for around 24 hours. To reduce the risk of spreading the flu you should wash your hands frequently, and cover your nose and mouth when you cough or sneeze preferably with a tissue or the bend of your elbow, not your hand. Used tissues should be discarded as quickly as possible.

Try to stay home and avoid contact with other people if you have a high temperature or you do not feel well enough to do your daily activities.

Being outside when it rains doesn't mean you'll contract one of the viruses mentioned above. However if you're wet and cold for a prolonged period this may negatively impact your immune system, making it more likely to get a cold.



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Grief Support Group
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Nechama Cape Town is hosting a grief support group for 6 months from June to December 2024 and we invite anyone wishing to connect with others experiencing this major life upheaval for a connecting, meaningful encounter.

To secure your place, please contact Nechama 021-465 9390 or admin@nechama.org.za

Sessions will be on the last Monday of each month from 6 to 7pm. Venue central Cape Town. TBC




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7:00 - 8:00 PM
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Last Monday of every month

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Odette Mendelsohn
to reserve your place
072 124 0676



Bereaved Partners' Support
You don't have to do this alone...

Find understanding, community and courage amongst others in this major life upheaval. Nechama Cape Town will be hosting a Bereaved Partners' Support Group for 6 months starting in June 2024 based on sign ups.

Sessions will be once a month in a venue to be confirmed. To secure your place, please contact Nechama 021-465 9390 or admin@nechama.org.za




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WIZO's Tikkun Olam for Mandela Day



Shelley Trope-Friedman,
President WIZO South Africa

As we are about to celebrate Mandela Day (named after former South African President, Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela) on the 18th of July, we cannot help but wonder what Mr Mandela would have thought about our South African government taking Israel to the International Court of Justice. Mr Mandela was a joint winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993 for having led the transition

from apartheid to a multiracial democracy in South Africa. As a result of this, we celebrate and recognise Mandela Day as a global call to action rejoicing in the idea that each individual has the power to transform the world and the ability to make a greater impact.

This, for us, the Jewish people, translates to "Tikkun Olam" – "repairing the world" – which is a cornerstone of our Jewish identity. It is a key reason for our commitment to making the world a better place for now and for our future generations.

In staying with this theme, the Women's International Zionist Organisation, (WIZO), supported by a global network of Zionist women, is at the forefront of social activity that empowers the most vulnerable in Israel. We have our hearts in the right place as we volunteer our time and money to empower women, children and

youth at-risk to become more productive members of Israeli society.

Our work continues to encompass the management of day care centres, youth villages, high schools and vocational schools. With the barbarous events of October 7th, WIZO sprang into overdrive as the need was greater than ever. Our foster homes, centres for battered women and for the prevention of domestic violence, as well as those for youth at-risk, have continued to provide critical services to those who need it most. The post-trauma pain and anxiety is ongoing and WIZO continues to step up in action, by doing what matters. We are fully embedded in Sderot and the south of Israel. Our three newly built bulletproof bomb shelters for babies and children are now ready for any eventuality. Further to that we have recently reopened a community centre where people can come

together to relate their experiences, and give one another support to cope with the reality of what they have faced.

It is WIZO's ongoing mission to ensure that more people are aware of the vital work that we do so that WIZO can continue to be propelled into the future. There is a dire need to ensure the care and support of the people of Israel in order to safeguard the strength and vibrancy of the country and this is WIZO's philosophy. The events of October 7th have connected us in a way that we feel closer to Israel and her people and doing our part is non-negotiable.

In our own backyard, here in South Africa, we still have much hope for the future of our country. Nelson Mandela said: "It always seems impossible until it's done!" This year, we shall do all we can to celebrate Mandela Day with pride and enthusiasm.

CAPTURED MOMENTS: Were you photographed at our WIZO fundraisers?



WIZO's mission is to provide vital aid and support to vulnerable women, children and families in Israel. Dedicated to championing a brighter future, WIZO is committed to making a significant impact in the lives of those who need it most.

WIZO continues to make a positive difference where it matters most through exciting community events. One of the highlight fundraising events of the year is the Annual Grant Querido Classic Golf Day.

The event rocked the greens at King David Mowbray Golf Club on 18 April 2024. 116 eager players gathered, ready for a day of thrilling competition and camaraderie.

After a day of intense swings and impressive putts, participants enjoyed dinner accompanied by entertainment and a prize-giving ceremony, celebrating the highlights of a memorable day on the course.

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FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY



UNITED HERZLIA SCHOOLS 2024 AGM



Award Winners Geoff Cohen (UHS Director of Jewish Identity & Community) with Yael Ayache (Herzlia Highlands Primary: Head of JLL & Hebrew)

Herzlia's 84th AGM was held in person at Herzlia High School with a review of the year, looking forward to the new year, and the announcement of two very special awards.

UHS Chairman's Award 2024 Mazaltov Geoff Cohen!

This award honours those who have made an extraordinary contribution to the life and well-

being of the greater Herzlia community, displaying loyalty, dedication and commitment, embracing and enhancing the ethos and values of school life. The recipient is an individual who, in their particular area of expertise, has made an impact on the lives of the pupils of Herzlia, while enhancing the good standing of our school in the eyes of the Cape Town and SA community.

UHS Board Chair, Hayle Marks said, "I don't believe there is anyone who has impacted every facet of this school more than tonight's winner. He has been a pupil, a parent, a teacher, a sports coach, a headmaster and a director, and is undoubtedly the most well-known and well-loved alumnus this school has ever produced. There is not a Herzlian who does not know him and I am confident that there is not a Herzlian whom he does not know. His association with Herzlia goes back over 40 years and, in that time, he has impacted the lives of hundreds of Jewish children – now Jewish adults – who all remember him with affection and respect. He is a true mensch and I consider myself incredibly lucky to have worked so closely with him over the past few years.

He may be retiring this year, but he will always be a part of Herzlia, just as Herzlia will always be a part of him. He is the first person to receive this award for a second time, which seems incredibly fitting. It is my absolute privilege tonight to give this award to Geoff Cohen."

Directors' Award: Educator of Excellence Mazaltov Yael Ayache!

The Directors' Educator of Excellence award is presented annually to an educator at Herzlia who has consistently made a significant

difference in the lives of our pupils as well as making a positive impact on their day-to-day lives at the school.

This year's recipient is Yael Ayache, an alumna, who over many years has proven herself to be a true Herzlian. Yael is also a talented and passionate teacher who takes huge pride in her work and creates excitement about JLL.

Yael's teaching career began at Herzlia in 2002 and she has since made a remarkable impact in the critical areas of JLL and Hebrew. Her first role as a teacher was at the Middle School for nine years where she became an integral member of the Hebrew department, sharing her love for Hebrew. She then transferred to Highlands Primary in 2011 and immediately became a valued member of the Highlands Primary staff, endeared to pupils, parents and staff alike. Her skills as a leader were noted and, in 2023, she was promoted to Head of JLL at Highlands and, at the start of 2024, she took on the additional role of Head of Hebrew.

She has been instrumental in creating a Jewish atmosphere and ethos of Yiddishkeit at Highlands Primary and is a much-loved educator and colleague.

TOPPING OUT MERCAZ MAIM

A huge milestone was reached in May 2024 at the new Herzlia Aquatic Centre (Mercaz Maim in Hebrew) building site with the 'Topping Out' ceremony!

The African Olive tree will later be planted at the entrance carrying the symbolic value of life and the future. During the ceremony, a time capsule was concreted under the foyer, filled with minutes of the day's site meeting, the daily newspaper, Herzlia's 2024 calendar, approved building plans, and the remains of a bottle of whisky used to toast the event. This will be opened up in 2074 when the complex is 50 years old! Completion and opening are due mid-August so watch this space!



Beyers Slabbert (SNA Architects), Andries van Renssen (UHS Executive Director) and Hayle Marks (UHS Board Chair) with the time capsule



African Olive tree placed on the roof of the new complex in the ceremony



Aquatics Centre under construction will have a view of Table Mountain

Cape Town Holocaust & Genocide Centre: Building a powerful legacy

For veteran community leader, Myra Osrin, involvement in 1994 in the staging of the international travelling exhibition, 'Anne Frank in the World in South Africa', was an 'aha moment'. As the Honorary Director of the national tour, which opened at the SA National Art Gallery just a few weeks before South Africa's first democratic elections, she saw how learning about the Holocaust – in particular its lessons about the dangers of prejudice, racism and stereotyping – could play a role in the transformation process unfolding in the 'new' South Africa.

Myra recalls: "Schools were invited to send their students and teachers to view the exhibition and engage in an education programme. One day a teacher told me, 'You have no idea how important this has been for my students' self-esteem – this is the first time they have understood that a person can be discriminated against even if he doesn't have a black skin.'"

The extremely positive response from schools to the exhibition made it clear that a permanent programme was needed.

Not much later, Myra visited the newly-established Holocaust Memorial Centre in Nottingham in England; and so a friendship with

the founders, Stephen and James Smith, ensued. "My visit to the Centre highlighted that it is possible to present the complex history of the Holocaust in a compact space, without massive capital expenditure," she explains.

Planning for a Cape Town centre started in early 1997, and the current Cape Town Holocaust & Genocide Centre (CTHGC) was officially opened in August 1999. And so, this August marks the 25th anniversary of that momentous occasion.

The Centre established its mission as being "teaching about the consequences of prejudice, racism, antisemitism, xenophobia and

homophobia, and the dangers of indifference, apathy and silence". As part of this mission, the Centre has developed into a valuable educational facility for school children and their teachers, and its first Education Director, Marlene Silbert, played a leading role in the development of the school programme, working closely with the Western Cape Education Department.

Myra Osrin served as the honorary director in the Centre's formative years. She was succeeded by the Centre's first professional director Richard Freedman, who today serves as Chair of the Board. Under Freedman's directorship the South African Holocaust and Genocide Foundation was established which

served as the umbrella body for the Holocaust and Genocide Centres which opened in Johannesburg and Durban. The Centres have trained thousands of teachers nationally to teach the Holocaust, a subject included in the National Curriculum from 2007.

The current Director, Jakub Nowakowski comments: "Today, we see changing realities, particularly the global surge in antisemitism. This is coupled with an unprecedented wave of Holocaust distortion and the misuse of Holocaust vocabulary, often resulting in negation and the undermining of historical truth. Holocaust and Genocide museums worldwide have a vital role in this context – deconstructing myths and processes that led to past acts of persecution and mass violence, while fostering resilience and instilling a sense of responsibility for the future. And the Cape Town Holocaust & Genocide Centre will not shy away from that task.



L-R: Stephen Smith, Holocaust survivor Pinchas Gutter, Myra Osrin at the opening of the CTHGC



Nelson Mandela

IMPACT OF THE CTHGC OVER THE PAST 25 YEARS:

- Hosted over 200 000 learners
- Trained over 15 000 teachers, thousands of SAPS members, military personnel, civil servants.
- Visits from over 260 000 individual visitors from South Africa and beyond.

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ARTS & CULTURE

David Kramer returns to the stage with an enchanting musical



Robyn Cohen

The factual story behind the show is that of Josef Marais, a young Jewish man from the country who became an international celebrity. Kramer came upon the story through a family connection of his wife, Renaye, "...and from that the extraordinary Ver In Die Wêreld Kittie emerged," Robyn explains.

What makes the story so interesting to us in Cape Town is that Josef Marais was born in Sir Lowry's Pass Village near Somerset West, and was named Joseph Pessach. As a youngster, he learned how to play the piano, and went to the UK in the 1920s with an orchestra. Because of the antisemitic mood at the time, he felt that his surname would be a limitation, and so he took on the name Josef Marais. Moving to the United States, he met a Jewish refugee who had fled Nazi-occupied Holland. Her name was Rosa de Miranda. Robyn continues: "He discovered that she could sing and they became a successful duo, singing folk music — Afrikaans-inspired music — under the name Josef and Miranda. Josef translated the songs into English. They were hugely successful and partied with the glitterati in Hollywood such as Burt Lancaster and Humphrey Bogart. The international hit, Sugarbush (1952), sung by Doris

The hugely talented David Kramer will be bringing his latest musical, Ver In Die Wêreld Kittie, to Cape Town during July and August.

The show "...is inspired by a true story that few South Africans are aware of," David says — a story that's bound to be of particular interest to the local Jewish community.

In her review of the show, which premiered at the 2023 KKNK and was followed by a showing at the Suidoosterfees, local critic, Robyn Cohen, describes the show as "...a beautifully crafted nugget of South African music history brought to life..."

Day and Frankie Laine, is attributed to Josef Marais. Many will know the Afrikaans version — Suikerbossie."

Kittie in the title of the show represents a fictional housekeeper and caregiver on the fictional farm that Josef grew up on in Worcester. She listens to radio broadcasts to keep up-to-date with his many successes in the music world. According to Robyn, "We see her perception of his apparent abandonment of his family, as he ploughs ahead with his career. Kittie remains on the farm while Josef has his freedom, ...[moving]...first...to Cape Town, then England, and finally

America." The story of Josef Marais's travels and successes is conveyed "through the eyes of those back home in South Africa."

Robyn is full of praise for the musical: "It is memory, heritage, tribute and, although inspired by a true story, it goes beyond the legend and evokes many layers — love story, leaving home versus staying and poignantly those left behind. This is the genius of David Kramer — transfiguring a story of the Jewish lad from the Boland into a remarkable piece of musical theatre which transcends biopic and yet retains an essence of homage, tribute and celebration."

NOTE

Performed in English and Afrikaans, the production will be presented featuring English subtitles.

With thanks to Robyn Cohen/TheCapeRobyn.

See Robyn's full review here:

<https://www.facebook.com/thecaperobyn/>

Robyn Cohen is editor of TheCapeRobyn arts and lifestyle website. Sign up for the website and receive the free weekly newsletter on Fridays at noon. For reviews, updates and alerts on what's on, follow TheCapeRobyn public facebook page, Instagram and TikTok pages.

VER IN DIE WÊRELD KITTIE

will be performed at The Blik, 110 Gunners Circle, Epping

THE DATES AND TIMES OF THE SHOW ARE:

Saturday 27 & Sunday 28 July @ 14:00 & 16:30

Saturday 3 & Sunday 4 August @ 14:00 & 16:30

Friday 9 August (Public holiday) @ 14:00

Saturday 10 & Sunday 11 August @ 14:00 & 16:30

Ticket prices: R230 per person. Seniors pay R200.

Book at Webtickets, search for Ver In Die Wêreld Kittie



Jenny Stead as Rosa de Miranda & Andre Terblanche as Josef Marais
Photo credit Gys Loubser

Guess who is turning 40!



This year, the Cape Jewish Chronicle turns 40 – we really hope that you'll celebrate with us. All we ask is that you pay your annual subscription fee and our birthday wish list will be complete!

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Dr Stephen Smith, distinguished scholar, educator, and advocate for Holocaust remembrance and education

Konstanty Gebert, prominent Polish-Jewish journalist, author, and expert on the Holocaust and genocide.

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Tips for Helping Your Teen During Exam Period



Rhita Russon
Social Worker

As the academic year draws to a close, matric students are gearing up for their final examinations. This is a pivotal moment in their educational journey, filled with anticipation and, often, a fair amount of stress. These exams are not only a culmination of their hard work and dedication, but also a stepping stone to their future aspirations. As parents, your support and guidance during this crucial time can make a significant difference in their performance and well-being.

Exam stress can manifest in various ways for both parents and teenagers. Recognising when your teen is stressed and preventing

“One of the best examination preparation tips for parents is to have an honest conversation with your child about stress triggers and how to cope with these.”

your own stress from affecting their behaviour is essential. By creating a calm and supportive environment for your child during exam periods, you will help them put their best foot forward.

Ensure your teen has a designated study space in your home. Ideally, this should be somewhere quiet and separate from the rest of the family, where they can shut the door and concentrate. Assist them in setting up this space to minimize distractions. This may involve agreeing on a rule that their mobile phone is kept outside the room, ensuring other family members, like younger siblings, know the study space is off-limits during specific times while your teen is studying.

It is vital for you and your teen to understand each other's expectations regarding study and examination outcomes. Their expectations of themselves and your expectations of them may differ, so getting everything out in the open before the exams begin will benefit everyone in the long run.

Your child may be placing a lot of pressure on themselves to get high marks, thinking that is what you expect of them, when this may not be the case. Conversely, your child may expect to do a half-hour of revision every day and continue socializing with their friends as normal, while you may expect a more significant study commitment from them. Having discussions around behaviours and outcomes during and after exams will help you and your child manage expectations, ensuring complications don't arise when examinations are underway.

One of the best examination preparation tips for parents is to have an honest conversation

with your child about stress triggers and how to cope with these. As a parent, you are probably aware of the tell-tale signs that your teen is stressed. Make sure you are on the lookout for these during exam time and talk to your child about how you can support them when these situations arise. It is important to know whether your teen wants your attention when they are stressed, or if they would prefer to be left alone.

Chat about coping mechanisms they can use to combat stress. This may involve taking time out to go for a walk and clear their head or simply listening to calming music. It could be talking through what they are stressed about with you, to get a second opinion and/or reassurance. Everyone has different coping strategies for stress, and it is best to talk these through, so you know how best to support your teen.

Exam stress tips for parents revolve around one central idea - the parent being the calming presence. Children are incredibly perceptive when it comes to picking up on their parents' emotions. Two stressed people in the same household will only increase tension and make exams even more difficult. For this reason, make sure you take time for yourself too - relax and reset so that you can be there to offer support whenever your teenager needs it.

Your support and understanding can make a world of difference during this stressful time. Jewish Community Services wishes the Matrics of 2024, the best of luck in their prelim exams! If you would like any further information, contact JCS on 021 462 5520 or email info@jcs.org.za

#JewishCommunity #JCS #MatricExams #ManagingStress





ENTREPRENEURS' HOTSPOT

Innovation in leadership among business owners

The support of peers and mentors may be a crucial element of one's success as an entrepreneur. And that's where an organisation like Entrepreneurs' Network (EN) comes in – a network of budding entrepreneurs that come together to learn from their shared experiences and create opportunities amongst one another.

At a recent event organised by EN – a panel discussion entitled *The Future of Leadership: Innovating for Tomorrow's Challenges*, moderated by the dynamic Dawn Nathan-Jones, one of South Africa's leading business personalities – the focus was on innovation and leadership. Four successful entrepreneurs discussed a range of topics, providing insights and lessons from their own experiences in business.

Here we bring you some of the information shared at the event:

Is technology innovation?

A discussion around technology provided an important insight: that technology is not necessarily the innovation – rather, it can be the enabler for innovation, as Cara Saven, the founder of Caren Saven Wall Design, explained.

For Rael Levitt, the founder of leading property company, Inospace, "Innovation is not accepting the status quo. We should constantly be questioning the way things are done. And, if a business leader creates a culture in which staff feel comfortable to question things, innovation will come from throughout the organisation. Once a better way of doing things is identified, technology can be harnessed to implement the innovation."

Rael's comments come with gravitas: his business developed a technology solution in 2021 called Inotech. The identification of a particular need drove the business to find a tech solution: it was the necessity to provide for the marketing and leasing of Inospace's high-volume multi-tenant portfolio of commercial properties. Rael says, "Leasing-focused technology was a game changer for Inospace, making it one of the fastest-growing private property owners in South Africa's challenging commercial property market."

It's clear that innovation should be seen in a wider context than purely technology. "Innovation can occur with even the smallest of things in a business," says Rael.

Nomatu Consulting founder, Samkelo Blom, a corporate culture expert and consultant, explains that innovation can be an important element of recruiting staff. "When an employer is looking to recruit an African candidate for a particular role, they should be innovative in the methods employed to identify the right person. The usual recruitment processes – things like placing an advert in the sort of publication you, the employer, reads – are not necessarily going to work. You need to use other means to identify the talent you require."

The role of a leader as regards the people in the business

The talents and attitudes that staff demonstrate are crucial to the success of an enterprise. For Matsi Kolobe, the founder and CEO of advertising agency SALT HUB, trust is core to allow people to feel comfortable in the work environment. It is up to leadership to grow an environment in which people feel safe to share what is going on in their lives. This brings out the best in people.

Business owners have a huge role to play in allowing their people to grow their EQ but, says Samkelo, "...core to this is that the leader has to be self-aware, too, and demonstrate this self-awareness to their staff. As the leader of my organisation, I have to be open to talking about my own weak points. While it's uncomfortable, it's necessary for me to grow, and that allows for growth among my people too."

As regards recruitment, conventional wisdom is that one recruits for skills. But, Cara has taken a different stance. "I hire for attitude more than for the skills set. Skills can be developed at the workplace, but attitude makes a big difference. So, when a candidate demonstrates an interest in the business and the industry, that reveals a passion for the work. On the other hand, the person who asks only about those issues directly relevant to themselves, such as hours of work, salary, and so on, is not highlighting the sort of enthusiasm for the work that I like to see."



Concluding remarks were made by Mel Cook



Rael Levitt and Dawn Nathan-Jones



The panelists with Dawn Nathan-Jones (back row, right)

The Entrepreneurs' Network is a dynamic initiative formed through the collaboration of several organisations, including the Cape SAJBD, Over the Rainbow, ORT Jet Cape Town, and Entrepreneurs' Organization (EO).

Spearheaded by leading business personality Dawn Nathan-Jones, a Cape SAJBD Board Member and Chair of the Associate Relations subcommittee, the network brings together business owners from diverse cultural and community backgrounds to share their experiences, skill sets, and connections.

Since its launch in 2022, the initiative has:

- facilitated R14 million in new business transactions
- created 15 new jobs
- provided over 215 hours of learning through its forums.

With 52 committed entrepreneurs and supported by more than 50 volunteers, mentors, and guest speakers, the network runs new intakes every quarter, welcoming more participants to join this thriving community.

At an Entrepreneurs' Network event one has the opportunity both to listen to views from and learn about the experiences of successful entrepreneurs, and to meet them face-to-face. The programme for each event includes a networking opportunity at the end at which participants can chat to the entrepreneurs and ask for guidance unique to themselves.

To apply to join the network, complete this form : <https://forms.gle/4y5hbthGUvUAKmX79>

MOM'entum inspiring women to bring a positive future to Israel



Momentum group 2024

These words come from the international Jewish women's movement, Momentum. The theme of inspiration was recently evident during a visit to Israel by a group of 15 local women who participated in the Momentum programme during May, joining 135 peers from Panama, America, Toronto, Australia and Israel.

Momentum Community Leader and

Herzlia educator, Melissa Hack, explains that, “The motivation for this group visit came from the change of course made by Momentum following October 7th, when mobilisation became their core focus. In times of crisis, the Jewish people act – we speak out, we volunteer, we give, we take action. And so, we felt a deep need to come to Israel, to see what was

going on, to hug our brothers and sisters, to pick and plant, to witness, to uplift, to cry, to feel humbled and to become whole.”

The six-day Momentum trip, which was done in partnership with the Eric Samson Legacy Fund, was geared to give the group of women the opportunity to experience Israel through the eyes of a Jewish mother. The programme covered a variety of activities, including engaging with Israeli mothers. The shared experience of being mothers has led to meaningful connections among the women from the different countries, and there will no doubt be continued engagement in the future.

Melissa comments that being in Israel offered a fresh view of life for South Africans who have been stunned by the attitude of our government. “How welcome it was not to see a Palestinian flag, not to hear chanting, not to feel hated. We evolved from a silent minority to being able to raise our voices, wave our Israeli flags and dance and sing to Am Yisrael Chai, as loud as we could with all our South African gees.”

The women faced a mix of emotions. On the one hand, there is hope: hope in the sentiment that ‘from darkness, light shall emerge’. On the other hand, there is still a sense that darkness looms, that the time of crisis is not yet over. “But,” the moms in the group explain, “we found glimmers of light in the unity of the Israeli people. Volunteers, both local and international, rallied to support farmers and soldiers alike. That was truly inspiring.”

The group found a huge contrast back home in South Africa. “Once again, we were confronted with a different darkness. Political turmoil and social media vitriol marred our memories of solidarity. Misinformation and prejudice tainted discussions, overshadowing our experiences of unity and compassion in Israel.” This highlights what the current war is really about: a battle of right versus wrong.

The Momentum moms encourage all of us to act in support of Israel. “If you feel the call to stand with Israel, heed it. Your support is needed now more than ever,” Melissa concludes.

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HEALTHY AGEING

Every person should have the opportunity to live a long and healthy life, and a number of factors may determine whether or not this happens. Everyone should be able to access quality healthcare and good opportunities as we age.

To age in a healthy way, it is important to create environments of value that enable you to do and experience as much as possible as you age, and to be able to enjoy the things you value throughout your life...

Everybody can experience healthy ageing. Being free of disease or infirmity is not a requirement for healthy ageing, as many older adults have one or more health conditions that, when well controlled, have little influence on their wellbeing.

The World Health Organisation defines healthy ageing as “the process of developing and maintaining the functional ability that enables wellbeing in older age.” To function well, you need the capability that enables you to have reason to value, including the ability to:

- meet your basic needs;
- learn, grow and make decisions;
- be mobile;
- build and maintain relationships; and
- contribute to society.

Functional ability consists of the inherent capacity of the individual, including all the mental and physical capacities that a person can draw on, such as their ability to walk, think, see, hear and remember. It is also influenced by several factors, such as the presence of diseases, injuries and age-related changes.

Environments include the home, community and broader society, and all the factors within them, such as relationships, attitudes and values, people and their relationships, health and social policies, the systems that support them, and the services that are provided for them. Being able to live in environments that support and maintain one’s intrinsic capacity and functional ability is key to healthy ageing.

Key considerations for healthy ageing

Some 80-year-olds have levels of

physical and mental capacity that compare favourably with 30-year-olds. Others of the same age may require extensive care and support for basic activities like dressing and eating. Because of this diversity, it is important to improve the functional ability of all older people, whether they are robust, care-dependent or in between.

A large proportion of the diversity in capacity and circumstance observed in older age is the result of the cumulative impact of advantage and disadvantage across people’s lives. Importantly, the relationships we have with our environments are shaped by factors such as the family we were born into, our sex, ethnicity, level of education and financial resources.

Healthy ageing, like active ageing, emphasises the need for action across multiple sectors and for enabling older people to remain a resource to their families, communities and economies. The new Care Services Model currently being developed for all aged members of the Cape Town Jewish community will provide for the needs of all who live independently, encouraging our aged to live their best lives in their own homes whilst having services that allow for their independent lifestyle to continue.

CJSA actively promotes independent living while encouraging our members to attend the active programmes that we have on offer. During the past month members have enjoyed a pop-up sale; an interbranch knitting morning; a twilight supper with guests, Michael Bagraim and Councillor Nicola Jowell; a talk by Andrew Kenney on climate change; and our art class produced wonderful paintings that are being donated to the UJW’s Kensington Creche. Fabulous outings were enjoyed too.

Stay warm and healthy and join our programmes, both in house and online.

Diana Sochen,
Executive Director



Art teacher, Glynnis Meyer, showing the Disney paintings to Kemsington Creche learners



Beautiful Disney figures painted by Sea Point members. Panels donated to UJW – Kensington Creche



Doreen Fiansky enjoying an outing



Martha Michael enjoying Chardonay Deli



Beautiful painting done by Milnerton Art Club members

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

We congratulate our members who have had joyous occasions during the last month.

BIRTHS:

Karen Borochowitz – Grandson

BAT MITZVAH:

Diana and David Sochen – Granddaughter

ENGAGEMENT:

Denise and Jack Shmukler – Grandson

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

Antionette Blackie

Well wishes extended to those who have been under the weather. You have been in our thoughts:

Bernice Kaplan, Freda Farkas, Lilian Sheldon, Shirley Kaplan, Nat Yamey, Freda Tucker, Norma Mendelowitz, Hilda Wilck

CONDOLENCES AND WISHES OF LONG LIFE TO:

Sadie Graziani and Jean Wachtel on the passing of their beloved daughters

Dr Hannah-Reeve Sanders – condolences to her son Robin and family.

Creating allies

JULIAN RESNICK writes from Israel



JULIAN RESNICK was born in Somerset West and grew up in Habonim Dror. He studied at UCT, and made Aliyah in 1976. He's conducted numerous shlichuyot and educational missions on behalf of Israel, to Jewish communities in England and the USA. He works as a guide in Israel and around the world (wherever there is a Jewish story).

He's married to Orly, and they have three children and eight grandchildren and is a member of Kibbutz Tzora.

I want to share one of the many online conversations I am presently involved in with those from outside our Jewish communities. This conversation – with a Christian friend in America – is, I believe, crucial for both Israel and the Jewish People.

Dear Julian

This nightmare has me at once befuddled, angry, sad, and hopeless. I feel very strongly for the hostages (assuming there are any left alive) and their families, while also distressed about the innocents in Gaza, as there are surely many who, while they can't say so, are in opposition to Hamas, and many more who are totally disillusioned by Hamas leadership. Are Netanyahu and his ilk more worried about the hostages or the destruction of Hamas? Is it even possible to wipe them out?

I have been taken aback by an insensitive view of Israel when I listen to NPR (National Public Radio) lately. Many of my Jewish friends really feel hated and scared right now.

Is it inconsiderate of my Jewish friends to say that I'm praying for peace?

I know that, if my heart hurts right now, yours must be harder to console. At a macro level, I'm struggling to find much hope for the world these days with so much hate."

Dear ...,

I am responding to the thoughtful, empathic and caring response from you.

Firstly, thank you for caring about our pain. I am aware that there are many folks out there – decent, caring folks – who feel our pain, but do not respond. This, to be honest, often leaves us feeling very alone these days. It is an enormously important act, the act of not only feeling another person's pain, but in addition, crucially, reaching out to the other person.

Secondly, thank you for making sure, every step of the way, with each sentence, that you are not causing us more pain, in addition to the great pain we are feeling right now. We are sensitive, possibly even over-sensitive to the many words being written out there about what is happening to us; a very natural response when one is confronting, daily, tremendous loss. Your awareness of this and your checking in with us, as you write, again means a lot to us, and I, as a Jewish friend, thank you for this sensitivity.

Thirdly, yes, and yes again, pray for peace. Pray for the loss of life, not only on our side, but also on the Palestinian side. War is an ugly thing. Once the dogs of war are unleashed, there is an inevitability in the loss of innocent lives; an inevitability when it comes to collateral damage. Children die. Innocents get caught up in the crossfire. War is messy. One-third – let me say this again: one-third – of

the Israeli soldiers who have lost their lives were killed by friendly fire.

I am furious (an understatement) with Hamas for two reasons. The obvious one: because they raped, brutalised and murdered our women, girls, children, babies, elderly, in a savage orgy of genocidal violence on October 7th. Secondly – and here I stand with not only you, but also many decent American and Israeli Jews – I am angry and mourn the loss of innocent Palestinian lives because of what Hamas unleashed on October 7th. This too is Hamas's responsibility.

I want to state it as plainly as I can: Hamas knew that the outcome of the dastardly attack on Israel would be the loss of countless Palestinian lives. Hamas also knew that we would be involved in this conversation. Hamas knows that we care for human lives and that decent people like you and many of your friends would be devastated – AND RIGHTLY SO – by the deaths of innocent Palestinians caught in the crossfire as they are used as human shields by the cynical fighters of Hamas.

This is who we are and who we have to continue to be. Categorical in our ability and need to destroy those who would murder, God forbid, my children and grandchildren, and, at the same time, to work and pray with those who work and pray for peace.

Thank you again for your friendship and words of caring.

Julian"



Milo Katz in action

A table tennis star is born

Budding table tennis star Milo Katz has his eyes firmly set on being selected for the South African national team, and that's an achievement well within reach for a player who stands out for being the only child playing in the senior league in Cape Town. Ranked 2nd among South Africa's under-11 players, Milo certainly has a bright future in the sport.

And, while table tennis is a sport he's made huge strides in, this is a youngster with numerous other interests. A keen rugby player, Milo also enjoys debating,

commenting that he knows that his father, local Senior Counsel advocate Anton Katz, "does lots of debating for his job". In fact, it seems as if Milo's interests run in the family: Anton was an enthusiastic table tennis player in his youth, too, and introduced Milo to the sport. "After my brother and I first learned about the game from my dad, my mom bought us a table tennis table, and I started knocking about," he says.

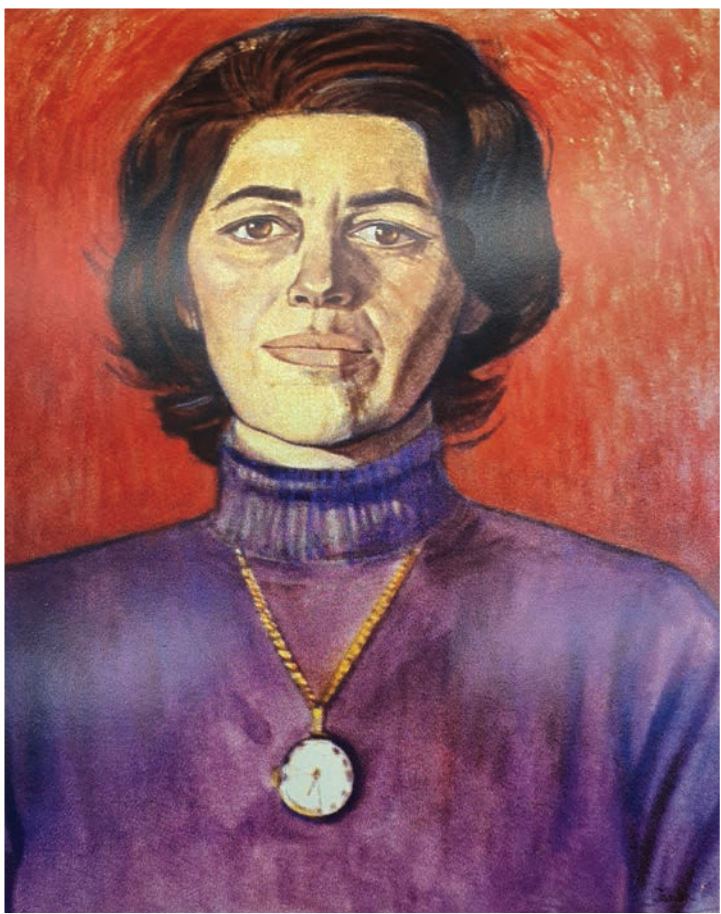
Milo, who is in Grade 5 at Herzlia Weizmann Primary School, says that he enjoys playing the game

because "I love meeting different people from different cultures. It's very diverse."

For Milo, there have been some important highlights in his table tennis career. "Achieving 3rd place in the 2023 Junior South African Table Tennis Championships and getting to the finals in the doubles with my partner were big moments for me," he explains.

There will no doubt be many more successes at the table tennis table for Milo in the future.

OBITUARY: Dr Hannah-Reeve Sanders



Hannah-Reeve Sanders. Artist: Sandra McGregor

A trailblazer in the medical administration field, Hannah-Reeve Sanders passed away during June at the age of 96.

Described as “an exceptional role model for women in the health professions”, Dr Sanders was awarded a Doctor of Medicine degree honoris causa by the University of Cape Town – an achievement recorded in the Cape Jewish Chronicle in February 1999.

Two highlights of her medical career are:

- Her appointment as Chief Medical Superintendent and Chief Executive of Groote Schuur Hospital, roles she filled from 1976 to 1986
- Her appointment as Chief Director and Senior Deputy of Hospital and Health Services in the Cape Provincial Administration. This position made her the first woman to serve at that level in South Africa’s Public Service.

Dr Sanders is remembered for her role in fighting racial discriminatory practices in the public health services, including the opening up of general wards at Groote Schuur to people of all races at the height of apartheid.

In terms of her family background, Hannah-Reeve Sanders was born into the Katzeff family of Piketberg. Both her

parents were Lithuanian immigrants to South Africa and, despite their religion and very different cultures, her family was embraced by the local Afrikaans community, who respected them for their knowledge of the Old Testament. She grew up speaking Afrikaans at home.

Throughout her life, including during the years of her retirement, Dr Sanders gave of her time and expertise to a range of organisations in the medical field, as well as to the Mauerberger Foundation.

Dianna M. Yach, the Chairperson of the Mauerberger Foundation Fund, remembers Dr Sanders with fondness, stating: “Dr Hanna-Reeve Sanders was a pioneering leader, compassionate advocate and cherished friend who served as a Director of the Mauerberger Foundation Fund for many years. Dr Sanders was more than a leader; she was a mentor and a beacon of hope. Her guidance and support were invaluable to the Mauerberger Foundation Fund, where her wisdom and friendship will be deeply missed. She leaves behind a legacy of integrity, justice and kindness that will continue to inspire those who follow in her footsteps.

“Personally, I will miss Reeve very much, her warmth and humour – but her light continues to shine through the lives she changed and the values she upheld.”

Did you know?

¡Felicidades, presidenta judía! (Congratulations, Jewish President!)



Claudia Sheinbaum

In today’s world – with so much antisemitic hatred – it’s refreshing (and somewhat surprising) to hear about a person with a strong Jewish heritage being elected as President of a country outside of Israel. But that’s what happened in Mexico, where Claudia Sheinbaum won national elections in early June by an overwhelming majority.

Sheinbaum previously served as the Mayor of Mexico City, and evidently did a pretty good job there.

Although she does not demonstrate an affiliation with Mexico’s Jewish community, her Jewish roots run deep. Both her maternal and paternal grandparents were Jewish immigrants who settled in Mexico: one group were Ashkenazim from Lithuania, and the others were of Bulgarian Sephardi extraction.

It’s encouraging that her Jewish background barely came up during the election, despite this being a country with a huge Catholic population.

It’s quite a surprise to see how many Jewish people have become heads of state – and where this has happened. We know about Benjamin Disraeli, Léon Blum and Volodymyr Zelenskyy, but did you know that countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, Peru, Panama, Aruba, Honduras, Guyana and Singapore all had Jewish heads of state at one point?

See more here: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Jewish_heads_of_state_and_government

Rosh Hashanah greetings

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Family Announcements

BEREAVEMENT

MERVYN GOLDBERG

My beloved Mervyn passed away suddenly on 23 May 2024 after 37 wonderful years together. Deeply mourned by his loving heartbroken partner Estelle Gerber. MHDSRIP

To place a family announcement email chron@ctjc.co.za

DOXXING

WHAT IS DOXXING?

Doxxing is shorthand for 'dropping docs or documents' and is **the malicious release online of personal or identifying information** (cellphone, email, work and/or home address, photographs and even a partner or children's details) **without that person's permission.**

- Doxxing is **cyberbullying**. The aim of the perpetrator/s is to **intimidate, emotionally manipulate, coerce**, ruin the reputation of the targeted person or, in some extreme cases, to incite physical harm against them.
- People are targeted for various reasons including **extortion** and as a malicious means of **weaponising** an opposing political or socio-cultural viewpoint to enact a perverse form of '**mob justice**' **against a perceived 'enemy'**.
- The scariest part of doxxing is that, once your private contact details are shared on the internet electronically, **it is extremely difficult (if not impossible) to get this information removed.**

EXAMPLES OF DOXXING AND THE CONSEQUENCES

In 2019, journalist Karima Brown won a case in the Gauteng High Court against Julius Malema of the EFF who posted her cellphone number on Twitter, resulting in her receiving extreme threats of violence.

The vehicle of Sea Point resident Peter Wagenaar was set alight after his details were posted on a Facebook community forum. Wagenaar was targeted by certain members of the group for his homeless feeding scheme during lockdown. A criminal case is pending.

Most recently, a shocking case of mass doxxing in Australia saw a pro-Palestinian collective releasing the personal information of 600 Jewish creatives. The government is fast-tracking legislation that will crack down on doxxing under the country's Privacy Act.

GET IN TOUCH

If you are a victim of doxxing
then please send photos and evidence to
the antisemitism

Whats App hotline +27 79 994 5573



WHAT DOES THE LAW SAY?

The legality of doxxing is **not always clear** and South African **laws on social media are always changing**, but there is legal recourse in many instances including:

- **If there is a clear breach of the person's right to privacy** as enshrined by the Constitution and in terms of POPIA (Protection of Personal Information Act).
- **If the information was obtained unlawfully** and in contravention of RICA (Regulation of Interception of Communications).
- **Under the Protection from Harassment Act.**
- If the doxxing **causes damages** (financial/property/emotional pain and suffering) **and/or leads to physical harm.**

PROTECTING YOURSELF FROM DOXXING

- **Be careful** when sharing any information online including cellphone number, home address, email or personal images.
- **Think before you post (or repost).** Your actions could carry legal risks.
- **Practice good cybersecurity.** We recommend using a good anti-virus security solution, which guards you against viruses on your devices, secures and stores your passwords and private documents and encrypts the data which you send and receive online with a VPN (Virtual Private Network).
- **Check your privacy settings and update accordingly.** Separate your personal social media (which should be kept private) from your public, professional affairs.
- **Check yourself on a Google search and see what comes up.** If there's personal information such as cell numbers or a home address, you can request its removal.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU BECOME A DOXXING VICTIM?

- It's understandable to be concerned, even scared, if you are doxxed. Intimidation is the aim of the doxxer.
- **Report any doxxing attack to the social media platform** it has taken place on. If it includes financial doxxing, contact your financial institution immediately.
- **Screen grab everything:** make sure the date and URL is visible as well as who the doxxer is (if known).
- **Involve law enforcement** if a personal threat is made against you or a loved one. Any information pointing to your home address or financial information should be treated as a top priority by them.
- **Change your passwords and privacy settings** (if not already set to private).
- **Enlist** a friend or family member for support.



LEGAL MATTERS

Building disaster in George

By MICHAEL BAGRAIM, Consultant at Bagraims Attorneys and leading member of the Democratic Alliance



MICHAEL BAGRAIM

The building collapse in the Southern Cape has focused our minds somewhat on what could go wrong in the building industry. I am not an expert on health and safety, nor am I a building specialist. However, in my practice of labour law, I regularly deal with liabilities arising out of accidents at work.

Various pieces of labour legislation, including the Basic Conditions of Employment Act, the Labour Relations Act, and all the Health and Safety Regulations deal with the duty of care that the employer owes to the employee. This duty of care is far reaching and certainly extends beyond the employer. Although we have no actual reports on this particular disaster, we have precedent from other building operations and other — unfortunately numerous — accidents at the workplace.

There are literally dozens of regulations from various pieces of legislation dealing with health and safety at the workplace and, in particular, there are more specialised regulations dealing with the building industry.

Liability falls on all the players — starting from the employer, stretching to the professionals and finally, after a few other steps, with the municipality and indeed the government. Codes of Good Practice for architects, engineers and anyone who will be deemed to fall under the auspices of the Building Industry Bargaining Council need to be very strictly followed. It is trite to say that every single employer owes a duty of care to all their employees, and this duty of care includes the right to health and safety.

In order to fulfil the injunction an employer would take out insurance to comprehensively cover any visitor or non-worker. A more specialised insurance through the Department of Employment and Labour will be applicable to everyone registered as an employee. This registration would include a payment to the Compensation Fund, which is an entity under the auspices of the Department of Employment and Labour.

Registration through the Compensation Fund grants indemnity to an employer for injuries occurred at work. In certain circumstances, if the employer is grossly negligent, other action could take place, including criminal action. It goes without saying that should the

employer employ individuals who are not covered by the Compensation Fund, the employer would be facing the very harsh liability of claims for injury or death. The employee or the employee's next-of-kin would still approach the Compensation Fund and, in turn, the Compensation Fund would pursue the employer.

The disaster could lead to criminal action and/or damages claims. Should the members of the professional team be found to be negligent that would lead to other claims which could also amount to criminal consequences.

At this stage in this particular case, we are not sure about the facts and we are not sure if all the employees were appropriately registered and covered by the various insurances in place. One would expect the professionals to have their own indemnity insurance which probably would not cover them for grossly negligent work.

One of the real problems that we are facing in South Africa today is the nightmare of a grossly incompetent, under-resourced and, quite frankly, negligent Department of Employment and Labour. I have been engaging with the Ministers of Employment and Labour (Minister Nxesi and, before him, Minister Oliphant) with regard to the lack of an inspectorate and all the problems arising therefrom. We have an enormous problem in that the inspectorate is completely under-resourced. In South Africa, we employ only about 10% of the numbers of inspectors that we actually

need — and this 10% are not given the tools of their trade and equipment. Invariably, they don't have motor vehicles and, sadly, they are reactive as opposed to being proactive. Very seldom do you see an inspector if no complaint has been raised. The Department of Employment and Labour, through all its entities, has let down the workforce of South Africa.

The issue with regard to many of the deceased has become a much vexed problem in South Africa. Reports are telling us that many of the employees in the George disaster are foreign nationals. We are not sure at this stage as to whether these foreign nationals were registered and documented. We are also not sure whether they have work permits, and whether they were at least registered with the Department of Employment and Labour.

If these individuals were not registered and did not have work permits, the employer has a criminal liability. The true value of the Compensation Fund — and hence the need to employ locals — is that the Compensation Fund gives absolute indemnity to the employer in a situation of this nature. The above being said, I attribute a lot of blame to the Department of Employment and Labour, who have not been able to show that they had inspectors there through the various stages of the building. It must be known that the building was in its final stage and should have been inspected at least a dozen times before that.



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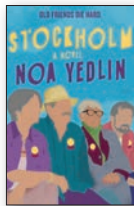
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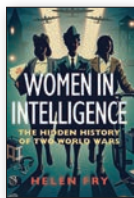
STOCKHOLM by **NOA YEDLIN**. This narrative begins with the death of Avishay Sar-Shalom, a candidate for the Nobel Prize in Economics. His four best friends decide to keep his death a secret until the winner is announced. Each has something to gain from Avishay receiving the prize. Zohara, who has had a secret affair with him, hopes to inherit the money. Yehuda wants to publish a book for which Avishay has written the introduction. Amos, his academic rival, wishes to prove he is not jealous, and Nili, a divorcee, thrills at this adventure.



LITTLE SECRETS by **GAIL SCHIMMEL**. Monique and Ben Klein have been married for twenty years. They seem to have an idyllic life with their three children whom they adore. However, Monique is obsessed with being the perfect mother and wife; Ben, who is an actuary in the corporate world, had longed to be an artist; and Rosie, their daughter, is struggling with teenage issues, yet feels safe with Monique as her mother. Everything falls apart when Ben meets Daisy, who sweeps him off his feet, and Rosie is befriended by a woman posing as a market researcher.



DOHANY STREET by **ADAM LEBOR**. Detective Balthazar Kovacs is asked to investigate the disappearance of Elad Harrari, a young Israeli historian. Harrari was working in the city's Jewish Museum in Budapest, investigating the assets of Hungarian Jews murdered in the Holocaust. This has set off alarm bells at one of the country's most powerful companies. Budapest is planning a major diplomatic visit and, if Harrari is not found, it will be cancelled. Balthazar will confront dangerous people and the darkest era in Hungary's past as he begins his search.



WOMEN IN INTELLIGENCE by **HELEN FRY**. Across both world wars, women ran spy networks and escape lines, parachuted behind enemy lines, and interrogated prisoners. Both in Bletchley and Whitehall, women's administrative work in MI offices kept the British war engine running. Helen Fry looks at the rich and varied work women undertook as civilians and in uniform. Filled with hitherto unknown stories Fry's book places new research on the record for the first time to showcase the inspirational contributions of these hard-working women.



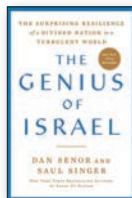
GANGSTERS VS NAZIS by **MICHAEL BENSON**. Crime historian Michael Benson looks at the rise of Nazi groups in the United States in the 1930/40s and the antisemitic propaganda they promoted. He credits New York Judge Nathan Perlman who conspired with the legendary gangster Meyer Lansky to disrupt meetings of the German American Bund. There were more than one hundred antisemitic groups by 1933 and few Americans dared to fight back until fearless Jewish gangsters waged their own personal war against the Nazis in their midst.



BOGIE & BACALL by **WILLIAM J. MANN**. A comprehensive look at Lauren Bacall and Humphrey Bogart, and the unlikely love they shared. Mann details their early years – Bogart's upbringing in New York city and Bacall's rise as a model and actress. He paints a portrait of their courtship and twelve-year marriage including their fights, reconciliations, children, affairs and, finally, Bogart's illness. He shares Bacall's life after Bogart's death, including her relationships with Frank Sinatra and Jason Robards, her second husband.




THE BOY WITH THE STAR TATTOO by **TALIA CARNER**. During the Holocaust, Jewish children were hidden with Christian foster families in France. The Youth Aliyah movement aimed to find these Jewish orphans and bring them to Israel. The book explores these events and their ramifications over three decades. It is told from the points of view of Uzi, an Israeli committed to the Youth Aliyah movement; Sharon Bloomenthal, a twenty-year-old recruit for an Israeli naval operation in Cherbourg in 1968; and Claudette Pelletier, a disabled French Christian woman who in 1942 fell in love with a Jewish man.



THE GENIUS OF ISRAEL by **DAN SENOR & SAUL SINGER**. After spending time with Israeli entrepreneurs, political leaders, soldiers, scientists and activists, including the Ultra-Orthodox and Israeli Arabs, the authors realised what sets Israel apart. Israel's greatest innovation may not be technology and the density of start-ups but Israeli society itself. Though the country faces so many challenges, people remain connected and happy through their determination, resilience, cohesion and family unity. This encompasses The Genius of Israel.

BOOK TALK




The story of Janusz Korczak

English novelist, Elisabeth (Liz) Gifford, made a surprise visit to the Jacob Gitlin Library recently. Her book, *The Good Doctor of Warsaw*, is a popular one at the Library, since it tells the story of famed hero of the Warsaw Ghetto, Janusz Korczak.

She was prompted to write the story having first encountered the man's thinking in his role as an educator. "His outlook changed my perspective as a mother and teacher," she explains. "His life has timeless lessons in caring for children and also timely historic lessons. When I wrote the book I thought that the political situation then could never be repeated, so the present rise in antisemitism was a shock."

The book, published in 2018, is available at the Gitlin Library.



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THE LIBERMAN MEMORIAL DOOR

The fascinating carved wooden door in Cape Town's National Gallery, The Liberman Memorial Door, offers the viewer not only an intriguing look at the many elements that make up this piece of art, but also an interesting tale regarding the artist who conceived of the design of the Door.

The Memorial Door pays homage to the first Jewish Mayor of Cape Town, Hyman Liberman (1853-1923), who served as Mayor for three terms in the early 1900s. He bequeathed funds for a public memorial to himself – and so the Memorial Door was born. Carved over a

five-year period, the Door was unveiled in March 1934.

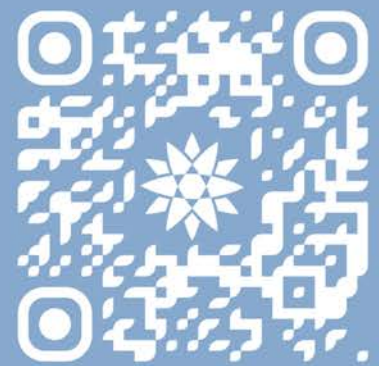
The artist, Herbert Vladimir Meyerowitz, Russian-born but educated in England, moved to South Africa as a young man, becoming known for his work as a wood sculptor. He taught for five years at the University of Cape Town, and opened a school of art.

Meyerowitz later returned to England, and in 1945 he found out that his mother, who had remained in Russia, had died during the Siege of Leningrad. Distraught, he committed suicide.



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