

# THE JEWISH STANDARD

APRIL 15, 2013



*(Cover story on page 2)*

**MICHAEL HAYMAN**  
PUBLISHER AND EDITOR

**JULIUS HAYMAN**  
PUBLISHER AND EDITOR  
1937-2000

### Cover Story

*Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ) leaders recently joined Knesset and Women of the Wall (WOW) members to pray at the Jewish holy site, the Western Wall, to promote religious freedom in Israel. WRJ Executive Director Rabbi Marla J. Feldman said, "It is ironic that in Israel, women face the threat of being detained for wearing a tallit and praying out loud at the Western Wall while next Shabbat, we will pray freely with the Jewish community of Berlin with no restrictions or threats. The Israeli government must guarantee the rights and safety of all Jews who visit the Western Wall to pray and must not allow an extremist religious group to control this sacred space."*

*Top photo WOW / Facebook; Bottom photo Rozan Anderson / WRJ*

**ANITA SURMAN**  
Editor  
General News Section

## New Government Offers Hope for Israel's Non-Haredim

We don't deny Israel's ultra-Orthodox the right to use the system to try to set the country's religious agenda. But we will not hide our satisfaction that Shas and United Torah Judaism are not part of Israel's new government. There was never any doubt that Benjamin Netanyahu would form a coalition without his previous ultra-Orthodox partners. The jockeying that went on right up to the last minute was merely an attempt to secure the most influential ministries and wring out further policy concessions. What is encouraging is that the secular Yesh Atid and Naftali Bennett's Habayit Hayehudi, though they make strange bedfellows, could still find sufficient common ground to enter the same coalition. Israelis want their politicians to stand up to those who seek a theocracy run according to Jewish law. They don't think that the scholar should be worshipped over the soldier. They are tired of being told that all Jews must live their lives in strict compliance with the ultra-Orthodox interpretation of the Torah.

We are not certain, as some observers have suggested, that the sands in Israel are shifting, that the haredim realize they will have to adjust to a new reality. True the self-described modern haredi rabbi Dov Lipman joined Yesh Atid. But even he acknowledges that it will be a struggle to get the haredim out from behind the walls of their yeshivas and to convince them to share in the national burden. When Yair Lapid told an audience at Kiryat Ono College that he understood that "you don't want your children to play with my children", only a few likely heard his plea that we "find a way to at least be able to live next door to each other". Secular judges may have been charmed when the religious young woman 17 year-old Ofir Ben-Shitrit appeared on Israel's version of The Voice. The

principal of her school was less impressed. He suspended the youngster for singing in front of an audience that included men. He was apparently enforcing God's will.

It is true that under the coalition agreement the timetable for some of the needed reforms has been pushed back. But we are still encouraged that the moderate Orthodox and the secular are sitting at the same cabinet table. We see hope when a secular women like Ayelet Shaked can join a national religious party and the secular-traditional-religious Zionist Dr. Ruth Calderon can be a rising star in Israeli politics. And perhaps Rabbi David Stav will win the race to become Israel's next Ashkenaz chief rabbi, Stav's election might still give organizations such as Hiddush cause for concern, but if 40 families wished to create a Reform or Conservative synagogue, Rabbi Stav would at least tolerate it.

It is the height of folly to write off three quarters of the population as "goyim" simply because they don't observe every one of the 613 mitzvot. Secular Israelis have had enough of the arrogant assumption of the haredim that they and they alone are the custodians of the keys to Jewish survival.

The ultra-Orthodox, whether they recognize it or not, have much in common with those who they keep insisting are "dangerous to Jewish souls". Whether Orthodox or secular, Israeli Jews are the heirs of those who suffered the stinging lash of the Egyptian whip, the cruelty of the auto-de-fe's of the Inquisition and the horrors of Auschwitz. All reject the tenets of Christianity. The truth is that every Israeli Jew, like each one of us in the Diaspora, can play a role in ensuring that Jewish life does not wither and die.

# THE WORLD IN REVIEW

NEWS OF THE RECENT PAST IS REVIEWED

By NOAH FREEDMAN

## Jewish Juror Can't be Barred

Abdel Hameed Shehadeh is facing federal charges for lying to the FBI about his involvement with the Taliban. In February his lawyer Frederick Cohn told judge Eric Vitaliano that he wasn't "wild about having Jews on the jury in this case." He argued that Jews should be excluded from serving because they would automatically be against his client. "Given that there's going to be inflammatory testimony about Jews and Zionism", Cohn said, "I think it would be hard for Jews to cast aside any innate antipathy".

But Judge Vitaliano has ruled that it would be unconstitutional to exclude Jews from a jury because of religion. "If any juror, regardless of race, creed, national origin, sex, can't accept the instruction of the court...that juror doesn't belong on the jury".

Cohn was not surprised by the ruling, admi-

ting that his appeal was a "long shot",

## Encouraging Signs From New Pope

Both John Paul II and Benedict XVI took steps to improve the relationship between Jews and Catholics, including establishing diplomatic ties between Israel and the Vatican. Argentinian leaders believe that the new pope, Cardinal Mario Bergoglio, will continue the efforts towards inter-faith dialogue.

Bergoglio has always had the respect of local Argentinian Jewish leaders and of the international community in general. He won praise for his response to the 1994 terror attack on a Jewish center in Buenos Aires that killed 85 innocent civilians. "He was very concerned with what happened", said Rabbi Joseph Ehrenkranz, co-founder of the Center for Christian-Jewish Understanding at Sacred

Heart University. In 2005 Bergoglio signed a joint statement against terrorism with Jose Adaszko of the Israel Mutual Association of Argentina and Omar Helal Massud of the Islamic Center.

"Pope Frances", says Rabbi David Rosen, the American Jewish Committee's International Director of Interreligious Affairs, "has demonstrated the profound solidarity with the Jewish community of Argentina in both times of sorrow and joy".

The Vatican will no doubt continue to disagree with Israel on the Palestinian issue. Indeed, the Vatican supported the Palestinians status upgrade bid at the United Nations. But there is still every reason to believe the ties between the Catholic church and Jews will continue to grow stronger.

## A Rabbi Should Know Better

Rabbi Hershel Schacter is one of Yeshiva  
(Please turn to page 8)



**PRESIDENT OBAMA TOURS A RESEARCH LAB**  
at the University of the Negev during his recent visit to Israel. Photo IGPO

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# BUILDING A FUTURE

YOUNG ARABS VOLUNTEER  
FOR NATIONAL SERVICE

By LINDA GRADSTEIN, MEDIA LINE

When Nasim Awadallah finished high school two years ago, he didn't have many prospects. His grades were not good enough to get into university. He worked at a minimum wage job for a few months but was not satisfied.

So he volunteered for Israel's national service, an alternative to army service, which is under the control of the Ministry of Defense. He works at the

same school he attended in his village. In the mornings, he helps the physical education teachers and in the afternoons he coaches three separate soccer teams.

"I decided to do something with my life," Awadallah tells The Media Line after a quick pick-up soccer game with some of his charges. "I decided to serve the country and I hope it will help me in the future. I think that after I do this, people will look at me differently."

Israel has a universal draft – three years for men and two years for women. Two large segments of the population are exempt from being drafted: Arab citizens of Israel and

(Please turn to page 9)



*PRESIDENT BARACK Obama lays a wreath in the Hall of Remembrance at Yad Vashem in memory of the 6 million Jews murdered in the Holocaust, Photo Yad Vashem*

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# A POSITIVE HOLOCAUST BOOK?

DAUGHTER OF HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS STILL GIVES THANKS

By MARTA FUCHS, MLS, MFT

"That was the most positive Holocaust presentation I've ever been to!"

I am a member of a generation that wasn't supposed to have been born, living proof that Hitler's Final Solution to whatever Questions he had about the Jewish people didn't succeed completely. I am also the grateful daughter of loving parents whose sense of optimism and belief in people miraculously prevailed

despite it all.

"How can you write such an uplifting Holocaust book? How can you speak so positively about what happened, given what happened?" How could I not, I reply. I'm filled with gratitude for my parents' love and protection; for giving me a sense of family connection and continuity by telling me about life and people before; for recounting the sorrowful details of

their Holocaust past while also honoring the individuals who showed them human kindness in those abandoned days.

Born in Hungary after the war into the remnants of the once thriving Tokaj Jewish community, my brother and I as children only knew the bare outlines of what happened to our parents. When we came across old sepia photographs of people we didn't

recognize, Mom and Dad explained with just one word: elpusztultak, they perished. The "sz" in Hungarian equivalent to an "s" in English, to my child's ear it sounded like poof! They vanished. How can people simply disappear without a trace, I wondered?

Dad never even considered himself a Holocaust survivor. "I was only in labor  
(Please turn to page 10)

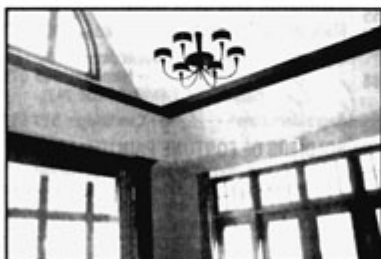
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# MIXED EMOTIONS

PALESTINIANS REACT WITH AMBIVALENCE TO OBAMA'S VISIT TO RAMALLAH

By DIANA ATALLAH, MEDIA LINE

Reaction to US President Barack Obama's recent visit to Ramallah was mixed, with officials expressing a greater level of satisfaction than did Palestinians on the street. Expectations had been deliberately held in check long before the President landed inside the Palestinian Presidential Headquarters, the Muqata, in Ramallah, where he met with Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas and senior officials.

Nimr Hammad, a senior adviser to Abbas, explained to The Media Line that while Palestinian leadership didn't expect much from the visit itself, they were nevertheless under little pressure. "The Americans said they wanted to listen, and we told them everything."

A large sign picturing Abbas and Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa mosque was hoisted inside the compound where the two leaders marched in front of an

honor guard – a gesture the Palestinians found meaningful. "President Obama has officially and practically recognized a Palestinian state," said Mohammed Shtayyeh, a senior negotiator for the Palestinians told The Media Line. "He received the guards of honor; he did salute the Palestinian flag; he was received with the American and Palestinian national anthems [and] his cars had both the American and Palestinian flags held on them," he said.

During the presidents' joint news conference, Abbas said that Palestinian officials had enjoyed good talks with President Obama.

Sources close to Abbas told The Media Line that President Obama told the Palestinian leader during the meeting that he is a convincing man, and that Obama was convinced.

Shtayyeh termed the

event a "state visit," but added that Washington still needs more time. "We are in the mood of waiting to see what will come out of the Americans. We explained to them our position and I hope they will come up with something substantial," Shtayyeh said.

Following the meeting, one Palestinian official told The Media Line that the US administration wants Israeli and Palestinian negotiators to discuss borders and security as a way to stop the Jewish building in the West Bank. Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas reiterated his position that Palestinians will not return to negotiations before a freeze on building on post-1967 land is in effect. Newly-appointed US Secretary of State John Kerry is expected to return to the region shortly after the Obama visit for more

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# TRAVEL TALES

HELPFUL HINTS FOR THE JEWISH TRAVELLER

By MIKE COHEN

**BUSY BOCA RATON:** While staying in the Miami area recently, I convinced the family to make a day trip to Boca Raton. It had been more than a decade since I visited the area, but let me confess that I needed an excuse to dine at the fabulous Legal Sea Foods restaurant, which I had experienced last fall in Boston.

The Town Center on Glades Road is considered to be one of South Florida's top luxury shopping destinations. It features an outstanding mix of upscale and elite specialty shops and a lineup of six department stores – Neiman Marcus, Saks Fifth Avenue, Nordstrom, Macy's, Bloomingdale's and Sears. Among the 220 stores at Town Center, you will find The Apple Store, Tiffany & Co, Louis Vuitton, Tory Burch, Lilly

Pulitzer and many more. Parking options are more than ample, including three parking decks and valet stations. Conveniently located off I-95 and Glades Road, you'll find just what you need and more.

Mizner Park is an upscale lifestyle center in downtown Boca. Besides upscale shops, Mizner is also composed of rental apartments and offices. The Sample Road Festival Flea Market is a large indoor flea market, featuring over 500 unique stores under one roof!

**DINING OUT:** Legal Sea Foods ([www.legalseafoods.com](http://www.legalseafoods.com)) is located in the Town Center on Glades Road. At one time there were also Legal locations at the Sawgrass Mills mega-mall and in West Palm Beach. The Boca franchise is thriving and

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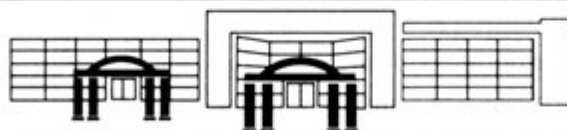
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## WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 4)

University's most respected deans. But he has landed himself in hot water for comments he made to an audience of British rabbis last month on child abuse.

Rabbi Schacter told the rabbis that taking reports of child sexual

abuse in the Jewish community to police could result in the abuser being put in a cell with a shvartze, in a cell with a Muslim, a black Muslim who wants to kill off the Jews". Rabbi Schacter's remarks were captured on tape

and posted on the website FailedMessiah.

Yeshiva University's initial response was a statement which emphasized Y.U. faculty's right to freedom of speech, although it made clear that "not all statements made by faculty members are consistent with the views of the University".

But a day later, in response to growing criticism, Y.U. toughened its stance. "The recent use of a derogatory racial term and negative characterizations of African-Americans and Muslims, by a member of the faculty," said a spokesman for Y.U., "are inappropriate, offensive, and do not represent the values and mission of Yeshiva University".

### Do BDS Panels Belong in a Synagogue?

It's a growing dilemma for rabbis and community leaders. Should a synagogue or a JCC allow a "Jewish" group to hold a panel discussion on whether Israel is a democracy? Should they allow Jews

who support the BDS movement to hold meetings in their establishments?

A few weeks ago a panel on the topic of "Israel democracy" was scheduled for Anshe Chesed, a Conservative synagogue on the West side of Manhattan. The participants included Rebecca Vilkomerson, executive director of Jewish Voice for Peace, which supports the BDS movement.

Anshe Chesed's rabbi, Jeremy Kalmonofsky is on sabbatical and did not hear about event until after it had been scheduled. Once he did he attempted to have it cancelled. That caused a problem because of "contractual" obligations. So Anshe Chesed amended its position saying the event could take place but that sponsors could not use the synagogue's name to publicize it.

In the end the panel was moved to Simchat Torah, an LGBT synagogue on the far West Side. But we may expect the issue to continue to plague Jewish communities throughout North America and Europe.

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**WHILE THERE WERE** no injuries as a result of the latest attack from Gaza, Israel has made it clear that it will not tolerate violations of the cease-fire agreement. Pictured above a home in Sderot is repaired as a result of damage caused by a rocket fired from Gaza.

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**BUILDING A FUTURE***(Continued from page 4)*

the ultra-Orthodox. They are, however, permitted to volunteer for both the army and the national service, and a growing number are doing so.

National service began as an alternative framework for Orthodox Jewish girls who didn't feel comfortable in the mixed gender environment of the army. According to Adi Luria of the Volunteers Association, jobs are available in a range of settings, from hospitals to education to clerical jobs. During their service, the candidates receive training and a small stipend. Afterwards they are eligible for government grants for education.

"Israeli society gives a lot of weight to the army and serving your country," Luria told The Media Line. "When you don't do that, something is missing from your resume."

She says some 3000 Arab citizens of Israel are now volunteering – and the number is growing every

year. But some have also criticized the volunteers for cooperating with the Ministry of Defense.

"Some of the people I knew in East Jerusalem sent me nasty letters when they heard that I decided to join the national service," Awadallah said. "But then I said to myself, 'I don't care. I need to do what's right for my future.'"

A smaller number of Arab citizens of Israel are serving in the army. Male Druze, an Arabic-speaking offshoot of Islam, are drafted and many have risen to high positions in the army. But until recently very few Christians or Muslims volunteered for the army.

That may be beginning to change.

"I always wanted to be drafted," Arin Shaabi, 27, a military prosecutor in the army told The Media Line. "Arabs also live in this country. This is my country and I don't see myself living anywhere else."

Shaabi grew up in

Nazareth, with an Arab father and a Jewish grandmother. After studying law, she volunteered with the army. As part of her job, she prosecutes Palestinians who have attacked Israeli soldiers.

"I do my job in the best way I can," she said. "I am objective and I don't let my feelings affect me. I speak to the various defense

attorneys in Arabic and I have good relationships with all of them."

She said she got some raised eyebrows the first few times she wore her uniform home. But now, she says, people have gotten used to it. She has signed on to stay in the army until 2015.

Arab citizens of  
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## **BUILDING A FUTURE**

*(Continued from preceding page)*

Israel make up one-fifth of Israel's population. They have long complained of discrimination in municipal budgets, education and job opportunities. The political leadership of their community still often discourages volunteering for national service, and certainly frowns on the army, which they see as a tool of the Israeli "occupation" of the West Bank.

Yet more and more young people are choosing

to serve, and each one often convinces several friends to join as well. Nasim Awadallah says three of his friends have already signed up. And he's convinced he's learning skills that will help him his whole life.

"The program has taught me how to be a teacher," he said. "I have learned so much and now I really know how to deal with kids. I have much more self-confidence than I did before I started."

## **POSITIVE HOLOCAUST BOOK**

*(Continued from page 5)*

camp. It's your mother who is the survivor." We knew that Mom and her sisters had been in some terrible place called Auschwitz where someone named Mengele decided we would never know our grandparents. We knew that Dad was the sole survivor of his family. His older brother, two older sisters, and all their six children also "remained in Auschwitz."

It would be three decades later in America that we started asking. Until then, there was a conspiracy of silence, borne

from kindness and necessity, each generation protecting the other by not talking and moving forward. After all, they had to rebuild their lives from nothing, and not once but twice, first after liberation in 1945, and then again after we escaped in the wake of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution.

In their Auschwitz barrack a few hours after arrival, already in rags, completely shorn, so quickly dehumanized, my aunt Bözsi néni asked the woman in charge, "Where are our parents? When am

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I going to see them?" 'Look outside, they are going up in smoke there,' pointing to the chimney. I thought that I would kill her."

Through countless, naked selections they managed to live and still be useful; so they were taken out to other camps. In Magdeburg, they worked in a munitions factory.

"They had a machine," Mom described, "and I had to push it in and be careful not to cut my hand. The Obermeister came and told me, 'Mein Kind, my child, be careful.' He was a nice elderly man. He said, 'You know, many people cut the hand in this machine. You be very careful because you know what happens when you cut the hand.' You're not useful so they take you to the crematorium."

Mom continued, telling me about another kind soul. "And where we went for water we saw beets on the ground and they were frozen because it was winter. We took a couple of them and the German of course yelled at us. And the owner who gave the water said that the beets are his, that we may have them. And all of us started to cry. And he said to the German,

'This will not always be like this.' He dared to say it, I don't even know how, that this is his land and these are his beets and 'these frozen beets, how can you begrudge it from them?'"

"And I remember," my mother's youngest sister Sáríka néni recounted, "once when I started working at this machine, I saw that a young hailing who didn't work far from me was watching me. Then when I was allowed to go to the bathroom he started to say, 'boudoir, boudoir.' Well, I thought that he said it with a different accent, with a French accent, and then, before I went into the bathroom he kissed me. Well, I say to myself, there's nothing wrong with this, it's worse if they hit you. And the next day, close to Christmas, they got packages. And when no one was looking, a honey heart, a pogácsa he gave me in a package. I never saw this person again. I was so full of hope, that you see a human being who is good to you, even if you can't speak his language."

I know why my father survived and his name is Zoltán Kubinyi, the Commanding Officer in  
(Please turn to following page)

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## POSITIVE HOLOCAUST BOOK

(Continued from preceding page)

charge of Dad's labor battalion, number 108/52, comprised of Jewish men from the northeastern countryside of Hungary. A devout

Seventh Day Adventist and a conscientious objector with no gun in his holster, Zoltán Kubinyi defied Nazi orders to have the men be

liquidated as Germany was losing the war and there was no more need for them. Upon liberation by the Russian Army, he was captured as a POW, died a year later of typhus in a Siberian labor camp, and was buried in an unmarked grave. His final resting place though is where I visited him, in the Garden of the Righteous at Yad Vashem where a wall bears his name, having been honored posthumously as a Righteous Gentile due to my father's testimony. I placed four stones on that wall, one for each of my father's grandchildren, and said Kaddish.

From his hospital room a week before he died, my father dictated to me some messages for the grandchildren. As he sat up in bed, you could see that he could see each one of them standing before him. Some excerpts, the latter ones to my son Jacob, 16 at the time, two years before going off to college:

- Be friendly and polite to everybody. Never wait for people to say hello.
- If someone needs some help and you can help,

help them.

- Don't associate with bad people. Make sure all your friends are intelligent, responsible people and it won't cause you any trouble. Love them, study together, spend time together, enjoy life.

- What you study is the most important. There is going to pop up something what you like to do.

- And what you do, take it with good feeling: I love to do it, and you do the work.

- If have a boss, be respectful and follow his advice and directions.

- Sometime you are going to have your own company. Be reasonable with people.

"I can't imagine never knowing such a wonderful man as Grandpa," my daughter Sophie says. "And I can't help but think a lot about Zoltán Kubinyi, who rescued Grandpa. I've only known this man through stories and already he feels like part of the family. I can't help but think that if this mensch of a man hadn't had an ounce of compassion in his heart, my Grandpa would never have



JASON KENNEY, MINISTER OF CITIZENSHIP, Immigration and Multiculturalism, visits the mass grave in Sambir where 2,000 Jews were murdered in the "Holocaust of Bullets," and lights a candle in memory of the victims. The Minister called on local authorities to remove three large crosses that had been erected on the burial site.

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been in my life. My mom wouldn't be here; she wouldn't have had my brother and me. I wouldn't be in this world. The stories everyone is hearing about Grandpa wouldn't exist had this wonderful man not saved him during a brutal time. It is amazing to think about one single person making a difference in so many lives. "

*Marta Fuchs, a marriage & family therapist and librarian, is the author of Legacy of Rescue: A Daughter's Tribute (available on amazon.com and blurb.com) and co-author with her brother Henry of the multigenerational extended family memoir, Fragments of a Family: Remembering Hungary, the Holocaust, and Emigration to a New World.*

## TRAVEL TALES

(Continued from page 7)

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when George Berkowitz opened a fish market in the Inman Square neighborhood of Cambridge, Massachusetts. He opened it adjacent to his father Harry's grocery store Legal Cash Market where customers were given "Legal Stamps" (forerunners of S&H green stamps) with their purchases. It's here that the "Legal" name became synonymous with quality and freshness.

In 1968, the Berkowitz family opened its first seafood restaurant, right next to the fish market. The fish was simply prepared, either broiled or fried, and served on paper plates at communal picnic tables. Despite the low-key trappings, the food was second to none and word

quickly spread. This early success led to further expansion and now, six decades later with restaurants along the Eastern Seaboard, the family philosophy endures: Legal Sea Foods is a fish company in the restaurant business.

George's son, Roger, has been at the helm since 1992 and has expanded the business into new

markets while maintaining the company's focus on its proud tradition and core values.

Besides, of course, Massachusetts, there are Legal locales in Washington Florida, Georgia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Virginia.

The Boca restaurant  
(Please turn to following page)

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## TRAVEL TALES

(Continued from preceding page)

has a really pretty look, veteran of the Legal family complete with a large fish who makes it her business tank. Make sure to ask for to visit every table and manager Laura Nardi, a even assist in the service.

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Their selection of fresh seafood is quite plentiful: swordfish, tuna, salmon, rainbow trout, mahi mahi, snapper, grouper, shrimp and sea scallops. Legal's New England clam chowder is a wise starter. The same goes for the wedge and classic Caesar salads. There are some great desserts as well, including the three bon bons – bite size scoops of ice cream dipped in chocolate.

Opening hours here are 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.,

Monday to Thursday; 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday and Saturday; and Noon to 9 p.m. Sundays. You can call 561-447-2112 for reservations.

There are a number of kosher restaurants in Boca, including Grill Time, Orchard's Garden, Sagi's Mediterranean Grill and Asia Sushi.

Mike Cohen's email address is [info@mikecohen.ca](mailto:info@mikecohen.ca). Follow his travels at [www.sandboxworld.com/travel](http://www.sandboxworld.com/travel).

## MIXED EMOTIONS

(Continued from page 6)

talks with hopes of developing a specific proposal in May.

President Obama reportedly asked the Palestinians about the future of the Gaza Strip in future peace agreements, to which the Palestinians replied that hundreds of thousands of Palestinians in Gaza rallied in celebration of the Fatah anniversary in January, calling it an indication that when new elections are held, Hamas will lose control of Gaza.

Prof. Abd-el Majid-Swailem, who teaches political science at Al-Quds University, told The Media Line that the President's visit might give the peace process a serious push, but took note of what he saw as Obama's apparent agreement with positions on both sides. "The parameters that Obama describes relative to the Palestinian state are not the same parameters the Israelis think of," he explained. "Unlike the Israelis, President Obama sees the need for contiguity of land, sovereignty and independence. Where Obama agrees with the Israelis, according to Majid-Swailem, is that they both oppose what they see as Palestinian pre-conditions to returning to the negotiating table.

Meanwhile, on the streets of Ramallah, the atmosphere was less optimistic and far from jubilant. Activist Amin Shoman, who was one of the participants at a demonstration near the central Manara square, told The Media Line that, "Releasing the prisoners who were imprisoned before the Oslo agreement was signed should precede any negotiations [with Israel] and not be a result of it."

Amin Baker charged that the United States has proven to be a part of the aggression against the

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Palestinian people.

In Al-Bireh, a town adjacent to Ramallah, the family of Suzy Rasul was happy that President Obama was passing near their house on his way from a visit to the Al-Bireh Youth Center. Her 9-year-old daughter Layah, wearing her keffiyeh headscarf, was standing in front of the front door of her home waving to the President as his motorcade passed. "I was very happy to see President Obama for the first time, and he waived back at me."

Nevertheless, Rasul, a director of an American non-governmental agency (NGO), was not impressed by President Obama's remarks at the news conference she watched on Palestinian television.

"Watching President Obama speak gave me such mixed emotions. As a Palestinian-American I was proud to have him here. But his speech disappointed me greatly -- not only as a Palestinian but as an American. We needed the President to give us a glimpse of hope, to show empathy and to connect to the people of Palestine," Rasul complained.

Perhaps part of the Rasul family's disappointment was that although the five family members spent the night before the Obama visit making pro-Palestinian posters, they were not allowed to hoist them. "They preferred no signs or flag-waving during the time of the presidential motorcade, and we agreed," Rasul explained.

## WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 8)

### Golden Dawn Calls for Boycott

The Greek Golden Dawn political party, which burst onto the political scene last year by winning 18 seats in Greece's 300-member parliament, and which recent polls show

has the support of between 14 and 18 per cent of the population, has called on Greeks to boycott Estee Lauder cosmetic products after World Jewish Congress President Ronald S. Lauder urged Greece to ban the neo-Nazi group.

(Please turn to following page)

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**WORLD IN REVIEW**

*(Continued from preceding page)*

Golden Dawn's New York branch website told visitors that because of the "hostile attack on Greek sovereignty, freedom and interests, Lauder's cosmetics monopoly Estee Lauder must be boycotted". "An institution that is not Greek and does nothing to contribute to Greek well-being", the statement continued, "is demanding

Samaras {Greek Prime Minister} ban the third largest party...all in the name of liberal democracy nonetheless. Why does Samaras care more about the opinions of 5,000 over 12 million Greeks, if Greece is truly a democracy?"

The WJC responded to the call for a boycott by comparing Golden Dawn to the German Nazi government. "Both in words and in actions," said Maram Stern, deputy secretary-general of the WJC, "these fanatics behave like the Nazis did 80 years ago."

**Morgan Freeman "Told"  
To Skip Event**

The following item was submitted by Shurat HaDin, the Israel Law Center. The organization is dedicated to bankrupting terrorist organizations. - The Editor.

The Palestinian Campaign for the Academic & Cultural Boycott of Israel recently  
*(Please turn to page 19)*

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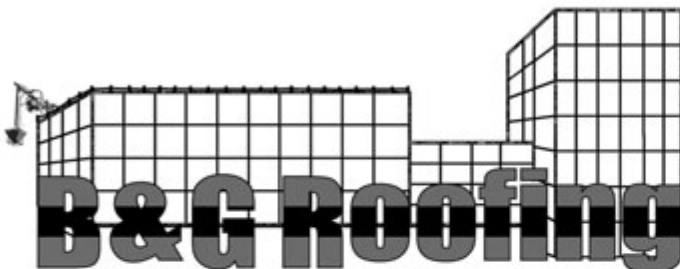
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## HILDA ROSEN'S PASSION REMAINS MAGEN DAVID ADOM

Hamilton's Hilda Rosen may be turning 83 in a few weeks but that has not slowed her down. Nor has it stopped her from continuing a life-long passion, raising money for Canadian Magen David Adom.

Hilda Rosen's determination has resulted in numerous pieces of equipment being purchased for Magen David Adom by the Jewish community of Hamilton, including a blood mobile unit, two scooters,

triple blood bags, oxygen cylinders and regulators, portable stretchers, advanced life support medical equipment and a Corpuls3 Defibrillator.

Hilda Rosen is currently raising the \$2500 needed to purchase the third scooter to be donated by the Hamilton chapter of MDA. The inscription on the fender will read: With Love to the People of Israel - from Hamilton, Ontario Canada.



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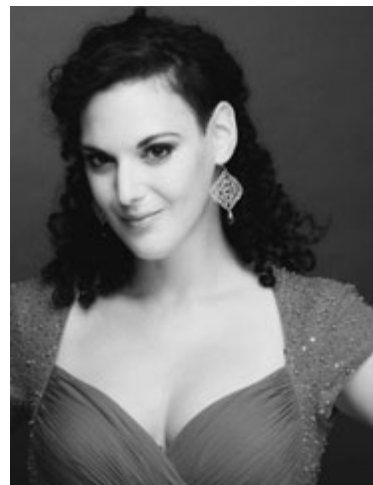
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Music by one of the most beloved composers of Yiddish theatre highlights the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir's 87th annual spring concert, Raisins and Almonds, Sunday, June 2, at 3 p.m. at Temple Sinai, 210 Wilson Avenue, Toronto. The concert marks Alexander Veprinsky's 10th spring concert as the Choir's conductor, while pianist Lina Zemelman completes her 37th season as accompanist. Soprano Kyra Folk-Farber, pictured below, acclaimed for her performances of opera and oratorio as well as Yiddish music, makes her Folk Choir debut as guest artist. The choir's dynamic tenor, Martin Houtman, is also featured as soloist. Tickets are \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door; \$15 seniors; \$10 students; 12 and under free. They may be booked by calling (905) 669-5906, or e-mailing [folkchoir@hotmail.com](mailto:folkchoir@hotmail.com) or purchased directly from choir members. More information will be posted at [www.winchevsky-centre.org/institutions/choir.html](http://www.winchevsky-centre.org/institutions/choir.html)



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## WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 17)

sent a letter to actor Morgan Freeman over his plan to accept an award from an Israeli-

linked group in Toronto. The Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University will be awarding Freeman "The Key of Knowledge Award" for the actor's "dedication to combating racism and promoting knowledge and education worldwide." "Given that Israel practices forms of racism through its system of colonialism, occupation and apartheid, and violates the rights of Palestinians to education and life, it is cynical, and nothing short of dishonor to your lifelong achievements to be accepting an award from a group that is in deep support of an Israeli University complicit in Israel's systematic violations of human rights and international law," the pro-Palestinian group wrote. The letter stresses that "prominent actors who accept awards from the friends of Israel around the world...lend their names to the state's propaganda effort...To accept an award from such an institution would send a message that the Hebrew University can continue its complicity, and still receive international acclaim and publicity by honoring respected moral figures such as you."

### Egyptian 'Jon Stewart' Runs Afoul of Morsi

Bassem Youssef, whose satirical TV show has been compared to the "Daily Show", has been called to the office of Egypt's prosecutor general, accused of undermining the standing of Islamist president Mohamed Morsi. Last year Youssef poked fun of Morsi's repeated use of the word "love" by singing a love song to a red pillow with the president's face on it.

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