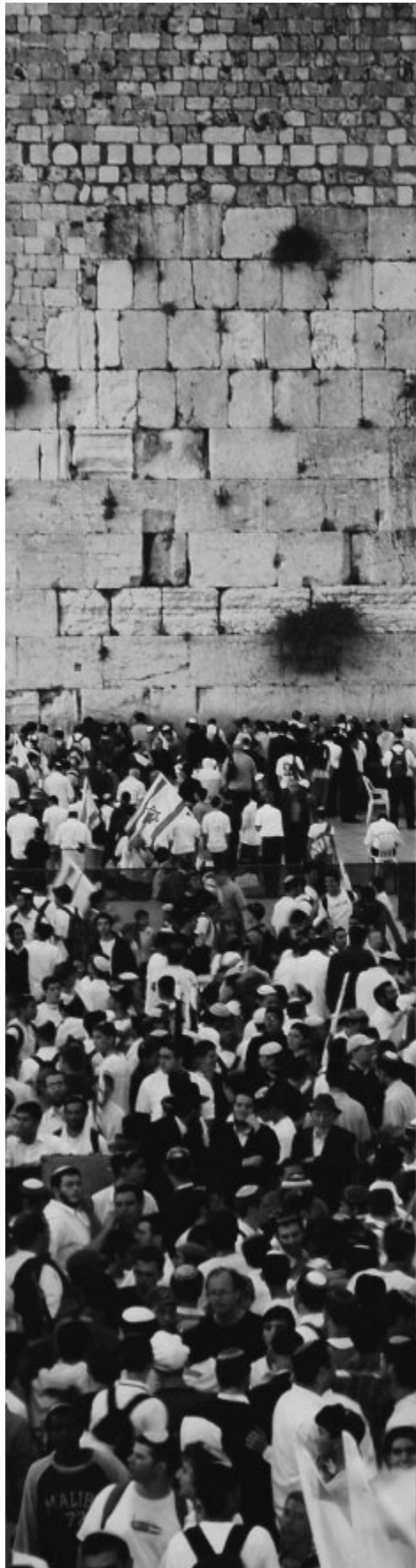


THE JEWISH STANDARD

SEPTEMBER 15 - OCT. 1, 2012 ROSH HASHANAH 5773



Photographs by MARCELO BENDAHAN

(Cover story on page 2)

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Cover Story

WHILE MOST OF the world thinks OF Jerusalem as a violent, war-torn city, Marcelo Bendahan has captured the essence of the city through his camera lens. Bendahan, in his "Jerusalem Always", photographed a Jerusalem full of life, love and peace. Unique to today's photography, Bendahan allows his pictures to tell their story without computer generated enhancements. Written in English and Spanish, he touches on all aspects of life in today's Jerusalem. Readers can visit www.jerusalemal-ways.com for more details on this amazingly beautiful work of art. - The Editor

ANITA SURMAN
Editor
General News



BLOWING THE SHOFAR IN MOSCOW'S RED SQUARE

Reflections on the New Year

Jews approach the New Year and the Day of Atonement with a fair degree of realism. Inherent in our prayers to escape the ills to which the human race is subjected is the knowledge that during the year which has passed few of us have been spared the tragedies which are an inevitable part of life's journey. In the understanding that pain and suffering afflict us all we face the future with more than a little foreboding.

If a sense of uneasiness is understandable in our personal lives, it is also reflected in our response to the dark blots which affect our fellow Jews and, indeed, all of mankind: the deprivation and want which have killed hundreds of thousands and which show no sign of abating; the persistent danger of terrorism; the harrowing thought that there are diabolical men, removed from complete sanity, who actually relish the

prospect of a nuclear holocaust. The lack of even a modicum of compassion among so many cannot help but leave us fraught with anxiety,

"God's in His Heaven and all's right with the world" may be the comfortable message of *Pippa's Song*. And many sermons during the High Holy Days will likely dwell on the ultimate compassion of the Holy One, blessed be His name. But the fact is that if there are solutions to the problems which plague our uneasy, insecure, troubled universe, if the alleviation of personal pain is at all possible, it will be "we" who will have to discover the remedies.

Perhaps our prayers should be not for divine intervention but rather for the strength we require to face life's perils and the courage we must summon up to confront our many enemies.

THE WORLD IN REVIEW

NEWS OF THE RECENT PAST IS REVIEWED

By NOAH FREEDMAN

Conversion to Christianity Allowed

A British judge has allowed a 10-year-old Jewish girl to convert to Christianity despite her mother's determined opposition.

The parents, whose names have been withheld, were both Jewish at the time of the child's birth. They divorced in 2010, agreeing on a custody arrangement for the girl and her younger brother.

Shortly after the divorce the father converted to Christianity and that's when the problems began. The husband, apparently with the full support of the daughter, wanted the child to be baptized. The mother maintained that her child had been "brainwashed" and sought to have the court prevent the baptism until she was 16. The father countered that despite the conversion he did not intend to negate his children's "Jewish heritage and culture".

In his ruling Judge John Platt, wrote: "My job is to decide simply what is best for you and I have decided that the best thing for you is that you are allowed to start your baptism classes as soon as they can be arranged and that you are baptised as a Christian as soon as your minister feels you are ready." The judge added that "even after you are baptised you are still free to change your mind about your faith when you are older". The judge did rule that the girl's confirmation should not take place before her 16th birthday and not without her mother's consent.

Odom Brandman, a Chabad rabbi, argued in a written submission that "it is unfair to any child

to be put under this kind of pressure and to do something unnatural to their soul."



MAKING THE ARIEL UNIVERSITY CENTER
Israel's eighth university has been the subject of much controversy since the Council for Higher Education in Judea and Samaria voted to grant university status to the Center. The new university would be Israel's first beyond the Green Line and while right wing Israelis have called the decision "historic" those on the left worry about the international repercussions. Nor were the heads of Israel's other seven universities supportive of the decision. Spokespersons for these universities argued that granting AUC university status would "seriously harm and fragment Israeli higher education". The final decision rested with the military commander who takes his orders from Defence Minister Ehud Barak. Barak delayed his decision but the cabinet has now approved Ariel's status as a university. Ariel has around 13,000 students, 5 percent of whom are Arabs. Eighty-five percent of the students live within the Green Line.

What's In A Name!

Ever wonder what the original name was for some of our great Jewish entertainers? Well, here's a list that will help curb your curiosity.

Woody Allen - Alan Stewart Koenigsberg; June Allyson - Ella Geisman; Lauren Bacall - Betty Joan Perske; Jack Benny - Benjamin Kubelsky; Irving Berlin - Israel Baline; Milton Berle - Milton Berlinge; Joey Bishop - Joseph Gottlieb; Karen Black - Karen Blanche Ziegler; Victor Borge - Borge Rosenbaum; Fanny Brice - Fanny Borach; Mel Brooks - Melvin Kaminsky; George Burns - Nathan Birnbaum; Eddie Cantor - Edward Israel Iskowitz; Jeff Chandler - Ira Gossel; Lee J. Cobb - Amos Jacob; Tony Curtis - Bernard Schwartz; Rodney Dangerfield - Jacob Cohen; Kirk Douglas - Danielovich Demsky; Melvyn Douglas - Melvyn Hesselberg; Bob Dylan - Bobby Zimmerman; Paulette Goddard - Marion Levy; Lee Grant - Lyova Geisman; Elliot Gould - Elliot Goldstein; Judy Holliday - Judith Tuvim; Al Jolson - Asa Yoelson; Danny Kaye - David Daniel Kaminsky; Michael Landon - Michael Orowitz; Steve Lawrence - Sidney Leibowitz; Jerry Lewis - Joseph Levitch; Peter Lorre - Lazlo Lowenstein; Elaine May - Elaine Berlin; Yves Montand - Ivo Levy; Mike Nichols - Michael Peschkowsky; Joan Rivers - Joan Molinsky; Edward G. Robinson - Emanuel Goldenberg; Jane Seymour - Joyce Penelope

(Please turn to page 21

TORONTO STAR CROSSES THE LINE

LETTER TO THE EDITOR RATIONALIZED MUNICH TERRORIST ATTACK

By MIKE FEGELMAN

There's an important line separating legitimate opinion that enhances the public discourse, from hateful rhetoric that interferes with constructive dialogue. When the *Toronto Star* published a commen-

tary on August 4 by Reverend Lawrence Pushee justifying terrorism against the Israeli Olympians at the 72' Munich games, Canada's most read daily newspaper saw its respected news platform exploited by a protagonist who seeks to demonize and vilify Jews and the State of Israel.

Responding to a *Star* editorial which had taken a principled stance in calling on the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to hold a moment of silence at the opening ceremonies in memory of the murdered Israeli athletes and coaches killed by Palestinian terrorists, Rev. Pushee abhorrently declared the following: "That was indeed a horrible and shocking moment for the international community and such an observance would be welcomed by most of us, but only if it were a balanced time for remembering. The Palestinian assassins targeted Israelis because for decades their people had been assassinated by Israeli agents and members of its occupation forces. Munich didn't just happen out of the blue. To remember the loss at Munich and not remember the suffering of the Palestinians would be to continue the untruth that Israel is the constant victim."

In other words, Pushee was claiming that while the cold-blooded murder of these Israeli civilians was bad, they essentially had it coming to them in so much as Israeli security

forces had allegedly killed Palestinians. Why *Toronto Star* editors elected to publish a commentary justifying terror against innocents is bewildering.

To wit, would the *Toronto Star* dare publish a letter marking the 9/11 terror attacks arguing that the murder of close to 3,000 innocent people by Al Qaeda was understandable given U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East? Would the *Star* publish a letter that sympathized with Timothy McVeigh for his role in carrying out the Oklahoma City Bombing that killed 168 people and injured over 800 people? Would the *Star* publish a letter that excused

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A STORY UNTOLD

IMPACT OF BERGSON GROUP STILL OVERLOOKED

By **RAFAEL MEDOFF**

The Roosevelt administration's abandonment of European Jewry during the Holocaust has been well documented. Yet the one meaningful action the U.S. did take to help the Jews has received surprisingly little attention. A recent Yad Vashem symposium on Holocaust rescuer Raoul Wallenberg presented a golden opportunity to correct that omission.

August 4 marked the 100th anniversary of the birth of Wallenberg, the courageous young Swede who helped rescue tens of thousands of Jews in German-occupied Budapest in 1944-45. At the Yad Vashem symposium this summer, speaker after speaker --historians, diplomats, Wallenberg relatives--appropriately lauded his heroism. But the important question of how Wallenberg

(Dr. Rafael Medoff is director of The David S. Wyman Institute for Holocaust Studies, and coauthor, with Prof. Sonja Schoepf Wentling, of the new book 'Herbert Hoover and the Jews: The Origins of the "Jewish Vote" and Bipartisan Support for Israel.) - The Editor

ended up in Budapest was barely even mentioned.

The reason the information is important is that it sheds light on how a handful of rescue advocates in the United States managed to bring about the reversal of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's no-rescue policy. And surely the greatest tribute to Wallenberg would be if young people today were to become inspired by the activists of the 1940s to undertake their own efforts against contemporary genocide.

In 1943, Jewish activists led by future Knesset Member Hillel Kook (using the pseudonym "Peter Bergson") established the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe. They sponsored protest rallies and more than 200 full-page newspaper ads, mobilized 400 rabbis to march to the White House, and lobbied vigorously on Capitol Hill for U.S. action to rescue Europe's Jews. These efforts, combined with behind the scenes pressure by Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau, Jr. and his staff, convinced President Roosevelt to establish a U.S. government rescue agency, called the War Refugee Board (WRB).

At the time, editorials in the *Washington Post* and *Christian Science Monitor* explicitly credited the Bergson Group for the creation of the WRB. And Secretary Morgenthau, in a

private staff meeting, said Bergson's pressure campaign in Congress was "the thing that made it possible to get the President really to act on this thing" and "to appoint [the Board]."

It was the WRB's representative in Sweden who persuaded Wallenberg to go to German-occupied

Budapest and helped pay for his rescue mission there. The courageous and resourceful Wallenberg designed a Swedish protective passport and distributed thousands of them to Jews in Budapest, to prevent the Germans from deporting them. He used bribery, threats, and blackmail to interfere with the deportations. In one instance, he leaped atop a departing train and frantically handed protective doc-

(Please turn to page 14)

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TOP TEN NON-JEWS

STEPHEN HARPER AGAIN RANKS AMONG
OUR BEST FRIENDS

By DOVID EFFUNE

Two years ago, following the release of the *Jerusalem Post's* first list of the world's 50 most influential Jews, I was inspired to initiate an annual list of my own. Not of Jews, but of non-Jews, specifically those who are most positively influencing the Jewish future.

Since last year's list, much has changed. New personalities have emerged, others have faded, some have remained, but the importance of bringing attention to this group is constant. For this reason I am committed to publishing and developing this list as a
(Please turn to page 10)

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PRIME MINISTRE STEPHEN HARPER WATCHES as Benjamin Netanyahu signs the guest book during his visit to Canada. For the second consecutive year Harper has been rated among the top non-Jews having a positive impact on the future of world Jewry. (see above article)

TRAVEL TALES

HELPFUL HINTS FOR THE JEWISH TRAVELLER

By MIKE COHEN

DOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE: Well this was a new stop for our family. While we originally looked at staying in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, getting a booking there was no easy task. Most of the rooms were already spoken for by government personnel attached to the Naval Shipyard. Always a fan of the Homewood Suites chain, I found one in the suburb of Dover (www.dovernh.homewood-suites.com). This is part of the Lafrance Hospitality Group, which also owns a Comfort Inn and Suites and a Hampton Inn nearby. Dover is about 15 minutes from Portsmouth and 25 from beautiful Rye Beach. You are also only a 30 minute drive from the Maine beaches.

WHERE TO STAY: I have always enjoyed my stays at The Homewood Suites. In Dover this was no different. Located in the heart of the business district, at 21 Members Way, this hotel is just minutes from downtown Dover and many fine restaurants and shops. It is the perfect place for short and extended stay accommodations. We were there for five days and it proved to be a great base for our activities. Their sister properties, the Comfort Inn and Suites and the Hampton Inn, also have solid reputations. General Manager Scott Goldberg has a decade of experience in the industry and he is only 29.

This Homewood Suites Dover only opened in
(Please turn to page 13)

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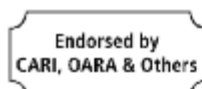
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GAS MASK SHORTAGE

CONFLICT IN SYRIA HEIGHTEN CONCERN

By LINDA GRADSTEIN, MEDIA LINE

During the first Gulf War in 1991, Israelis walked the streets toting a square brown box. Schoolgirls even decorated their boxes with stickers and drawings. Inside the boxes were a gas mask and an atropine syringe in case of nerve gas.

But soon after the war, Israeli authorities said many of the gas masks had passed their expiration dates and were no longer effective. Residents were asked to return the masks and told they would be replaced. But in most cases, the replacements never came.

Today, as fighting spreads throughout Syria, Israeli officials are concerned that Syria's chemical weapons stocks could fall into the wrong hands and pose a threat to Israel. They do not believe that Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad would use chemical weapons against his own people, or even against Israel, but radical groups such as Hizbullah or Al-Qa'ida have expressed keen

interest in acquiring these weapons.

"There is a probable scenario that eventually the regime will collapse and different armed groups will take control of different areas including the storage locations of different weapons systems," Shlomo Brom, a weapons expert at the INSS think tank told The Media Line. "Just as happened in Libya, these weapons could be marketed and sent to different terrorist groups."

Currently, only about half of Israelis have gas masks. A military official told The Media Line that Israel is producing gas masks at a rate of 40,000 per month and distributing them as fast as they are produced. By 2013, 4.6 million Israelis will have gas masks.

The current population of Israel is 7.85 million, meaning that the shortage of gas masks will continue, and just over half of the population will have the

(Please turn to page 20)

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CROSSING THE LINE*(Continued from page 4)*

and rationalized the murder of gays, blacks, and aboriginal Canadians? We trust that *Toronto Star* editors would responsibly discard such commentary into the dustbin of history, but why does the *Toronto Star* hold Israeli Jews to a different standard by tolerating commentary that justifies their murder?

Reverend Pushee is no stranger to controversy and is well known for his anti-Semitic remarks and vitriolic hatred of Israel. He once claimed that Canada's Environment Minister was complicit with "Zionist genocide, ethnic cleansing and weapons testing in Gaza". He dismissed past abductions of Israeli soldiers as a "mere embarrassment" and outrageously

asserted that Israel intentionally targets UN installations, schools, and hospitals using depleted uranium. It's also been reported that he described Israelis as (among other things) a "greedy," "Mafia style" administration with a "deficiency in intelligence and even the United Church of Canada (UCC), well known especially nowadays for its vociferous criticism of Israel, ousted Reverend Pushee from a leadership position for his vile anti-Israel remarks.

HonestReporting Canada ardently supports free expression and strongly defends the right to offend, but Reverend Pushee's comments crossed the line. That is why we appealed to *Toronto Star* editors to "unpublish" this letter from the *Star's* website. Yet in response, the *Star* regrettably defended their publication of this commentary stating: "We have discussed the points you raise and we

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CROSSING THE LINE

(Continued from preceding page)

do not think that any action is warranted by the *Star*. Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer and we try to publish letters that provide a wide range of points of views." The *Star* also declined to publish our rebuttal to this inflammatory letter displaying a lack of commitment in providing a diversity of opinion on this issue. That the *Star* actually believes that Pushee's remarks add to the market

place of ideas shows a remarkable lack of judgement on the part of their editorial team.

The author is Executive Director of Honest Reporting Canada. The organization seeks to promote fairness and accuracy in the Canadian media's coverage of Israel. For more information readers can visit www.honestreporting.ca - The Editor

TOP TEN NON-JEWS

(Continued from page 6)

regular endeavor, and as such I present the 3rd annual list.

Similar to the criteria used by other list makers, my candidates have been chosen from around the world, and all walks of life. The list includes world leaders, journalists, activists and business giants among others, all of whom have made a significant and constructive impact on Israel and/or the Jewish world.

Although by no means an exact science, my aim in this compilation is to

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IT'S NOT THE KIND OF NEWS THAT APPEARS on the front pages of the world's press but the recent economic agreement between Israel and the Palestinians deserves publicity. For over a year the two sides have been working on formulating an agreement that regulates taxes and bilateral trade. The Israeli Finance Ministry maintains that the agreements that will go into effect on January 1, 2013 "will introduce mechanisms that better facilitate the movement of goods between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, and the support of both parties' efforts in reducing illegal trade and tax evasion. The arrangements will further assist in enhancing the Palestinian tax system and thus aid in strengthening the economic base of the Palestinian Authority." The two sides also agreed that a pipeline would be built "for the safe and exclusive transfer of petroleum products" from Israel to the PA. Pictured above Finance Minister Yuval Steinitz (right) and Palestinian Prime Minister Salam Fayyad sign the accord in Jerusalem. (Moshe Milner/GPO)

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OP TEN NON JEWS

(Continued from page 10)

provide some insight into the playing field of this unique and important group. Additionally I aim to bring recognition to their often courageous, sometimes unacknowledged, activities on behalf of Israel and the Jewish people.

10. Pilar Rahola Spanish Journalist, Politician.

As a writer, and former politician, Rahola is active in combating anti-Semitism and what she labels the 'hypocrisy' of left wing politicians with regards to Israel and Zionism

9.. Bob Costas Sportscaster

Costas came out front and center to highlight the request of Israeli widows of the Munich '72 massacre. They had called on the International Olympic Committee to hold a moment of silence during the opening ceremony of this year's games to acknowledge the 11 Israeli athletes and coaches killed by PLO terrorists. His advocacy earns him a special mention on the list.

8. Jose Maria Aznar Former Spanish Prime Minister.

Aznar founded the

Friends of Israel Initiative in 2010 with the stated goal to "counter the attempts to delegitimize the State of Israel and its right to live in peace within safe and defensible borders."

This year he has been an important voice for Israel in Europe, penning an op-ed in the *London Times* last month entitled "How Dare the World Shun Israel on Terrorism."

His unique organization provides a strong voice for Israel in circles where it might otherwise not be heard.

7. Michael Gove British Secretary of State for Education.

A rising star in British politics, Gove had already shown his colors as a great friend of Israel and the Jewish community in his former role as a *London Times* Editor.

Speaking at a UJIA fundraiser last year, he said, "I will defend Israel's right to exist as long as I have breath in my body."

In his current role he has been particularly active in stamping out curi-

(Please turn to page 16)

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TRAVEL TALES*(Continued from page 7)*

2008 and still looks spanking new. It offers all of the following on a complimentary basis: a daily Suite Star hot breakfast buffet; dinner and beverages Monday through Thursday evenings at a Welcome Home Reception; parking; high-speed internet access; shuttle service providing transportation to the surrounding area, including downtown Portsmouth; a business center, with print, photocopy, and fax capabilities; Neutrogena bath products; a fitness center, indoor heated pool, whirlpool and outdoor patio. There is also a 24-hour Suite Shop convenience store.

With its spacious suites, fully equipped kitchens, and separate living and sleeping areas, this hotel is perfect for families who need some space and naturally a good choice for the corporate field and travellers looking to remain productive while on the road. We really appreciated the fully equipped kitchen in our one bedroom suite, complete with full-size refrigerator, microwave oven, two-burner stove top, and coffee maker. There were two televisions with a video player, two telephones with data ports, an iron, ironing board and hair dryer. Pets are allowed here (maximum 50 pounds) for a fee of \$50 a night. The third floor of the hotel is reserved for this. Just up the street are a number of restaurants, grocery stores, a Target, Walmart, TJ Maxx and more.

WHERE TO DINE: The Orchard Street Chop Shop (www.orchardstreetchopshop.com) gets my vote for the top dining option in Dover. The magnificent dining room is one of the most elegant on the seacoast. It seats more than 200 people over two floors and a seasonal patio, featuring floor-

to-ceiling stone fireplace, oversized booths, Brazilian Cherry wood floors, bronze chandeliers, and wines scattered around the open-grill dining room. This room can be separated for private dining rooms or the entire room can be booked for any special occasion.

Open Monday through Saturdays at 5 p.m. for dinner. The Orchard Street Chop Shop is housed in the original Dover Firehouse. The restaurant offers the finest selections of meats and seafood, skillfully prepared with a stunning assortment of traditional steakhouse sides and sumptuous desserts - all house made.

WHAT TO DO: The Children's Museum of New Hampshire (www.childrensmuseum.org), The Woodman Institute Museum (www.woodmaninstitutemuseum.org), the Jenny Thompson Swimming Pool (www.ci.dover.nh).

us/rec_jtpool.htm) represent popular stops for visitors. There are also walking tours and jaunts on trails and at parks to consider. Check out dovernh.org/things-to-do for more details.

JEWISH LINK: There is Jewish house of worship in Dover. The

Dover Temple (www.dovertemple.org) is located at 36 Olive Meadow Lane. This reform congregation has been serving the Seacoast community since 1938. Rabbi Sam Seicol is the present-day spiritual leader who is committed to study, ritual, Shabbat and (Please turn to following page)

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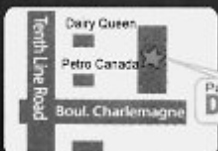
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TRAVEL TALES

(Continued from preceding page)

holiday observance, and music as paths for enriching communal life and personal spiritual growth. Close to 300 Jews reside in Dover.

SHOPPING: Fox Run Mall is a one level enclosed regional shopping center located in Newington, 15 minutes from Dover. It is the only regional shopping center within a 40-mile radius and features national tenants including Macys, JC Penny, LOFT, Abercrombie & Fitch, PacSun, Express, Victoria's

Secret, Bath & Body Works, Gap, Men's Wearhouse, American Eagle Outfitters, Pandora and Hollister Co. New Hampshire does not have a sales tax which draws shoppers from neighboring states of Maine and Massachusetts.

Mike Cohen's email address is info@mikecohen.ca. Log on to his travel advice columns at www.sandboxworld.com/travel

STORY UNTOLD

(Continued from page 5)

uments to the Jews inside as German bullets whizzed around him. Historians estimate that Wallenberg's efforts saved tens of thousands of lives--including those of future U.S. Congressman Tom Lantos and his wife Annette.

Fifteen of the 18 speakers at the Yad Vashem symposium did not even mention that the War Refugee Board sent Wallenberg to Budapest. It was as if Wallenberg just dropped from the sky one day. The other three speakers did mention the Board,

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but only very briefly. Remarkably, not one of those three acknowledged the role of the Bergson Group in bringing about the Board's creation. One explained the establishment of the WRB in these terms: "The War Refugee Board was established in response to President Roosevelt's desire to save the lives of innocent Jews in Europe." The truth, however, is that the Roosevelt administration staunchly opposed creating a rescue agency, and did so only under tremendous pressure.

Speaking at the Center for Jewish History in New York City last year, Prof. Richard Breitman, editor of the U.S. Holocaust Museum's scholarly journal, remarked that it is "probably accurate" to say "that Wallenberg would not have been able to do what he did in Budapest if Bergson had not done what he did in Washington." Certainly Bergson's efforts were not the only reason the WRB was created, and the WRB's support was not the only factor that made Wallenberg's mission possible. But when all is said and done, the fact is that if there had been no WRB, there would have been no Wallenberg; and if there had been no Bergson, there would have been no WRB.

(Please turn to following page)

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STORY UNTOLD

(Continued from preceding page)

That a handful of activists with few resources could have such a profound effect on the course of history is inspiring. That their

story has not received the attention it deserves --even at academic conferences focusing on that period-- is sorely disappointing.

TOP TEN NON-JEWS

(Continued from page 12)

riculum anti-Semitism that appeared on more than one occasion, and he has shown support for Jewish education.

6. Eric Schmidt Google Chairman.

Among the world's most respected technology industry leaders, Schmidt's praise of the Jewish state during a visit this past June could not have been more emphatic. "There are no disadvantages to investing in Israel -- just advantages," he was quoted as saying. "Israel has the most important high-tech center in the world after the US."

Glowing reviews and endorsements of the Israeli economic experience from leaders such as Schmidt go a long way in inspiring global investor confidence in Israeli markets.

5. Ayoob Kara Knesset Member, Deputy Israeli Minister.

A member of Israel's governing Likud party, Kara is a Druze Israeli who has been recognized as the Knesset's most pro-Israel

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Arab, serving as a role model and example to other Arab Israelis.

In his position as Deputy Minister of the Development of the Negev and the Galilee, he has worked to build the development of Jewish communities in these areas and has championed a strong stance against the Iranian threat.

4. Manmohan Singh Prime Minister of India.

As I write, four of India's top naval warships are docked at the Haifa port as part of a four-day visit to Israel to "strengthen service-to-service linkages."

Indian officials said that the warships, which are equipped with advanced electronic sensors and missile systems, show "the importance India attaches to the growing Indo-Israeli relations, and continued cooperation and engagement between the two countries is expected to grow."

A rising world power, this relationship remains among Israel's most important, and as India's Prime Minister, Singh is largely responsible for cultivating and developing this vital alliance.

3. Stephen Harper Prime Minister of Canada.

Ranked number one on last year's list, Harper's support for Israel and friendship to Canada's Jewish community has been unwavering.

In June of this year it was revealed that his Defense Minister Peter MacKay told Israel's top military commander at the time, Maj.-Gen. Gabi Ashkenazi, during a 2011 visit to the Middle East that "a threat to Israel is a threat to Canada."

Notably, last year he blocked a G8 resolution that would have supported President Obama's 2011 Middle East policy speech, mentioning the call for a Palestinian State based on the 1967 lines, while not

(Please turn to page 18)

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BLACK SABBATH IN SALONIKA



"I HAD BARELY arrived - I was wearing my Sabbath clothes", Holocaust survivor Yitzhak Nechama testified at the Eichmann trial, "when they started beating us... They dealt us so many blows that people fainted; then they would lift them up, pour water over them and start again." "Black Sabbath", undertaken by the Wehrmacht on the Sabbath, took place on July 11 of 1942. It marked the beginning of the end for the once prosperous Jewish community of Salonika which at one time boasted the largest Sephardic community in the world. Ultimately some 50,000 Jews were deported to Auschwitz-Birkenau. The "Jerusalem of the Balkans" had met a tragic end. Seen above Yitzhak Nechama is being humiliated by the Nazis on Black Sabbath.

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TOP TEN NON-JEWS*(Continued from page 17)*

incorporating other elements of the speech.

2. Rupert Murdoch CEO of News Corporation.

It has been a rough year for Murdoch as his News International faced public inquiries and scandal. He remains however, the patriarch of an unparalleled international media conglomerate that has stood

out for its overall fair portrayal of Israel in related news items.

Murdoch, and his right hand Roger Ailes, were honored in May of this year at Manhattan's Museum of Jewish Heritage where he said, "To my mind, that is the grand promise of Zionism: that Israel exists so that Jews can protect themselves." He concluded, "I believe that it is no longer just Israel's survival at stake but our own."

1. Mitt Romney U.S. Presidential Candidate.

Love or hate his politics, Romney's vocal support for Israel as a contender for the world's top job, has challenged the incumbent and many Americans to rediscover their own understanding of the United States' special relationship with the Jewish state.

His tough stance on Iran has put the Ayatollahs on notice. In his recent trip to the Holy Land, he acknowledged Jerusalem as Israel's capital and cited the historic connection of the Jewish people with the land, which has gone a long way in underlining the Jewish narrative regarding Israel on the world stage, thereby earning him the top spot on this year's list.

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GAS MASK SHORTAGE

(Continued from page 8)

masks.

Israelis can get their gas masks at eight special stations set up inside post offices around Israel. Workers there told The Media Line that there has not been a significant increase in the past few weeks despite the almost daily reports in the Israeli media about Syria's chemical weapons stores.

"The politicians seem more worried than the public," Shlomo Brom said. "I don't have a gas mask and I'm not concerned."

In recent days, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has warned that Israel might act against Hizbullah, which is based in Lebanon, if they obtained chemical weapons.

"Can you imagine Hizbullah – the people who are conducting with Iran, all these terror attacks around the world – can you imagine what that would mean if they had chemical weapons?" Netanyahu said on America's Fox News. "It would be like Al-Qa'ida having chemical weapons.

It is something that is not acceptable to us."

Netanyahu would not say whether Israel would launch a pre-emptive strike on Hizbullah, although Israeli media has speculated that it could happen anytime if Israel feels threatened.

"Israel is permanently prepared for threats of these types," a defense official told The Media Line. "The defense establishment is continually training, practicing and investing so that we remain ready to provide the relevant response to all the scenarios. Naturally, we are not going to elaborate regarding the specifics of the scenarios or the preparedness."

Two Israeli companies presently produce the gas masks -- Shalon, which produces new masks; and Super-Gum, which refurbishes old ones. Even if they stepped up their production and operated at full capacity, it would take at least two years to make all of the gas masks that are needed.

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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 3)

Frankenburg; Simone Signoret - Simone-Henriette Kaminker; Beverly Sills - Belle Silverman; Sophie Tucker - Sophia Kalish; Gene Wilder - Gerald Silberman;

Not Exactly Shangri-La for Jews

A jury in Santa Monica, California has ruled that amie Adaya, the owner of the Shangri-La Hotel was guilty of

anti-Semitism when she told her employees to order a group of Friends of the IDF to "get the (expletive) Jews out of my pool".

The 18 individual plaintiffs and one corporate plaintiff were awarded \$1.2 million in compensation although the award is expected to go even higher because individual plaintiffs are entitled to punitive damages. Moreover, attorney James Turken is en-

(Please turn to following page)



A CHECKPOINT BETWEEN RAMALLAH ON THE West Bank and Israel. This was the scene on a normal day but recently Israel unexpectedly eased restrictions on Palestinians looking to visit Jerusalem during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, saying improved security meant it could let in thousands more from West Bank communities. Israeli officials said they had lowered the age limit for men wanting to visit the al-Aqsa mosque in the old city to 40 from 50 and had also handed out seven times more permits to Palestinians between the ages of 35 and 40. Religious authorities said up to half a million people visited the third holiest site in Islam as visitors and pilgrims flowed through the checkpoints on Jerusalem's Eastern flanks. "I'm rejoicing and so happy to be in Jerusalem after 10 years of not visiting," said 42-year-old Mohammed Rashid, from the West Bank town of Yatta, sipping a midnight cup of coffee in a brightly lit old city arcade. The Israeli Coordinator for Government Activities in the Territories' (COGAT) said that whereas last Ramadan it handed out just 16,700 entry permits, this year it distributed 123,514, and had also slashed the age limit.

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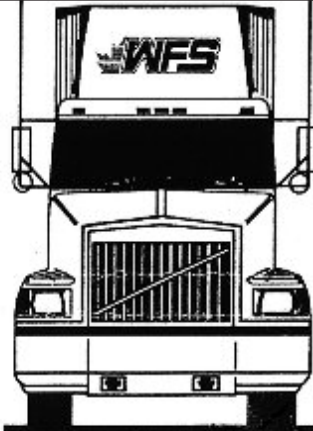
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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from preceding page)

titled to collect attorney's fees.

Turken, a corporate defense litigator with little experience in this kind of law, took the case anyway because he was "outraged" at the conduct of the hotel owner and "incredibly impressed" with the plaintiffs. "As a Jew" he reporters, "I took this case very personally, but the plaintiffs made it a pleasure - I was honored to represent them".

Ari Ryan, one of the organizers of the event, believed that the long and difficult legal process was worth it in the end. He could not bear to watch as Jews with wristbands were herded out of the pool. "Evil succeeds", said Ryan, if good men and women don't stand up and do what is right".

Raoul Walsenburg Stamp To Be Released

Canada Post will release a stamp in January of next year honouring Holocaust hero Raoul Wallenberg. The stamp will be released on January 17, the 68th anniversary of Wallenberg's arrest by Soviet troops.

"To recognize Mr. Wallenberg with a stamp," said Canada Post President the CEO Deepak Chopra, "is a fitting way to mark his courage and his contributions to our country". Added Israel Ambassador to Canada Miriam Ziv, the stamp "will help raise the profile of a person whose courage served as a beacon of light during such a dark period."

Hamas VIP Goes to Israeli Hospital

Hamas Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh uses every opportunity to

attack Israel. And denying its right to exist is part of his party's everyday speech.

But somehow he was able to overlook these beliefs when his sister, Shuhila abd el-Salam Ahmed, recently needed medical help for her husband who suffered a serious cardiac arrest. Suhila's husband could not be treated in any of the hospitals in Gaza. So the family filed a

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request with Israel authorities to have him treated in Israel.

Israel acted promptly. A Palestinian ambulance took the patient to the Erez border crossing where he was then transported by a Magen David Adom vehicle to a hospital in Petah Tikvah. He was stabilized for about a week and following treatment the couple returned to Gaza.

Meanwhile while all this was going on there was Ismail participating in a prayer session outside the

Egyptian Embassy in Gaza accusing Israel of orchestrating the recent attack on Egyptian soldiers in Gaza. Somehow the fact that Israeli doctors were healing his brother-in-law seemed never to cross his mind.



EYAL LICHTMANN IS a Jewish-Canadian business professional. He previously spent a decade transforming The Vancouver Hillel Foundation, one of British Columbia's most established youth-serving non-profit organizations. More recently, Eyal founded CampusAuction, an online auction that targets more than 25 million students on North American university and college campuses – as well as the broader Millennial Generation (18-to 30-year-old consumers) of more than 80 million consumers. CampusAuction encourages young consumers to vote with their wallets to support businesses that demonstrate social responsibility. The primary platform is an online auction offering products and services contributed by corporate partners, with 50% of net revenue supporting non-profit charity partners.

More Anti-Semitism At Soccer Match

It's become a common sight at soccer matches in Europe involving Israel. Recently Hungarian soccer fans shouted anti-Semitic slogans when Hatikva was played during a match between Israel and Hungary in Budapest.

Fans could be heard yelling "dirty Jew" and "Buchenwald". Others voiced their obvious approval for Italian dictator Benito Mussolini. Palestinian and Iranian flags could be seen spotted throughout the stadium.

"Such anti-Semitic hooliganism", says Efraim

Zuroff, the Israel director of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, is a reflection of the growing anti-Semitism in Hungary which is constantly being encouraged by the ultra-nationalist Jobbik party."

"Hitler" Clothing Outlet Raises Storm

Rajeh Shad owns a new clothing outlet in Ahmedabad, India. His store's name is "Hitler". Shah claims it was "only recently that we read about Hitler on the internet" and that Hitler was simply the nickname given to the grandfather of his business partner because of his strict nature.

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