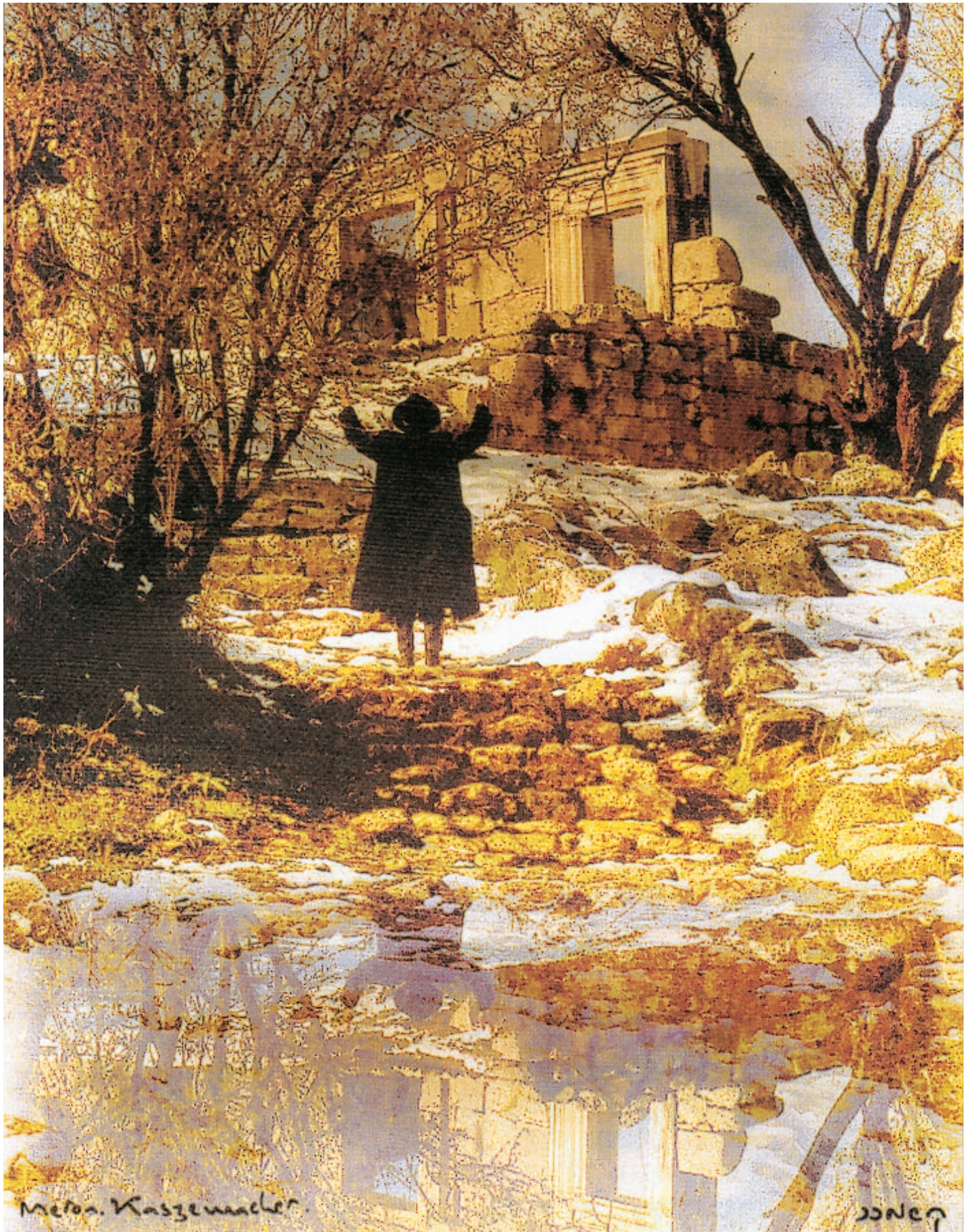


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Black Lives Matter Has Lost Its Way

Hannah Jacobs is a sophomore at Boston University. "Growing up", she writes, "Judaism, Zionism and social justice complemented each other to create someone who loves Israel, is a strong Jew and cares deeply about the world around her". Her great grandfather, having lived through the obscenity of racism, boarded a bus to join the followers of Martin Luther King Jr. marching on the streets of Washington. Hannah, anxious to feel as her Black friends feel, and sickened by the repeated shooting of unarmed Black men, attended a demonstration in support of Black Lives Matter. But the vulgar, repugnant anti-Semitic activists who stood by her side at the event, and the subsequent release of the BLM Israel bashing platform, has left her, and other Jewish liberals and progressives facing a painful dilemma. How can they continue to be full partners with those whose platforms are a travesty of political judgement and a disservice to the Blacks they purport to represent?

Black Lives Matter was created in 2012 following the shooting of Trayvon Martin and the acquittal of George Zimmerman. The Movement is "a call to action and a response to the virulent anti-Black racism that permeates our society...It affirms the lives of Black queer and trans folks, disabled folks, Black-undocumented folks, folks with records, women and all Black lives along the gender spectrum...It is a tactic to (re)build the Black liberation movement."

Somehow, however, Black Lives Matter has concluded, as have groups such as MoveOn, Code Pink and Occupy Wall Street, that full and equal opportunity for all Americans can only be achieved if Israel stops its perpetuation of "genocide" and "apartheid" and presum-

ably is forced to hand over all of the West Bank. How events thousands of kilometers away can contribute to the helplessness felt by American Blacks defies all logic. But if BLM insists on singing "we shall overcome" with activists around the world, why not join those protesting the enslavement of the million Blacks in Mauritania, Somalia, Eritrea and Sudan? Why not link arms with the dissidents being tortured in North Korea or the LGBT's being executed in Iran? Shouldn't BLM be building bridges with the muzzled women throughout the Islamic world? And is Syria such an oasis of tranquility that it merits not even a mention in BLM's literature?

We acknowledge that the Jewish-Black "alliance" has been more nuanced than some would acknowledge. Rabbi Joshua Heschel may have marched with Martin Luther King, and half the freedom riders were Jewish. But so, too, was the racist Solomon Blatt, speaker of the South Carolina House. Jews may have been more willing to rent to Blacks in Northern US cities. They were also more likely to be slum landlords. And Louis Farrakhan did, as he repeatedly told progressive Jews, hate "all white people"

We don't know whether the BLM's "genocide" accusation reflects the views of a few misguided zealots or is representative of the movement's general membership. What we do know for certain is that the legitimate aspirations of American Blacks won't be achieved by ending US funding and military aid to Israel. Nor will their grievances be addressed through marches in solidarity with Linda Sarsour or by linking its website to the rubbish being spewed out by the BDS movement.

THE WORLD IN REVIEW

NEWS OF THE RECENT PAST IS REVIEWED

By NOAH FREEDMAN

Barcelona's Jews Reject Rabbi's Pessimism

Barcelona Chief Rabbi Meir Bar-Hen has come under fire from local Jewish community leaders for suggesting that the Jewish community in Barcelona is "doomed" because Spanish authorities refuse to counter radical Islam. "I tell my congregants", Bar-Hen said, "Don't

think we're here for good. And I encourage them to buy property in Israel. This place is lost...Better get out early than late".

Community spokesperson Victor Sorensen was quick to reject the Rabbi's gloomy assessment. "Barcelona is a city where Jews have been living for one hundred years and of which they are proud," said Sorensen. "We Jews will

not leave our city".

Rabbi Bar-Hen stressed that he was speaking only for himself and he did later backtrack from his original comments. "Our community", he said, responding to the criticism, "is organized and expanding." But he stressed that he will continue to tell his congregants to move to Israel although not because Spain is, as he said in his initial comments, the "hub of Islamist terror for all of Europe," but rather because of the threat of assimilation.

Rachel Said, a member of the Muslim-Jewish

Salam Shalom Barcelona initiative, was particularly disturbed by the Rabbi's comments. "I am a Jewish woman living in Barcelona and saw an Orthodox couple walking down Les Ramblas today, in solidarity with thousands of others. I even said 'Shalom haverim and the woman replied 'Shabbat Shalom'"

Steve Bannon Takes Aim at Kushner

A recent article in *Vanity Fair* reveals the extent of the conflict between
(Please turn to page 13)



SODASTREAM INTERNATIONAL, THE NO. 1 sparkling water brand in the world, has launched its new environmental global campaign, "The Homoschlepiens." The video features Maytime Bilski, AKA Dr. Amy Farrah Fowler from the hit TV series *The Big Bang Theory*, and Kristian Narine, AKA Honor of the legendary *Game of Thrones*. Set in the future, "The Homoschlepiens" features Maytime Bilski as an anthropologist, recalling her first encounter with a Housecleaning played by Narine. The story moves backwards and forwards in time to reflect the harmful reality of plastic bottle consumption, a habit that is hazardous to the planet and does not exist in the future. As a real-world neuroscientist and environmentalist, Maytime Bilski understands the importance of staying hydrated in

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**MUSIC OF HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR
SYZMON LAKS DESERVES TO BE HEARD**

A promising career derailed, a life turned upside down, a legacy overshadowed by war's horrors. Composer Szymon Laks was a Polish Jew living in Paris when he was rounded up by the Nazis and eventually deported to Auschwitz. As the conductor of the camp symphony Laks enjoyed small privileges that likely spared his life. His survival makes for a compelling tale, but ironically it left his reputation diminished and his music largely overlooked.

Three decades after Laks' death, the ARC Ensemble of Canada's Royal Conservatory rights this wrong with a CD devoted to the elegant works of this important 20th century composer. In July, Chandos released the ARC Ensemble's "Chamber Works by Szymon Laks." The three-time Grammy-nominated group - one of Canada's most distinguished cultural ambassadors - comprises the senior faculty of the Royal Conservatory's prestigious Glenn Gould

School and special guests drawn from its most accomplished students and alumni.

"As extraordinary as Laks' story may be, it is the quality and substance of his music that merits our attention," says Simon Wynnburg, ARC Ensemble Artistic Director. "His work reflects the sensibility of his time, very much in the neo-classical tradition of the early twentieth century. It has the refinement, vibrancy and balance characteristic of the French school. He had both great ideas and great craftsmanship, but unfortunately this style was considered pastes following World War II."

Wynnburg explains that the trauma of his

(Please turn to page 8)

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THE COLORADO FARMER WHO OFFERED TO HELP EUROPEAN JEWRY

By RAFAEL MEDOFF

In April 1944, a bean farmer in Colorado sent a check for \$100 to the Washington, D.C. headquarters of the War Refugee Board. He explained that the donation was intended to help the Board stop the Germans "from exterminating the Jews" and to "feed, clothe, and share with them an earthly home." In fact, the farmer wrote, he was ready to share his own home—he offered to personally take in five Jewish refugee families.

One hundred dollars was not a small sum in those days. Adjusted for inflation, it's the equivalent of \$1,359 today. What would motivate a Baptist farmer in the Rocky Mountains to take such a strong interest in the plight of Jews in Nazi Europe? The answer to that question reveals a great deal about the complexities surrounding America's response to the Holocaust.

Throughout the 1930s, the height of the Great Depression, polls consistently found an overwhelming majority of Americans opposed to any increase in immigration. There was a widespread fear of foreigners taking away jobs from Americans.

During the early years of World War II, opposition to immigration remained high; many Americans feared that Nazi spies might infiltrate the United States, disguised as refugees. When Jewish leaders appealed to the

White House to try to save at least some Jews from annihilation, Roosevelt administration officials insisted their hands were tied because of the widespread anti-immigration sentiment. The president preferred to follow public opinion rather than lead it.

But not everyone agreed with the White House's approach. After all, by the autumn of 1943, many things had changed. The war had put an end to unemployment. Italy had been defeated, and the Germans and Japanese were in retreat. The Jewish activists known as the Bergson Group began arguing that the American public would now be more receptive to appeals to rescue Jewish refugees.

In its public rallies, lobbying missions to Capitol Hill, and more than two hundred full-page newspaper ads, the Bergsonites contended that there was a substantial reservoir of untapped public sympathy for helping Jewish refugees. The activists began pushing for a Congressional resolution urging President Roosevelt to establish a rescue agency.

FDR opposed the resolution, and even sent Assistant Secretary of State Breckinridge Long to testify against it before a congressional committee. But the growing controversy on Capitol Hill, combined with behind-the-scenes pressure from the Treasury Department, finally forced Roosevelt

to establish the War Refugee Board.

Although the Board

received almost no federal funding and very little

(Please turn to page 10)

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TRAVEL TALES

HELPFUL HINTS FOR THE JEWISH TRAVELLER

By **MIKE COHEN**

SAN FRANCISCO- According to recent figures, the Bay Area is home to the fourth largest Jewish community in North America. San Francisco, The East Bay and San Jose are listed separately, but their combined Jewish population is 391,500, according to the list recently put out by the Jewish Federations of North America. The breakdown looks as follows: San Francisco (227,800), the East Bay (100,750) and San Jose (63,000). The community is very proud of The Contemporary Jewish Museum (<https://www.the cjm.org>), which since 1984 has distinguished itself as a welcoming place where visi-

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We stayed in one of the hotel's newly renovated Tower Two Luxury suites, which has a main bedroom
(Please turn to page 12)

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REPUTATION REVIVED

(Continued from page 4)

imprisonment rarely finds expression in Laks' compositions. In Auschwitz, music was merely the instrument of the oppressors, used to serve their objectives. Laks rejected the idea that music had any healing or redemptive powers. Back in Paris post-war, he returned to composing, yet did little to promote his work. Depressed and reclusive, he stopped writing music in 1967

and died in 1983. His pessimistic views, isolation and out-of-fashion musical style condemned him to relative obscurity...until now.

The CD continues the ARC Ensemble's widely acclaimed Music in Exile series, an exploration and recovery of a vast body of music lost or marginalized due to political suppression. It has built an international reputation through its



A LOUIS RASMINSKY MEMORIAL LECTURE organized by the Canadian Jewish Experience took place recently in Ottawa with over 80 participants. Charles Freedman, the Former Deputy Governor of the Bank of Canada, was the main speaker. He spoke of Rasminsky as a Jewish icon, as the Governor of the Bank of Canada, and as the chair of the Drafting Committee at the Breton Woods conference, which laid the groundwork for the post World War II international financial arrangement. From left to right: Tova Lynch, Chair of the Canadian Jewish Experience now on display in Ottawa, Gordon Thiessen, Charles Freedman, Dr. Michael Rasminsky and Rabbi Reuven Bulka. The CJE panel Remembering Louis Rasminsky is currently on display at the Bank of Canada Atrium and at the Solway JCC in Ottawa.

dedication to uncovering and performing works by composers, who like Laks, either survived concentration camps or escaped Nazism by fleeing to other countries.

Thanks to the ARC Ensemble's series, a growing number of 20th century masterworks are rejoining the classical repertoire, compositions unplayed and unperformed for 50, 60 even 70 years. The ensemble's efforts are also detailed in the documentary "EXIT: MUSIC," written and narrated by Wynberg. Released in November 2016, it tells of the ARC Ensemble's contributions to the revival of five émigré composers whose identities and career were shaped by the Third Reich's hijacking of the German music industry.

"The music of people who died in the Holocaust has been covered many times," Wynberg says. "Beyond the lives lost, the more complicated story has to do with how bigotry and war utterly changed the course of musical history by marginalizing the work of so many survivors."

"EXIT: MUSIC," which has been seen in festivals in the US, Canada

and Europe, will air on Canadian TV in the fall. The movie documents the systematic eradication of Jews from the Third Reich's musical life. As the film begins, an archival photo of Hitler 12 days after his election attending a Wagner concert in Leipzig serves as a chilling reminder of what's to come. By 1935, Jews had been fired from most state opera houses, orchestras and conservatories, and works by Jewish composers banned.

"The symbolic value of music meant that the value of removing Jews from those public roles was very high, but the cost was very low," says Doris Bergen, Professor of Holocaust Studies at the University of Toronto, in the documentary. "Music was quite easy to pry out: a musician here, a conductor there, to change a program and to make a kind of public splash; look, we're combating the enemy of German culture, without inconveniencing, dislocating, disrupting the functioning of the economy and the society as a whole."

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REPUTATION REVIVED

(Continued from preceding page)

What has been lost? "There are, at conservative estimates, I would say close to 100 operas which are worth knowing," says James Conlon, Music Director of the Los Angeles Opera and the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra & May Festival Chorus. "It must be in the thousands if you start to count chamber music, piano music, solo instrumental. And then in symphonic repertory, there's a lot as well."

The ARC Ensemble (Artists of the Royal Conservatory) has played at major festivals and concert series, including the Budapest Spring

Festival, New York's Lincoln Center Festival, Canada's Stratford Festival, at Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, London's Wigmore and Cadogan Halls and Washington's Kennedy Center. In addition, they have performed in Tel Aviv, Warsaw, Rome and Toronto. An upcoming tour to Israel is scheduled for the coming months.

Readers can see a remarkable video of the ensemble performing during the recording session at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_1uK5_auyTw and can purchase the disc at <https://www.chandos.net/products/catalogue/CHAN%2010983>

UNLIKELY FRIEND

(Continued from page 5)

cooperation from the State and War departments, it energetically promoted rescue initiatives, including the idea of granting haven in the U.S. for refugees until the end of the war.

It was against this background that the White House, in April 1944, commissioned Gallop to carry out a poll

concerning the idea of temporary havens. The results were astounding. Asked if the U.S. should provide "temporary protection and refugee to people in Europe who have been persecuted by the Nazis...for the duration of the war," fully 70% of Americans said yes; only 23% said no.

Colorado bean farmer

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Harry Rogers, was part of the 70%, the large but silent majority of Americans who wanted to help the Jews. After a local newspaper mentioned that Rogers had offered to take in five Jewish families, the managing editor of the *Intermountain Jewish News*, Robert S. Gamzey, decided to find out more. Gamzey's article, "Farmer Rogers, His Brother's Keeper," was distributed by the Independent Jewish Press Service.

When Gamzey arrived at the 981-acre Rogers property, he found the farmer "rushing plans to build a new house for 'my refugees', and his neighbors are preparing to follow suit." One of the neighbors has agreed "to take in two refugee children," and another "said that he will take in two families." Rogers' sister and brother-in-law had made similar offers. Rogers himself, having just sent \$100 to the War Refugee Board, was now busy "raising \$100 for the Emergency Committee to Save the

Jewish People of Europe (the Bergson Group), whose publicity efforts have strongly impressed him."

"What prompted this obscure farmer to do what he is doing?," Gamzey wondered aloud. "It is all very simple," Rogers explained. "I was raised by Christian parents and all my life I have tried to live close to my Maker...When we hear this cry of the dying, it becomes a part of our duties, both Christian and American, to share with them our providential blessings."

Rogers told Gamzey that he is urging his fellow-Christians to remember that "God, looking from the windows of Heaven, is making a record of individual conduct," including how people respond to "our unfortunate brothers' welfare, regardless of race, color, class or blood."

The farmer, who "specializes in growing superb beans and has 140 head of cattle, 30 hogs, and a large number of chickens," is situated "in one of the most inaccessible sections of the Colorado Rockies," but he "keeps up with world events by reading widely and traveling."

The *Intermountain Jewish News* editor concluded his interview with these words: "Oh, Lord, pray give us more Harry Rogers, and we will make a better world!"

Sadly, the Roosevelt administration rejected the War Refugee Board's pleas to grant temporary haven to a substantial number of Jewish refugees, despite the fact that most Americans would have supported such a move. President Roosevelt agreed to admit just one group of 982 refugees, who were then

in an abandoned army camp in upstate New York. Regrettably Farmer Rogers and his valiant

neighbors were never given the opportunity to act on their remarkable and generous offer.

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TRAVEL TALES

(Continued from page 7)

with two Queen sized beds and a small sofa. This connects to a much larger room - called a parlor - which features a Murphy bed, two sofas, a round dining room table that can seat six and windows on all sides. Combined you have two bathrooms, two fridges, two in-room safes and more cupboard space. There is also a tablet in each room, which provides you with all of the necessary hotel and city information. For a nominal charge you can surf the net with it as well.

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EMBASSY SUITES AIRPORT: Here is a tip when arriving in San Francisco in the middle of the evening. Why head to your main hotel right away? We checked into the modern Embassy Suites by Hilton San Francisco Airport hotel. Here you can enjoy spacious accommodations in this all-suite hotel, where a separate living area and bedroom are standard features. The flexible rooms have tiered Wi-Fi available and convenient, delicious dining options at your fingertips. Their daily cooked-to-order breakfast and evening receptions with drinks are included in all reservations. They offer a complimentary shuttle bus service to and from the airport, a free daily trolley to and from the city of Burlingame (11:30am to 9pm) and a complimentary motor coach to downtown San Francisco on Fridays and Saturdays. The hotel is located 10 miles south of downtown San Francisco. You can take a refreshing swim in their indoor on-site swimming pool, or check out the fitness center. The tropical atrium, perfect for relaxing after work or a day out, features a beautiful koi fish pond and water fountain. The on-site restaurant is called To Fifty and there is also a Starbucks on site. I really felt at home

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and enjoyed the ambience of the gigantic lobby, where I connected to free Wi-Fi and got a lot of work done squeezed between some Netflix binge watching. The hotel is located at 250 Gateway Boulevard. For more information readers are invited to call 650-

589-3400 or log on to www.sanfranciscoairport-southsanfran.embassy-suites.com.

Mike Cohen's email address is info@mikecohen.ca. Follow his travels at www.sandboxworld.com/travel or on Twitter @mikecohencsl

WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 3)

Steve Bannon and Jared Kushner, wife Ivanka and Gary Cohn. Two issues helped fuel the simmering animosity between the two camps.

According to the article Bannon urged Donald Trump to carry through on his campaign promise to move the US embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and to adopt a much tougher line with Mahmoud Abbas. When Abbas met with Trump at the White House Bannon was nowhere to be seen. "I'm not going to breathe the same air as that terrorist", he is reported to have said. Kushner has taken a much different position on both issues. He does not support the embassy move at this point and also sees Abbas

as someone with whom the United States, and Israel, can work.

The response to events in Charlottesville drove the wedge even deeper between the two camps. Bannon supported Trump's response to the violence, agreeing with the president that the anti-racism protesters were just as much to blame as the neo-Nazis and white supremacists. Jared and Ivanka, on the other hand, both urged Trump to speak out more forcefully against the KKK and the neo-Nazis.

"Steve Bannon reads his revenge" screamed the headline in *Vanity Fair*. "He wants to beat their ideas into submission", said Breitbart News Editor-in-
(Please turn to page 15)

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WORLD IN REVIEW*(Continued from page 13)*

Chief Alex Marlow.

"Jared and Ivanka helped push him out", ran a story in the *Daily Mail*. "They were concerned about how they were being viewed by the Jewish community".

For his part Bannon has downplayed the dispute and insists he will now concentrate on waging war on Trump's opponents.

Beer Pong, Jews vs Nazis Style

"Character education is at the heart of all we do at Lovett," says a spokesperson for The Lovett School in Atlanta Georgia.

If that's the case, the private high school still has a bit of work to do to meet its goal.

School authorities were forced to expel one student, suspend four others and ban two more from extra curricular activities for two weeks after a photo on social media showed them playing a game of Jews vs Nazis beer pong. The photo depicts large red beer cups laid out on a table in the shape of a swastika and a Star of David.

Local Atlanta Rabbi Peter Berg informed the headmaster about the party after receiving the photo in an e-mail. "The fact that

(Please turn to page 17)

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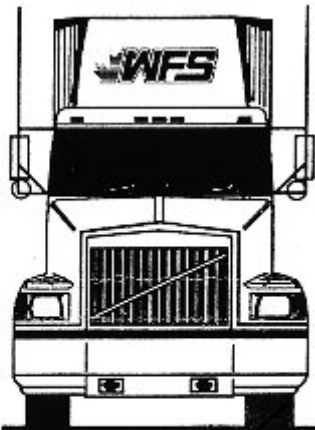
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PETPACE, THE PROVIDER OF AN INNOVATIVE Smart Collar for remote continuous monitoring and analysis of pet vital signs and activity, has announced the availability of their products throughout Israel following the completion of the certification and safety requirements set by the Ministry of Communications. PetPace smart collars are already successfully monitoring vital signs and saving the lives of dogs and cats across the EU, U.S., Canada, U.K., Australia and New Zealand. The PetPace Health Monitoring Solution gives pet owners and veterinarians the ability to remotely monitor and analyze a pet's vital signs and activity directly from an internet-connected device. The smart collar system works for both dogs and cats, and uses an array of non-invasive sensors to continuously measure a pet's temperature, pulse, respiration, activity levels, calories, positions and heart rate variability. The device is also equipped with an alert engine, to immediately notify a pet owner via smartphone when an irregularity is detected within a pet's vital signs. Health data recorded by the collar can also be shared with a pet's primary care veterinarian, allowing them to better understand a pet's overall health or receive notifications in an emergency. For more information about PetPace or PetPace products, visit www.petpace.com. PetPace creates innovative technology that delivers peace of mind to pet owners. It leverages data gathered non-intrusively from onboard passive sensors and advanced cloud-based analytics to keep all pets healthier and happier.

WORLD IN REVIEW*(Continued from page 15)*

someone could even conceive of such a game and then think it's funny is beyond words", the Rabbi told WSB-TV.

Despite his concerns Rabbi Berg did acknowledge that the school, whose website says its philosophy is based on the Judeo-Christian tradition, did a "phenomenal job" of responding to the matter.

Remove the Statute Says Shurat HaDin

These are sensitive times in the United States, especially since the events

at Charlottesville, Virginia and the tepid response of President Donald Trump. to the actions of the KKK and the White Supremacists. Increasingly there are calls to remove the statues of Civil War southerners like Robert E. Lee, Jefferson Davis and Andrew Jackson which memorialize the leaders of the Confederacy.

Now Shurat HaDin, the Israel Law Centre, is calling on New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio to remove all memorials to Peter Stuyvesant, the last Dutch director-general of New Amsterdam, and a blatant anti-Semite. "Peter Stuyvesant," reads a statement released by Shurat HaDin president Nitsana Darshan-Leitner, "was an extreme racist who targeted Jews and other minorities including Catholics and energetically tried to prohibit them from settling in New York." When he could not bar Jews, he slapped them with special taxes, and refused permission to build a synagogue. On Shurat HaDin's chopping block are the elite Stuyvesant High School, the Bedford Stuyvesant, neighbourhood and the Stuyvesant statute in Manhattan's Stuyvesant Square.

Not all Jews, however, are joining the movement to have the memory of Stuyvesant erased from view. Nearby Congregation Shearith Israel, the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue and the first Jewish congregation to be established in North America, has not joined the protest. And at least one Jewish writer believes that "our country is on the verge of going insane over this newly defined extreme version of political correctness."

(Please turn to following page)

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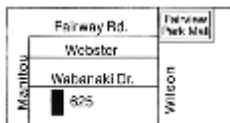
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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from preceding page)

No Pork Options Back on Table

In 2014 French National Front Party leader Marine Le Pen told an interviewer that no pork options for Jewish and Muslim students would not be offered in school menus in the nearly dozen towns where the National Front won local elections.

Now, however, a French court has ruled that schools must provide alternatives to lunches containing pork for Muslim and Jewish students. The judge did not base his decision on religious considerations. He maintained that due to the lack of any alternative, local Muslim and Jewish children were going without lunch which is "not in keeping with the spirit of the international convention on

the rights of children" and "not in the interests of the children". Added Nicolas Gardères, lawyer for the Muslim Legal Defense League which mounted the challenge: "Secular principles come second to children's rights,"

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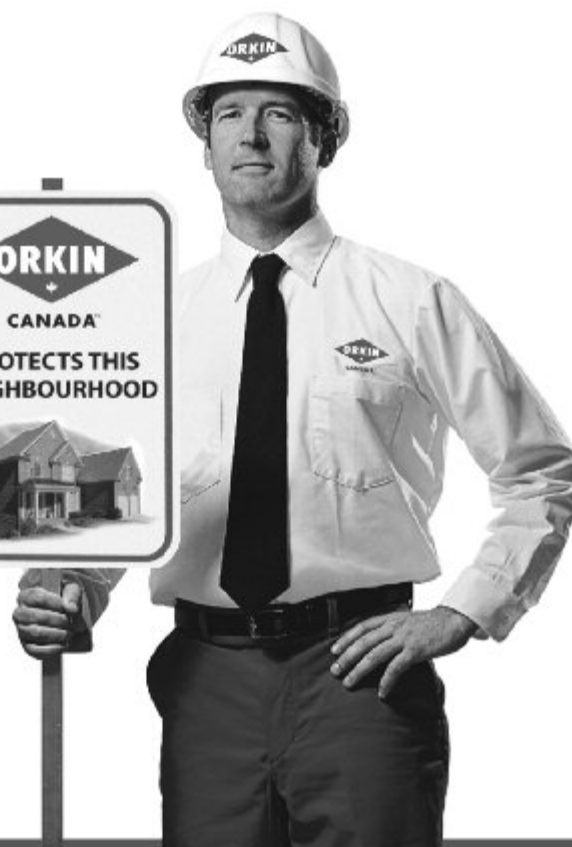
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