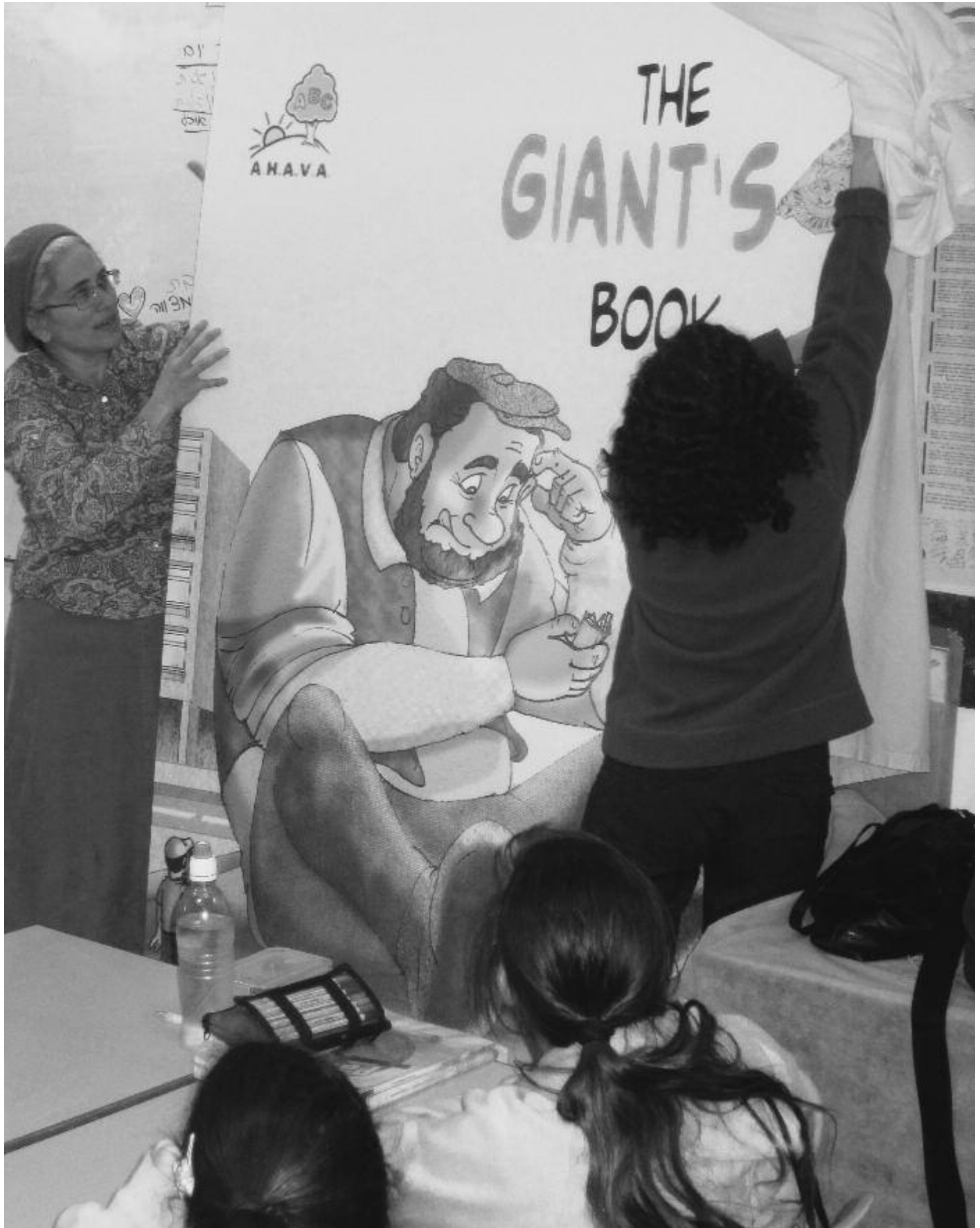


THE JEWISH STANDARD

MARCH 2012



(Cover story on page 2)

Free Speech Can Wait

MICHAEL HAYMAN
PUBLISHER AND EDITOR

JULIUS HAYMAN
PUBLISHER AND EDITOR
1937-2000

Cover Story

English literacy Institute A.H.A.V.A has launched its seventh annual read-a-thon by inviting local school children to help create what is expected to be the biggest book ever made in Israel.

The book, titled "The Giant's Book" about a giant who can't find a book big enough to read, measures almost two meters tall, over one meter wide and is being made by school children from over 13 schools in the Maale Adumim who will be given words to write and design.

Children's author and illustrator Netanel Epstein has created the front cover for the book which was unveiled at the Nofei HaSelah School in Maaleh Adumim on January 10th.

A.H.A.V.A is the only non-profit organization in Israel dedicated solely to promoting English literacy for children. It is working hard to raise awareness of the importance of learning English in Israeli schools from a young age. In 2009, of the total number of Israelis in the 12th grade age group just 39% matriculated at a level that would enable them to be accepted to university -
The Editor

ANITA SURMAN
Editor
General News Section

We have long deplored the use of Holocaust imagery. A labour leader objecting to the negotiating tactics of his employer labels him a Nazi. A group of protesters rallying against government cutbacks accuses the government of resorting to tactics which would have made Hitler proud. Police are likened to "storm troopers" when they try to disperse unruly mobs.

It is difficult to imagine that North Americans and Europeans who use Nazi symbols and imagery do not fully comprehend that the Holocaust was unique in the number of its victims, in the bestiality of the criminals who were responsible for it, in the limitless suffering that was inflicted upon those whom "the Final Solution" was intended to destroy.

But if we give these supposedly ignorant non-Jews the benefit of the doubt we are certainly not prepared to do the same for Jews who make light of the sadistic cruelty that engulfed the German nation, who show no respect for the memory of their hapless fellow Jews who were stampeded to their deaths.

And so we are appalled by recent events in Israel where haredi extremists acted as if they had never seen photos of the emaciated concentration camp inmates. At a demonstration recently in Beit Shemesh ultra-Orthodox Jews paraded their children around in mock black and white Holocaust clothing. Children and adults wore clothing adorned with the Star of David bearing the word "Jude". One of the most poignant memories of the Holocaust is that of a petrified young boy from the Warsaw Ghetto standing with his arms raised in surrender. The parents of one young child in Beit Shemesh reenacted the scene to make their point.

Haredi leaders made it abundantly clear that they had "no regret at all" for the disgraceful display. "During the Shoah", said one official of the ultra-Orthodox Eda Haredi communal organization, "they tried to eliminate us physically and now the Zionists and the media are trying to eliminate us physically". "What's happening now" added one man wearing a yellow star, "is exactly like what happened in Germany".

Israelis of virtually every political stripe condemned the actions in Beit Shemesh. Minister-without-Portfolio Yossi Peled, a Holocaust survivor, called the demonstrators "crazy and immoral". Dr. Efraim Zuroff, director of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Israel, saw the publicity stunt as "an obvious abuse of the memory of the Holocaust, insulting to

all Jews and Holocaust survivors".

And so in response to the actions of some 1500 extremists, a bill is now working its way through the Knesset which will outlaw the use of Nazi imagery. The measure, proposed by Uri Ariel, a right wing MK from the National Union bloc, would prohibit all forms of the word "Nazi" or similar sounding words; any epithets associated with Nazism, the Third Reich or any of its leaders; the wearing of striped clothing resembling that worn by prisoners in concentration camps and yellow stars like the ones Jews were forced to wear during the Holocaust.

Civil rights groups in Israel have, predictably, defended the right to use Nazi imagery and expressed concern that the law will impose restrictions on Israelis freedom of speech. For Haggai Elad, executive director of The Association for Civil Rights in Israel, "the true test for freedom of speech is exactly when people are using language or symbols that are offensive to some or even all members of society".

We would hope that Elad's views have no impact on Israeli legislators. No one has a problem with the haredi confronting their secular opponents. Orthodox Jews have every right to protest the actions of those who in their opinion are forcing them to live by unacceptable "ethical standards". We will even grant the haredi the right to engage in a certain amount of civil disobedience. But creating a photomontage of a police chief in a Nazi SS uniform must be banned in a country in which so many still relive the nightmare of the Holocaust.

The extent of the Holocaust began to filter into the Jewish and non-Jewish world in the immediate post war period. As the concentration camps were exposed and the news cameras depicted their human devastation, the rage against the infamous perpetrators rose. "Atrocity pictures" have become standard material for any World War II documentary. It is true that a disquieting apathy may have set in, even among Jews, perhaps even among some Israelis. But nothing justifies the trivialization of Nazi infamy. Israeli soldiers and police aren't the SS and secular Israelis aren't committing genocide. And to be fair to the haredi residents of Beit Shemesh, religious Jews and settlers are not, as the left sometimes calls them, "Judeo-Nazis". The new Israeli law, if it passes, should act as a deterrent to those so insensitive to the Holocaust that they must be silenced. And if freedom of speech suffers as a consequence, so be it.

THE WORLD IN REVIEW

NEWS OF THE RECENT PAST IS REVIEWED

By NOAH FREEDMAN

Jewish Publisher Forced to Resign

Andrew Adler, owner and publisher of the *Atlanta Jewish Times* since 2009, has resigned after calling on Israel to assassinate U.S. President Barack Obama to counter Iran's nuclear weapons program. In his article Adler told readers that there were three options which Israel should consider to counter Iran's offensive. It could launch a preemptive strike against Hamas and Hezbollah; it could attack Iran's nuclear facilities; or it could "give the go-ahead for U.S.-based Mossad agents to take out a president deemed unfriendly to Israel in order for the current vice-president to take his place and forcefully dictate that the United States' policy includes its helping the Jewish state obliterate its

enemies". Adler assured his audience that they were reading him correctly. "Yes, you read 'three correctly'. Order a hit on a president in order to preserve Israel's existence....Don't you think that this almost unfathomable idea has been discussed in Israel's most inner circles?"

Adler later apologized for his comments but no one was prepared to offer him any sympathy, even Obama's harshest critics. Most people agreed with AJC Executive Director David Harris, who wrote that "Adler, for his sake and ours, ought to find a new line of work?" And the secret service has launched an investigation into whether the article poses a threat to the life of a president.

The *Atlanta Jewish Times* has a circulation of about 3000 and a staff of ten.

"Fifty Hottest Jewish Women"

The US-based online magazine *Complex* recently released its list of the "50 hottest Jewish women". The list includes actresses, entertainers, athletes, models and even porn stars. To be eligible the contenders had to be born Jewish or have converted to Judaism.

At the head of the list is Esti Ginsburg, an Israeli super model who has appeared in *Sports Illustrated* for three years running. Natalie Portman, the less than religious Winona Ryder, convert Elizabeth Banks, and the secular Sarah Silverman also appear on the list. So, too, does the "pretty Jewish" Mila Kunis.

Others on the list are Gwyneth Paltrow, daughter of non Jewish actress Blythe Danner and Russian-born Jewish father Bruce Paltrow, Kate Hudson, daughter of Goldie

Hawn, and Sarah Michelle Gellar.

Complex writes that "as a flame dancing atop a candle gives off heat, so do many of the Jewish women who've made their mark on pop culture over the years. No matter your faith or creed, after reading this list you'll agree that the sexy ladies of the Tribe of Judah play second fiddler on the roof to none."

Polish Priest Dismissed

Father Maksymin Tandek founded a college of Jewish studies in 2009 in the Polish town of Torun. The purpose of the college was to teach Hebrew and Judaic studies and his efforts were proving very popular among his parishioners and many in the community.

But suddenly, without any warning or reason, the Franciscan Order dis-

(Please turn to page 13)



FINANCE MINISTER JIM FLAHERTY MET WITH PRIME MINISTER BENJAMIN NETANYAHU IN Jerusalem as part of a series of high-level meetings between officials from both countries. Flaherty and Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird also met with Shimon Peres at his official residence in Jerusalem. They discussed the strong ties between Canada and Israel, the global economy and ongoing co-operation between the two countries on research and development.

TAKING CONTROL

ISRAEL CLAMPS DOWN ON EAST JERUSALEM TEXT BOOKS

By **ARIEH O'SULLIVAN, MEDIA LINE**

Is it an expression of Palestinian nationalism or is it delegitimizing the State of Israel?

That's the question at the heart of a controversy over Israel's decision to expurgate Palestinian symbols and a nationalist take on history from the textbooks used by students in largely Arab east Jerusalem.

Jalal Abukhater, a high school senior who studies in Palestinian-ruled

Ramallah, brought the controversy to the public eye recently in the +972 website, a forum for left-of center Israelis, in an essay "Israel imposes censored Palestinian textbooks in East Jerusalem."

"It's really weird. The children are the core of every society and they are trying to deface their identity to alter their history and background. That is really dangerous," Abukhater told The Media Line. "What I

learned I will never forget. It is basic education and if you do this and alter their identity through textbooks they will grow up having a blind side and might be ignorant on many issues."

But the Knesset Education Committee, which ordered the textbooks used by public schools in east Jerusalem to be modified, says the books engage in incitement and intolerance.

An examination of the textbooks detected "delegitimization of the State of Israel" as well as "inculcating values of hatred, violent confrontation, jihad and martyrdom, absence of conciliation, absence of peace, ignoring the map of Israel and the existence of Israel."

The textbook controversy is the latest tussle in the battle over the character of east Jerusalem, which Israel seized in the 1967 Six-Day War and annexed shortly afterwards. Unlike their peers in the West Bank, east Jerusalem's largely Palestinian population have Israeli residency and enjoy government benefits and unhindered movement. But in recent years, they have felt besieged by Israeli Jews moving into their neighborhoods.

Acting on directives from the Knesset committee, the Jerusalem Education Administration (JEA), the municipal educational authority, began ensuring last year that public schools in east Jerusalem used approved-only textbooks. But the controversy heated up this year when the directives were imposed on private schools, which make up about half

of the schools east Jerusalem Palestinians attend.

Abukhater compared many of the censored changes in textbooks used from first to 10th grades now being used in east Jerusalem schools and found changes such as the removal of the Palestinian flag from first grade coloring books and the deletion of all songs or poems about Palestinian uprisings or longing for homelands.

At a meeting of the Knesset committee last year, Dani Bar-Giora, the chairman of the JEA, said Israel has for some time been vetting Palestinian textbooks before they are printed and distributed to east Jerusalem schools. The textbooks are written and edited under the auspices of the Palestinian Authority but must be approved by Israel before they reach students.

"Textbooks go through a process of censorship. The books come to us. There is a whole process of inspection and supervision over them. Whatever needs to be changed is changed. It is reprinted and then sent back into the system," Bar Giora told the committee, according to published minutes.

These modifications include the removal of maps, slogans and historical references, including all mention of Israeli control of the West Bank and Gaza Strip as well as references to the "Nakba," or catastrophe, the term Palestinians use to describe the creation of the State of Israel in 1948.

Abukhater said he
(Please turn to page 8)

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PERRY WAS RIGHT

RIDICULED CANDIDATE AT LEAST RECOGNIZED
TURKEY'S ROLE IN ISLAMIC TERROR

By NITASANA DARSHAN-LEITNER

Nitsana Darshan-Leitner is an Israeli attorney and the executive director of Shurat HaDin, the Israel Law Center - The Editor

In the wake of Gov. Rick Perry's withdrawal from the Republican presidential race, pundits will argue over the reasons for his rise and fall. But one thing is for certain: Gov. Perry was the only candidate who told the truth about Turkey's support for anti-Israel Islamic terrorists.

Perry was roundly criticized after he remarked

in the January 17 candidates' debate, that Turkey "is being ruled by what many would perceive to be Islamic terrorists." The State Department called Turkey "a stalwart ally" of the United States that "plays a very positive and constructive role in the region." The New York Times, in what was supposed to be an objective

(Please turn to page 9)



ONE MAY EXPECT THAT THE KNESSET, ALWAYS the scene of heated debate, will become even more partisan this year. While elections in Israel are not scheduled until 2013 many observers believe that Israelis will go to the polls this year. Most polls show the Right-Center bloc maintaining the lead but with victory not inevitable. Yair Lapid's entry into politics and the impact of a new party under former Shas leader Arye Deri could swing the vote to the Center-Left. A new leader of Kadima, and Tzipi Livni is by no means secure, might also impact the result.

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A SETTLER'S PLEA

THE TARGETING OF YITZHAR: A TEST OF JEWISH LEADERSHIP

By ADINA KUTNICKI

Israel's ruling post-Zionists, in their struggle against the 'settlement' movement, have set up straw men (particularly since Oslo) to achieve their main objective, the dismantlement of the Jewish presence in Judea and Samaria. Their leadership, both political and military, work in lockstep with foreign funded NGO's (chief among them Peace Now) assisted by a back benching media; a leftist, Arabist-tilted justice system; supported by many in academia, as well as high

Like many North American Jews, The Jewish Standard has been highly critical of the settler movement in Israel. In the following article, a settler presents another side of the case. The Editor

profile cultural icons. 'Settlers' and their proponents face an increasingly uphill fight to preserve our heartland.

To wit, Yitzhar remains the locus of post-Zionist ire, often referred to as 'the epicenter of settler hooliganism'. As of late, the level of incitement has been dramatically increased. To those who aren't familiar,

Yitzhar (Itamar is another object of their wrath) was founded in 1984 in the Shomron region. It was first established in 1983, functioning as a Nahal military outpost. In 1984 it was demilitarized, Amana, Gush Emunim's settlement arm, assisted it in becoming a residential community.

Abutting Nablus, a hotbed of Arab terror,

Yitzhar serves as a major bulwark against terrorist designs. Concomitantly, its presence not only enrages Arab terrorists, but post-Zionist Jews seeking to empty our heartland of its Jewish presence. Israel's Security Agency (ISA) agrees that Nablus is a dangerous wellspring of Arab terror. In a report by the 'Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center', dated December 26, 2007, they concluded, "Nablus continues to be the focus for terrorist activity in (Please turn to page 11)

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TRAVEL TALES

HELPFUL HINTS FOR THE JEWISH TRAVELLER

By MIKE COHEN

LAKE PLACID: My family and I recently enjoyed our first visit to the former Olympic village of Lake Placid (www.lakeplacid.com). This New York town boasts a world-class array of trails for skiing and riding. Folks enjoy sliding down the toboggan chute on frozen Mirror Lake, ice skating, taking an invigorating dog sled ride, snowmobiling, cross-country skiing or ice climbing. There is also the option of exploring the endless Adirondack snowshoeing trails to see the forest from a whole new perspective.

ACCOMMODATIONS: We stayed at the 92 room Northwoods Inn (www.northwoodsinn.com), situated right on Main Street, a short walk to the Olympic Arena and Oval, a public beach, numerous restaurants, a

movie theatre and the quaint shops of Lake Placid. The hotel offers a sidewalk café, two restaurants and "The Cabin," a warm and cozy fireplace bar overlooking Main Street. Their rooftop bar offers a majestic view of the entire town plus the High Peaks and the incredible Whiteface Mountain. The breakfasts and gourmet burgers here have been voted "The best in Lake Placid."

This is an all suite hotel and includes extended stay spots with kitchenettes and affordable rates. The lakeside rooms offer great views of Mirror Lake and the Adirondack mountains while others include balconies where guests can sit outside and enjoy the fresh mountain air. All of the rooms feature air conditioning, cable TV and separate sitting areas. There is complimentary onsite parking for overnight hotel guests only. Parking is limited, and in high demand periods, overflow spots are available, for a nominal fee, in the Lake Placid Municipal Parking Lot, one block from the hotel.

The Northwoods Inn was purchased by the Smith family five years ago. Gary Smith has handed the day-to-day operations to his son Garrick, who as innkeeper spends a lot of time mixing with guests and getting their feedback. He is working hard at upgrading the property. Free WiFi was recently added to all guestrooms and public areas. The renovation of guestrooms

is next. For more information you can call 518-523-1818 for special packages, group rates or to make a reservation.

OLYMPIC PASSPORT: Lake Placid was the proud host of the 1932 and 1980 winter Olympic Games. In all of the four seasons, this celebrated history can be experienced with a full range of activities from ORDA – the Olympic Regional Development Authority (<http://www.orda.org/corporate>). Make sure to purchase the Olympic Sites Pass-

port, which gives you access to every one of the Olympic venues - from Whiteface to the Olympic Sports Complex and everything in between. Sold for \$29 at the ORDA Store and all of their ticket offices, the passport saves you time and money, and gets you into the venues at a good value.

ACTIVITIES: For sports fans, be sure to check out the Olympic facilities including the Lake Placid Olympic Museum and the various sports venues, such as the

(Please turn to page 12)

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TAKING CONTROL

(Continued from page 4)

was speaking to a friend of his who was studying at a Christian school in east Jerusalem who told her their teachers were being pushed to drop textbooks published under the aegis of the Palestinian Authority (PA), which rules in the West Bank but has no official standing in east Jerusalem.

"She told me that her teacher has been warning them that even though the censored textbooks are forced on us we still don't have to believe everything we read in the text. You have to go home and read other books to enlighten yourself. She was telling me that they might be forced to use the textbooks because they might be forced to shut down if they don't and the students would not be able to go to Israeli universities if they refused the textbooks," Abukhater said.

Yochanan Manor, the chairman of Impact-SE, an organization that examines textbooks for tolerance, said his group has detected a growing "Islamization" in Palestinian Authority textbooks.

Israel allowed Jordanian school books to be used in east Jerusalem in the years after the 1967 war. But following the 1993 Oslo peace accords that established the Palestinian PA in the West Bank, Israel allowed PA textbooks to replace the Jordanian ones. They included Palestinian interpretations of history, culture and geography.

"It was ridiculous. The municipality was paying a lot of money to reprint these books and instead of modifying them with text that could foster coexistence between Arabs and Jews, it was simply just removing the PA logo," Manor told The Media Line.

He said that rather

than requiring new material be put in its place, censors left gaping holes in the textbooks, which caused more damage by emphasizing to the readers that the content was censored.

"They were doing many things without think-

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ing them through because when you erase text you leave a blank page that only raises more questions," Manor said.

Abukhater said Israeli authorities were confiscating textbooks from schools and replacing them

with textbooks without Palestinian logos and references to Israeli communities in the territories.

"My textbooks enlightened me about the history of Palestine. I have learned a lot through textbooks and I think that if my fellow Palestinians in east Jerusalem have this information censored from them, they are missing a lot and it is just dangerous," he said.

PERRY WAS RIGHT

(Continued from page 5)

news report, asserted flat-out that Perry's statement was "inaccurate" and characterized Turkey's governing party as "moderate." Huffington Post columnist Dorian de Wind mocked Perry as an "uninformed Texas cowboy."

But within hours, Gov. Perry's critics were left

(Please turn to following page)



THE LEGENDARY Theodore Bikel is still going strong at age 87. He appeared recently in the Harold Green Jewish Theatre Company's production Visiting Mr. Green. The octogenarian folk singer and actor is showing no signs of slowing down. Photo Rachael McCaig.

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CARLISLE

PERRY WAS RIGHT

(Continued from preceding page)

with more than a little egg on their faces as the foreign minister of Iran, the world's leading terrorist state, arrived in Turkey for a visit aimed at further strengthening the already-friendly relations between the two countries. Iranian Foreign Minister Ali-Akbar Salehi announced in Ankara

that trade between his terrorist regime and Turkey, which had been just \$5-billion annually in the past, hit \$15-billion in 2010 and will reach \$30 billion by 2015. Salehi, by the way, has met his Turkish counterpart, Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu, no less than eleven times in the

past twelve months. How is that "positive and constructive"?

The truth about Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan and his government is that they have become experts at playing both sides of the fence--making "moderate" noises when Western ears are listening, while collaborating with Islamic terrorists and terrorist regimes whenever they can get away with it.

Thus while the United States has been struggling to find ways to stop Iran's nuclear development, Erdogan has been defending the Iranians. During his visit to Tehran, the terror capitol of the world, in October 2009, he denounced Western sanctions against Iran as "arrogant." He declared that anyone who criticizes Iran's nukes should first give up their own nuclear arms. "We shared this opinion with our Iranian friends, our brothers," Erdogan told reporters. Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmedinejad reciprocated by praising Erdogan for his "clear stance against" Israel.

In December 2010, Erdogan traveled to Libya - Moammar Gaddafi's Libya - to receive the "Al-Gaddafi International Prize for Human Rights." Erdogan was not the least bit embarrassed to accept such an award from one of the world's worst human rights abusers and terror-sponsors. He told reporters that relations between Turkey and Libya were "growing," and that there was "much Turkish investment" in Gaddafi's Libya. Three months later, the U.S. was leading the NATO assault on Turkey's Libyan friends.

Turkey's support for the Hamas terrorists has been consistent, passionate, and unequivocal. The Turkish government sponsored the May 2010 flotilla that was intercepted while

attempting to bring prohibited materials to the Hamas regime in Gaza. Erdogan's claim that the flotilla participants were peaceful civil rights activists crumbled as the whole world watched the chilling YouTube video of the Islamic extremists on board trying to beat an Israeli soldier to death with baseball bats. Other Israeli soldiers were stabbed and nearly drowned. Erdogan

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said it was the Israeli soldiers who were "terrorizing" the Muslim baseball players.

The Turks attempted to send a second flotilla to Gaza last year, but were thwarted by the intervention of the Israel Law Center (Shurat HaDin). Flotilla organizers complained that the Center's lawsuits and warning letters caused insurance companies to withdraw coverage of the ships, and resulted in Greek government inspections that found the boats to be unseaworthy and improperly registered.

Prime Minister Erdogan may yet try another smuggling operation to Gaza, however, because his support for Hamas has few rivals. He told PBS's Charlie Rose last May: "I don't see Hamas as a terror organization. Hamas is a political party. And it is an organization. It is a resistance movement trying to protect its country under occupation." Presumably the massacre of elderly Israelis attending a Passover seder at the Netanya hotel was a political statement, and the firing of a rocket into a kindergarten in Sderot helps resist attempts by Israeli five year-olds to "occupy" Gaza.

According to media reports last month, Turkey intends to give Hamas \$300 million in aid. And just two weeks ago, Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh received the red carpet treatment on an official state visit to Turkey.

In his famous address to a joint session of Congress in the wake of the September 11 attacks, President George W. Bush declared: "Either you are with us, or you are with the terrorists." Those who befriend Iran and finance Hamas have made it clear that they are with the terrorists. Just like Rick Perry said.

SETTLER'S PLEA

(Continued from page 6)

Judea and Samaria, of Hamas and other terror organizations".

Paradoxically, in light of the above, (regardless of how many terror 'root canals' Israel's forces performed since then) it seems irrational that the very same security services would operate against patriots in Yitzhar and its sister communities. However, if viewed through a post-Zionist prism, the increased pressure makes sense.

Raised to a fevered pitch since the Tuba-Zangria mosque arson in the Galilee on October 2, 2011 - the rage against the 'settler hooligans' has become a post-Zionist rallying cry. Politicians are duly pressured, increasingly desperate to bring the culprits to heel. The security services are determined to reel them in - evidence, or the lack thereof, be damned. HONENU Legal Defense Organization, under the highly capable guidance of attorney Adi Kedar, has thus far managed to have the cases thrown out of court due to lack of evidence. Undeterred, the security services/police have upped the ante.

On October 31, 2011, in a brutal raid befitting the capture of terrorists, approximately 50 special forces from the Yassam Police Unit descended upon Yeshivat Od Yosef Chai in Yitzhar, ostensibly to scoop up a Shomron resident in relation to the mosque arson. Their tactics included spraying pepper gas in all directions, resulting in injuries to several Rabbis and students.

There is no higher visible poster child for meting out punishment to the 'settler' public than Od Yosef Chai, the centerpiece

of Yitzhar. Therefore, it was 'fitting' that they zeroed in on its affiliated high school, the Dorshei Yehudcha Yeshiva. It was ordered closed by the Education Ministry. Od Yosef Chai's retribution was an immediate reduced government subsidy.

Most significantly, in the same manner in which the democratic right to due process was violated when Jewish nationalists were detained/arrested under the British Mandate orders of Administrative Detention Jewish rights have been

(Please turn to following page)

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SETTLER'S PLEA

(Continued from preceding page)

abrogated, once again, due to the undemocratic closure of Yitzhar's educational institution.

According to *The Yeshiva World News* of November 2, 2011, "In an unprecedented move, the Director-General of the Ministry of Education, Dr. Shimshon Shoshani, is cutting the funding for the Dorshei Yehudcha Yeshiva High School based on "confidential" information that he is not at liberty to discuss...Shoshani adds that the book *Torat HaMelech* is not in line with the educational values expected from a rabbi and educator". Not compelled by law to reveal the evidence against the school, even to their attorney, there are no charges to refute. In a state in which democracy is hailed as the supreme mantle to behold, citizens are expected to place their trust/faith in a system which hides behind "secret evidence".

All of the above leads full circle to their penultimate target, Rabbi Yitzhak

Shapira, a main Yeshiva head in Yitzhar. The distinguished rabbi was recently investigated for the 'crime' of authoring a leading Jewish legal treatise called *Torat HaMelech*, the King's Torah.

Its essence explains when is it permissible under Jewish law to shed the blood of non-Jews belonging to the enemy population. The text, deeply sourced, thoroughly and painfully explored by Torah pin-pointed examination, discusses the Jewish population's precedence over the non-Jewish enemy population during war time. This Torah based discussion is hideously offensive to our post-Zionist politicians. By placing halacha and nationalist ethos above post-Zionist ideology, the punishment of Yitzhar is pursued along many paths. At this juncture it involves the dismantlement of Yitzhar's spiritual institutions.

The open questions are these: Will our Jewish leadership, in Israel and the diaspora, stay silent in the face of this (latest) Jewish nationalist outrage? And will our communities step up to the plate, making sure that whatever funding is cut is replaced through private donations and attendant communal efforts?

TRAVEL TALES

(Continued from page 7)

hockey arena, home to the 1980 "Miracle on Ice." If you're seeking an adrenaline rush, take a ride on the bobsled run or ski or ride down the highest vertical drop in the East at Whiteface Mountain. As America's very first winter resort, Lake Placid has skiing and riding covered. See firsthand the ramp that ski jumpers launch from before flying over the length of a football field. Take the chairlift along-

side the jumping hills to the glass enclosed elevator to the observation deck of the 120K jump. At the top you will find a panoramic view of the Adirondack High Peaks as you stroll through the ski jumpers preparation room. Whiteface is open generally from the very end of November until the middle of April.

JEWISH: Lake Placid Synagogue is the only year-round synagogue in the Adirondack Park. At one time there were two other active synagogues in the Tri-Lakes area. Today, approximately 25 year-round families help maintain the

the synagogue. All of the members recognize the importance of having a place to worship throughout the year, a place to educate their children, and a place to socialize. Shabbat services are held monthly for most of the year. During the summer months, services are held weekly on Friday evenings and Saturday mornings. High Holy Days and other festivals are also observed. Guests are always more than welcome.

The Torahs have been with the Lake Placid Synagogue for many years, New Torahs are now the property of the

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Lake Placid Synagogue having come from the nearby synagogues which no longer exist. Info: sue@lakeplacidsynagogue.org.

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

WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 4)

missed Father Tandek from the Higher School of Hebrew Philology. There is speculation that his superiors did not appreciate the fact that he advocated a dialogue with Jews. He became, according to some, simply too independent.

Whatever the reason, the dismissal has not gone over well with his parishioners. "This man has done so much good", said one parishioner, "and now they are getting rid of him like a rat." Said an-

other parishioner: "If Father Tandek had not accepted his reassignment with humility and showed how much good you can do without responding to evil, this farewell would have turned into a demonstration."

Jewish leaders are also upset with the Franciscan Order's decision. Just a few miles away from Tandek's parish is the ultra Conservative Radio Maryja, which caters to those among the community's (Please turn to following page)



FINANCE MINISTER JIM FLAHERTY MET RABBI Chaim Mendelsohn, Canadian director of public affairs for the Federation of Chabad Lubavitch, on his recent visit to Israel. Rabbi Mendelsohn accompanied Minister Flaherty to the Western Wall and discussed Chabad's charitable work in Canada, Israel and around the world. From left, Rabbi Mendelsohn, Minister Flaherty and Whitby-Oshawa MPP Christine Elliott. - Photo by Atara Beck

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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from preceding page)

200,000 residents who see no need for dialogue with Jews. In fact, the station regularly demonizes Jews. Tandek's school, with its crucifix and menorah on the wall at the back of the classroom, served to counter the anti-Semitic rants of Radio Maryja.

Keeping Kosher at Sundance

Each January thousands of film enthusiasts descend on the North American ski resort for the Sundance Film Festival. While we don't know how many of the film buffs are

Jewish, or for that matter Jews who keep kosher, clearly Canyons Resort believes that their numbers are sufficient. The Resort recently opened a glatt kosher restaurant. The bistro is the only full service kosher-certified restaurant in the entire state of Utah and may be the first ever at a North American ski resort. And for Jews who want to go synagogue...No problem. Canyons recently completed the construction of a synagogue in its Silverado Lodge.

Those who dine at the new bistro should bring a credit card. Prices are not cheap. Duck confit gnocchi, veal burgers and an extensive wine list mean that this bistro is not competing with Burger King.

Shul Seeks Help - From Mel Gibson

Congregation Beth Shalom in Corona, California is strapped for cash. And so the shul's fund raising committee has decided to seek help from the actor whose anti-Semitic rants have become famous - the one and only Mel Gibson.

In a letter to Gibson the synagogue wrote: "Our proposal to you, Mr. Gibson, is since you have been cited as an Anti-Semitic, and have denied those allegations, what better way to prove to all your fans and the nay Sayers -- than to endorse and help raise funds for our cause -- SOS, Save Our Synagogue."

At the time of writing Gibson says he has not received any request. He did, however, want it known that he wishes Congregation Beth Shalom all the best.

Bishop Apologizes for Ceremony

Eddie Long, a Baptist Bishop at the New

Birth Missionary Baptist Church in Lithonia, Georgia, has apologized for a church service in which he was wrapped in a Torah scroll and called a king.

In a letter to Bill Nigut, Southeast Regional Director of the anti-Defamation League, Long claimed that the congregation was ordered by Ralph Messer, a Messianic Jew and self-described Rabbi, to wrap him in a Torah scroll and lift him up on a chair.

"The ceremony", wrote Long, "was not my suggestion, nor was it my intent to participate in any ritual that is offensive in any manner to the Jewish community." He continued that "I sincerely denounce any action that depicts me as a King, for I am merely just a servant of the Lord."

Even leaders of the Messianic Judaism movement have distanced themselves from Messer. He is, they say "operating entirely outside the mainstream Messianic Jewish community." He is "not even part of our community, let alone a rabbi".

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lator pacemaker. After almost a month of hospitalization, Aya felt better and returned to her home in Gaza, standing on her own two feet.

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