

THE JEWISH STANDARD

SEPTEMBER 2018 ROSH HASHANAH 5779



IT HAS NOW BEEN TWO YEARS SINCE RABBI YECHEZKEL FREUNDLICH JOINED Congregation Tifereth Beth David Jersualem in Côte Saint-Luc, during which time he has developed an extremely close bond with the synagogue membership and the Jewish community at large. Here he prepares his shofar for the High Holidays with (left to right) Saul Deitcher, Isaac Silberman and Alan Katznelson. (Photo by Mike Cohen)

Riva and Thomas O. Hecht and Haemosan Inc.
extend their best wishes for a

Happy New Year



After thirteen successful years of activity and the awarding of 38 scholarships to teachers working in the Quebec public school system, we are now moving forward in new directions in support of Holocaust Education.

To this end, The Riva and Thomas O. Hecht Scholarship: Teaching of the Holocaust for Educators will exist in a new format. Our plan is to support a variety of initiatives promoting Holocaust Education.

Examples of such projects are, The Holocaust History and Human Rights Education Seminar in Canada; a training Seminar for teachers (in collaboration with the Montreal Holocaust Museum, June 2018) and the annual Belfer National Conference, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington D.C.

We wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to the following for their continued and unwavering support throughout the years:

The administration of the English Montreal School Board and the Lester B. Pearson School Board; Collège Laflèche, the Montreal Holocaust Museum, The Canadian Society for Yad Vashem, Mr. Robert T. Mills, Mr. Mike Cohen, our treasured scholarship winners, the students who gained so much knowledge from these teachers, and the community at large for their participation. The success of The Riva and Thomas O. Hecht Scholarship: Teaching of the Holocaust for Educators is your success.

For more information please log on to

www.t-h-e-program.org

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General News
Section

Caving to the Ultra-Orthodox

We are, by and large, comfortable with Israel's new Nation-State Law. We do not see how one can object to the bill's basic principle that "the land of Israel is the historical homeland of the Jewish people" and that as the national home of the Jewish people the State is fulfilling its "natural, cultural, religious and historic right to self-determination." Israel's Druze and other minorities may have legitimate concerns about the impact of the law. But safeguards are there, even if a more specific article about equality would have been reassuring.

There is, however, one aspect of the law, forced upon the government by United Torah Judaism, that can only serve to deepen the divide between Israel and world

Jewry. In its original version the law read: "the state will act to maintain the connection between the state and the Jewish people wherever they are". United Torah Judaism demanded that the clause be amended to read "the State will act within the Diaspora to strengthen the affinity between the state and members of the Jewish people".

And why did United Torah Judaism insist on amending the clause? Unapologetically, to stymie the advance of religious pluralism and egalitarian prayer at the Western Wall. Unity with other streams of Judaism is not, for the ultra-Orthodox, of any concern. Preventing Reform and Conservative Jews from leading a full life in Israel most assuredly is.

Reflections on the New Year

The difficult time through which the world is passing has almost completely destroyed the tendency among Rosh Hashanah prophets to issue a cheerful prognosis. We have only to witness the pitiful streams of diseased, swollen-bellied, pitiable children passing before our eyes on the nightly newscasts to appreciate the horrors desperate human beings endure. No cheerful outlook would carry much weight in a world in which far too many have seen their lives reduced to a level of existence that truly makes their time on earth "solitary, poor, nasty, brutish and short." Fear and greed and hate continue to plague our civilization and the hope that the savagery of man may be tamed, that society will become more gentle, seems always to be betrayed by events.

As we stand on the threshold of a New Year we can see clearly

the many dark blots on the horizon, blots which signify the extent of the sacrifice and sorrow through which the world is passing. The causes of our current ills are deeply rooted in our failure to measure up to the high ideals so eloquently and passionately proclaimed but so disdainfully practised. The religious know from their bibles what it is that God requires of them. Others know the direction we must take in a search for secular salvation. Yet neither religion nor secularism offers any cure for our ills.

And yet while the immediate future is a dark one, we know that while it is mankind's fate to suffer we will, in all probability, survive. And so withdrawing from attempts to find solutions to problems that today appear insoluble cannot be an option. The struggle towards the ultimate goal of justice and peace and freedom must go on.

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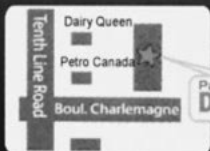


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WORLD IN REVIEW

NEWS OF THE RECENT PAST IS DISCUSSED

By NOAH FREEDMAN

Being an Anti-Semite Is Apparently His "Right"

Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, sworn in May, has long been known for his anti-Semitic rhetoric. In 2012 on his personal blog he wrote that "Jews rule this world by proxy". In 2003 he told the Organization of the Islamic Conference summit in Kuala Lumpur that "1.3 billion Muslims cannot be defeated by a few million Jews...The Europeans killed 6 million Jews out of 12 million".

And Mohamad makes no apology for his views. "I am glad to be

labeled anti-Semitic...How can I be otherwise when the Jews who so often talk of the horrors they suffered during the Holocaust show the same Nazi cruelty and hard-heartedness towards not just their enemies but even towards their allies should any try to stop the senseless killing of their Palestinian enemies".

The world's oldest elected leader at 92 Mohamad is proud of his characterization of Jews as "not merely hook-nosed but understand money instinctively." Nor is he worried about his legacy. "When I

(Please turn to page 16)

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EYE ON MONTREAL

NAMES IN THE NEWS IN OUR CITY

By MIKE COHEN

THE HIGH HOLIDAYS WITH MADA: More than 2,500 families and individuals from all walks of life will be gathering together on September 9 and 10, (7:30 p.m.) at 11 locations across Montreal, the largest of which will be the Gelber Conference Centre in the Federation CJA building, to celebrate the Jewish New Year with the warmth and spirit of the holiday. Full-course festive New Year meals will be served, and guests will not only hear the blessings over the holiday's symbolic traditional foods but can also participate in singing and dancing. MADA is a volunteer-based organization dedicated to breaking the cycle of poverty in our community. As Montreal's largest kosher soup kitchen and food bank and offering a variety of services, MADA has been serving the Jewish community for 25 years and seeks to raise awareness of the plight of those in need and expand its client base. "The High Holidays are a time when families get together, but some people have no family. For many, it's a very lonely time. At a time when many people cover their tables with delicacies, others can't afford to. At a time of spirituality and hope, some don't know where to turn," said Rabbi Chaim Cohen, Executive Director of MADA. "Everyone should have the opportunity to usher in the New Year with a community and festive meals."

NEW HEBREW PROGRAM: A new "Hebrew Program 4 Kids" program is opening at the Shaare Zedek Synagogue in NDG. This alternative supplemental program is not school, it's fun!! Under the direction of Adelia Bensoussan this program is designed to give children experiential Jewish education and values in a relaxed and fun atmosphere. It will focus on content-rich, relationship-focused experiences that are rooted in Judaism and a connected community. As well, the added value of studying Jewish identity in a synagogue is priceless! The class size will be small in order to foster meaningful relationships between both students and their teachers and in this way the children will form deep connections to Jewish role models and peers. Parents can relax knowing that their children are having fun and learning in a Jewish environment. Classes will be on Tuesdays from 4:15pm to 6pm, beginning Oct 9. Parents will receive weekly updates on their child's classes. Delicious snacks will be offered. For further information: adeliabensoussan@gmail.com

BBYO: On the heels of an exceptional year of "firsts," B'nai Brith Youth Organization is proudly celebrating its growth in membership and successful teen programming in Canada during the 2017-2018 school year. Chapters hold regular programming for

(Please turn to page 11)

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TRAVEL TALES

**RENTING FROM DISCOUNT CAR AND TRUCK
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AND NOT JUST FOR ITS JEWISH ROOTS**

By MIKE COHEN

DISCOUNT CAR AND TRUCK RENTALS: When deciding to rent a car while in Vancouver recently, we did so patriotically and went with the Canadian-owned Discount Car and Truck Rentals, grabbing a shuttle and picking up our vehicle in nearby Richmond.

Corporately, Discount Car and Truck Rentals is Jewish-owned. It was established in 1980 in Hamilton, Ontario by Herb and Rhoda Singer. Still proudly run by the Singer family, Discount Car and Truck Rentals is the only national car and truck rental company that is owned and operated by Canadians. From the beginning, Discount set out to be the first car and truck rental company in Canada to focus on the insurance replacement business. That mission has greatly expanded over the years as Discount today offers industry leading car and truck rental services to all types of customers, including: leisure renters, commercial truck renters, dealership service centers, collision repair centers, and more.

THE QUEBEC STORY: Well before planning this trip I did my research and it was my fascination with the services offered by Discount Car and Truck Rentals in Quebec (www.discountquebec.com) that helped make my decision even easier and eliminated any possible stress.

The first thing I learned is how Discount Car and Truck Rentals in Quebec operates independently from the national brand. In a classic example of a franchise system, the operators in Quebec own and operate the franchise for the entire province of Quebec. Discount Car and Truck Rentals in Quebec carries cars of all types, and for every use, from small economical cars for the budget conscious renter, up to spacious and luxurious options for those special occasions.

A leader in the province of Quebec the company started out in 1985 serving the local market and quickly expanded to serving the automobile insurance replacement segment. Whenever a Quebec driver had an accident or had his or her car stolen, Discount was there to help the transition to a car repair or replacement. Quickly gaining the trust of insurance brokers and insurance companies, they were able to offer a replacement rental quickly and efficiently to victims of unfortunate circumstances. From there Discount expanded its clientele to include business renters, and opened the way for the eventual introduction of a commercial truck division with their acquisition of Monkland Car and Truck rentals.

(Please turn to page 14)

JEWISH CHILDREN WERE ALSO SEPARATED

DONALD TRUMP IS NOT THE FIRST PRESIDENT TO SEPARATE IMMIGRANT FAMILIES

By RAFAEL MEDOFF

This isn't the first time that the separation of children from their would-be immigrant parents has been at the center of public debate in America. But when it happened during the Roosevelt administration, it was the opponents of immigration who were the ones complaining about separating them.

That debate began in the wake of the devastating Kristallnacht pogrom in November 1938, in which nearly 100 German Jews were murdered, several hundred synagogues were destroyed, and thousands of Jewish businesses were damaged. In response, Senator Robert Wagner (D-New York) and Rep. Edith Rogers (R-Massachusetts)

(Dr. Rafael Medoff is founding director of The David S. Wyman Institute for Holocaust Studies, and the author of The Jews Should Keep Quiet: President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, and the Holocaust, forthcoming from The Jewish Publication Society in 2019.) The Editor

introduced legislation to admit 20,000 German children outside America's regular immigration quotas.

Although the bill did not specify that the children would be Jewish, it was widely understood that all, or nearly all, of them would be. The age cut-off was 14. Anne Frank, who was then 10 years old, and her sister Margot, 13, could have qualified.

The Wagner-Rogers bill attracted support from a broad coalition. Prominent clergymen, labor leaders, university presidents, actors such as Henry Fonda and Helen Hayes, and political figures such as 1936 Republican presidential nominee Alf Landon and his running mate, Frank Knox. Former First Lady Grace Coolidge announced that she and her neighbors in Northampton, Massachusetts, would personally care for twenty-five of the children.

Unexpected support came from former president Herbert Hoover. Back in 1930, before the rise of Hitler, Hoover's administration had tightened the restrictions on immigration. Now Hoover not only endorsed Wagner-Rogers, but also pressured wavering members of the House Immigration Committee to support the measure.

Many patriotic and anti-foreigner groups,

such as the American Legion and the Daughters of the American Revolution, mobilized against Wagner-Rogers. Laura Delano Houghteling, a cousin of President Franklin Roosevelt

and wife of the United States Commissioner of Immigration, summarized the sentiment of the opposition when she complained that "20,000 charming children would all too soon grow up into 20,000 ugly adults."

First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt privately supported the legislation, but de-

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JEWISH CHILDREN WERE SEPARATED TOO

(Continued from preceding page)

clined to publicly endorse it. The president, for his part, took no position on Wagner-Rogers. When a congresswoman inquired as to Roosevelt's stance, he returned her note to his secretary marked "File No action FDR."

In April 1939, a joint Senate-House committee held four days of hearings on the Wagner-Rogers bill. Sympathetic witnesses offered moving humanitarian pleas. They also stressed that the children would not compete with American citizens for jobs—a widespread concern during the Depression era.

Nativists presented a variety of arguments against Wagner-Rogers: American children deserved priority; foreign children might be Communists or even Nazis; admitting the children would pave the way for admission of their

parents.

One of the most remarkable arguments that opponents invoked was that by separating the children from their parents, Congress would in effect be tearing the families apart. The first witness to testify against the bill was Francis H. Kinnicutt, president of the Allied Patriotic Societies. He piously proclaimed that "children should not be separated from their parents...Foster parentage or institutional bringing up is prejudicial to children."

Mrs. Agnes Waters, a World War I widow claiming to speak for millions of patriotic American women, testified that if German Jewish children were separated from their mothers, then America would find itself saddled with "thousands of motherless, embittered, persecuted children



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of undesirable foreigners” who, as “seasoned veterans for a revolution of hate,” would grow up to be “potential leaders of a revolt against our American form of government.”

Of course, under normal circumstances, German Jewish parents never would have willingly sent their young children

abroad. But in 1939, in the wake of Kristallnacht, sending their children away seemed to be the only way to save their lives. In fact, at that very moment, the parents of some 10,000 German Jewish children were sending them to England on the famous Kindertransports.

In the face of bitter nativist opposition and the absence of support from the president, the Wagner-Rogers bill never made it out of committee.

President Trump has expressed a preference for immigrants from Norway. President Roosevelt, for his part, preferred Great Britain. A year after he refused to support admission of Jewish children fleeing the Nazis, FDR—who once privately expressed relief that he had “no Jewish blood” in his veins—rushed to admit thousands of British children fleeing the Nazi Blitz. Needless to say, nobody complained that those kids were being unwillingly separated from their parents, or that motherless British children might seek to harm America.

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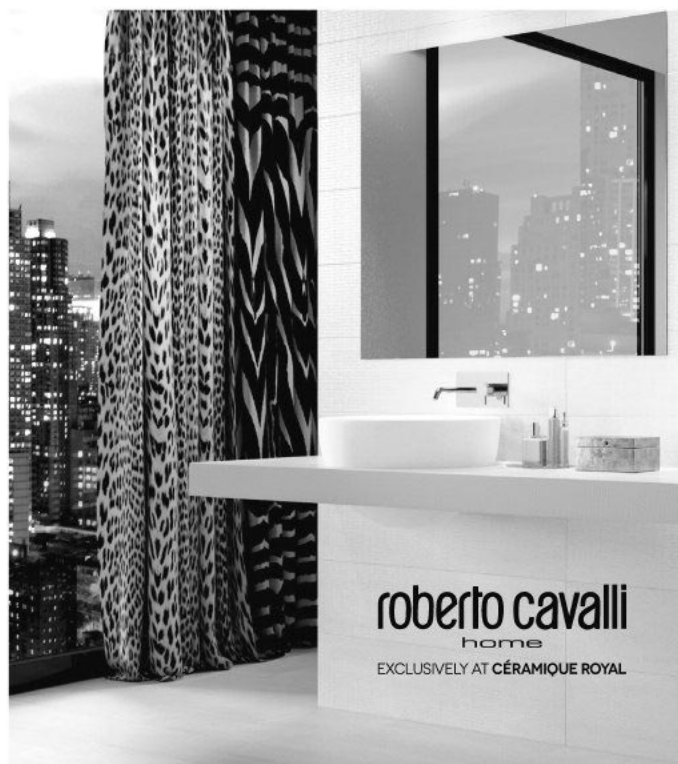
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CUMMINGS CENTRE HOSTS FIRST EVER CONFERENCE ON CAREGIVING

The Cummings Centre Social Action Committee, together with the Program Department, will present their first Conference on Caregiving on Wednesday, October 3, 2018 from 12 to 8 pm at the Gelber Conference Centre (5700 Westbury Ave.).

Experts in the field will examine the changing face of caregiving and the resources available for caregivers. "The event is open to anyone who finds themselves caring for a family member, spouse, loved one or friend, professionals, volunteers working with caregivers and for anyone seeking information on the topic," said David Novek, Chair of the Cummings Social Action Committee.

"The range of speakers will address many relevant issues surrounding caregiving, from defining the roles of a caregiver to maximizing the use of technology, financial and legal issues involved in caregiving and the very relevant topic of how to navigate the system to provide the best care possible for a loved one," points out Stefani Novick, Program Manager.

As host of the conference, the Cummings Centre is uniquely placed within the community to understand and respond to the evolving needs of the caregiver. Caregivers are often too busy taking care of others to realize the very real psychological and physical consequences their caregiving duties have on them. "As the primary caregiver for my husband Sam since his stroke, I so appreciate the services offered at the Cummings Centre's Drop-In Program," says Gladys Argalgi. "The warm, attentive staff provide Sam and the other participants with stimulating activities and much needed respite for so many caregivers."

The conference will feature keynote speakers, workshops and breakout sessions. Separate fees are available for the full-day and evening sessions or day or evening attendance. Plenary sessions will be livestreamed through the Virtual Learning Program for a nominal fee. For more information and to register online visit cummingscentre.org or call 514.343.3510.



**SAM AND GLADYS ARGALGI: PHOTO COURTESY
of the Cummings Centre.**

EYE ON MONTREAL*(Continued from page 5)*

their members, participate in council/regional athletic leagues, are involved in service and advocacy projects across the community, and enjoy the brotherhood and sisterhood components of AZA and BBG. BBYO Eastern Canada Region (ECR), based in Montreal and operated at the Sylvan Adams YM-YWHA, features two chapters in Côte Saint Luc and in the West Island with approximately 150 active participants. For their 'Fall Fest' last year 2017, over 50 teens joined together at Skytag for an afternoon of trampolining and laser quest, pizza, and a live DJ. For their Global Shabbat event in December, members planned a large Shabbat dinner for 50 teens and invited Syrian refugee families to join them to share their stories. In the spring of 2018, more than 70 teens in ECR participated in J-Serve, the Global

Day of Jewish Youth Service.

MOUNT STEPHEN:

Just over a year ago, during the month of May, while Montreal was proudly displaying its virtues and celebrating the city's 375th birthday, the venerable George Stephen House on downtown Drummond Street was given new life and opened as a hotel unique in its class: Le Mount Stephen. According to Tidan Hospitality and Real Estate Group, Le Mount Stephen's Montreal-based owner, the excitement surrounding the hotel's inauguration was a preamble to what has turned out to be a successful year of not only reaching, but exceeding its recognition and financial targets. "We are pleased to know that travelers appreciate the characteristics that make Le Mount Stephen so very

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EYE ON MONTREAL

(Continued from preceding page)

unique," said Mike Yuval and Jack Sofer, the Israeli co-founders of Tidan. For the past year, the hotel has attracted a prestigious, primarily North American clientele, visiting Montreal for both business and leisure. There are 90 guest rooms, a spa, fitness centre, ballroom and several meeting rooms. Additionally it

hosts the famous Bar George restaurant, which is managed by Oliver & Bonacini.

BUSINESS WATCH:

Victor Soussana and Georges Ouaknine of Intercoupe LeSpa on Decarie Boulevard are welcoming everyone to like their Facebook page, noting that it has become a fabulous way to interact with customers...It has now been eight years since Stephane Znaty set up his jewelry kiosk at Quartier Cavendish called Biju. Business is always booming and everyone just loves to stop by and chat with Stephane and his wonderful staff....If you step in the basement of Carré Union on Decarie (Royalmount entrance) you will find SB Toys, a business run by Efi Bar and his sister Sigal and started by their dad. For large scale purchases go see them or

make an appointment by calling 514-342-1374... Robert Vineberg, who sold his Noshertz Bakery two years ago on Westminster Avenue near Mackle Road in CSL, has reacquired the business and is again adding his magic touch.

KAISER AT THE

TEMPLE: Internationally acclaimed Montreal-born tenor Joseph Kaiser will be performing cantorial duties at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom in Westmount for the High Holidays. Mr. Kaiser will be the guest cantorial soloist for Erev Rosh Hashanah, the first day of Rosh Hashanah, Kol Nidrei and Yom Kippur.

"The Days of Awe are a season of renewal, reflection, and repentance," explained Rabbi Lisa Grushcow, Senior Rabbi at Temple. "Through his extraordinary voice and powerful presence, Joseph brings an added dimension to our services, inspiring us, as individuals and as a community, to be our best selves."

Mike Cohen can be reached at info@mikecohen.ca. Log on to his personal website at www.mikecohen.ca

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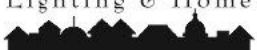
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TRAVEL TALES

(Continued from page 14)

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I met with Steven Lazaroff, current Director

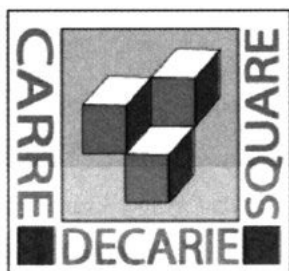
of Retail Sales for Discount in Quebec. A member of the management team since 1991 he was involved in the early stages of growth for the company. He worked in the front line customer service teams, and went on to sales representation in different markets like the local insurance replacement market, dealing with insurance adjusters, insurance brokers, automobile dealerships as well as locally owned bodyshops. After the acquisition of Monkland his career shifted to developing the truck market and local commercial business were attracted to the dedicated sales teams that he led.

SELF-SERVE: New for Discount Quebec is a self-serve kiosk at Plateau Mont Royal. If you have already reserved a vehicle, when you come to pick it

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up, the self-serve kiosk will speed up the rental process during busy periods, such as weekends. Just follow the instructions on the kiosk screen, and you'll be good to go in a few quick and easy steps. Once you're finished, a customer service agent will greet you at the counter to show you the inspection photos and hand over the keys to the vehicle.

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(514) 631-1436. Family members visiting from Vancouver recently rented from Discount and they were very pleased.

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Mike Cohen can be reached at info@mikecohen.ca. Follow his travels on Twitter @mikecohencsl and at www.sandboxworld.com/travel.

SUMMER CAMP LIFE FOR THE CHILDREN OF GAZA



MOST YOUNGSTERS AROUND THE WORLD GO to camp to play sports and sing songs around a campfire. Not so for Gaza campers. Contrary to summer camps where children enjoy a peaceful innocent time of their youth, these camps run by the Hamas terror networks take children from their parents and prepare them to fight the next battle with Israel.

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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 3)

am dead", he says, "it doesn't matter anymore".

Bloomberg to Challenge Trump?

Corey Lewandowski, Donald Trump's former campaign manager, believes that Michael Bloomberg is considering running for the Democratic presidential nomination for 2020 and, if successful, could pose a serious challenge to Trump.

Bloomberg, an "American success story," has expressed interest in

running for president as an independent in the past. The former New York mayor was at one time a registered Democrat but became a Republican before running for mayor. He left the Republican party in 2007 to become an independent.

But Bloomberg has appeal to Democrats. He is not a Washington insider, has plenty of money to finance a campaign (he is worth an estimated \$52 billion) and holds policy positions popular among many Democrats. The fact that he intends to spend over \$80

million to help Democrats in the forthcoming mid-term elections will certainly help his cause, especially if the party regains control of the

House and Senate.

Lewandowski adds that Bloomberg has a story "the American people like".

(See World In Review p. 17)



ATTACHING INCENDIARY DEVICES TO KITES AND cutting them loose to land in the fields of Jewish communities in the Negev is the latest weapon used by Palestinian terrorists. High durability drones are one of the means Israel has used to tackle the threat. (Photo Lisa Elkin, IGPO)

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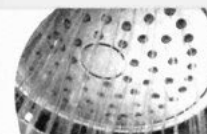
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Aretha Franklin And Jerry Wexler

Aretha Franklin, the "Queen of Soul", actually took many years to achieve success. Her first album was released in 1956 but it was not until the 1967 hit "Respect" that she really began her meteoric rise to stardom.

And it was the son of a German Jewish father and Polish Jewish mother, Jerry Wexler, who helped her record "Respect" and

helped give it the popularity that the original version by Otis Redding never achieved.

Wexler persuaded Franklin to leave Columbia records in 1966 and sign with Atlantic Records, where Wexler was an executive. Franklin and Wexler would go on to form a close artist-producer bond. "He provided me the vehicle to allow me to perform and express myself," said Franklin following Wexler's death in 2008.

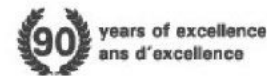
In his autobiography, "Rhythm and the Blues" Wexler wrote that it was "my idea to make good tracks,

use the best players, put Aretha on the piano and let the lady wail". And of (Please turn to following page)



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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from preceding page)

“Respect”, Wexler wrote: “Respect started off as a soul song and wound up a kind of national anthem”.

Anti-Semite Wins Nomination

Missouri Republicans have voted for an individual who as recently as 2017 told radio station KCXL that “looking back in history, unfortunately, Hitler was right about what was taking place in Germany, And who was behind it.”

While the Missouri Republican Party has denounced West’s “shocking and vile” comments as having no place in the Missouri Republican Party, West won 49.5 percent of the vote, more than double the second place finisher.

“Jewish people can be beautiful people”, says West. “But there’s ideologies associated with them that I don’t agree with....Jews are a remnant of the tribe of Judah that rejected Christ”. Further-

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more, says West, “Jewish cabals” are “harvesting baby parts from Planned Parenthood, abuse children and control the Republican Party.”

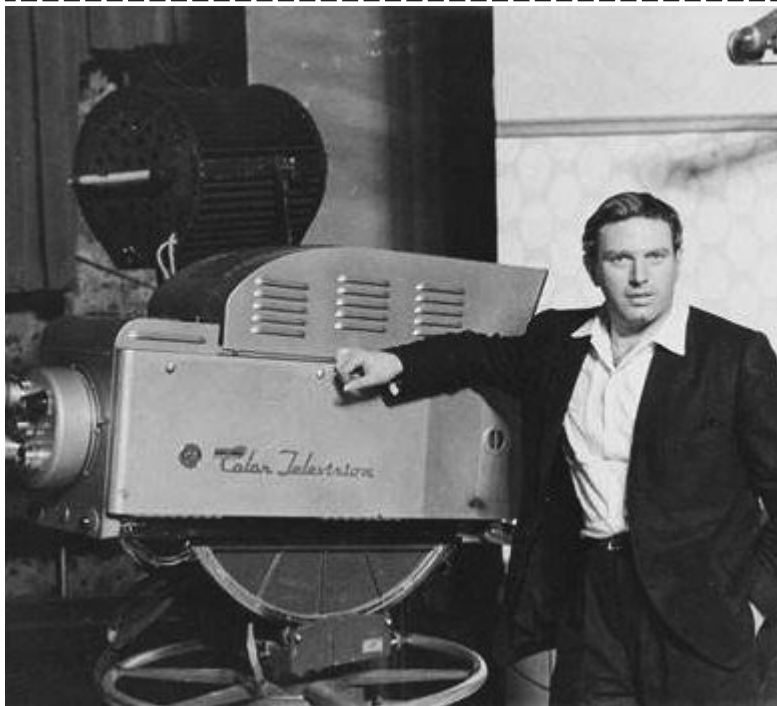
West will face two term Representative Joe Carpenter who was untested in the last election. Still, Missouri is a Republican leaning state

and one can only hope that the homophobic, anti-Semitic, Islamophobic and racist West gains little traction among voters, even if the state votes for Trump.

**“Haters of Israel”
Not Welcome at Hostel**

The Jerusalem Heritage House, a non profit (Please turn to following page

REMEMBERING THEODORE BIKEL



THEODORE BIKEL'S HOPE WAS TO BE REMEMBERED as “the singer of his people.” He was that—and a lot more besides. The Emmy winning, Oscar and Tony-nominated actor, singer, and peace activist defined iconic roles in “The Sound of Music” and “Fiddler on the Roof,” released dozens of albums of folk songs, was co-founder of the Newport Folk Festival, took a lead role in the Civil Rights Movement, was a long-time president of Actor's Equity, and helped secure the survival of Yiddish culture for future generations. Produced by the Milken Archive of Jewish Music in cooperation with his wife, Aimee Ginsburg Bikel, a short documentary tribute features Bikel reflecting on his life and career in an oral history session recorded in the final months of his life. Dozens of rare photographs from his personal archives enhance the story. Bikel's own recordings form the musical score. Aimee Ginsburg Bikel narrates. The release of the 10-minute documentary was timed to coincide with the three-year commemoration (yahrzeit) of Bikel's passing on July 21, 2015, at age 91. Viewing is free and available to all: <http://www.milkenarchive.org/videos/category/documentaries/spotlight-series-theodore-bikel/> For more info on the Milken Archive of Jewish Music <http://www.milkenarchive.org/>

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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from preceding page)

it youth hostel in the Jewish quarter of the Old City, offers "warm and comfortable accommodations for Jewish travelers for a nominal fee." But apparently not "all" Jewish travellers are welcome.

The hostel has implemented a ban on those who have "committed crimes against the Jewish people". The list includes Jon Stewart, Bernie Sanders, former Obama Ambassador Dan Shapiro and actress Bette Midler. Joining the list of celebrities and politicians not welcome are the staffs of *The Times of Israel*, *Haaretz*, CNN and the *New York Times*. And the heads of the Anti-Defamation League and the Reform movement will also have to find elsewhere to stay.

The hostel has been ridiculed for its stance with the *Jerusalem Post*'s Amy Spiro joking that "Bette Midler has been banging on the doors of the Jerusalem Heritage House for hours begging to be let inside."

We doubt whether any of those banned would cancel their trips to Israel because they are unable to find free or subsidized lodging.

Canada and Israel - Growing Ties in Cannabis

Israel's medical cannabis industry is flourishing thanks in part to its growing ties with Canada. Hundreds of millions of dollars in deals have already been signed covering a wide range of health issues, in-

(Please turn to page 23)

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EZER MIZION HELPS SAVE OTTAWA STUNTMAN

Majic 100 radio host and Ottawa Senators announcer Stu Schwartz was devastated when he was diagnosed with leukemia. The fear, however, set in when he was told that he needed to find a bone-marrow donor within three short months. Despite springing into action immediately and appealing for donors locally and nationally, no match was found. With time quickly running out for Stu and his family, the hospital that was treating him contacted Ezer Mizion, a non-profit organization that has created the largest international Jewish bone marrow registry in the world. Within days, the match that would save Stu's life was finally found.

Not all bone marrow recipients get the chance to thank their donors. Stu, however, was an exception. In March 2018, now cancer-free, Stu came face

to face with David Levi, 50, with whom he now shares DNA. Arranged by Ezer Mizion, the meeting between Stu and David was an emotional one. Immediately sharing a tearful embrace when David and his family landed in Ottawa from Israel, it became clear what the act of giving and receiving bone marrow meant to these two men. Whilst Stu tearfully thanked David for saving his life, David insisted that Stu had helped him by allowing him to save a life and praised Stu for his bravery and courage in the face of his aggressive cancer.

The strongest indicator, however, of what this match truly meant was reflected in the faces of the family members who were also present at this momentous meeting. Standing with her two children Matteo and Isabella, Stu's wife Connie

(Please turn to following page)

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SAVING OTTAWA STUNTMAN

(Continued from preceding page)

Bernardi wiped away tears as she told reporters how happy she was to see Stu finally meet his donor. Stu's mother was equally emotional, unable to hold back her tears as she thanked David for giving her back her son.

David's extraordinary humility was revealed as he explained how simple the process of donating bone marrow is, and stated his hope that more people would choose to become donors. Levi's bone marrow profile was first registered by a simple swab sample he gave whilst in the Israeli army, who have a life-saving partnership with Ezer Mizion. The registry has grown so much that if somebody is in need of a transplant, they have a 76 per cent chance of finding a match straight away. 76 per cent, however, is still not enough.

While being treated for his leukemia, Stu used his public platform to raise awareness of, and funds for, leukemia research. He also created a personalized donor pool with Ezer Mizion, and encourages people to donate to the organization that saved his life.

Stu has grown extremely close to Ezer Mizion, and encourages all to support and attend the organizations fundraising events. The Famous Jerusalem Market and Dinner is scheduled for October 21st and 22nd in Toronto.

For more information please contact Dena Bensalmon at dena@ezer-mizion.ca or at (647)799-1574 ext.231. For updates about the organization and event information follow Ezer Mizion on Social Media: Facebook - @EzerMizionCanada, Instagram - @ezer-mizion_canada



OTTAWA BROADCASTER STU SCHWARTZ(RIGHT) meets with his donor David Levi, The life saving bone marrow match was facilitated by Ezer Mizion whose bone marrow Jewish registry continues to help save the lives of those whose conditions might otherwise be fatal.

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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 20)

including cancer, epilepsy and sleep disorders. Israel, say experts, is the perfect place to experiment with medical cannabis partly because of the climate and partly because researchers are far more advanced than their peers in many other countries.

Alvit Pharma, founded in 2014 and headquartered in Ness Ziona, is a leader in products combining medical mushrooms and cannabis. The company has already signed deals with several Licensed Producers in Canada. "It seems like every LP here has something to do with somebody in Canada right now", says Yona Levy, CEO of Alvit LCS Pharma. "Canada is probably the most mature market now in terms of cannabis in the world. They've approached it in the right way".

Perhaps the only glitch in the industry is an Israeli law which bans the sale overseas of Israel medical cannabis. Investors warn that if the policy does not change billions of dollars in foreign investment could dry up. Agreements with Canada and other countries could ultimately fall through.

While Israeli companies are lobbying to have the law changed, some companies have circumvented the law by locating their research and development facilities to other countries. Together Pharma, who has reached an agreement with a Canadian firm to sell five tons of cannabis oil worth hundreds of millions of dollars, has set up shop in Uganda. Says Arik Filstein, Founder of Together Pharma, "instead of taxable revenue being generated here, it's going to other countries, which is unfortunate."

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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from preceding page)

Anti-Semitism in Poland A Growing Concern

The Israel Journal of Foreign Affairs, a publication of the Israel Council on Foreign Relations which operates under the auspices of the World Jewish Congress, has released a penetrating study revealing the extent of the resurgence

of anti-Semitic discourse in Poland in the wake of its controversial Holocaust Law.

Dr. Rafał Pankowski, a sociology professor at Warsaw's Collegium Civitas, explores the disturbing revival of anti-Semitism in that country, identifying dozens of examples of such expres-

hostility to Jews and the Jewish State in the Polish media and politics in early 2018 took many observers by surprise. It was also a great shock because for many years, bilateral relations between Poland and Israel had been especially cordial and fruitful."

In his article, Pankowski wrote: "Unlike other post-Communist countries in Central and Eastern Europe, Poland had made significant progress in recognizing and researching the inconvenient truths about its own legacy of anti-Semitism. In the wake of the new legislation, however, that progress has been seriously hampered and the findings of these historians, and even their patriotism, has been called into question," writes Pankowski.

He notes that while in recent years anti-Jewish discourse was mainly confined to extreme quarters, of late it has found a prominent place in the mainstream media, especially in state-controlled news outlets. "The surge in radical nationalist discourse," warns Dr. Pankowski, "reflects a deeper crisis of liberal, democratic, and humanistic values—in Poland and elsewhere in post-Communist Europe, as well as in the wider world."

Archbishop Henryk

Muszynski, archbishop emeritus of the Archdiocese of Gniezno, underscored the same trend in an interview with the Polish-language Catholic Guide magazine: "Old demons began to wake up: the trust of many thousands of people has been strained and the work of many decades has been tarnished," he said, adding: "Those who reject today Jews and Muslims, who judge these people, probably never met any Jew or Muslim. The blame for their aggression and fear is usually borne by their environment, in which radical opinions and propaganda dominate, served by some media," said Muszynski.

Kosher Beer Launched in Portugal

A brewery in Belmonte, one of three municipalities in Portugal with their own rabbis and synagogues, has launched the country's first kosher artisanal beer. The beer will make its debut at the country's kosher market which is held annually in October.

The initial brew in July yielded some 500 bottles of the Cabralinha label. Its name is "little goat" in Portuguese.

The area of Portugal
(Please turn to page 26)

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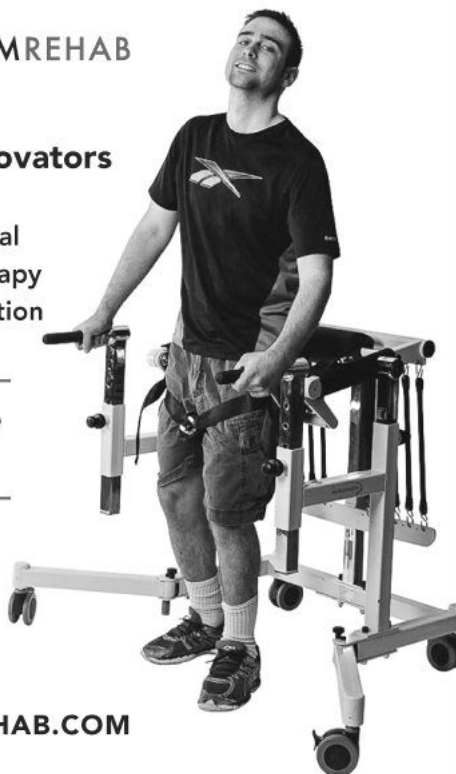
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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 24)

has only a handful of Jews although many Portuguese trace their lineage to those who were forced to flee during the Inquisition. Rabbi Elisha Salas, the emissary for Shavei Israel is helping to bring people back into the Judaism's fold.

The new beer is part of a growing popularity of kosher products

in the region. In 2017 Casa Agricola, one of Serra da Estrela's oldest producers of olive oil, launched a kosher label in time for Chanukah. In Covilha, the Braz Queijos cheese factory obtained a kosher certificate for most of its products. A winery in the area has been producing kosher wine for five years now and a kosher hotel opened in Belmonte in 2017 and has so far received over 16,000 guests.

**SEINFELD
TURNS DOWN
\$5 MILLION - PER**



JERRY SEINFELD HAS turned down an offer from NBC of \$5 million per episode for a new season of "Seinfeld". The comedian has put his "Seinfeld" days behind him and prefers to focus on his new series "Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee." "The most important word in art is 'proportion,'" says Seinfeld "How much? How long is this joke going to be? How many words? How many minutes? And getting that right is what makes it art or what makes it mediocre,"

Titanic Victim's Hebrew Watch Up for Auction

Sinai Kantor and his wife boarded the Titanic in Southampton. They were from Vitebsk, today a city in northwest Belarus. They were immigrants bound for New York, both wanting to study medicine in America.

Sinai Kantor was among the dozens of Jews who perished in the wreck.

Now Kantor's pocket watch featuring Hebrew letters and Moses holding the Ten Commandments is up for auction. Paperwork, including a provenance letter from his descendants, attests to the validity of the watch.

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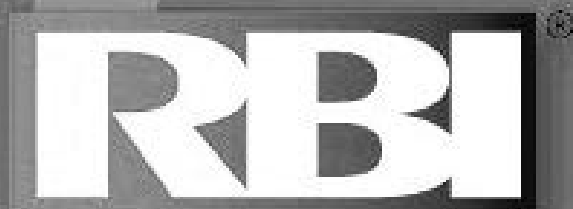


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