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JUNE 30, 2022



ISRAELIS CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY

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Israel at 74

That Israel should have survived for three quarters of a century is no less than a miracle. A collectivity of some half a million individuals, drawn from a variety of nations, a mixture of economic backgrounds and religious orientations, united in the recreation of a political and national entity that has defied historical expectations. Israel has succeeded against the challenge of a hundred million Arabs, virtually all of whom, at least until recently, sworn to her destruction. It was achieved in an atmosphere which was the product of millenia of Judeophobia. Israel has survived for seven decades because of her courage, her determination and her willingness to make the sacrifices essential to her survival. Anything less would have condemned the nation to extinction.

Today Israel must face the future courageously and aggressively. The Abraham Accords are a welcome development and the ties between Israel and the UAE, as evidenced by the recent Free Trade Agreement, are stronger than anyone could have imagined. Despite lingering tensions between Israel and Jordan and public misgivings in Egypt the uneasy peace is holding firm. Consultations between the two militaries are frequent and senior Israeli officers from the IDF have made regular visits to Egypt. The recent Negev Summit, which included Egypt, Bahrain, Morocco and the UAE (with Jordan attending future meetings) is helping, in the words of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, "to build a regional security architecture that will build deterrence against threats from the archenemy, Iran." Yet hatred of Israel among those Arab entities who refuse to acknowledge its existence may well intensify from one generation to another. Terrorist

groups within Israel and throughout Gaza are not suddenly going to disappear. The belief that "Palestine" is part of some Islamic inheritance, the conviction that Islam is poised to make a resurgence which will make it once again the powerful nation it was centuries ago, still dominates much of Islamic thinking.

Israel must also resolve, or at least mitigate, pressing internal problems tearing increasingly at the nation's fragile unity. Jews have long been a fractious people. Religious convictions are often a unifying force. They may also be a deeply divisive one and Israel is suffering a polarizing struggle between religious and secular entities. Israel's unstable political situation, with all governments dependent for survival on splinter groups willing to go to extraordinary lengths to achieve their often narrow objectives, means that a "few" can hold the majority to ransom.

And yet despite having to contend with the soaring cost of living and doing so under the almost daily threat of being in the wrong place at the wrong time and notwithstanding the deepening internal fissures, the recent United Nations World Happiness Report ranked Israel 9th on its world list, up for 12th last year and the country's highest rating ever. Israel scores high on life satisfaction, economics, health, social support and generosity. "I think", says Anat Fanti, a PhD candidate specializing in well-being, "it's a mix of Israeli pride and optimism."

We don't doubt Fanti's research. But there's something else. In Israel Jews, including the 400 recent arrivals from Ethiopia, never have to worry that their country's leader will one day announce that he intends to stop the "bloodsucking" Jews from "spreading like weeds."

THE WORLD IN REVIEW

NEWS OF THE RECENT PAST IS REVIEWED

By NOAH FREEDMAN

“Death to the Palestinians” - In Iran?

Sheina Vojoudi is an Iranian dissident who fled the Islamic Republic because she refused to submit to the repressive regime. She and others were not surprised when a group of her fellow countrymen chanted “death to Palestine” during the al-Quds protest calling for Israel’s destruction. Says Vojoudi: “I believe it’s very important to know that the people you see in the pictures are not there because of al-Quds day, they’re just there because many of them have no other choice. Believe me, there will be no al-Quds demonstration in Iran if these people were not under pressure.”

“Iranian people in Sirjan chanting: Death to

Palestine! It shows the absurd ideology of the theocratic regime & terrorist Shia mullahs in Tehran which supports the Terrorists against Israel! Iranian people are supporting Peace & have no problem with Israel or the USA at all”, adds Erfan Fard, a counter-terrorism expert.

Banning Nazi Symbols

Queensland, Australia will become the second state in the country to ban the public display of the swastika and other Nazi symbols. The move, says Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk, will ensure that extremists are “called out and confronted”. “These crimes”, she continued, “are not harmless. Nor are their

ideologies”.

The premier’s decision came after a Nazi flag was displayed in the window of a block of flats near the Brisbane synagogue. A parliamentary committee also recommended that the bill cover social media and internet displays.

No plans are being made to make exceptions for Hindus, Buddhists and Jains, for whom swastikas are religious symbols.

There are an estimated 112,000 Jews in Australia, making it the 9th largest Jewish population.

It is worth noting that

in what would be a first for an official piece of U.S. hate crimes legislative bill, the California’s state Assembly *has* added language differentiating the Nazi swastika from the swastika symbol used in art and worship for Hindus, Buddhists and Jains.

Jews On Time’s Most Influential

Ukrainian President Zelensky was among the Jews who made *Time* magazine’s annual list of the most

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SENDING AID TO EMBATTLED UKRAINE



ISRAEL’S MINISTRY OF DEFENCE DELIVERS 2,000 helmets and 500 vests for use by emergency and civilian organizations in Ukraine. Photo courtesy of the Department of Production and Procurement in the Israel Ministry of Defence.

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WALKING WITH ISRAEL

15,000 TORONTO JEWS HIT THE STREETS FOR ISRAEL

By ORI BELMONT

With the thaw of winter comes the succulent spring foliage. So too, the long-awaited easing of Covid-19 restrictions has brought about a renewal of a different sort.

On the morning of Sunday, May 29, thousands of members of Toronto's Jewish community gathered in Earl Bales Park for the 53rd iteration of the UJA-sponsored, seven kilometre 'Walk with Israel'. The UJA estimates that approximately 15,000 people took part in the walk.

Co-chaired by Rob Kumer and Barbara Schechter, the participants

Ori Belmont is a freelance writer based in Toronto, Canada. His passions include jogging, golfing, baseball, short stories, Torah study and long, meaningful and philosophical conversations. Visit his website: OriBelmont.com



Photo credit: Liora Kogan & UJA Federation of Greater Toronto

were welcomed by keynote speaker Linda Frum, a renowned author, journalist and former Conservative member of the Senate. Other guest speakers included Idit Shamir, Consul General of Israel in Toronto and Western Canada and Alon Davidi, Mayor of the besieged coastal city of Sderot.

Steve McDonald, Vice President of Communications and Marketing for the UJA, said that the opportunity for the city's Jewish community to express support for Israel was long overdue. Indeed,

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HISTORIAN CENSORED BY RUSSIAN TV

RENOWNED HOLOCAUST DIRECTOR REFUSED TO SAY WHAT RT WANTED

By RAFAEL MEDOFF

I was watching a CNN report about Russian atrocities in Ukraine when the email arrived. It was from a producer for RT, the Russian government television network, asking to interview me about what she called “the American media’s collusion with the Third Reich.”

Why is Russian Television suddenly interested in how U.S. journalists covered Hitler? Evidently it has to do with

Dr. Medoff is founding director of The David S. Wyman Institute for Holocaust Studies and author of more than 20 books about Jewish history and the Holocaust. His latest is America and the Holocaust: A Documentary History, published by the Jewish Publication Society & University of Nebraska Press. The following article appeared in the Jewish Journal of Los Angeles. - The Editor

Vladimir Putin’s bizarre references to Nazis in his attempts to justify the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

According to Putin, the Ukrainians—including their Jewish president—are actually Nazis and therefore

the invasion constitutes “deNazification.” RT, Putin’s television network, promotes similar themes. On the day the RT producer’s email arrived, the RT website featured articles claiming that the Ukrainian army is filled with “neo-Nazis”, al-

legging that Russian citizens living in Ukraine are under attack from “neo-Nazi groups integrated into the government of Ukraine”; and asserting that the Biden administration is carrying out “genocide” against Native Americans in Nevada.

RT.com also features wild accusations against the American news media, such as denouncing U.S. journalists for “vilifying” the January 6 rioters. Presum-

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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 3)

influential people. Zelensky was listed in the "leaders' category."

Jewish entertainers who made the list include Mila Kunis, who emigrated from Chernivtsi to the US at age 7, Andrew Garfield, Sarah Jessica Parker, Zoë Kravitz and Pete Davidson.

Talka Waititi, the Maori-Jewish director from New Zealand also known as Talka Cohen, made *Time's* list. Waititi is perhaps best known for the black comedy film *Jojo Rabbit* (2019), the latter of which he also wrote and starred in as an imaginary version of Adolf Hitler. *Jojo Rabbit* received six Academy Award nominations and won for Best Adapted Screenplay.

Andy Jassy, CEO of Amazon, was named in the "titan's" category. Other Jews included photographer and opioid crisis activist Nan Goldin, who led protests in White Plains, New York against the proposed settlement in the bankruptcy trial of Purdue Pharma, and David Zasla, CEO and President of Warner Bros Discovery.

Oldest Holocaust Survivor Dies

Boris Pahor spent time in Dachau, Mittlebau-Dora, Bergen-Belsen and Natzweiler-Struthof after being captured by the Nazis while fighting for the Slovene Partisans. He is best known for *Necropolis*, a 1967 autobiographical novel written after a visit to one of the Nazi camps where he had been held two decades earlier.

Pahor was born in Trieste which became part of Italy after the post World War 1 disintegration of the Austro-Hungarian empire. Slovenians were subjected to Mussolini's campaign of

"Italianization" and Pahor soon realized that he was one of the "bugs" the Italian dictator wanted to crush. Pahor vowed loyalty to his Slovenian identity. He immediately joined the anti-fascist Slovenian resistance. His first arrest came in 1944.

"They started to beat me with leather straps - one on the right and one on the left - each with a whip, all over my body", Pahor said on a 2019 BBC documentary. "I was screaming. They didn't care. My back was like a zebra when I went back to the jail."

After the Holocaust Pahor stood for European and regional elections for the Slovene Union party, representing Italy's Slovene minority of about 80,000. He received Slovenia's highest award for cultural achievement after it broke away from Yugoslavia in 1991.

Pahor died at the age of 106. "With the passing of Boris Pahor, said Italian Culture Minister Dario Franceschini, "we have lost

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HISTORIAN CENSORED*(Continued from page 5)*

ably such nonsense is a ham-handed attempt to undermine the credibility of media outlets that have been reporting about Russian atrocities in Ukraine.

The RT producer's claim that the U.S. media "colluded" with the Nazis in the 1930s is in line with the Putin regime's contention that the Ukrainians and their American supporters are all Nazis or Nazi-sympathizers.

It's a classic propaganda device—take the kernel of truth within a known historical episode, tear it out of its original context, and then twist and magnify it to suit some contemporary political purpose. Yes, many major U.S. newspapers downplayed or ignored news about the Holocaust—but that was poor journalism (and, in some cases, a kind of antisemitism), not "collusion with Nazism."

Such anti-American propaganda is a staple of RT. Originally known by its full name, "Russia Today," RT was created by the Putin regime in 2005. It is a propaganda agency, controlled and financed by the Russian government. Since 2017, its representatives in the United States have been required to register as foreign agents of the Russian government.

I wouldn't have known any of that from the producer's email, however. She described RT as an "international TV channel," with no clue as to its mission, financing, or governance. She never even used the word "Russia."

Obviously I have no interest in being used by Putin's television network for his propaganda purposes; I replied that I would agree to an interview only on condition that my full comments be broadcast, including my thoughts on how the lessons of the 1930s are relevant today. I explained that I would point out, among other things, that:

—Mainstream American newspapers in the 1930s

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HISTORIAN CENSORED

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were not pro-Nazi. Because in the early 1930s failed to of naiveté or ignorance, recognize that Adolf Hitler—many major U.S. newspapers like Vladimir Putin today—

was an aggressive dictator who would threaten neighboring countries.

—The Russian public today is at a great disadvantage as compared to the American public during the Nazi era. The American press is genuinely free and independent, and so the U.S. public had access to sources of information about the Nazi persecutions even when the Roosevelt administration would have preferred that the public not know. Thus while the *New York Times* downplayed Holocaust news, other publications, such as the weekly *New Republic* and the *New York City* daily newspaper PM, highlighted it. By contrast, the Russian people today are unable to freely access information about Russian atrocities in Ukraine because of the Putin

government's control of the Russian news media.

—The fact that American journalists 80 years ago did a poor job of covering the Holocaust is no reason to doubt the accuracy of today's American media coverage of Russian atrocities in Ukraine. Russia's war crimes have been amply documented by U.S. media outlets from across the political and ideological spectrum.

The RT producer's reply was not unexpected, but it was loaded with irony. "We are not interested in airing propaganda, nor including analysis which are propaganda themselves," she said of my intended remarks. Pretty funny coming from a full-time propagandist for the Putin regime! I guess I won't be hearing from RT again.

WALKING WITH ISRAEL

(Continued from page 4)

initiatives such as the walk for Israel have earned the UJA the well-deserved distinction as being recognized as one of Israel's staunchest advocates in the diaspora.

The comprehensive swath and reach of the Jewish community is sizeable and significant. Especially noteworthy was the broad representation of the young and passionate and the older and sagacious. Religious and secular. Ashkenazi, Sephardi and Mizrahi all joined in. The event served as a concrete reminder of what we can accomplish when we unite behind common goals, and caste aside polarities which invariably weaken us as a collective.

In effect, the gathering of Jews offered up the conjunctive declaration that Jews from all walks of life will continue to embrace, admire and support Israel from thousands of miles away. The event was further proof that those who

wish us harm with venomous rants to sow hatred among other nations towards Israel will never emerge victorious.

The abject failure of those who propagate myths and repeat canards about Jews, Israel, and Jews in Israel to willfully condemn or eschew recent - and historical - instances of anti-Semitism fuels and mobilizes our community. It unites us with the shared goal of providing articulate and factual information that rightfully and effectively champion Israel as a free and democratic nation amidst the seemingly perpetual struggle to gain, or regain, the mantle atop the hierarchical battle for public relations supremacy.

Thanks to corporate and private donations, the amount raised for the event was nearly \$1.5 million. The primary beneficiaries of the 'Walk with Israel' will be the UJA's partner communities

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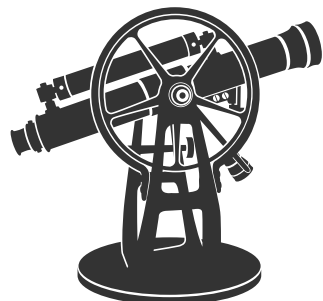
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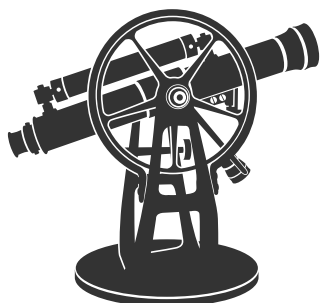
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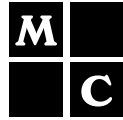
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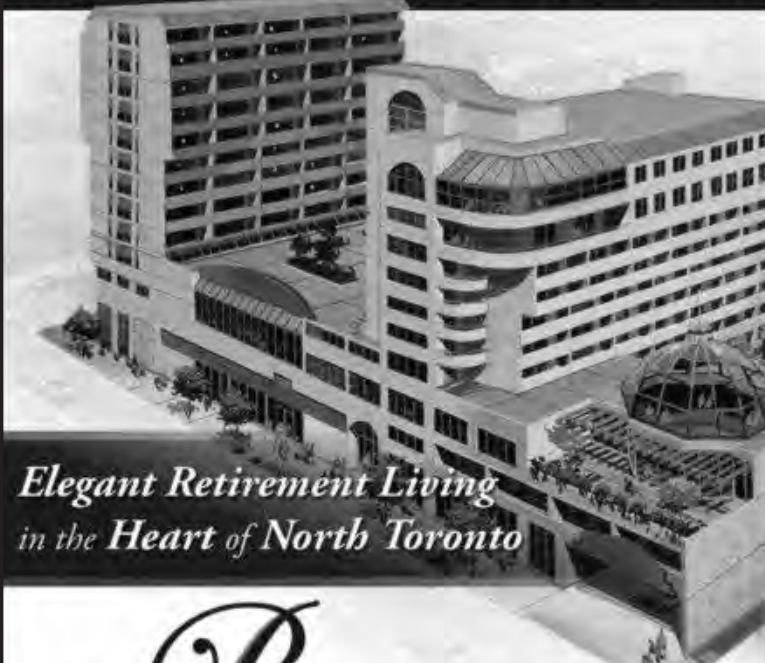
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WALKING WITH ISRAEL

(Continued from page 8)

of Bat Yam, Sderot and Eilat. A large portion of the funds raised will be allotted to at-risk citizens, so that they have an easier time accessing mental health resources. "Through our investments in Israel which have had a life-changing impact, we contribute towards improving the quality of life for some of Israel's most vulnerable citizens" said McDonald. In addition, financial support will be pro-

vided for victims of terrorism and support for new immigrants, including those from the Ukraine.

The sea of blue and white seemed to infinitely extend far beyond the boundaries of the park. With alacrity, many parents danced, sang and became actively engaged in the abundant jubilation with their young children. It truly was a sight to behold.

I attended the "Walk

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with Israel' with my charming and loquacious 5 year old son. As inquisitive as ever, he wondered aloud why so many people, many of whom were wearing blue and white and waving the Israeli flag, were gathered together. "They, like you, love Israel", I told him.

"Like Coco", he reminded me. The affectionate term for my mother Anna Mae, Chana Mintze bas Sheindl v'Dov Ber, z"l. I wistfully drifted back to the time when she took my siblings and me to celebrations such as this. These

occasions and my mother's unyielding loyalty and love for Israel were ingrained in me from the very tender age of five. For that I am eternally grateful.

En masse, participants rapturously moved towards the park exit, and onto Bathurst Street. My little darling, however, wanted to go to the playground. Many forged a circuitous route, until arriving at the Toronto Heschel School's playground, where, I am told, the fun continued with face painting, games, dancing and food.

WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 6)

a great writer, a giant of the 20th century who was able to tell the horrors of the concentration camp with skill and clarity, pulling no punches."

Orthodox Rabbi In A Church?

Jews, according to most Orthodox leaders, are not permitted to go into churches. A church is the site of *avodah zarah* or idol worship, something that is strictly forbidden under Jewish law.

But there was British Chief Rabbi Ephraim

Mirvis in St. Paul's Cathedral in London for a prayer service honouring Queen Elizabeth's 70 year anniversary on the throne.

Well, it seems that the Chief Rabbi was simply following the guidelines of a 1970s ruling by the London Beth Din. That ruling allows rabbis to attend Christian religious ceremonies IF the rabbi's presence was requested by the monarch. And that was certainly the case during the Jubilee celebrations.

The debate on this issue will not end with Rabbi Mirvis' presence. For some

a church is "more than just a building...it is a place where Christianity is palpable." But for more liberal rabbis the question is "why are you going to the church?"

Entering a church, many Conservative and Reform leaders argue, does not necessarily mean worshipping.

In any case, the late
(Please turn to page 15)

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EYE ON MONTREAL

NAMES IN THE NEWS IN THE CITY

By MIKE COHEN

AZRIELI'S LEGACY:

Businessman and philanthropist David J. Azrieli, who passed away in 2014, left an extraordinary legacy. I am proud to say I had the opportunity to interview him on many occasions here and in Israel, where he pioneered the construction of shopping malls. I remember going to see him at his downtown headquarters, which in 2002 was transformed into Canada's first Sofitel on Sherbrooke Street West near Stanley. Only recently did my family and I have our first opportunity to dine at the hotel's prestigious restaurant Le Renoir(<https://>

restaurant-renoir.com). We were seated on their exceptional terrace and enjoyed a meal fit for a king. Inspired by French cuisine, infused with international flavors and elevated with local ingredients, Le Renoir tells a story of Montréal's vibrant culture. Critically acclaimed celebrity Chefs Olivier Perret and Clément Tilly have put together innovative menus, and ultra-chic settings. Renoir Restaurant has received two "Toques" in Montreal's first edition of the prestigious French gastronomy guide Gault & Millau and the best grade out of all hotel restaurants in the city.

I can see why and we will be back, especially while the terrace is open.

A NEW HILTON:

Westbury Montreal is an impressive project offering a brand new neighbourhood to its residents, leaving no one indifferent. The four phases of the project feature luxury condos with high-end finishes as well as breathtaking common spaces. In addition, thanks to the many shops located within the project (PA Supermarket, Starbucks®, Forno West), its enviable proximity to the Namur metro station and major highways, and the huge park

of over 40,000 square feet located across the street from the project, Westbury Montréal ensures a dynamic daily life for its residents. Also, with the construction of the Hilton Garden Inn/Hilton Homewood Suites, which includes Brasserie Blandino and Taqueria Pancho, the new Westbury Montreal borough is becoming a landmark where it is good to meet. The Jewish community has already embraced this property for family stays, simchas in their ballroom and dinners at Blandino. I recently met with Devmont

(Please turn to page 17)

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WHO BY FIRE; THE INCREDIBLE UNTOLD STORY OF LEONARD COHEN'S TOUR OF ISRAEL DURING THE YOM KIPPUR WAR

In October, 1973, the poet and singer Leonard Cohen – 39 years old, famous, unhappy, and at a creative dead end – traveled to the Sinai desert and inserted himself into the chaos and bloodshed of the Yom Kippur War. Moving around the front with a guitar and a pick-up team of local musicians, Cohen dived

headlong into the midst of a global crisis and met hundreds of fighting men and women at the worst moment of their lives. His audiences heard him knowing it might be the last thing they heard, and those who survived never forgot what they heard.

Cohen's war tour was an electric cultural

moment, one that still echoes today, and one that inspired some of his greatest songs – but a moment that only few knew about, until now. In *Who By Fire*, Canadian-Israeli journalist Matti Friedman gives us a riveting account of what happened during those weeks in Israel in October, 1973. With access to amazing and never-before-seen material written by Cohen himself, along with dozens of interviews and rare photographs, Friedman revives this fraught and stunning time, presenting an intimate and unforgettable portrait of the artist, and of the young people who heard him sing

in the midst of combat.

Who By Fire brings us close to one the greatest, most brilliant and charismatic voices of our times, and gives us a rare glimpse of war, faith, and belonging. It is a "stunning resurrection of a moment in the life of Leonard Cohen and the history of Israel. It's the story of a young artist in crisis and a young country at war, and the powerful resonance of the chord struck between them. A beautiful, haunting book full of feeling," says Nicole Krauss, author of *To Be a Man*.

Who by Fire is available on Amazon, Audible Canada and at Indigo.

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WORLD IN REVIEW*(Continued from page 11)*

Chief Rabbi Immanuel Jakobovitz seems have settled the question for British Chief Rabbis when he wrote that “after consultation with the London Beth Din, my own practice is occasionally to attend Church services on royal and state occasions to represent the Jewish community...But I never actively participate nor do I wear cap and gown. I find my Christian hosts usually show understanding and respect for this attitude and its reservations.”

An Orthodox Jew In the Major Leagues?

There are a number of Jews in Major League baseball, some of them pretty good. Max Fried of the Atlanta Braves, Alex Bregman of the Houston Astros, Joc Pederson with the San Francisco Giants

and Richard Bleier of the Miami Marlins are among them.

But while he is likely years away from a major league roster Jacob Steinmetz, the 25th ranked prospect in the Arizona Diamondbacks organization, is given a decent shot at eventually making it to the “show”.

Steinmetz was born in 2003 and is believed to be the first practicing Orthodox Jewish player ever to be selected by a major league team. Born in Woodmere, New York he graduated from the Hebrew Academy of Five Towns and Rockaway in 2021. His father, Elliot Steinmetz, is the coach of the Yeshiva Men’s basketball team. Young Jacob keeps the Sabbath and eats only kosher food.

Jacob is not worried about keeping kosher while on the road or about Shabbat interfering with his baseball schedule. “I know

(Please turn to page 19)

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EYE ON MONTREAL*(Continued from page 12)*

President Sam Scalia and enjoyed an outstanding breakfast at Blandino. Both the food and service were impeccable. There is an outdoor terrace for the summer. You can read all about the two hotels at: <https://www.westburymontreal.com/en/hotel/>. Sam Scalia and his brother Joe have donated almost \$1 million to the MultiCaf Community Cafeteria in Côte des Neiges since 2011. Recently, they unveiled a \$150,000 donation to assist the organization in its mission to provide affordable meals and several food services to more than 7,000 low-income residents in the Côte des Neiges area.

PLAYGROUND:

Members of the Jewish community seeking an alternative to the Montreal Casino have found it at Playground across the Mercier Bridge in Kahnawake. The facility first

(Please turn to following page)

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EYE ON MONTREAL

(Continued from preceding page)

opened 12 years ago and Chief Marketing Officer Phil Sabbah has been part of the operation since day one.

"When we started here, it was a poker room with customers packed in like sardines," Sabbah said. "With each expansion we have increased our space, offerings and clientele and for the next one we are really excited."

Playground's initial expansion was completed in late 2012 to welcome players who flocked to the club's first World Poker Tour event, which drew the attention of the poker world. Since then the venue has hosted multiple international events. Playground captured the 2017 American Poker Awards Event of the Year award for hosting the record-

breaking and exciting partypoker Millions North America competition.

The Electronic Gaming Space at Playground has grown to over 600 machines and over 30,000 square feet of space. They broke ground on the most ambitious expansion yet in 2018, with plans for a luxury hotel, two new restaurants, a live entertainment spot, a new poker room and an even larger variety of Electronic Gaming Devices. Sabbah, who is Jewish, told me that the first three of the planned six floors for this building will be ready by the fall to accommodate the restaurants, entertainment space and the poker room.

Playground is located at 1500 Unit C Route

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AN INSPIRING EXHIBIT: For most of her life, Natalie Bassel has gained notice as a makeup artist and the vice-president of marketing and sales for a consulting firm. The devoted Jewish mother of three and grandmother of five always had a love for painting, selling some works of art via word of mouth. Now, at the age of 75 years young, it is time for Natalie to check one major item off her bucket list. With the support of her husband Stan, along with Earl Pinchuk and Gary Blair of the Art for Healing Foundation, she recently presented her first solo exhibition at Galerie Erga. Pinchuk notes that Natalie has been painting since she was 25 but has never shown

paintings in a public venue. "Gary and I were with her a few years ago and she said that her dream was to have a solo show," he said. "Finally, we made it happen."

MAJOR UP-GRADES AT THE Y: The Sylvan Adams YM-YWHA (the "Y"), Montreal's Jewish Community Centre, has officially unveiled the completion of major upgrades to its fitness centre. A ribbon-cutting event was held on June 14. Made possible thanks to a generous donation by Sylvan Adams, phase I of the \$8-million-dollar project was an extensive renovation of the Y's locker rooms and health club facilities. Phase II was the construction of an all-new 13,500-square-foot fitness centre, tailored to the needs of the communities that the Y serves.

Mike Cohen's email address is info@mikecohen.ca

WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 15)

Arizona has a big Jewish community, so there's going to [be] a bunch of kosher food," he said. "Once I start moving up ... the plan is to either ship food there or bring my own food. It shouldn't be that difficult for me." As for games played Friday nights and Saturday

afternoons pitchers don't pitch every day so the Diamondbacks could conceivably adjust their rotation. But years ago Jacob's parents decided to allow their son to pitch on the sabbath as long as he walked to the ballpark.

(Please turn to following page)

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WORLD IN REVIEW
(Continued from preceding page)

**Jewish Newspaper
Turfed**

The SA Jewish Report has been expelled from the South African press council after it failed to publish a ruling on its front page which would have contained an apology to the South African BDS coalition for a story about its blatantly anti-Semitic cartoon. The coalition had initiated the complaint to the Press Council after the 2020 story appeared.

The cartoon depicted a fat greedy man shovelling money into his mouth. It was reminiscent of the tropes used by the Nazis in their war against the Jews.

Despite two prominent academics telling the council that the cartoon was anti-Semitic in nature,
(Please turn to page 22)

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WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 20)

the Press Council ruled against the *SA Jewish Report*. Chair Judge Phillip Levinsohn said that the decision was taken after “lengthy correspondence and

after the *SA Jewish Report* had refused to obey the rulings against it.”

The *SA Jewish Report* is the first publication in South African history

to be expelled from the press body.

Editor Peta Krost did not accuse the Press Council of being biased but she did maintain that the body was being used by the BDS coalition to further

the Jewish Standard, June 30, 2022

their political aims. Added Krost: “As a newspaper for this community, we will continue to bring you the best possible news that’s relevant to our community...no matter what.”

Meanwhile the BDS movement has hijacked a strike at the food and beverage company Clover, where workers have been on strike for months. Clover was acquired in 2019 by a consortium called Milco SA, which is led by the Israel Central Bottling Company. CBC is an Israeli-based manufacturer and distributor of soft drinks, dairy products, and alcoholic beverages.

What should simply be a strike between management and workers has turned into an attack on Israel. Leon Louw, the president of the Free Market Foundation, told the *SA Jewish Report* that BDS had “successfully hijacked” a domestic labour matter to promote antisemitism. “BDS is abusing the workers and unions by injecting its anti-

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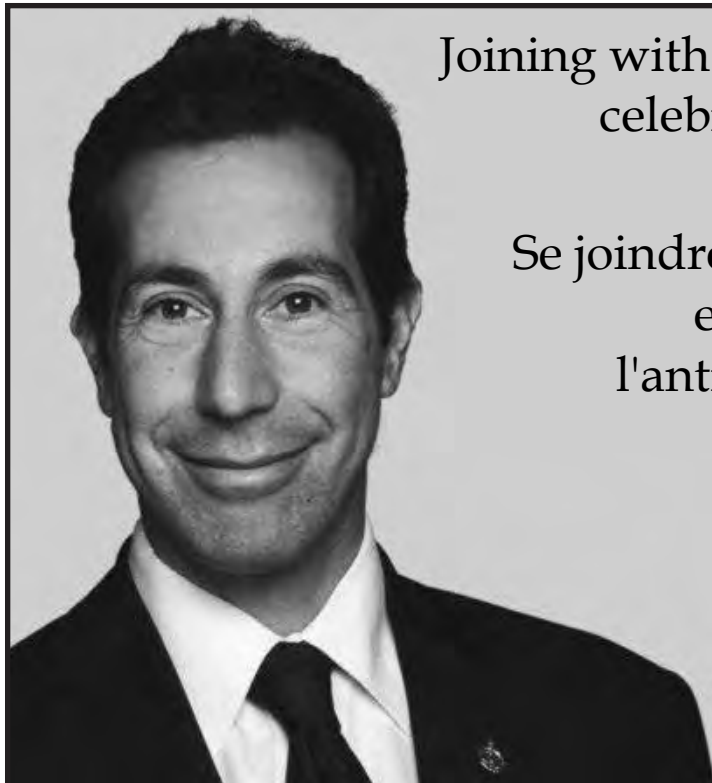
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semitic agenda where it has no relevance," he said. "The Jewish/Israeli connection is clearly irrelevant, and concocted to serve antisemitic agendas. The issue is entirely business economics."

Feds Deliver On Commitment

In its April budget, the Liberal government confirmed that the Sarah and Chaim Neuberger Holocaust Education Centre in Toronto would receive \$2.5M as part of its commitment to the enhancement of Jewish life across the country. Marco Mendicino, minister of public safety, told a June news conference that "We need to keep alive the memory of those who senselessly lost their lives during the Holocaust. And it is imperative that we continue to combat historical distortions and denial related to its horrors."

Other commitments made by the government include \$20 million for the Montreal Holocaust Museum relocation and expansion; funds for the Vancouver Jewish Community Centre redevelopment project; \$85.6M over five years for the Office of the Special Envoy on Preserving Holocaust Remembrance and Combating Antisemitism; and Amending the Criminal Code to prohibit the communication of statements that willfully promote antisemitism by condoning, denying, or downplaying the Holocaust.

Expressing Gratitude to John Horgan

BC Premier John Hogan has sent a letter to the Jewish Community formally announcing his government's acceptance of the IHRA definition of antisemitism, as an important, non-legally binding educational

tool to help determine what is - and what is not - antisemitic. "Our government," says Horgan, "will be engaging with the Jewish community...and collaborating with you to address any identified rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism within government programs, policies and services." The BC government, the NDP premier stated emphatically, "stands with British Columbia's Jewish community in the fight against antisemitism as we always have and always will".

Names and Events In the News

Ukrainian-born Jew and WhatsApp inventor Jan Koum flies under the radar but quietly has donated millions to Jewish causes...One of Great Britain's largest unions, the Gas Workers and General Labourers, unanimously passed a motion calling for antisemites, including those found guilty among its own membership, to "face the full force of the law."...Ukraine's chief rabbi,

Yaakov Dov Bleich, has denied sexual misconduct charges...A German court has ruled that St. Marien Church in Wittenberg does not have to remove the "Judensau" - Jew Sow - sculpture from its facade. The court acknowledged that while the content of the carving was offensive it ruled that the church had taken sufficient steps to counter this by installing a memorial and information board. The verdict can still be appealed to Germany's constitutional court.



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