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SPECIAL ISSUE

**SHINDIG: 25 YEARS CELEBRATION**  
EVENT PHOTOS & STORIES FROM THE SHINDIG

**REMEMBER WHAT IT USED TO LOOK LIKE?**  
OU FOTOS VAN SA

**SHALOM BABY**  
MY LIFE AS A SHALOM BABY MOM

# SAJAC REPORTER

CELEBRATING **25** YEARS

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Pamela Nathan



What a year this has been! As you know I have been involved with SAJAC in some way or another since its inception 25 years ago, but never, in all this time, have I devoted that many countless hours to our organization. This is not a complaint. I thoroughly enjoyed working with our team of dedicated, devoted expats to accomplish our goal, launched by the vision that Leon Snaid brought to

the table, of organizing a weekend Shindig to celebrate 25 years and additionally launch our nation-wide presence. There was no stopping us after that!

Having had the experience of the 21st anniversary celebration at the Lotzoff's home, I had a good idea as to what was necessary. But, with that said, in spite of everything, it was impossible to anticipate that my mom's live-in helper would quit on the Monday before the weekend party. It was also impossible to anticipate the last minute complications with regard to the limited use of a kosher kitchen which left Midge Kellen without an assistant to complete all the baking before Shabbat. How was she going to accomplish this without help? Our plan to have her delicious home-made desserts as the final touch to our four-course scrumptious meal was about to go up in smoke.

I haven't baked in 25 years! My corporate hat has been well in place for decades now. Business? Yes. But baking? No!

Yet, there I was, three days before the event, in the kitchen at Beth Jacob, with guidance from Midge, measuring out cupfuls of sugar and flour, melting butter, cracking dozens of eggs, and above all, learning how to use an industrial mix-master. I couldn't imagine it was me! But the truth is it was an amazing experience!

Spontaneously, I found myself reaching across the baking sheet and grabbing a dollop of raw dough, just the way I

used to do when I was a kid. The moment I tasted the dough, I had a déjà vu memory of standing in the kitchen in our home in Houghton, watching my mom bake her famously delicious two-tone short bread biscuits. She scolded me for taking the dough, saying I was going to have stomach ache and that her biscuits would not have equal amounts of chocolate and vanilla dough. I never did get stomach ache from the dough and when she wasn't looking, I took some more – some of the chocolate dough then, to even it out.

Soon after that Midge and I were making meringues. Second déjà vu memory crept up. Fanny Zinober was the 'meringue queen'. I was best friends with her daughter, Hedy. Fanny would not allow us in to her kitchen while the meringues were in the oven, in case we 'disturbed' the precise, low, even temperature required to make her perfect meringues. And then when they were baked, we were only allowed to eat the ones that cracked a little – the perfect ones were for her guests. We'd pour thick clotted cream into the little valley in the center and then bite down boldly – the crisp meringue, just a tad soft in the center, and the delectable fresh cream.... Hmmm now that was delicious! Tears welled up in my eyes. I had not recounted these memories for decades.

**"I HAVEN'T BAKED IN 25 YEARS! MY CORPORATE HAT HAS BEEN WELL IN PLACE FOR DECADES NOW. BUSINESS? YES. BUT BAKING? NO!"**

When Midge and I finally left Beth Jacob at 8.30 pm, I had a huge sense of purpose. Firstly, I was thrilled to be able to help Midge out. She would never have been able to complete her task at hand without assistance. But, equally significant, I was thrilled to recall these memories... back, back from my former life in South Africa; they never come to mind on a day to day basis anymore. Yet, it was in the realm of SAJAC, that I was able to recall these incidences. All my senses came alive. I was filled with joy.

To me, that personifies what the importance of SAJAC is in our lives today. Yes, we are USA citizens and we have integrated and accepted our new way of life. But, South Africa is our roots and I am proud of that. I do want my grand kids and their descendents to know where their families came from.

EDITORS MESSAGE

BY BRIAN MARKS



It seems like yesterday that we were putting last years SAJAC magazine to bed, yet here we are again. Yes, the year whizzed by, but in SAJAC terms this has been one of our fullest and most rewarding years.

The idea of a "reunion" was just that, an idea. But, there are a lot of ideas floating around. The difference between an idea and a fully-fledged national and international reunion is the dedication and hard work of Pam Nathan and the volunteers that she manages to strong-arm along the way. The result was a fantastic weekend of fun, entertainment and new or re-kindled friendships.

SAJAC has survived because it is worth preserving. The idea that our kids remember and have a link to their parent's homeland is a noble one and the fact that SAJAC provides the catalyst to preserving old relationships and fostering new ones is what has kept us relevant for 25 years. So next time your phone rings and you see it's Pam on the other line...please pick up and ask what you can do to keep this worthy cause alive.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO GOOD POLITICS?

by Brian Marks

It is sometimes hard to imagine that I have been in the United States for quite a bit longer than I lived at home. But I have.

Yes, I suppose that in many ways I have become very American. I root for my team, crave a good burger, and stand for the national anthem. Yet, when people ask me where I am from, I have no hesitation in saying that I am from Zimbabwe. Despite what has happened to my beautiful country, I still watched with pride as they marched into the Olympics and rooted for them against America whenever the two countries competed head to head.

But don't get me wrong. I am an American.

I came here for many reasons. Adventure, education, political freedom, opportunity, a future for my children and for more than 30 years I have been proud of my adopted country and proud to be an American. Until now!

I have always enjoyed politics. I studied political science at college and have always been up for a wonderful debate. Exchanging ideas and arguing over political philosophies was rejuvenating and enlightening. It was one of the main reasons I emigrated here. The chance to stand up and shout for ideas I believed in without the fear of retribution

meant a lot to many of us that moved here in the seventies. The system seemed so open, so fresh, and so fair that it provided a light against the dark political backgrounds that we left behind.

But that is gone. It has gotten lost in an atmosphere rife with hate and mis-trust that I fear will never return to civilized rhetoric. What was once open debate between conflicting parties is now venomous hate speech between political factions at war. What was once respectful disagreement is now undisguised vitriole where name-calling and innuendo has more place in 50's McCarthyism than in today's enlightened arena.

The TV and radio talk shows of both the right and left have forgotten their responsibility to inform and have been replaced with a one sided agenda to gain power. The congress has forgotten its role to serve the electorate and make this country a better place, not just to get re-elected. Political ads spew hate and promote fear rather than offering the electorate a tangible appeal for their vote. And the new contribution laws make the politicians mere shells for religious, social and political causes that generate the most political money.

In fact the political process has become

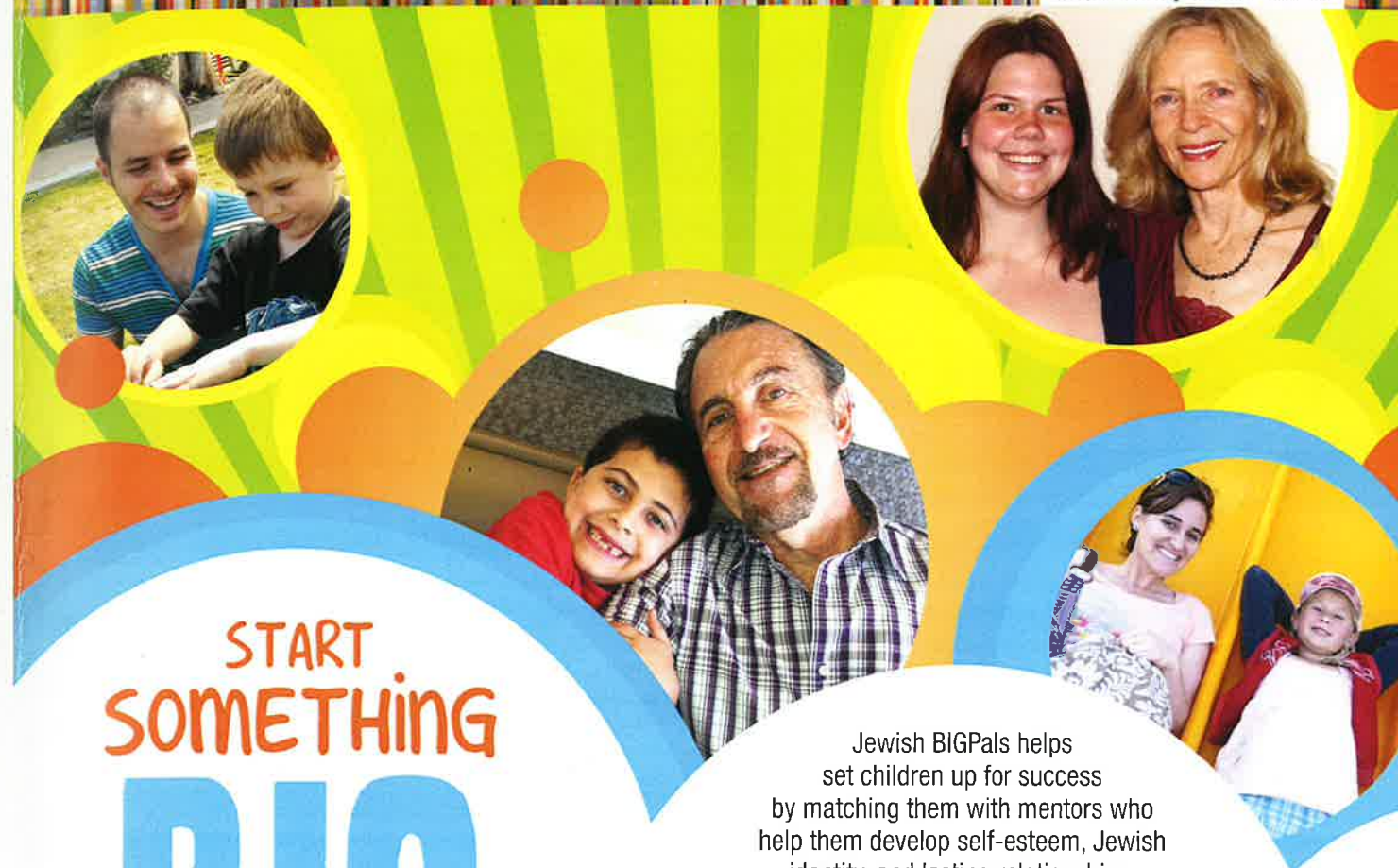
nothing more than a race to raise more money so that our party can spew our misguided philosophies on more stations, in more cities and shout a lot louder than yours.

I did not see this coming. After Obama was elected there seemed to be an atmosphere of hope in the country despite the fact that he came into office during the worst recession of recent memory. But that sunshine lasted until he moved into the White House.

How can a president with one of the largest mandates from the electorate in recent years become such a polarizing force before he even had the time to make any mistakes. The cynic in me would say that race had something to do with it, but I hope I am wrong. Whatever it was, this country became extremely nasty, extremely fast. And it shames me.

Listening to the radio or TV pundits disgusts me. Watching politicians spend their energy on tax returns and birth certificates while the country falls to pieces around them, reminds me that Nero played the fiddle while Rome burned to the ground. And it will not get better.

I am afraid that one of the reasons I came to this country has gone forever. Civilized debate between conflicting ideologies will become as rare as good television. Maybe I shouldn't be so surprised. I should have realized that a country that follows the exploits of Orange County wives and the celebrity of Snookie, had already lost its way.



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## NEWCOMERS CORNER



**Adele Schneider** is from Joburg and has lived in suburban Philadelphia for over 30 years. She has 3 American-Canadian-South African kids who love Mrs. Balls chutney and samosas! Every year we have a huge Hanukkah party where we make koeksisters, our family Hanukkah tradition. The kids love it as do many of their friends who come to join in this team effort!

Only daughter, Adrienne Cohen, is a resident of LA now and is a graphic designer and is extra good at dipping koeksisters in syrup!



**Clive and Judi Wolder** moved to the United States 4 years ago from South Africa. When Clive bought the business, he was excited and passionate about the opportunity to serve the community with their Kosher needs. Judi was teaching Pre-school but is now completing a Masters Degree in Psychology. They live in Tustin with their four children. The oldest son will be a College Freshman and the 3 younger girls (triplets) will be Sophomores in High School.



**Julian Klotz**, moved to Los Angeles about a year ago. His parents and family immigrated to Australia about 12 years ago to give his younger brother and sister a safer life. Julian followed a year later, and lived for 3 years in Melbourne, and 6 years in Sydney.

He never really felt at home in Australia, and after visiting the US many times in the past, felt this was his time to give it a go and move to the States. Previous to that he was in England for 8 months, Israel for 4 (Kibbutz, Sarel and Yeshiva) and toured around South America for a few months as well.



**Yaron and Reise Miller** and their three children Jesse(10), Zev(7) and Arria(4) arrived from London in March 2011 where they have been living for the last 14 years and where their children were born. Yaron is a general dentist who qualified from Wits University in 1992 and Reise studied Fashion Design. They moved to San Diego to join Reise's parents (the Smiths) who emigrated in 2000 and to enjoy a warmer, sunnier climate.

As a family they love the outdoors, going to the beach, cooking and entertaining. They live in Carmel valley and their children attend Chabad school in Scripps ranch. They love San Diego and have enjoyed meeting many South Africans who have been warm making them feel very welcome in their new home.



**Karen-Lee Pollak** emigrated to the United States in 1995. She lives in Dallas, Texas with her husband Michael Pollak and their two children Madison Amber and Jaden Jagger. Karen-Lee is a Partner at Bell Nunnally & Martin, LLP where she chairs the Immigration Practice Group. She is a frequent speaker, writer and blogger on immigration matters. Newsweek Magazine recently featured Ms. Pollak in its "Leaders in Immigration Law Showcase". She was also nominated as a Texas Rising Star by Texas Monthly Magazine.

**Jayde and Oran Elmaleh** met eight years ago, while both living in Los Angeles. They moved to San Diego in 2005 and were married in Israel on August 28, 2009. Ironically, they attended the same primary school in South Africa, King David Sandton. Sharing a common interest in design, they created their time-talking "oishi dolls" ([www.oishidolls.com](http://www.oishidolls.com)). When he is not surfing, Oran runs his branding & design agency, OE Creative and recently started Rubbish Furniture – a high-end furniture design company ([www.rubbishfurniture.com](http://www.rubbishfurniture.com)). Oran and Jayde love to travel but when in town, spend time with their adorable pup, Chino. Both have a passion for photography and love to endeavor in creative projects to keep busy.



**Anthony and Lauren Raisen** made Los Angeles their home in 1987. They have 2 children, both college students. Favorite activities include walking, running, spinning, gyming.

**Michael and Karen Ezrock** have been living in Australia since 1994 but are both originally from South Africa. We have two children, Ryan age 21 and Bianca age 18. We have been in the food industry for the past 20 years covering food manufacturing, wholesaling and retail. Our latest venture is our restaurant in Lakeside where we sell marinated burgers in our home made marinade. The restaurant is located at 9927 Maine Avenue, Lakeside, 92040 and we are open from Tuesday to Sunday 11am to 9pm.

**Heather and Dave Edelstein** moved to San Diego from Boulder City, Nevada. They have a son, Joshua Ari who is 3. Heather says there were multiple reasons for moving to San Diego - employment, to be closer to family and better weather! Heather is from Durban and left in 1985 and spent 16 years in Florida, 1 year in Israel and back to Cape Town for 2 years in 2004/5. She met her Californian husband, Dave, in Florida in 2005. They are presently living in Fallbrook.



SAJAC was pleased to welcome Mike Flint of Machal Productions, and his father Mitchell, at the SAJAC Shindig in April. Many have asked to give a recap and update of happening as to the feature documentary that is being made.

To those who were not there, Mitch Flint, now a tender 89 years old, after having distinguished himself as a fighter pilot in the US Navy during WWII, was one of the founding fathers of Israeli Air Force in 1948, having flown in Israel's first Fighter squadron and Bomber squadrons. Both Flints were honored to have been invited as each has been touched by South Africans and their strong support if Israel.

Mitch's comrades in arms in 1948 were mainly South Africans, having led Flight 35 squadron that featured the likes of South Africans Joel Katzew, and Ralph Rosofsky, Irving Feldstein. (See attached picture from the SA 800 book)

As Part of the first fighter squadron, 101, he flew with the likes of South Africans Syd Cohen, a commanding officer of 101, Lionel Bloch and Eddie Cohen; South Africans who were killed in action, Arnold Ruch, Boris Senior, Les Shagam, and Ace Pilot Jack Cohen. Mitch's Flight Mechanic he trusted most were South African like Tev Zimmerman!

Mike had made a trip to South Africa for the World Cup in 2010 and when he told people he met there about a film that he was wanting to produce on the exploits of these great men, a documentary feature about the birth of the Israeli Air Force in 1948 and the critical role it played in the survival of Israel in the War of Independence, South Africans came to the forefront again to help get a film off the ground.

Inspiration from so many and the financial support of a few key South African families such as the Solarsh's, The Bear's, and Kirsches helped get the film well into the development stage. Pending support from SAJAC members such as Julian Josephson is even in the works. Mike was only to pleased when the son

of Legendary South African Cecil Margo, Roddy Margo, and Pamela Nathan asked Mike to show a teaser of the film to show the progress of the film.

Mike was honored to show a clip of the "Angels in the Sky" movie, to the SAJAC members, and was touched by the response the SAJAC crowd gave as the Angels movie trailer identified and paid homage to the crucial role played by the many South Africans volunteers who went to Israel in 1948 to serve in the IAF. Among those mentioned in the clip were Cecil Margo who was asked by Ben Gurion to organize the formation of the IAF in 1948.



After the screening Rod was given a standing ovation, as many had never known of Rod's connection to the formation of the IAF. An even bigger and unexpected ovation awaited Mitch that he found touching and very moving.

Assuming that there will be immediate support of this first rate undertaking Mike is pressing forward to bring "Angels In The Sky" to the big screen in time for next years 65th Anniversary.



צילום של כ-35 ליד מטוסים גרמניים בעקבות משטלת לוחמי איו"ר בקרב רוד שולמן איו"ר מלחמת העצמאות וידידו סטורו וסביסט (100)

Pilots of No. 35 Flight in front of their Messerschmitts at Aldon. From left to right: Abie Nathan, Roy Schapera, Irving Feldstein and "Red" Sturmy (of No. 106 squadron).



צילום של כ-35 משטלת לוחמי מוקס פלייגט, לו קבע, ראקף רוסופסקי, איו"ר מלחמת העצמאות, מיקי פלינט, יורג פלדשטיין, יורג פלדשטיין ויוג טרנסן.

Pilots of No. 35 Flight. From left to right: Mike Flint, Joe Katzew, Ralph Rosofsky, Irving Feldstein and John Trajnsen.

As a postscript, we learned recently that NBC had produced a story on Mitch Flint and the fact that he is currently in London at the Olympic Games. The story behind it was that in 1948, when the Olympics was last in London, Mitch wanted to attend those games, instead of going, he used it as a ruse to go on and proceeded to Israel to serve in the IAF. Now, a mere 64 years later, Mitch is finally getting to see the Games in London, together with Mike!

Anyone who is interested in supporting the production of "Angels In The Sky" is welcome to contact Mike Flint at: mikeflint@machalproductions.com

Sincerely, Mike Flint

Machal Productions, LLC Producer &

Management Entertainment Group 6255  
Sunset Blvd. Suite 2210 Los Angeles, CA  
90028

Tel (323) 466 5319 Fax (323) 466 5345  
www.pmeg.net  
www.angelsintheskythemovie.com

Links to the NBC story on Flint gets second chance to attend Olympics:  
[www.bing.com/videos/watch/video/second-chance-at-olympic-games/1d2xzvixm](http://www.bing.com/videos/watch/video/second-chance-at-olympic-games/1d2xzvixm)  
Fighter pilot Flint gets to Olympics 64 years later:  
[www.jewishjournal.com/tomstocps/item/fighter\\_pilot\\_flint\\_gets\\_to\\_olympics\\_-\\_64\\_years\\_later\\_20120801](http://www.jewishjournal.com/tomstocps/item/fighter_pilot_flint_gets_to_olympics_-_64_years_later_20120801)

## SAJAC HOLDS BONE MARROW DRIVE

by Jonny Barak

As part of the 25 year anniversary weekend, SAJAC held a marrow drive for Marc Chibnik, who is of Eastern European and Jewish decent and lives in Chicago. He is in desperate need of a life-saving marrow transplant to survive. Marc is an amazing husband and wonderful father of four children, the youngest recently celebrated his 1st birthday. He was diagnosed on January 5, 2011 with a rare and aggressive form of Anaplastic Large Cell Lymphoma, a form of blood cancer. Like most patients he does not have a match in his family and desperately needs a marrow transplant to survive.

The chances of finding a matching donor vary widely based on genetic tissue types. Because tissue types are inherited, patients are most likely to match someone who shares their racial and ethnic heritage. SAJAC volunteered and sponsored a drive for Marc at the home of David & Sylvia Roth.

Be The Match is operated by the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP), and our mission is to ensure that patients in need of a life-saving marrow or umbilical cord blood transplant get the treatment and support they so desperately need when they need it.

For more information on NMDP, please visit [www.BeTheMatchFoundation.org/goto/4Mar](http://www.BeTheMatchFoundation.org/goto/4Mar)  
For more information about Marc, please see his facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/HelpMarc>

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## BIG PAL, BIG IMPACT

Lee Lichter, Jewish Big Pal

I was introduced to Jewish BIGPals in 2005 after a very positive experience with Jewish Family Service's Mentoring Moms program, where female volunteers were paired up with pregnant teenagers.

Looking for a volunteer experience that was equally meaningful, I realized there was another opportunity to provide a stable, reliable adult presence in the life of another "at risk" child.

I was introduced to "Sarah" (name changed to protect my Little Pal's identity) who was 11 at the time. She had been removed from her mother's care because of a very unstable environment, and had been taken in by her grandparents. Not long before we met, Sarah's grandmother "Bobbi," her primary caregiver, passed away. Soon after, so did her 30-year-old mother.

At first, there were challenges that Sarah and I had to overcome. We were strangers to each other. She was untrusting of her environment, having been let down and abandoned so many times. As with all new relationships, we had to learn to understand and trust each other, to figure out each other's likes and dislikes, values and views.

Despite the initial challenges, I knew I had to remain a "constant" in her life, calling her regularly and showing up punctually, despite her meager efforts to resist. Being a Big Pal places one in an unusual situation...one is not a parent, grandparent, teacher, therapist, nor social worker...it's almost like an arranged marriage, where the powers-that-be have decided that we would be a good match.

During the first few years, Sarah made some unhealthy decisions that could have had a completely different outcome, but through our commitment to the program, persistence, consistency, non-judgment and caring, she started making different choices which have led to her incredible success today.

Sarah graduated from high school in May and is now college-bound. She is a confident, independent and highly motivated young woman with aspirations of being a neuropsychologist.

She did all the work, I just showed up.

Jewish BIGPals is an individualized mentoring program designed to help six to sixteen-year-old Jewish children from single-parent and diverse families remain connected to the Jewish community, support their sense of self-esteem, and improve their overall functioning in school and at home. Following a rigorous screening and training process, the program pairs volunteers and children, taking the needs of both parties into consideration. The resulting relationships provide friendship, companionship, and life-enriching experiences to the children, enhancing their growth and development and helping them achieve their full potential. Since the program started in 1998, Jewish BIGPals has served over 300 Jewish children between the ages of 6 and 16.

For more information visit [www.jfssd.org/bigpals](http://www.jfssd.org/bigpals).



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## Shalom baby

My Life as A Shalom Baby Mom



Wellman Family

Everyone told me I would love San Diego and it would be a great place to raise children. But, they didn't tell me how lonely it would be without my mother, sister and her family, and all my friends who I loved so dearly. My husband and I landed in San Diego, and saw the palm trees lining the Pacific Ocean and we thought we had landed in Paradise. We were busy setting up a home, getting established in our new jobs, and investigating our new community.

We met people at work, but San Diego isn't a place where you can easily make new friends. When I became pregnant, I realized how much I was missing my support system back East. The thought of raising a family in this Paradise – alone with just my husband – did not sound like quite the Utopia we had envisioned.

Somewhere along my second trimester, I heard about Shalom Baby from my Doctor's office where a small card with the word "Shalom" caught my eye. I took the card and realized that Shalom Baby was designed just for me. The words, "Are you expecting a baby...", "...non-affiliated and Jewish families...", and "welcome to the San Diego Jewish Community, were all the encouragement I needed to call Judy Nemzer, Shalom Baby Coordinator. At that time, Judy was just a name. Now, I can write that she was my life saver.

Talking with Judy, I felt an immediate connection. She assured me that I was not alone, that San Diego was a perfect place to have this new baby, and by the second month of my child's life, we would be surrounded by a large group of new friends. Something about how Judy spoke, I actually opened myself up to believing this possibility.

About 4 weeks after our first contact, Judy checked in with me, and that began our

beautiful friendship. Through Judy, I got names for a mohel, pediatrician, lactation specialist, and most importantly, another mom who was due the same time I was. Paradise started to look pretty good! Six weeks before I had my beautiful son, an envelope came in the mail from Shalom Baby. I opened it to find a meaningful and inspirational mother's blessing card which I was sure to pack in the bag for the hospital along with my clothes for the baby.

*Many of my play-group buddies are now my best friends.*

Coming home was a hectic time, but my mom was able to fly out for a week. We nested and I didn't come up for air for almost two months. My few contacts outside family and old friends were Judy, my new friend from Shalom Baby, and Brenda Abelkop who delivered a fun basket filled with information and goodies. We chatted and Brenda offered any help I needed as my mom had returned back home. (Brenda and Judy were the first people I met from South Africa and it was impressive to hear what a wonderful community exists here in San Diego.) My life-line to sanity as a new mother was already connecting strongly to Shalom Baby.

CONTUNED ON NEXT PAGE...



Rosenthal Family



Woolf Family



Rubanenko Family



Katzenellenbogen Family

## SHALOM BABY CONTINUED

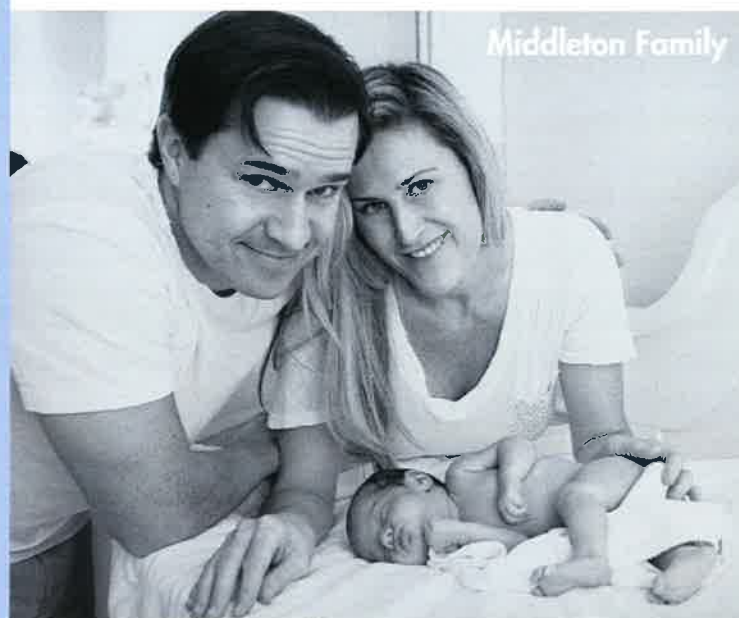
During a late night feeding, I was on my computer and saw an invitation to attend the playgroup that Judy had long ago told me about. I promised myself that this was an outing that we, my son and I, would not miss. We came to the fabulous JCC, and saw about 25 strollers lining the hallway outside our meeting room. There was such a great buzz and energy coming from that relatively small space. I walked in and was immediately embraced by 26 other moms, all holding babies the same size as mine! Conversation was easy and immediate. There were so many questions to ask and answers to share. Before the end of our gathering, Judy and Vivien Dean, formally introduced themselves and shared all the possibilities that Shalom Baby could bring to our families. I was so overwhelmed with joy that I volunteered to become the playgroup captain. This was made very easy for me as a list of names, phone numbers and e-mails were supplied to me.

*My life-line to sanity as a new mother was already connecting strongly to Shalom Baby.*

Many of my playgroup buddies are now my best friends. We took Infant Massage together at the JCC and are planning to participate in other classes and programs. We get together all the time, check our Google group, and have become extended family. We have started to do Shabbat together. I hosted the first one as I was more familiar with how to put together a Shabbat dinner. Our husbands have all met and now they plan daddy time together as well. We are all looking forward to the time that our children are 6 months and will start receiving the great books from PJ Library that we have heard so many amazing things about. What a great tool to bring Judaism into our everyday life.

I will soon be returning to work, but I know that I have an established community to embrace and support me. When the other moms don't have answers to a question, I always turn to Judy and Vivien who either has an answer or finds me a resource to get the information or help I need.

I love raising my family in San Diego. It sure looks like Paradise from our little corner!



Middleton Family



Shulman Family

Weiss Family

## MEET THE FAMILIES...

**Weiss Family:** Daniel, Raileen, Caylin and Ariella Weiss

**Wellman Family:** Aaron, Talya, Sadie and Jack Wellman

**Woolf Family:** Julie, Rachel, Hannah and Samantha Woolf

**Shulman Family:** Steve, Danielle, Joshua and Zachary Shulman

**Rosenthal Family:** Adam, Jami, Ari, Talia and Noah Rosenthal

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## Stand With Us, Stand With Israel

by Audrey Jacobs

Being Jewish in San Diego often feels like being Jewish in South Africa, but only for the good things - the community, the weather, the landscape. But, sadly, in the last few years San Diego has developed another connection to South Africa - it has become one of the most anti-Israel American cities, highlighting Israel as an Apartheid state by unfairly comparing Israel's treatment of the Palestinians to South African Apartheid.

A couple of years ago the largest anti-Israel display in the world, the "Israel Apartheid Wall", appeared during "Israel Hate Week" at the University of California San Diego. This was immediately followed by the flotilla incident in May 2010 where Israel was universally portrayed as the aggressor.



The San Diego community woke up thanks to South African Dan Burland. He hosted a small gathering where J.J. Surbeck of T.E.A.M. gave a presentation about the flotilla incident to 40 concerned community members. It was 9pm on a Thursday night. Michael Flaster informed the crowd that there was anti-Israel flotilla rally the following afternoon. Another South African, Michael Lurie, stood up along with Audrey Jacobs and said, "Let's organize a counter rally! That's why we're here tonight; to fight back and ensure Israel's side of the story is told."

In less than 24 hours we organized 150 people to come to a pro-Israel rally downtown. At the rally we spoke to five media outlets, invited and waved Israel and American flags together with signs designed by StandWithUs and distributed their educational flyers to hundreds



of passersby. The 40 stunned protestors across the street continued to scream unbridled hatred into their megaphones: "Israel how many babies did you kill today!?"

On that day San Diego stood up for Israel, and it hasn't stopped. After the flotilla rally, Michael and Audrey formed a new volunteer grassroots group called the San Diego Israel Coalition (SDIC) to mobilize and educate individuals to support Israel and her right to defend her citizens.

In ten months we mobilized over 3,000 San Diegans to actively support Israel. The SDIC became a nationwide role model for high impact strategic educational events, pro-Israel rallies, and community collaboration. This in turn attracted the attention of StandWithUs, a leading Israel education and advocacy organization. In September 2011, the SDIC became the 14th global chapter of StandWithUs.

StandWithUs is an international non-profit education organization that empowers individuals and communities to stand with Israel. It is the only organization whose sole focus is on Israel and that has the global resources to proactively promote and defend Israel when attacked on campus, in the community and the media. StandWithUs organizes incredible educational programs and events that highlight Israel beyond the conflict. Ultimately, StandWithUs believes that proactive education about Israel can help bring peace to the Middle East.

Although the global public relations war to delegitimize and demonize Israel is raging on college campuses internationally, it is especially prevalent locally at the University of California San Diego (UCSD). This year alone we faced a student government resolution to divest University funds from Israel - with our help it failed, a "mock Israeli Check Point" where students dressed as Israeli soldiers and physically and verbally harassed students which the pro-Israel students countered with the help of the Hillel Shaliach (Israel fellow), and "Israel Hate Week" featuring University funded anti-Israel speakers and the largest anti-Israel propaganda display in the world. This display is in a wall that is over 100 feet long and over 8 feet high, filled with atrocious, distorted facts and misinformation about Israel.



StandWithUs, in our maiden year in San Diego, dedicated a lot of our efforts to campuses through empowering students, not only at UCSD, but also at SDSU and Cal State San Marcos. We provided \$75,000 in funding as well as guidance, training, education, speakers and programs to counter the attacks on Israel on their campuses.

—>

### STAND WITH US, STAND WITH ISRAEL (CONTINUED)

Unfortunately the assault on Israel also flourishes in South Africa. One of the biggest challenges faced in the global public relations battle today is the "Apartheid" defamation against Israel in South Africa. In a recent address by Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Marius Fransman, he stated that economic diplomacy could be an "effective weapon of change in the Palestinian-Israeli relationship." His position was inspired by the way economic boycotts were used by nations to end apartheid-era in South Africa. Furthermore the South African government has taken concrete steps support the Boycott Divest and Sanction movement.

It has recently legislated that products, such as Ahava cosmetics, that are partially manufactured in the West Bank cannot be labeled as a "Product of Israel." The

organization behind this unexpected development is Shehuda Street, an influential and politically powerful movement devoted to delegitimizing and boycotting Israel.

What is truly needed in the South African pro-Israel community is a group of dedicated leaders to educate on behalf of Israel. In cooperation with the South Africa Zionist Federation, StandWithUs ran the first Israel Advocacy conference for University students in September 2009. The conference was so successful that in February of 2011, StandWithUs organized another conference in Johannesburg called Israel in Focus. During this conference, 50 students and young communal leaders attended educational seminars on the issues of BDS and settlements, and were taught public speaking skills to able and prepare themselves to stand with Israel

effectively. In addition they addressed nearly 1,000 students and community members in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban.

Back in San Diego StandWithUs continues to be a resource for our community, providing outstanding Israel speakers to churches, Universities, civic groups, including Paul Hirschson, the highest ranking South African in the Israeli government, to speak at the SAJAC reunion.

To get involved with StandWithUs or support its efforts, email:

audrey.jacobs@standwithus.com  
or call 858-202-1818

## Sponsor a Rider for \$52! by Sharleen Wollach

When one considers that public, viable, safe transportation is almost nonexistent in Southern Africa, one can recognize why getting around those cities can be a challenge. Add to that, the limited mobility of the aged and those in need and the exorbitant price of cars, petrol and other vehicle costs and you have a mini crisis.

A crisis where residents would never get out without the support, financing and assistance of the staff and board of the homes in Southern Africa. They would be confined to large concrete buildings and limited outdoor gardens. As it is, their access to medical practitioners, social activities, attending Shul or even funerals is so limited that they often have to wait for an emergency to be transported by ambulance. Or the staff has to hire and pay for a private taxi service to meet their transportation needs.

Imagine a vehicle 'lift' being used to help elderly people in and out of a bus instead

of being used for wheelchairs. This bus is all they have. A paralyzed child at Selwyn Segal, Society for the Jewish Handicapped, is lifted out of his wheelchair then squashed in to the backseat of a van with immobile legs jammed between the seats. This is necessary to get him to his therapy. There is no wheelchair van for him and the bus is too large to use for one person. This is real, it happens on a daily basis. You



can see it on our newly released video at [www.youtube.com/chaisouthafrica](http://www.youtube.com/chaisouthafrica).

ChaiSouthAfrica consider this unacceptable and we have taken on the challenge of supporting, the incredible work of the staff and boards of the homes to reinforce and supplement the financial needs of this particular area of their services.

Currently it costs almost \$50,000 a month for these homes to run their fleet of vehicles. Approximately 1750 rides are provided each week to the residents of the homes we support! If every one of us contributed \$52 annually (\$1 a week) we would be able to subsidize this program in a very meaningful way for an entire year.

Please sponsor a rider in honor of your Yomtov hosts; in memory of a loved one; or better yet to set an example to your children. The rewards will last much longer than flowers or chocolates.



*As Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur approach, it is customary and our obligation to fulfill the mitzvah of Tzedakah. Your meaningful contribution can change lives!*



*Your gift will subsidize Transportation Needs*

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DURBAN JOHANNESBURG PRETORIA CAPE TOWN ZIMBABWE

# The Great Bike Trek

by Moira Berman

It was another great sunny warm day in San Diego – at least it would have been had it not been ‘misting’ and cool – pretty typical for a “May Gray” day, except it was April, and I was leading a Bike Ride on Coronado Island for a ‘huge group’ of early risers.

I almost missed the 4 people waiting for me at the Ferry terminal. At least they looked enthusiastic, and I made the quick determination that the rest of the people who had signed up to ride were using the excuse of ‘rain’ or a late night of partying, to stay in bed.

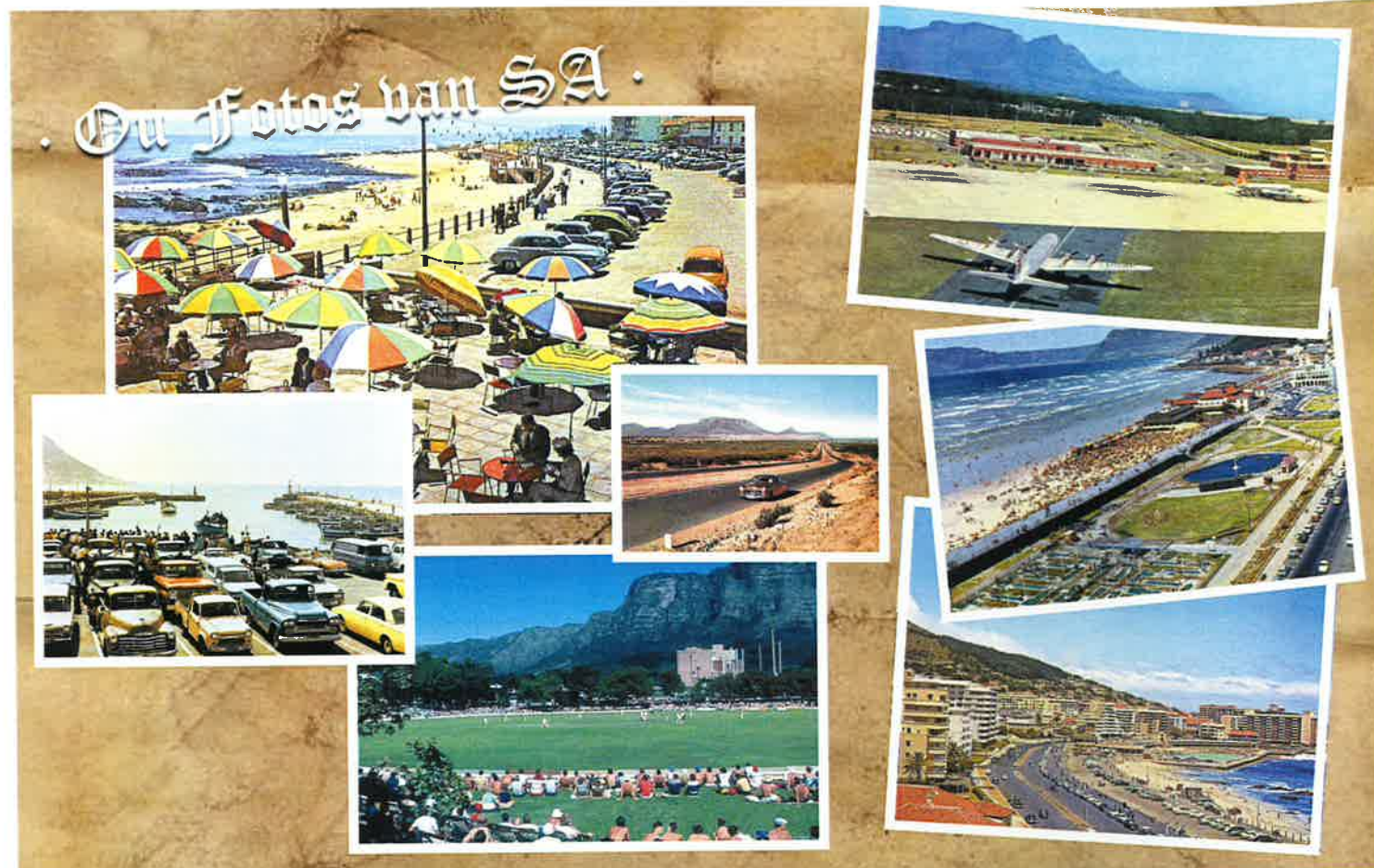
We set off on our journey across the bay to the Coronado ferry terminal – 15 minutes of gorgeous views of San Diego, as the mist lifted and the sun made its appearance. My intrepid adventurers picked up bikes from the rental shop and off we went around the bay and under the free-way and then through the Glorietta Bay neighborhood which has beautiful immaculate homes. This ride is a few miles and ends near The Hotel Del. I had thought this ride would be far enough and we’d visit the hotel and make our way back.

However, my group was just getting going, so I ignored the hotel, turned left and headed down The Strand which is a relatively straight stretch of road with a bike path that goes almost to Imperial Beach (yes Coronado Island is not really an island. This stretch of bike path can be very windy, and unfortunately it sits on the side of the road away from the beach so it can sometimes be a challenge. We had perfect weather – it was a little cool but not too windy and the group rode the next couple of miles without a hitch. There are a couple of interesting nature stops along the way, because the path winds next to a marshy area of the bay with protected habitats of various sorts. So in addition to quick rest stops we had photo ops!

**We finally reached the traffic light that gave us access to the Beach area and all agreed that this beach is gorgeous – long, clean and great sand. No wonder it won “Best California Beach”.**

I couldn’t convince anyone to ride back along the sand. Instead we turned around and headed for The Del. All enjoyed the visit to the hotel – whether for the luxurious pit stop, or wandering around inside the old stately structure, or enjoying a break in the sun. Then it was time to retrace our path around the bay and back to the ferry landing to return the bikes and head back to the city. Everyone seemed to have a lovely time. I know I did.





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Marc Lubner with South African Tikkun kids

## Lubner takes over Afrika Tikkun

In 2004, Marc Lubner took over the reins at Afrika Tikkun a Jewish led, non-profit organization that provides education, health and social services to children, youth and their families through centers of excellence in South African Townships. Its aim is to empower communities to develop new generations of productive citizens.

Marc's background in empowerment investment led to his belief that if members of a community were given the necessary assistance to empower themselves, then these individuals would take active steps towards contributing to the upliftment and development of their communities. Thus began Afrika Tikkun's journey and transformation from a charity-based organization to a community-empowerment powerhouse equipped with programs and partnerships aimed at empowering communities to develop a new generation of productive citizens.

Lubner's MBA (Kellogg Graduate School) education and successful business career led to the organization's holistic developmental approach, which entailed the delivery of five core inter-related programs that would nurture, educate and support children, youth and families, who face many social challenges depriving them of a decent livelihood. The approach also focuses on leadership and empowerment from within the community by training members from the community and creating opportunities to deploy their skills.

The five core programs being implemented as a result of the model are:

Family Support Services, Early Childhood Development, Child and Youth Development, Primary Healthcare and Nutrition & Food Security. To successfully implement the model, Afrika Tikkun engaged and employed local community members to drive their own upliftment through the Centers of Excellence located in the townships.

These programs are supported by financial controls and systems

created and implemented by the organization's financial director, Arnold Forman. This meant investing in teaching managerial and operational skills to people in townships. "There might be many employers that employ people from the townships, but they are taking them out of the townships instead of investing in townships," says Lubner. He believes that their model has earned Afrika Tikkun credibility within the communities it serves. Afrika Tikkun's position is to adopt a long-term sustainable approach of meeting the various developmental needs of a child. This is achieved by starting with vulnerable infants in their homes and end with the employment or tertiary education of young adults. Our responsibility is to provide the best and most cost-effective program offerings. "We recognize that we can't do this on our own, so we surround ourselves with partners who share the same vision of empowerment as we do," he added.

Marc Lubner, CEO of Afrika Tikkun

## HOUSING: In many areas it has become a Seller's Market!

### Good News in Housing: 80 Improving Housing Markets in August

A total of 80 metropolitan statistical areas across 32 states and the District of Columbia were listed as improving housing markets on the National Association of Home Builders/First American Improving Markets Index (IMI) for August, released recently. This included 75 markets that retained their places on the list along with five new ones, while nine areas fell from the list due primarily to slight movements in house prices.

The index identifies metropolitan areas that have shown improvement from their respective troughs in housing permits, employment and house prices for at least six consecutive months. The five metros that were added to the list this month include Miami and Palm Bay, Fla.; Hinesville, Ga.; Terre Haute, Ind.; and Lubbock, Texas.

"The list of improving housing markets in August includes metros across every region of the country, all of which have distinctly different characteristics in terms of their economic and employment bases as well as other factors," notes Barry Rutenberg, chairman of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) and a home builder from Gainesville, Fla. "One thing that most markets have in common, however, is the tight lending environment for both builders and buyers that continues to drag on their positive momentum."

"The fact that we continue to see a strong core of metros showing up on the improving list each month adds to the growing evidence that the emerging housing recovery has a solid foundation on which to build as housing returns to its traditional role of driving economic growth," observes NAHB Chief Economist David Crowe.

"With nearly one quarter of all U.S. metros currently designated as improving housing

markets, there is growing recognition among consumers that now is an opportune time to consider a home purchase," adds Kurt Pfothenauer, vice chairman at First American Title Insurance Company.

Shortage Of Homes For Sale Creating Sellers' Market, For A Change

Though many home shoppers who assume they are still in a buyer's market find it hard to believe, one of the sobering fundamentals shaping real estate this summer is shrinking inventory: The supply of houses for sale is down significantly in most areas compared with a year ago. And that is having important side impacts — raising prices and homeowners' equity stakes, and reducing total sales.



In major metropolitan markets nationwide, the stock of homes listed for purchase is down by sometimes extraordinary amounts — 50 percent or more below year-ago levels in several areas of California, according to industry studies (53 percent in San Diego). In Washington, D.C., and its nearby suburbs, listings are down by 28 percent, reports Redfin, an online realty brokerage. In Los Angeles, available inventory is 49 percent lower than it was last summer. In Seattle, listings are off by 41 percent. According to the National Association of Realtors, total houses listed for sale across the country in June were 24 percent lower than a year earlier. The dearth of listings is often more intense in the lower- to mid-price

ranges, less so in the upper brackets.

Peggy James, an agent with Erick & Co. of Exit Choice Realty in Prince William County, Va., says she gets calls "all the time" from buyers asking, "Where are all the new listings? Are you agents bluffing" — holding back? But the reality is that "there just haven't been many" listings in some high-demand price categories lately, she says.

In Orange, Carlos Herrera, broker-owner of Casa Blanca Realtors, says "it's really strange right now. We have many buyers but few sellers," forcing purchasers to bid up prices on what's available.

Just south of San Francisco, Redfin agent Brad Le says inventory in Silicon Valley is down so drastically — and demand so strong — that the bidding wars are spinning off the charts. "We're not just talking about 10 or 15" offers, he says, "but sometimes 40 and 50." Some buyers are inserting escalation clauses into their contracts to keep pace with counter-bids, and waiving financing contingencies, inspections and even agreeing to increase their down payments to counter any differences between the accepted sale price and the appraised value. One modest, 1,700-square-foot house recently was listed at \$879,000. It drew more than 50 competing offers and sold to an all-cash buyer for \$1,050,000 in less than a month.

Silicon Valley is in its own special economic niche, but declining inventories are nationwide. In its latest survey of 146 large markets, Realtor.com found that 144 had lower supplies of listings last month than a year earlier. Online real estate and mortgage data firm Zillow reports that some of the steepest declines in inventory are in places that got hit the hardest during the bust, and where sizable percentages

-->

#### HOUSING (CONTINUED)

of owners still are underwater on their mortgages. In Phoenix and Miami, for example, 55 percent and 46 percent of owners respectively have negative equity.

Both cities have seen significant drops in inventory, and both are experiencing strong appreciation in home prices. What's behind the widespread declines in listings? Analysts say negative equity plays a major role — it discourages people who might otherwise want to sell from doing so. They don't want to take a big loss, especially in a slowly improving price environment. So they sit tight rather than list. Banks with large stocks of pre-foreclosure and foreclosed properties are doing the same, creating a so-called

Momentum from the spring home buying season carried over to the summer in San Diego County as inventory levels remain lower than normal and distressed sales continue to drop, according to Tuesday's DataQuick report.

June home prices in San Diego County rose 0.1 percent to \$335,500 from May and 1.7 percent from a year ago, says the La Jolla-based real estate tracker.

There were a total of 3,756 sales, up 0.2 percent from May and up 9.1 percent year-over-year. June's sales number is the highest it's been since June 2010, the final month shoppers could take advantage of the federal homebuyer's tax credit.

### Mortgage rates continue to slide to new lows

"shadow inventory" of houses estimated to total 1.5 million units.

Bottom line for anyone looking to list or purchase anytime soon: Though conditions vary by location and price segment, lower supplies of houses available for sale are changing market dynamics — putting sellers in stronger positions than they've been in years.

#### San Diego Home Prices, Sales Up In June

June's number of single-family homes resold on the San Diego-area market, which makes up the bulk of monthly deals, was 2,459, ticking down 1.2 percent from May. Still, last month's tally of single-family resales hovers close to the nearly-seven year high of 2,488 that was recorded in May's DataQuick report.

What's elevating sales and prices in San Diego County and throughout California? A number of things:

Mortgage rates continue to slide to new lows. According to Freddie Mac, the 30-year fixed has been below 4 percent for the past four months, while the 15-year fixed has been below 3 percent for 7 weeks. They're apparently attracting qualified buyers (those who have the income and good credit) out to the market.

Distressed sales keep falling. Short sales and foreclosures resold on the market comprised 42.2 percent of the resale segment in California. That's the lowest it's been since February 2008, when it was 41.4 percent, based on DataQuick figures. This share of the market is declining because more people are averting foreclosure. Foreclosures in San

Diego County are at their lowest levels in more than five years. In May, 426 homes were foreclosed upon, down 51 percent from a year ago.

Inventory levels are lower than normal. In June, there were 6,184 active listings in San Diego County, the lowest level in at least three years, according to numbers from the San Diego Association of Realtors. Using the data set that starts in June 2009, active listings in the county peaked at 13,123 in September 2010. We're now about 52 percent below that level.

DataQuick president John Walsh says June's overall numbers for California look encouraging, but holds a wait-and-see attitude.

Currently there are 187 detached homes available in La Jolla. The lowest is priced at \$675,000 and the most expensive at \$27,300,000. The inventory of single family homes in Carmel Valley is 129 with the least expensive being at \$539,999 and most expensive is at \$9,350,000.

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# "SHINDIG"

## SAJAC 25th Anniversary Celebration



### The King David Schools' Reunion SAJAC 25th Anniversary Celebration

by Elliot Wolf

Little did Raelene Tradonsky and I realize when we were invited to participate in the SAJAC 25th Anniversary Celebration how enormously successful the weekend would be.

We are so pleased that we decided to attend, for the wonderful programme certainly exceeded our expectations and we are so proud that the King David Reunion proved an integral part of the celebrations.

For me the reunion provided a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with former Davidians and to reinforce our long-standing, historical links.

I have come to realize that my thirty-four years at King David High School provided the means to interact with wonderful students, and that it was truly a privilege to have played a part in their lives in their formative years. I am filled with great vicarious pride in their enormous success as adults and parents, and am so pleased to recognize with great pleasure their strong Jewish identity and the significant effects of their King David education.

We are deeply grateful to Sylvia and David Roth for hosting the King David reunion in their lovely home, and I feel sure that the large number of Davidians who attended bears testimony to the strong feelings of allegiance that our graduates have for their "alma mater".

I express my thanks to Pamela Nathan and her committee for their meticulous attention to all the minutiae of the SAJAC programme, and feel honoured to have participated in the well-deserved rewards for all their efforts. May all your future endeavours be rewarded with equal success.

In addition, I am eternally grateful to Jean and Franklin Gaylis for their wonderful hospitality and kindness that made my stay in San Diego all the more memorable.



### CHAI SOUTH AFRICA AT THE SAJAC SHINDIG

by Sandy Kodesh



I was very impressed when I watched the video that ChaiSouthAfrica presented at the SAJAC shindig.

The setting was perfect as it was the 25th anniversary of SAJAC and it attracted 270 people from all around the states. Everyone attending was an ex South African living in this country.

What has happened to our aging family members left behind in a country that is ever changing? Have they been forgotten and left behind? **The answer is NO!** ChaiSouthAfrica does sincere heartwarming work, making sure that they are well taken care of to the very best of their ability.

I was moved to tears to see how grateful and happy the Bobbas and Zaidas, Moms and Dads are. The video showed exactly what

ChaiSouthAfrica is able to provide for this aged community, who are our very own family. They make sure that all their needs are met to create as comfortable a life as possible. It took me back to the days when I could still visit family there but because our parents are no longer alive we don't get there anymore.

I feel proud of ChaiSouthAfrica for thinking beyond our lives here to the people left behind in the country of our birth. They do magnificent work. I always make a point of thinking of ChaiSouthAfrica when I want to honor anyone in my life, by making a donation to them.

For those of you who weren't at the SAJAC shindig you can view ChaiSouthAfrica's video at [www.youtube.com/chaisouthafrica](http://www.youtube.com/chaisouthafrica)

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# Shabbat dinner a highlight of Shindig weekend

by Marlene Stanger



Barry Cohen, Derek Berghaus and I, Marlene Davis (my maiden name) all grew up in Muizenberg: Barry across the road from Putt Putt, Derek across the road from the vlei and park where we spent many happy hours playing, and I, opposite the tallest tree in town (in Windermere Road, in the driveway of what was the Oblowitz's house.)

We were the representatives of the Muizies crowd at the dinner held at Barry and Diane's home on the Friday night of the Shindig weekend. But the crowd of more than 50 people from all over South Africa who enjoyed the superb catering by our much beloved Graeme Perrett of Deli S.A., were united, not only by memories of Muizenberg beach, but by our common memories of the life and times we shared in the big cities or little dorps. We are forever linked by our rich heritage.

Our comedian imported for the weekend, Mr. Barry Hilton, kept rather quiet that night, soaking up the atmosphere and getting some idea of the crowd. Our own comedienne in residence, Suzi Lotzof, was on top form in her Mods and Rockers sixties outfit and her gawie and very funny excent, ek se.

Aviation attorney, Rod Margo, from L.A., opined in his very erudite way that Suzi could carry the show and that it would be more likely that everyone would remember her than Barry H (the latter's fault for not giving anyone a sneak preview on the Friday night!) Also schoolmate of Mike Kurlansky, Hilton Sachs (whom Pamela urged to join the crew that he doesn't usually hang out with) donned a suit for the occasion and a tie, nogal!! Leucadia chic? Leon Kaplan came down from Santa Cruz and enthused mightily about the community and there were Arizonians and Texans to round out the crowd.

As it happened, the dinner combined the one that Lau and Rah Bloch and Pamela N. were going to host at their own homes and it worked out brilliantly because everyone had a fantastic time, eating, drinking (how wonderful to come up the steps into the beautiful living room and dining room to be greeted by a little table with Patron Silver and Patron gold and a tray of shot glasses...), and enjoying the lively conversation and hilarity provided both by entertaining guests and the freely-flowing libations and le'chaims.

Pamela used an age-old Asian custom of striking the gong in order to get the crowd's attention for the few speeches that had to be made, except her version was a spoon on a pot. This theme was taken a little further, when the mic that was passed around later for people to make little reminiscing speeches was actually a spatula.

The vegetarian samosas, the delicious fish, the vegetable bryani and delicious dal, the melkert and Red Velvet cake, the fruit salad and coffee all amply fed the fun-loving and non-stop chatting crowd. The women did the blessing over the candles together and Geoff Phillips led the group in the kiddush. The young ones did Hamotzi.

What a lovely way to start the weekend celebrations. Barry and Diane were the consummate hosts, opening their beautiful home to all. The party broke up around midnight and, a little bewitched by the magic of it all, we all dispersed into the night.



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## A weekend with our former headmaster Elliott Wolf



BY FRANKLIN AND JEAN GAYLIS

As part of the SAJAC Shindig, many of us who attended King David High School, were honoured and privileged to have Mr. Elliott Wolf visit with us in San Diego in April, 2012.

Together with Raelene Tradonsky, the dynamic Development Director for KDS, Mr. Wolf met and re-connected with many former students, whom, as he graciously mentioned, he will always remember "as in our youthful days at school".

The primary purpose of their trip was to raise funds for the KDS system in order to preserve and continue Jewish education in South Africa. Despite Mr. Wolf having retired some 10 years ago, he has shown an amazing passion for the continuity of Jewish education and interest in his former students.

Personally, for Jean and me, after a hiatus of some 40 years, we connected with our former headmaster as if it was yesterday. We had the pleasure of hosting Mr. Wolf at our home, during his 4 day stay here in San Diego. He rapidly became part of our family, chatting and supportively engaging, as all good educators do, with our son Greg, currently in law school. In his usual gentle way. He reminisced about meeting our daughter Jackie, who had travelled with us to Eretz Yisrael, for the '71 and '72 matric class reunion, which Tova Rudomin had so energetically organized last summer. In every conversation, Mr. Wolf displayed a sincere and genuine interest in our lives and those of our fellow students, and the life we have chosen abroad, since our emigration from South Africa.

No trip is ever complete without a home-cooked Shabbat meal. Yael and Jules Aires graciously hosted us all for a delicious Friday night supper, together with other family and friends. Mr. Wolf thoroughly enjoyed attending the outstanding Saturday Night

Shindig party and had a great time catching up with former students including students from Johannesburg high schools other than KDHS. Selwyn Isakow, a former Latin student during Mr. Wolf's tenure at Parktown Boys, enjoyed the special opportunity to reconnect with him. The entire event was most memorable - especially Barry Hilton's South African sense of humour and his "urology" jokes!!

Mr. Wolf and Raelene's stay culminated in a brunch on Sunday morning, enthusiastically hosted by David and Sylvia (Kagan) Roth (Jean's King David elementary school friend.) Many former students from Northern & Southern California and even Australia, made the effort to re-acquaint with him.

Jonny and Bev (Edelstein) Menkin, Allan and Jolyn (Sachs) Widgerow, Clive and Zoe (Brozin) Rock travelled down from Irvine, to see Mr. Wolf, as did Nadine and Gary Barber from Los Angeles.

In his remarks to the group, Mr. Wolf had the group in hysterics after sharing a story of the funnier times we shared at the KDHS.

In conclusion, a wonderful weekend was thoroughly enjoyed by all who met our dear former high school headmaster - a truly dedicated and warm human being. He exemplifies the definition of a "real Mensch".

The King David Schools Foundation (KDSF) has been established as a donor advised fund of the Jewish Community Foundation (JCF) of San Diego, a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization, recognized by the IRS as a public charity. A tax receipt from JCF will follow.

Online donations can be made at [www.jcfsandiego.org](http://www.jcfsandiego.org) or by calling (858) 279-2740.



Left to Right: Shaun Edelstein, Franklin and Jean Gaylis, Elliott Wolf, Beverly and Johnny Menkin

## THANK YOU!

Special words of praise and gratitude go to Mervyn Kodesh and his excellent team at Nebcal Printers who generously donated all the printing needs for the Shindig. This included the sponsor board, the sponsor pamphlets, the table numbers, the presidents' gift posters and all the name labels for every event. We sincerely appreciate their benevolence and support. What would we do without them?

Shana Tova to all our members. Thank you for your continued support. We appreciate you.



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## Shindig // Adele Schneider



In April I traipsed across the country to San Diego from Philly, to my favorite city in the USA, to visit my great friends who live there and to see my daughter who has moved to LA. But mostly it was for both of us to attend the SAJAC Reunion and see who we might meet from the old country and the new country! My daughter is 24 and new to California so I hoped she would meet some people her age who live on her side of the USA.

Turns out we had a great time! I saw my friends and ran into old ones too. I found a cousin I had not seen in more than 40 years and friends from high school who knew my sisters and parents. It was quite the walk along memory lane! My daughter met a bunch of people at the "young people's table" and also had a good time. We helped with the tennis and enjoyed being with the athletes who ran around in the heat while we sat with our cokes and watched! Overall it was a great time and a successful introduction national SAJAC! Thanks Pam for all your hard work!

## Shindig rekindles old feelings // Julian Klotz



The Saturday shindig was amazing! Meeting so many South Africans from all over, knowing you don't really know them them, but feeling like you do.

Mind you, someone I never really recognized, came up to me and asked if I taught kung fu in South Africa many years ago, and it turned out to be a past student to whom I taught a class or two. It felt like a life-time ago, but still familiar and good.

Hiking the day after with fellow South African's felt just like back in the Magaliesburg! The conversation was sarcastic, somewhat twisted, but as always, unbelievably humorous, with the American guide laughing along too, thinking: These crazy South Africans...

**"I would do it again in a heartbeat, especially listening to Barry Hilton, which was the cherry on the top."**

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# A Trip of a Lifetime to visit Bobba and Zeida in Israel

BY HILLEL KATZEFF

"Look", I said excitedly as I stared out of the airplane window. I could see the coastline of Israel, "it's Tel Aviv"! The blue of the Mediterranean Sea cut a contrast with the browns of the earth and buildings and greens of the trees and vegetation in the distance below. There was no response. My daughter was asleep in the seat next to me, curled up with her head nestled in her favorite pillow. Next to her was my son also dozing, unaware that we were descending for our arrival at Ben Gurion airport to being our visit to see Bobba and Zeida.

For more than a year I had been planning our summer 2012 trip to Israel to visit their Bobba and Zeida (my parents Oscar and Ada), as well as an action packed agenda of places to see and things to do to experience Israel. Finally we were here about to begin our trip of a lifetime!

The large central dome and skylight in the middle of the waiting area at Ben Gurion features a waterfall that cascades down in a circle on the floor below. The soothing sound of the water made the arrival after a grueling trip that much easier. The long descending walkway to passport control and baggage claim is framed by giant glass windows and a wall made out of Jerusalem stone and constructed to be reminiscent of the Kotel.

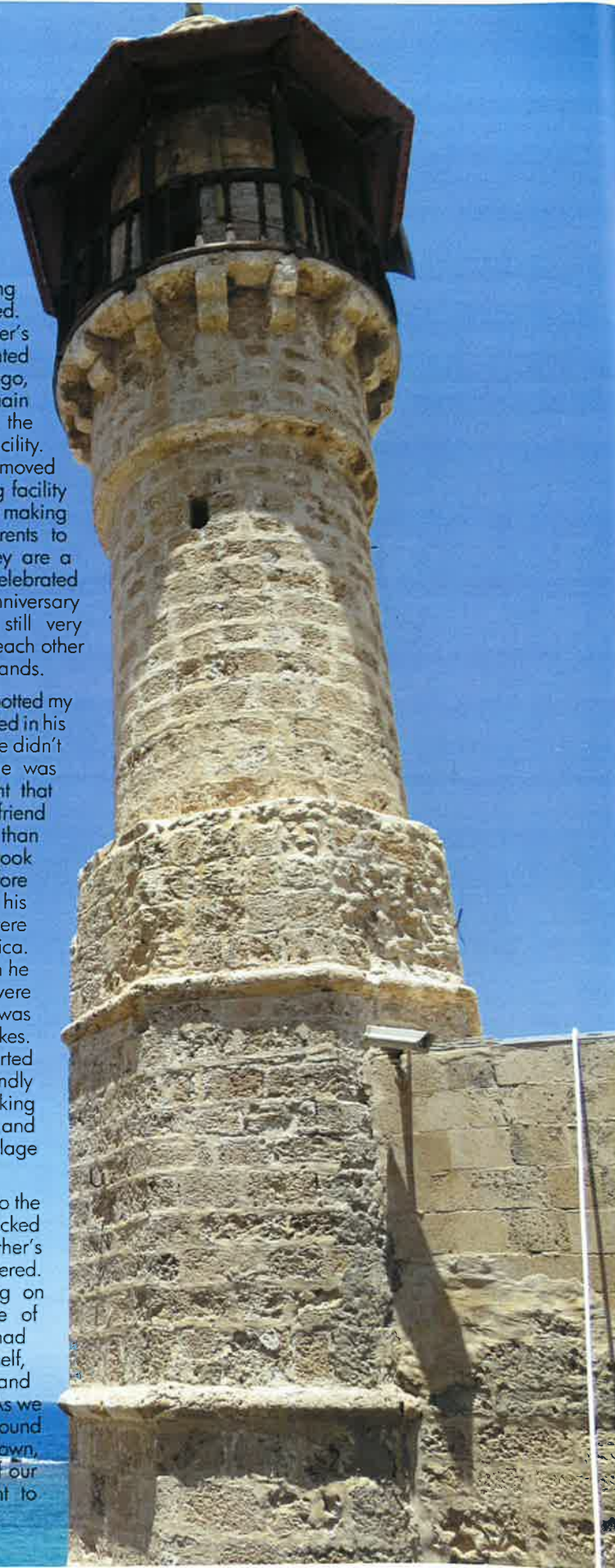
We picked up our bags, changed some dollars to shekels at the currency exchange then found the car rental desk. Soon we were in the desert heat in rush hour traffic in Tel Aviv. Although we were tired and weary, we decided to go directly to Protea Village. It was just about dinner time – a good time to arrive and say hello. We were tired and anxious as we drove up to the front entrance of Protea Village.

My parents made Aliya over 10 years ago and were one of the original residents of Protea Village near Netanya, a retirement community consisting mostly of English speaking residents from all over the world, with a large contingent of ex-South Africans. The first Beit Protea in Herzlia was so successful that a second was constructed. When they arrived from South Africa, they moved into a small ground floor garden "villa" where they lived independently and participated in all the activities the Village offered and ate in the community

chadar ochel (dining hall), if they so desired. But since my father's health had deteriorated a couple of years ago, he moved into the main building, housing the skilled nursing facility. Recently, my mother moved into the assisted living facility in the same building, making it easier for my parents to see each other. They are a loving couple who celebrated their 62 wedding anniversary in July. They are still very affectionate towards each other and frequently hold hands.

When we arrived, I spotted my dad first. He was seated in his wheelchair. Initially he didn't recognize me and he was confused and thought that my children were boyfriend and girlfriend rather than his grandchildren. It took a few more visits before he realized that his mishpocha (family) were visiting from America. During the times when he wasn't sleepy, there were moments when he was alert and cracking jokes. He is a kind hearted man who is friendly to everyone, making him very likeable and endearing to the Village staff and his carers.

We took the elevator to the second floor and knocked on the door of my mother's apartment. We entered. My mother was lying on her bed. A couple of months prior she had fallen and hurt herself, making it difficult to stand and painful to walk. As we positioned chairs around her bed and sat down, she said her image of our meeting was different to the reality. During previous visits, she would greet me with hugs and kisses at the door and insist that I sit at the table and she would make me something to eat. This time it was different. In a heart-warming moment, my son offered to give his Bobba a hug, which she gratefully accepted. As they hugged, my daughter and I turned and looked at each other – tears were welling up in my eyes. It was a moment I will never forget.



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## A TRIP OF A LIFETIME (CONTINUED)

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Before we knew it, an hour had gone by and we had shared many stories. My mother was engaging and asking my son questions about his academics accomplishments and high school life in Carmel Valley. She kept on commenting about how pretty her granddaughter is. I had mailed her a framed photograph of my daughter in an elegant ballet pose which she hung on the wall opposite her bed. Before we left for the

night, she commented that she looks at the photo every morning when she gets up and each night before she goes to sleep. She said it gives her a great deal of pleasure and purpose.

After a very long day, we found our hotel along the beachfront in Netanya. The hot day was over and now a cool evening had arrived. We all slept well that night. Day one on the trip had come to an end.



We visited Bobba and Zeida several more times and created many more treasured memories.

During our last visit, I turned to my father and using the farewell greeting he often used, I said: "Dad, do me one favor"... expecting him to reply "Zye Gezoent" (good health) in response. But instead he came back with: "Stop Smoking" which cracked us all up. Our visit to the Bobba and Zeida at the Village was over. Our adventures and experiences in Haifa, Tel Aviv and Jerusalem are stories to be shared another time.

It really was a trip of a lifetime.

.....  
This article is dedicated to the memory of Geoffrey Patz and Selwyn Schachat. Z"L

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## Interview with Midge Kellen, Caterer and Chef

**Q:** So Midge, you have an accent? Where are you from originally and how long have you been cooking?

**A:** I have been cooking for ages, probably since I was 16. But I've been cooking in San Diego for 23 years. I emigrated from South Africa in 1989 and continued my cooking career here in the States. I've been able to bring South African food to the American marketplace.

**Q:** Tell me more about the types of catering that you do?

**A:** I specialize in South African delicacies such as herring, kichel, perogen and biltong, along with many other regional dishes. I also make fabulous desserts. I have a new one - Lemon Tiramisu - The photograph below will entice anyone with a love of lemon. It's as mouth-watering as my Lemon Passion Tart!

**Q:** So, if I ran a kosher household, could you help me out?

**A:** Yes, I have extensive experience cooking in kosher kitchens. I would be happy to come to your home, cook in your kosher kitchen and fill your freezer.

**Q:** I also understand that you used to be the exclusive caterer for Beth El Synagogue. What type of events did you provide the food for?

**A:** Weddings, Bar/Bat Mizvahs and special Jewish holidays. They obviously had a kosher kitchen, so those were the parameters I worked with.

**Q:** Midge, I'm looking forward to tasting what sounds like, very yummy food. How do I contact you to arrange catering for my next party?

**A:** You can email me at [midgekellen@gmail.com](mailto:midgekellen@gmail.com), or call me at (858) 484.8597 (home), or (858) 231-7771 (mobile) I look forward to hearing from you!

**Q:** By the way, what makes you different from all other caterers?

**A:** Reliable Consistency - quality you can rely on, generous quantities and stunning presentation - I believe that food should taste as good as it looks!



## RECIPES by Midge Kellen

### SOUTH AFRICAN CRUNCHIES

2 1/4 Cups Flour  
1 1/2 Cups Oats  
1 1/2 Cups Sugar (I use 1 1/4 Cups as I like it less sweet)  
1 1/2 Cups unsweetened ground coconut - known here as coconut powder. Can also get unsweetened threads and grind them.  
1 1/2 sticks butter or marg  
1 1/2 Tablespoons syrup or honey  
3/4 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda  
2 teaspoons vanilla

### METHOD

Mix flour, oats, sugar and coconut together. Melt butter, syrup or honey and bicarb and vanilla and then mix with dry ingredients. The mixture should be crumbly so flatten into a greased jellyroll pan (approximately 16 by 11 inches) and press down well. Cut into squares while hot and remove when cold. Bake at 300 to 325 for 20 minutes using convection. Otherwise bake for 30 minutes.



### GINA'S WHOLE WHEAT RUSKS

Gina is an ex South African and these rusks are delicious and "healthy". All the ingredients can be bought from Trader Joes.

32 ozs wholewheat/multigrain baking mix  
2 cups lowfat buttermilk  
2 Cups dark brown sugar (I use just over 1 cup)  
1/2 Cup ground flax seed  
1/4 Cup Oat Bran Flour  
3 teaspoons Baking Powder  
1 teaspoon Salt  
2 sticks butter - 1/2 lb or Earth Balance Spread Vanilla

### METHOD

Melt butter or Earth Balance spread and combine all ingredients. Pour into a 9 by 13 greased pan. Pat down evenly. Bake at 325 for 40 - 45 minutes until inserted toothpick comes out clean. Let cool and cut into 1 by 3 inch rectangles. Lay on cookie sheet and dry in warm oven for three hours or over night. NOTE Can also add 1/2 cup sunflower seeds and about 2 tablespoons of poppyseed and a little wheatgerm if preferred.

Enjoy!

## Jteen enters 2nd year

Now going into its 2nd year, Jteen of San Diego, led by South Africa & San Diego native Rabbi Daniel Bortz, is adding new exciting programming for the coming year!

Jteen's Hebrew High program, in addition to offering high school foreign language accredited Hebrew courses, is adding new Judaic courses, including Israeli advocacy and "JLI Teens" - a dynamic course prepared by leading Jewish educators around the world. Courses are geared to engage teenagers on every day topics close to their hearts that they find interesting. Classes will be offered on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays of every week.

In addition to this past year's Bar & Bat Mitzvah Clubs, Jteen is also working on a dance program that will bring mothers and daughters together, with the theme of the Jewish holidays being choreographed, ultimately culminating in a performance for friends and family.



Rabbi Daniel Bortz is raising funds to provide pizza for the various Public schools he visits for Jewish club meetings during the weeks of school, such as CCA and Francis Parker.

"I'm excited to be here," said Rabbi Daniel. "I remember not so long ago growing up as a teenager here, and know how hard it is to have a Jewish identity and to enjoy one's heritage as a teenager in California. There needs to be fun & enriching outlets to connect with fellow Jewish teens and one's heritage. I'm looking forward to all of the social events, classes, Havdalah & bonfires at the beach, Shabbatons in San Diego, and much more that will be offered this year."

The goal is to find a place, a teen center - with a cafe, games and lounging area, where teens can hang out and have activities, classes, and events: a place they can call home. He is asking the assistance of parents to promote this project by sharing this with Jewish friends who have children ages 11 - 18, or who would like to help support & promote these activities.

Visit: [JteenSD.com](http://JteenSD.com), email the Rabbi at: [Jyouthsd@gmail.com](mailto:Jyouthsd@gmail.com), or call 858-888-6810.

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**SHANA TOVA FROM SAJAC**

A big thanks to **Joey Maller of Great Memories Photo Booth** who provided us with fun 'green screen' photos at the Shindig until 2.00 am in the morning! See all our green screen photos at <http://greatmemoriesphotobooth.smugmug.com/>

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## Gene Mutation

by Dr. Adele Shneider

Did you know that 1 in 4 Ashkenazi Jews is a carrier of a gene mutation for at least 1 of 19 genetic diseases that have a high carrier rate in the Ashkenazi Jewish population? No doubt you have heard of Tay-Sachs disease, a devastating neurodegenerative disease that is fatal in early childhood. But have you heard of Familial Dysautonomia and Canavan disease? These and many others are among the devastating diseases that can be prevented by a simple blood test before you get pregnant. The key is to know you are at risk and to ask your doctor to do the testing before you start a family.

You may ask why bother to get tested as some of these diseases are pretty rare? But collectively 1 in 4 of us is a carrier so that is not rare, it is quite common. And what we want to avoid is 2 people who are carriers of a mutation in the gene for the same disease having a sick child.

What we call "Jewish genetic disease screening" in this context is screening for autosomal recessive disorders. Carriers are completely healthy and have no outward signs of being a carrier. The reason is that all our genes come in pairs, (one from each parent). A carrier has one working gene and one that is not working. The gene that works produces enough of the enzyme or protein that the body can function just fine. If both parents pass on the same gene that is not working, that child will have no enzyme or protein and be sick. There is a 25% chance with each pregnancy for a couple who are both carriers for the same disease, to have a child with the disease. This is why knowing ahead of time offers the opportunity to learn about your options to have a healthy child.

Genetic counseling is helpful for anyone who is found to be a carrier. If you are a carrier, it means that one of your parents is a carrier,

so your siblings and their children are at risk to be a carrier too. This is a family and a community issue. We should not ignore it! With advances in IVF and testing embryos (pre-implantation genetic diagnosis), it is possible for carriers to have their own healthy biological children. But you need to have this information before you are pregnant! The only way to find out if you are a carrier is to have a blood test .....or to have a sick child. It is a no brainer!

### THE DISEASES FOR WHICH SCREENING IS AVAILABLE INCLUDE

- Bloom syndrome
- Canavan Disease
- Cystic Fibrosis
- Dihyrolipoamide Dehydrogenase Deficiency (DLD Deficiency)
- Familial Dysautonomia
- Familial Hyperinsulinism
- Fanconi Anemia Type C
- Gaucher Disease
- Glycogen Storage Disease, Type Ia
- Maple Syrup Urine Disease
- Mucopolysaccharidosis IV (ML4)
- Niemann-Pick Disease Type A
- Tay-Sachs Disease
- Joubert Syndrome
- Nemaline Myopathy
- Spinal Muscular Atrophy
- Usher Syndrome Type 1F
- Usher Syndrome Type III
- Walker-Warburg syndrome

Medical Bio: Dr. Adele Schneider is the Medical Director of the Victor Center for the Prevention of Jewish Genetic Diseases at Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia, and the Director of the Genetics Division. She is a graduate of the Witwatersrand University Medical School in Johannesburg, South Africa and trained in genetics at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Dr. Schneider is a recipient of the Einstein Physician Leadership Award and has been featured in "Top Docs for Kids" in Philadelphia magazine. She was named a 2005 Weizmann Institute of Science Distinguished Scientist.

## My name is Barbara Rospond and I want to tell you about my friend and client, Seckie Gladstone.

Seckie turned 100 years in March and her birthday celebration was enormous and loving. Friends and family came from all around the world to celebrate her amazing milestone.

I met Seckie in 1998 while I was a client of her daughter, Pamela Nathan. Seckie was visiting from her home in South Africa. She impressed me as a great lady with smart, tailored clothes, perfectly coiffed hair and manicure. We had some very stimulating conversations about politics, international issues, and the "wonder" of American television.

The next time I met Seckie was in 2010. She was living with Pamela in La Jolla. Seckie had become rather frail at the age of 98 and required extra help for her normal daily routines. I assumed part of the responsibility for her care because I wanted to get to know this incredible lady better – who she was, what experiences she had in her lifetime, and what knowledge and wisdom she could impart to me.

Seckie had a main interest and skill that she honed most of her life—Rummy cub. I learned the game with Seckie's help and spent many hours playing it with her. She was shrewd, intense, and embraced a non-stop attitude of winner takes all! Over a period of months I played so much that I started to learn how to count cards. Seckie delighted in placing the winning Rummy tiles on the table and proclaim: "I'm done"! When family visited, everyone joined in the fun. Young and not-so-young loved sitting around the kitchen table to play with "Gaga".

Now Seckie is facing her final sunset. Ever so frail, she still displays the dignity, gratefulness, and love she shares with all who have come to know and adore her: daughters Pamela and Barbara, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. Even though her memories have faded, those of us who know and love her feel blessed in the knowledge that those memories are still vividly alive in our hearts and minds. That fact is dear Seckie's greatest legacy of all.



## Celebrating 100th Birthday

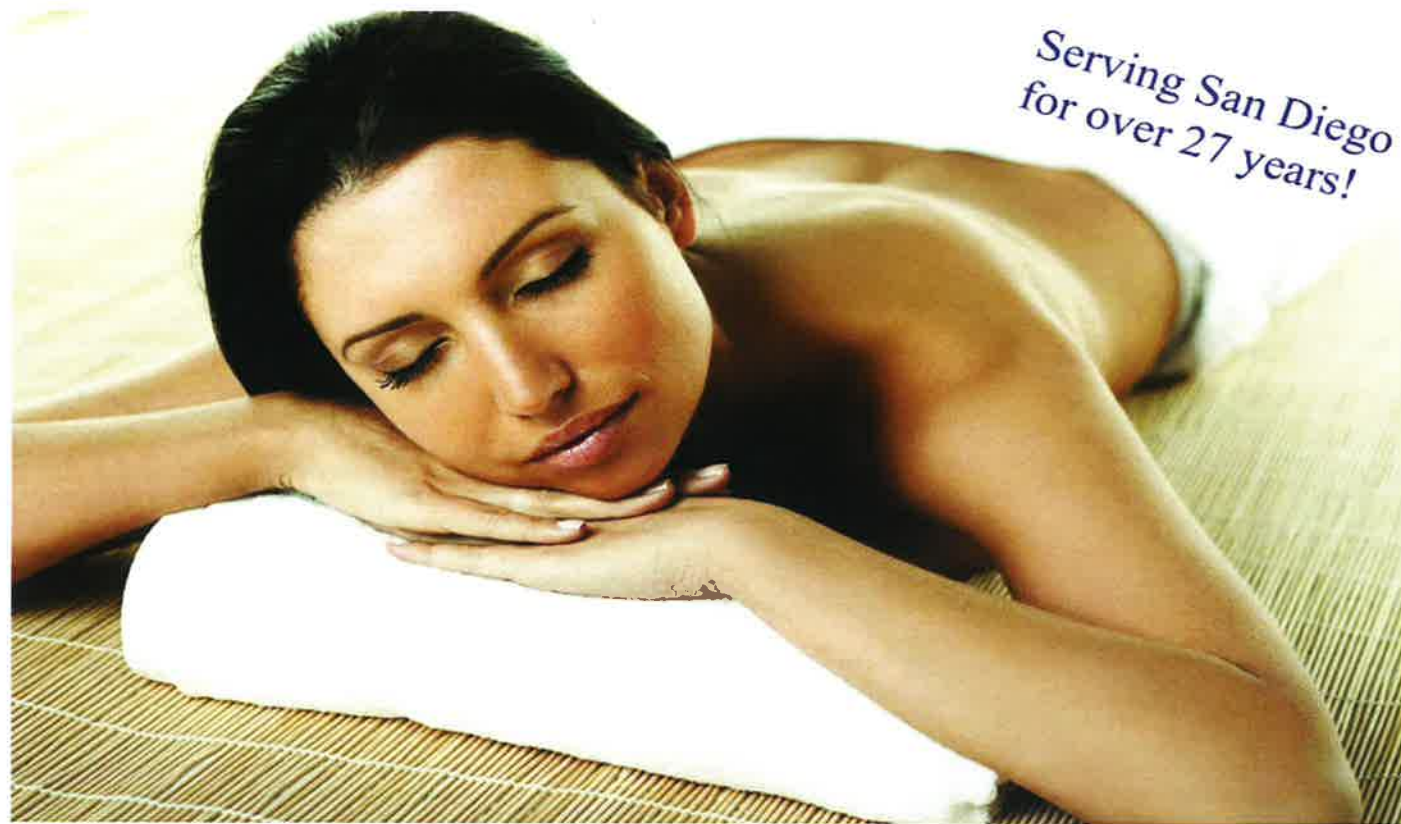


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A BARMITZVAH IN TZFAT Debra Jedeikin

In 2010 our son Zakary became a Bar Mitzvah and we celebrated this occasion with a ceremony at Temple Solel followed by a Kiddush lunch. That night, a wonderful dinner and dancing at the World Beat cultural center in Balboa Park. Zakary made the perfect choice of venue, being a Reggae music fan and very identified with his African roots.

My younger son Eli's Bar Mitzvah date arrived quickly. I wanted to make his experience a different one from his brother's. Due to my mother's inability to travel such long distances at the moment (she still lives happily in Zimbabwe), we chose to meet in Israel. My mother and her husband from Zimbabwe, my brother and his daughter from Cape Town, my sister from Los Angeles and ourselves from San Diego congregated in Jerusalem on a Friday afternoon. We enjoyed the experience of Shabbat in Jerusalem. We watched as hurried shoppers bought their provisions for the special day. We enjoyed the quiet calm of the day.

A few days later we made our way into the mountains to the mystical ancient town of Tzfat. Our Bar Mitzvah experience was put together by Eyal Riess, the Director of the Tzfat-Kabbalah Center and his charming assistant Rakefet. [www.Tzfat-Kabbalah.org](http://www.Tzfat-Kabbalah.org)

From beginning to end it was a magical experience for our family and all the guests who joined us. We were very excited to have some of our San Diego dear friends join us. Laurence, Rahleen and Gabriel Bloch were there with Rahleen's mother, Bella and her nephew, Yonatan. Tracy and John Smaller were happily also part of our small tribe.

On an extremely hot Thursday morning in late June we all walked from our respective lodgings in the Beit Yosef Guest Houses. [www.beityosef.co.il](http://www.beityosef.co.il), met up and continued our walk to the meeting place, a bustling pomegranate juice stand at the entrance to the Old City of Tzfat. One by one from kibbutzim and cities all over Israel, from South Africa and California everyone arrived. After an effusive welcome our Rabbi Eyal led our enthusiastic group on a musical parade through the old city.

It was exciting, festive and noisy with an extraordinary group of Klezmer musicians accompanying us on violins and an accordion. Everyone participated! The rule was No tambourine. No parade!

And so we made our way through narrow alleyways to the 16th Century beautiful Abuhav synagogue, with Eli under a chupa for the procession. The Abuhav Synagogue Spanish rabbi and kabbalist, Isaac Abuhav. Its design is said to be based upon kabbalistic teachings. Legend has it that a group of Kabbalists sang and prayed the whole night through and the synagogue was miraculously transported from Toledo in Spain.

We all danced Israeli dances, sang, and laughed in the courtyard of the Shul before we entered for the service. The ceremony itself was inspiring and moving. Eli and Eyal the Rabbi had met the day before and Eyal's gentle and welcoming manner helped Eli gain the confidence he needed to read flawlessly from the Torah. The mood was happy and informal. Speeches were made, tears shed, smiling faces everywhere and deep relief visible on the faces of Eli and Pablo on the Bimah in the center of the synagogue.

The Bar Mitzvah ceremony was followed by a meaningful Dvar Torah given by our Rabbi and then Moshe, a man draped in biblical robes with a long grey beard and ice blue eyes, spoke on a teaching from the Ba'al Shem Tov. It was about how we create our own realities through how we see our world, our lives, our relationships and others. The essence was that being judgmental and critical of another makes both parties unhappy.

**"You are wherever your thoughts are. Make sure your thoughts are where you want them to be."**

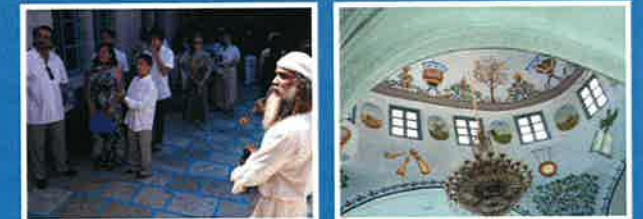
And then some more celebration in the courtyard! A splendid bracha mini-feast and Klezmer music was enjoyed by all. Refreshed and replenished, it was time for our walking tour. Moses led us through the winding cobbled streets of the Entire Old City. The tour was fascinating as he spoke of Tzfat's history. Tzfat or Safed rose to fame in the 16th century as a center of Kabbalah, or Jewish mysticism. It is the only place on Earth that has had a constant uninterrupted Jewish Presence since the destruction of the Second Temple.

Ourselves and our guests underwent a deep emotional and spiritual experience on this tour. We were reminded of our persecution through the ages and the indomitable spirit that keeps us alive today. It was powerful! We also visited art galleries, a weaving workshop where hand crafted Tallitim were being created and a candle shop where we were shown how to make a Havdalah candle.

And then, blessedly Moses led us to the Promised land, a meat restaurant called Ha'Ari 8 where we were treated to an absolutely delicious Israeli lunch and more joyous music!

The entire day from early morning until 4 pm when the lunch celebration ended was exciting, informative, fun and moving. A truly unforgettable experience which I highly recommend and which we will all carry with us forever!

We continued our four week journey to Jaffa, then to the Dead Sea and Masada and back to Ein Kerem, just outside Jerusalem, a lovely rural spot.



Other recommendations I have are:

A spacious, bright 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment in Ha Katamon, Jerusalem. Great Location! (Contact Arielebrati@yahoo.fr)

A fabulous one bedroom historic cottage in Ein Kerem. It has one bathroom, a very large living space with 3 futons, wonderful views and a large verandah (Contact sosneryona@gmail.com)

For a tour guide I cannot recommend Jeff Abel highly enough. He is ex-South African (Durban) but has been in Israel for decades and he has an absolute wealth of historical knowledge and 'off the beaten track' tours. He is energetic, enthusiastic and fun to be with.

Contact : Jeff Abel [telljabel@gmail.com](mailto:telljabel@gmail.com) / [abel@012.net.il](mailto:abel@012.net.il)  
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PAMELA NATHAN  
CEO

# Master Harold and the Boys

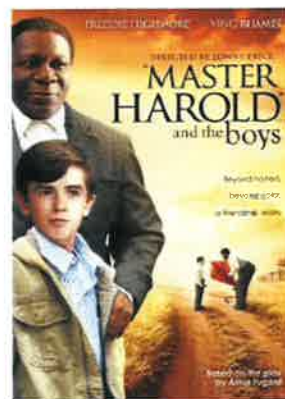
Review by Moira Berman { May 11-20, 2012 }

"Living Light Theatre proudly presents as its inaugural production "Master Harold..... and the Boys", a world-changing play by Athol Fugard at the Lyceum Theatre in San Diego".

Behind this seemingly innocuous notice of an upcoming play lay so much fascinating information and I uncovered it a little at a time. I will share it all right here in this review of the production.

easy to imitate and this cast did a very good job.

The acting was very strong and accurately delivered the on the tenuous relationship that exists among the characters. "The play centers on the tense and complex power dynamics between a white South African boy and his family's two black servants, against the backdrop of that nation's former system of racial apartheid." (From the program notes)



### About Austyn Myers

Austyn Myers is an extremely talented and accomplished young actor. He has starred in several equity productions in southern California, and can be seen as the second lead in the 20th Century Fox feature film, "Meet Dave" with Eddie Murphy.

He started his professional career touring with the Broadway National Tour of Les Miserables, in the role of Gavroche; and has gone on to star as Artie in Lost in Yonkers at The Old Globe Theater in San Diego, and as Eugene in The Old Globe's production of Brighton Beach Memoirs.

Austyn is known as one of the most talented and professional bright young stars all throughout San Diego and Los Angeles, and everyone is looking forward to seeing his career advance.

- Living Light Theatre is a newly formed professional-level theatre group in San Diego - and "Master Harold... and the Boys" is its first production
- The play is being staged on the 30th anniversary of its world premiere - 1982
- The play was nominated for a Tony when it was first produced in New York.
- Athol Fugard is 80 this year, and we are fortunate that he has made San Diego his home - prompting periodic productions of his many wonderful plays.
- This play is more personal than his others - it relates to a boyhood incident that haunted him for many years and writing this play was an attempt to atone
- Living Light Theatre's founder is 16 year-old Austyn Myers. See his Bio below.
- Shaun T Evans who plays Sam in the play directed. (Austyn plays Harold and Vimeel Sephus plays Willie.)

So how good was the production? In a word "very"! I have been lucky to have seen a few Athol Fugard productions in San Diego, in addition to two readings that Athol Fugard was personally involved with. It is very difficult as an ex-South African to hear accents that purport to be South African (White or Black accents) and that don't even come close. They are not

The subject matter is not light of course, and it would be easy to overdo the emotion. The direction and the acting ensured that the subtle shifts of power were understated which kept the tension alive.

The production felt true to Fugard's vision. I hope he had a chance to attend.



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## Winning a Green Card — The Diversity Visa Lottery

by Karen-lee Pollak

You can win the right to live and work in the United States. The DV 2014 Lottery program begins accepting applications in early October 2012 through December 1, 2012. The Department of State will announce the exact dates soon. All applications are accepted electronically.

### What is the Diversity Lottery Program?

Each year the United States Government grants 50,000 green cards to people from countries with historically low rates of immigration to the United States of America. This year's (2012) Green Card DV-Lottery is called the DV-2014 Lottery because 2014 is the year when winners may enter the USA on their new green card.

The State Department's (DOS) computer program randomly selects approximately 100,000 applications since many will not complete the visa process as required. However, the DV lottery program closes once 50,000 visas are issued or the fiscal year ends. If you receive a diversity visa through the random selection program DV 2014, you will be authorized to permanently live and work in the United States. You will also be allowed to bring your spouse and any unmarried children under the age of 21 to the United States. After winning the DV lottery and completing the visa process, you, your spouse and unmarried children under 21 years old will receive Green Cards. You may apply for U.S. Citizenship after maintaining permanent residency for five (5) years.

### What are the requirements to participate in the Diversity Lottery Program?

Most individuals worldwide can enter the Green Card DV-Lottery, as long as they meet two simple, but strict eligibility requirements. First, you must be a national of a country eligible to participate. Natives from countries who have sent more than 50,000 immigrants to the United States over the past five years are not eligible to enter the Diversity Visa Lottery. South African citizens are eligible to participate in the DV Lottery.

In most cases, an applicant is a citizen of the country in which he or she was born. However, there are two other ways a person may be able to qualify. First, if a person is from a country that is ineligible to participate but is married to a person from a country that does qualify, the applicant can claim his or her spouse's citizenship. However, the applicant and spouse must be issued visas and enter the U.S. simultaneously. Second, if an applicant

was born in a country that is not eligible to participate in the Lottery but neither of his or her parents were born there or resided there at the time of his or her birth, such person may claim to be a citizen of his or her respective parent's country of birth.

Second, the applicant must have a high school education or its equivalent OR within the past five years have two years of work experience in an occupation requiring at least two years training or experience. A "high school education or equivalent" is defined as successful completion of a twelve-year course of elementary and secondary education in the United States or successful completion in another country of a formal course of elementary and secondary education comparable to a high school education in the United States. Documentary proof of education or work experience must be presented to the consular officer at the time of the visa interview.



### How do I enter the DV Lottery Program?

1. All entries must be submitted electronically.
2. Only one entry per person is allowed. Each eligible family member may submit an entry. For example, a husband, wife and child under 21 can each submit an entry. You may submit the entry yourself or someone may do so on your behalf.
3. State your Name, Date of Birth, Gender, City/Town of Birth, and Country of Birth.
4. State your marital status. "Legally Separated" replaces the term "Separated"

used in previous DV programs as an option under the question "What is your marital status?" Legal separation means that a court has formally declared that you and your spouse are legally separated. Legal separation means that your spouse would not be eligible to immigrate as your derivative.

5. State the Name, Date of Birth, Gender, City/Town of Birth, Country of Birth of the applicant's spouse, all natural children, as well as all legally-adopted children and stepchildren who are unmarried and under the age of 21 even if the spouse or child does not currently live with you and/or will not immigrate with you.

6. List the Country in which you presently live.

7. State your highest level of education. You must choose one of ten options: (1) Primary school only, (2) High school, no degree, (3) High school degree, (4) Vocational school, (5) Some university courses, (6) University degree, (7) Some graduate level courses, (8) Master degree, (9) Some doctorate level courses, and (10) Doctorate degree.

8. A digital photo of each applicant, his or her spouse, and each child must be submitted with the Entry Form. Each digital photo MUST be in .jpg digital format and the camera setting should be either normal or high quality. The recommended digital photo is 300mm by 300mm, with a print resolution of 150dpi. The background of the photo should be plain white and the applicant should not be smiling in the photo.

9. State your mailing address. Email and telephone number are optional. Signatures are not required on the entry form.

10. Finally, there is no fee to enter the DV Lottery

You can check the status of your entry on the DV Lottery website. You can access the DV Lottery Entry Form at [www.dvlottery.state.gov](http://www.dvlottery.state.gov). Additional information on the DV Lottery program is available at <http://www.travel.state.gov>.

Good Luck and remember to call us to assist you with processing your visa if you are selected as a 2014 DV Lottery Winner.

Karen-lee Pollak is a Partner at Bell, Nunnally & Martin, LLP.

## Very personal touches adorn **Let's Go Home**

One step into Let's Go Home and you may feel you've been transported to a rustic garden from another

time. The aroma of the fresh flower creations, in this adorable Gift and Accessories boutique in Del Mar Highlands, hits your nose while your eyes are treated to a display of unique home furnishings from around the world.

The former owners of Let's Go Home clothing of La Jolla, Brenda and Errol Lurie, have taken their expertise and experience in merchandising and put a spin on home furnishings.

The Luries have outfitted the store with rustic and unique furnishings, glassware, clothing, home decor and more. Many different types of light fixtures hang from the ceiling including a chandelier made from recycled

teacups and antique silver teaspoons, more chandeliers made from old telegraph lights, more... Every piece in the store is different, with it's own story to tell.

Modern yet rustic "Rubbish Furniture" by Oran Elmaleh, line the walls with creatively designed shelving, bookcases, swings and coffee tables - with a twist. All these pieces made of reclaimed wood of are "one of a kind" and can be custom made by hand right here in beautiful San Diego.

In addition the space is embellished with flower creations by Adele, owner of flowers on 56. Her contribution to the store gives it a fresh look and smell that will keep customers wanting more. She has been an inspiration and has made the store come to life with fresh flowers and Orchids and incredible one of a kind pieces hand made by Carmen in Julian. These

pieces together with Adele's fine touch at floral arrangements make the store a very interesting place to visit.

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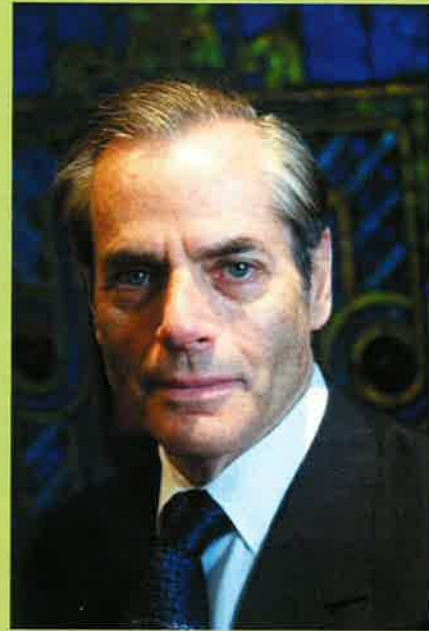
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## South African Reflection

by  
Rabbi Stephen Lewis  
Fuchs, D.Min, DD,  
President, World  
Union for Progressive  
Judaism



After an overnight flight from Tel Aviv, my wife Vickie and I arrived in Johannesburg to attend the 80th anniversary convention of the South African Union for Progressive Judaism. We wanted to bring the presence of the World Union for Progressive Judaism as a gesture of encouragement and support. Progressive Jews in South Africa are a minority within a minority.

According to the 2010 census there are 70,800 Jews in South Africa (some 5000 less than were recorded in 2001) out of a population of 50,586,000 people there. Of those 70,800 about 7000 identify with the progressive movement. It is understandable that some members of the South African Progressive Jewish community feel that they are small and isolated.

My message in Johannesburg – as it was the following Shabbat in Cape Town – was that we were there to assure them that they are an integral part of a worldwide progressive community of 1.8 million Jews and that South Africa is a precious part of our family. Vickie and I will always cherish the warmth of the reception we received in both cities.

In Cape Town we were guided on a wonderful tour to the Cape of Good Hope. The magnificent ocean vistas, Table Top Mountain, and the Penguin preserve were all breathtaking. It was a particular joy in Cape Town to meet and feel the warmth of Bertha Sherman, widow of the Cape Town Progressive community's legendary founding Rabbi Dr. David Sherman. Mrs. Sherman must be approaching 90, but she looks so

much younger and her joi de vivre and love of Judaism radiated from her very being.

Between our visits to Johannesburg and Cape Town Vickie and I spent an unforgettable three days on a photo safari in Kruger Park. We were fortunate to see all of the "Big 5" (lion, leopard, water buffalo, hippo, rhino, and elephant) in their natural habitat.

We also saw giraffes, cheetahs, assorted exotic birds, wildebeests, warthogs, zebras and impalas in great abundance. At our lodge zebras, and warthogs came close enough to touch, and the zebras ate apples out of guest hands. We also saw the most majestic looking kudu with an elegant beard and horns that seemed to reach to the sky.

Never had either of us experienced anything close to the wonders of nature we beheld in Kruger Park. It was truly magnificent.

Our South African journey concluded with a sobering visit to another side of South African life. We visited some of the outlying townships, where people of color lived in close cramped quarters. Here, we realized, were the homes that the people who worked in the fine hotels where we stayed came home to each day.

Social inequity, of course, is hardly unique to South Africa. It exists everywhere. For us, the townships in the midst of such natural splendor were another reminder of how our mandate as Jews is not just to enjoy life but to do whatever we can to make this world a more just, caring, and compassionate place for all of God's children.



## Dinner with Paul Hirschson, Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs

by Brian Marcus



As part of the SAJAC Reunion Shindig, we were honored to have Paul Hirschson participate with us for the weekend. Paul is at present the highest ranking ex-South African in the Israeli government and is deputy spokesperson for the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He was brought to San Diego for this SAJAC Reunion under the auspices of StandWithUs, the worldwide Israel advocacy organization.

In addition to other engagements during the weekend long event, he was present at Shabbat Friday night dinner attended by about 28 members people, including StandWithUs San Diego regional director Audrey Jacobs. The dinner was hosted by two SAJAC families in La Jolla, and the engaging and lively discussion went on past midnight. While we were all very impressed with Paul's knowledge and opinions on Israel's political and economic matters in relation to the other countries of the world, I believe that he was equally impressed with the strength and cohesiveness of the expat SA community in San Diego.



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## Paul Hirschson, the highest ranking South African in the Israeli government, flew in to San Diego to speak at our SAJAC Reunion!

Originally from Johannesburg, Paul is currently the Deputy Spokesperson for Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He returned to Israel after over three years in the USA (Consul to Florida & Puerto Rico) last summer.

His presentation was co-hosted by Stand With Us and SAJAC and was held at Congregation Beth Israel, on Saturday, April 21, 2012. An exclusive, private lunch for SAJAC Reunion attendees began at 12:30 pm.

Paul's easy style of presentation was welcomed by the large number of Shindig attendees. Everyone was very interested in hearing Paul's attitude and impressions about the current Israeli status in the global community.

Paul Hirschson holds Bachelors in accounting & law and Masters in business degrees. After immigrating to Israel, he served in the IDF then worked in the public sector, relocating to England for several years. On his return to Israel Paul entered Israel's hi-tech sector, developing business relations in the Middle East and later in Europe, Africa, Malaysia and elsewhere. Paul spent ten years in Israel's hi-tech sector.

In 2004 Paul left the private sector and joined Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He worked for the Director General's Office responsible for Israel's relations with countries in the Persian Gulf until relocating to the USA in 2008 to serve as Consul General.

In 2011, Paul completed his posting in the USA and returned home to Israel where he continues working as an Israeli diplomat with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.





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## WHAT IS SLEEP APNEA?

by Yaron Miller



Sleep apnea is a common disorder in which you have one or more pauses in breathing or shallow breaths while you sleep. Breathing pauses can last from a few seconds to minutes. They may occur 30 times or more an hour. Typically, normal breathing then starts again, sometimes with a loud snort or choking sound.

Sleep apnea usually is a chronic (ongoing) condition that disrupts your sleep. When your breathing pauses or becomes shallow, you'll often move out of deep sleep and into light sleep.

As a result, the quality of your sleep is poor, which makes you tired during the day. Sleep apnea is a leading cause of excessive daytime sleepiness.

### Overview

Sleep apnea often goes undiagnosed. Doctors/Dentists usually can't detect the condition during routine office visits. Also, no blood test can help diagnose the condition. Most people who have sleep apnea don't know they have it because it only occurs during sleep. A family member or bed partner might be the first to notice signs of sleep apnea.

The most common type of sleep apnea is obstructive sleep apnea. In this condition, the airway collapses or becomes blocked during sleep. This causes shallow breathing or breathing pauses. When you try to breathe, any air that squeezes past the blockage can cause loud snoring.

Obstructive sleep apnea is more common in people who are overweight, but it can affect anyone including small children who have enlarged tonsil tissues. Central sleep apnea is a less common type of sleep apnea. This disorder occurs if the area of your brain that controls your breathing doesn't send the correct signals to your breathing muscles. As a result, you'll make no effort to breathe for brief periods.

Central sleep apnea can affect anyone. However, it's more common in people who have certain medical conditions or use certain medicines. Central sleep apnea can occur with obstructive sleep apnea or alone. Snoring typically doesn't happen with central sleep apnea.

### Outlook

Untreated sleep apnea can:

- Increase the risk of high blood pressure, heart attack, stroke, obesity, and diabetes
- Increase the risk of, or worsen, heart failure
- Make arrhythmias, or irregular heartbeats, more likely
- Increase the chance of having work-related or driving accidents
- May be a cause or exacerbate teeth grinding/clenching

Sleep apnea is a chronic condition that requires long-term management. Lifestyle changes, mouthpieces, surgery, and even breathing devices.

### Major Signs & Symptoms

One of the most common signs of obstructive sleep apnea is loud and chronic (ongoing) snoring. Pauses may occur in the snoring. Choking or gasping may follow the pauses.

The snoring usually is loudest when you sleep on your back; it might be less noisy when you turn on your side. You might not snore every night. Over time, however, the snoring can happen more often and get louder. However not everyone who snores has sleep apnea.

Another common sign is fighting sleepiness during the day, at work, or while driving. You may find yourself rapidly falling asleep during the quiet moments of the day when you're not active. Even if you don't have daytime sleepiness, talk with your doctor if you have problems breathing during sleep.

Other Signs and Symptoms include morning headaches, memory or learning problems, not being able to concentrate, feeling irritable, depressed, or having mood swings or personality changes, waking up frequently to urinate and dry mouth or sore throat when you wake up.

In children, sleep apnea can cause hyperactivity, poor school performance, and angry or hostile behavior. Children who have sleep apnea also may breathe through their mouths instead of their noses during the day.

### How Is Sleep Apnea Diagnosed?

Doctors diagnose sleep apnea based on medical and family histories, a physical exam, and sleep study results. Your primary care doctor or dentist may evaluate your symptoms first. He or she will then decide whether you need to see a sleep specialist.

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## Moishe House Hosts Young Adults Shabbat On Shindig Weekend

by Dovi Kacev



As we prepared the house for Shabbat dinner, as we do every second week, it did not feel like a normal Moishe House event. Johnny Clegg was blasting in the background, the melkert was in the oven and we could tell the South Africans were in town.

Since opening in October of 2010, our Shabbat dinners have grown from 20 people to averaging closer to 50.

We usually get about 40 return guests and 10 new faces each meal, which we consider successful community building. This week, however, the new faces came with South African accents.

It was a real honor to be asked to host the Shabbat dinner for young adults on the weekend of the SAJAC reunion. It showed that Moishe House has become an important part of the San Diego Jewish Community and it gave me an opportunity to give back to the SAJAC community, which was so important to me and my family as I grew up here in San Diego. As people started to arrive, the festive reunion spirit was immediately apparent. Everyone seemed comfortable surrounded by their peers and in a familiar Shabbat environment. Conversations flowed much like the wine that encouraged them and ranged in topic from the old standard SAJAC geography to more current discussions about how people's South African backgrounds impacted their lives in the states.

By the time we gathered around the table for Kiddish, it was as if everyone were old friends.

After dinner everyone continued chatting and before we knew it, it was time to head off to the Living Room Café in La Jolla for the SAJAC young adult mixer. It really was a great experience and we hope to see everyone again soon.



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Beautiful  
South Africa

PHOTOS BY ORAN ELMALEH ©

## SAJAC Gemilut Chesed Program

*Rambam taught: The best way to give is to support someone by "giving him a gift, or a loan, or entering into partnership with him, or creating a job for him...until he no longer needs to depend on others" (Mishneh Torah Laws of Gifts to the Poor 10:7-14).*

One of the greatest assets of maintaining our SAJAC in San Diego is the benefit of having a caring network to benefit those in need.

Since its early years, SAJAC of San Diego has operated a Gemilut Chesed (Acts of Kindness) program as part of its charter to help expatriate South Africans, that may have fallen upon hard times or may simply need assistance to get going.

The Gemilut Chesed program has two components: The first is assistance by utilizing the SAJAC network for resources. This can include short term assistance with meals, transportation and jobs. To meet these needs, SAJAC is always available to

utilize its network of ex South Africans. We will email our membership outlining the type of help that may be needed and put people together that may be available to help.

The second component of our Gemilut Chesed program is financial assistance. The financial assistance that is available is funded annually by member contributions. This allows SAJAC to make interest free loans to fellow ex-South Africans who may need short term financial assistance.

Applicants are required to complete all the paperwork demonstrating financial need and execute an agreement to repay. In most cases collateral is required. The

SAJAC Gemilut Chesed is a confidential sub committee of SAJAC and is headed by Brian and Suzanne Marcus. They can be reached via email at brinnimarcus@gmail.com.

In these hard economic times demands on all are much greater. This past year we had an opportunity to raise additional funds from our Reunion Shindig. While this was not setup as a major fundraiser, the GC fund received \$600 from the proceeds of the event.

We thank all those members who have generously donated, and continue to donate their time and resources to the Gemilut Chesed program.

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## As I Remember It: Johannesburg of the 30s and 40s

BARBARA DURLACHER

Houses with corrugated iron roofs, Alternately boiling and freezing as the seasons changed.

Coal stoves and donkey boilers to heat the water.  
Icy winters hunched in front of tiny Victorian fires.  
Kitchen dressers with cup hooks, metal "zincs" with porcelain washbowls  
Linoleum floor coverings; dusty carpet runners in passages.  
Coal sacks dumped in grimy backyard sheds  
Stables; there were very few cars  
Fresh eggs, laid by hens in your own hok  
Fruit-trees in the back garden.  
And veggies fresh from the soil.  
The butcher and the grocer calling for orders  
Nels Rust Dairies and the dairy delivery  
Rinsing off the cardboard caps for the milk bottles  
Can you hear the linkle of the ice-cream cart slowly riding the suburbs  
And remember how the kids enjoyed the tuppenny lollies?  
The Newtown Market for lovely vegetables, poultry and colourful flowers  
Noisy auctions and horse-drawn delivery carts waiting for loads.  
The long distances between Reef towns before the motorways.  
The silences and huge emptiness of the countryside;  
Miles of golden grasslands between Jo'burg and Pretoria  
And Sandown's gentle country life with its stables and horses;  
It was the original "mink and manure" suburb.  
Quiet walks in Illovo along sandy tree-lined roads,  
"George's" riding stables where an international hotel stands today.  
Radiograms and wind-up gramophones; crystal sets with earphones.  
Terrible radio reception before FM and shortwave, especially during a Highveld thunderstorm.  
Eric Egan and jumping to 7 a.m. "physical jerks," and Lourenco Marques radio.  
The wonderful "English-radio" serials, who can recall "The Man in Black"?  
The erudition and Irish charm of Paddy O'Byrne; but this was much later.  
The "Three Wise Men," and Sunday afternoon radio plays.  
Incredible, roaring hailstorms and sleetly galleons of cumulus  
Drifting down to the lowveld.

Coir or feather mattresses before innersprings.  
Black iron bedsteads, which sagged in the middle.  
Wardrobes with long centre panel mirrors  
Bentwood chairs - fly-screens on windows.  
Washstands with porcelain bowls and jugs;  
"Judge" brand saucers and enamel coffee pots.  
Long-drop toilets, cut-up newspapers on a nail on the wall  
Mule-drawn carts and the quiet bucket-brigade removing the night-soil.  
Chanting gangs of labourers digging trenches to lay pipes and cables  
"PUTCO" buses and black cyclists riding to work each day.

A distant train's lonely whistle on a freezing winter's night  
Homesick migrant worker seeking comfort in soft music on a mbira (Jew's harp)  
Hand-cranked phones and the farm "party-line" and, a  
Three-hour wait for a trunk-call.  
Plug-in switchboards and the operator's irritated, "Nommer asseblief,"

Stinkwood and Imbuia "ball-and-claw" furniture  
Shepherd & Barker, who only sold the best "Sheraton" and "Chippendale" copies  
Thelma Brode, who photographed everyone.  
Magical Japanese origami which opened under water.  
The whiff of incense and the gleam of beautiful fabric from an Indian bridal shop.  
Fine suits hand-tailored by skilled Europeans, made  
Refugee by Hitler's persecution  
Cosmopolitan Hillbrow, cosy Cafe Kranzler and their delicious imported coffee.  
Newspapers on sticks, and voices from all over Europe.  
The daily crush of halted and gloved workers  
Hurrying down Twist Street when the trams were full.  
The designs and colours of Basuto blankets worn by  
Homebound mine-workers walking to Park Station.  
Led by an Induna, they marched with heads high, singing a song of home.  
Sewing machines, paraffin lamps and Prymus stoves  
All found their way to the rural kraals together with other, more secret, gifts.

The Italianate beauty of the central court at Park Station and the "Blue Room"  
The excitement of the long steam train journeys to the coast  
The appeal for aluminium saucepans "for the War Effort"  
Digging "Anderson Shelters" in the back garden  
General and Isie Smuts and the "Little Man" lapel pin,  
It had something to do with raising money.  
Knitting socks, balacavos and scarves for the troops,  
The frightening arrival of polio, and children in "iron-lungs"  
Majestic white "Institute," on Hospital Hill where they  
Discovered the viruses and made serum for snakebite which was used all over Africa.  
The original Wanderers Club near Park Station,  
The redbrick Victorian buildings of the old Johannesburg hospital

An American model petrol pump at the side of the road,  
Hand-cranked, two vertical glass one-gallon tanks in the metal casing  
Filling and emptying alternately as the petrol siphons off.  
War shortages, and cars converted to run on paraffin,  
No white flour, and making butter from "top-of-the-milk,"  
Trams and double-decker buses with overhead electric connections  
Cream and red were the city's municipal colours.  
Agile conductor in navy uniform and cap.  
With his silver coin holder, tight bundle of tickets and hand-punch  
Pull the cord once to stop, then "Ting, ting" and we're off again!  
Delays while he hooked the electric unit onto the lines with a long  
Bamboo pole hidden underneath the bus.  
The noise of reversing seats as he slapped them into position  
When the end of the line was reached.  
Springbok-head logo on SAR train windows;  
Shiny green leather bolsters bumping varnished mahogany woodwork,  
Smudged black and white photos of Old Cape-Dutch manor houses  
"Alle kaartjies, asseblief," as we click-clack over the points, and  
The music of the gong signalling lunch and dinner.  
Dreary mine towns, coal dust and smuts in your eye.

Liste stockings, crepe de chine; the first nylons  
Max Factor Pancake make-up and Tangee lipstick  
"Evening in Paris" scent worn to your first dance.  
C-to-C (Cape-to-Cairo) cigarettes at 1/1d for 30, and 2/6d for 50.  
A penny, a lickey, a shilling, a half-crown, a florin and a guinea  
Rarity between Sterling and the South African pound  
The "Rand Daily Mail" and "Angela Day" who wrote the "household hints".

Pink penny stamps with the picture of Britannia;  
Ha-penny if the envelope was open; telegrams at a penny a word!  
Tea-room bios with their continuous performances  
American Milk Bars, all chromium and fizz;  
The Dolls House at midnight, and double-thick chocolate malteds.  
Banana-splits, Coke-specials and hotdogs with yellow mustard  
Deanna Durban, Judy Garland, Nelson Eddy, Jeanette MacDonald  
Yvonne Leigh and Clark Gable in "Gone with the Wind,"  
"The Wizard of Oz," "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs"  
"The Chocolate Soldier," "Mrs Miniver," "Blossoms in the Dust" and "Casablanca,"  
Swashbuckling Errol Flynn, darkly handsome Tyrone Power,  
The delicate blond beauty of Leslie Howard; Mario Lanza's fine tenor voice  
And the legendary Mariene Dietrich.  
Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall, Bette Davis, and Joan Crawford,  
Anne Ziegler, Webster Booth and Ivan Novello,  
Wednesday and Saturday matinees, 6d for kids, adults 1/1d.  
The Lone Ranger, his trusty horse Tomo and exotic Zorro,  
That was when cinema was new - a real dream factory  
"Annie Get Your Gun," "Oklahoma!" and the high-kicking "Tiller Girls,"

Eloff Street trams; and the elegant shops full of imported clothes, handbags and shoes.  
Saturday shopping at John Orrs and their white-gloved lift-girls: "Going Up!"  
Wonderful hats at Stuttafords, and their tearoom,  
Where the northern suburbs ladies took tea, and nodded acquaintance to friends.  
OK Bazaars' Christmas windows, and "Switching on the lights"  
Important enough to be announced in the newspaper.  
The yellow haze of mine dust which hung over everything  
A winter evening's cool smoke turning the sunsets purple.  
The old Olympia Ice-rink and neighbouring greyhound track.  
The Drive-in cinema on top of a mine dump, and MacPhail's filthy coal yard  
Where carts pulled by emaciated horses waited for their loads.  
Anstey's Art-Deco building, Markhams corner with the clock,  
Escom House on Marshall and New Street,  
Once the tallest building in the southern hemisphere  
(it's Gandhi Square today)

Charles Manning and his theatrical sweep of white hair.  
"Ag, Pleeze Deddy," and Jeremy Taylor's musical "Wait a Minim"  
Leon Gluckman's "King Kong" and "Ipi Tombi" by Bertha Egnos  
"Back o' the Moon, Boys," and "Mama Temba's Wedding" do you recall?  
"Second-show" at the Metro and being shown to your seat  
By a uniformed usherette with a torch.  
John Massey playing the cinema organ, and singing along to the "bouncing-ball".  
Rustling chocolate papers, lacquered hair, light shoes,  
Corsets and fur coats in the Grand Circle  
And a thick curtain of cigarette smoke by interval  
When the usherette wore a tray to sell ice-creams and lollies  
The East African Pavilion and their wondrous curries  
Street-corner night-watchman huddled over a brazier.  
Sounds of a "Penny-Whistle Boogie" on a frosty night  
Remember how the city was always "under construction"?

Bothner's and Gallo's music shops,  
Mirror-finished grand pianos and gleaming brass.  
The wonderland of the twinkling stars and  
Moorish castles at the Coliseum cinema  
"His Majesty's Cellars," and their Crayfish Newburg  
The Phoenix Beer-hall, a stein of draft beer,  
Free bread, "thumb soup" and an enormous veal schnitzel  
Unbelievably, the food cost 1/6d.  
The "old" Carlton Hotel, focus of every big occasion;  
The "Debutante Spring Ball" with double rows of  
Elegant white-gowned young ladies and their escorts  
Presentations and deep curtsies to the Governor-General  
He was the Queen's representative in tailcoat, white tie and all his decorations.  
Elegance and luxury at the Langham Hotel,  
Where an eight-course formal dinner cost two guineas a couple.  
The Criterion, for years the hangout of newshounds, and the  
Midday crush for drinks;  
Flower sellers near the City Hall and Saturday mornings  
Spent exploring the riches of the Johannesburg Central Library.

The original Thrupps in Eloff Street, and their range of fine imported foods  
Half-day closing on Wednesdays and three o'clock on Saturday.  
The Luyers-designed Joubert Park Art Gallery with its  
Superb collection of paintings and sculpture;  
The Edwardian fountain and splendid hothouse, and the spring flower beds.  
Picnics at the Zoo; excited children crowding the mounting blocks  
For rides on elephants and camels,  
Charity fairs at the Zoo Lake "for the War Effort" Soggots Corner, Publix and Stuttafords in  
Rosebank.  
Gallagher's in Orange Grove full of delicious baked goods.  
Narrow roads choked with peak hour traffic  
As the city emptied when the shops and offices closed.  
Louis Botha Avenue, the only road connecting Pretoria and Jozeys  
Before the construction of the Ben Schoeman motorway,  
The 11-hour drive to Durban before the toll-road was built.

Aaagh ... those really were the days.  
If you remember all of these  
You are probably as old as I am, and  
Cherish our city's heritage as much as I do.

# We Remember



Neil Wayne Belonsky. [1968 -2012]

In loving memory of our darling beloved son and brother, who passed away so suddenly. He fought his illness so very bravely, never complaining of his pain. He was always smiling and was ready to help others.

We miss and love him so much. His memory will live on forever in our hearts.

Your loving parents, Len and Val, sister Lynn, Mike Schube and family, brother Michael, Melissa and family.



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