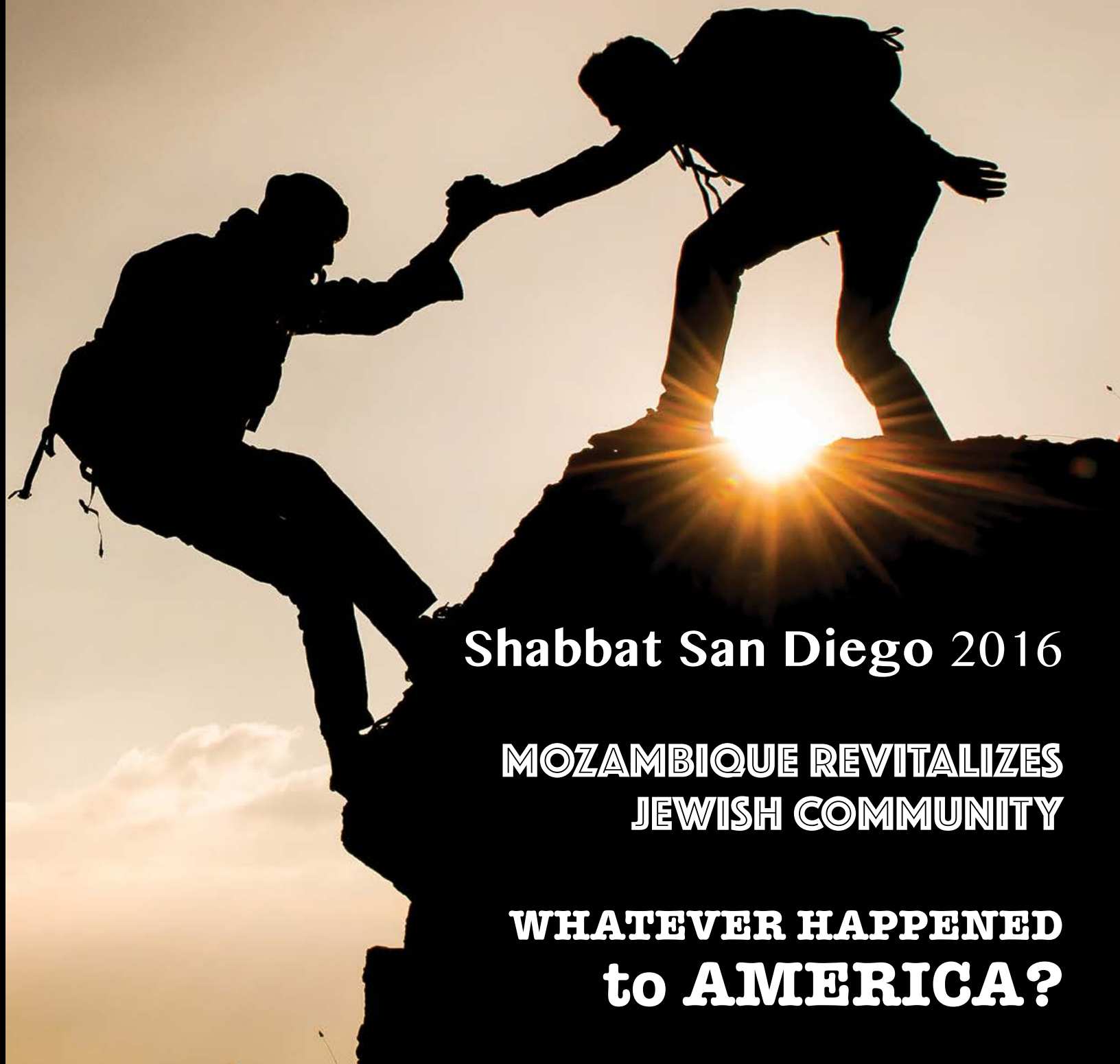


SAJAC REPORTER **2016**

REACHING NEW HEIGHTS



Shabbat San Diego 2016

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY BRIAN MARKS



“A very successful year!”

As President of SAJAC I am often asked, “What is SAJAC and why should I join?”

It is true that many of the old reasons people joined SAJAC are no longer that important or even relevant. But one thing remains as true today as it did over 30 years ago. SAJAC has always been the glue that unites this community, and has also been the clearing house and information center for this entire community.

Whether it is a bereavement notice, a welcoming face to a newcomer, our sponsorship and commitment to Shabbat San Diego, our participation in the film festivals and community events or even the Gemillut Chesed that assists those in need...SAJAC provides the unifying element that reminds us of our history and heritage and provides us with stability in our new land.

This past year we took on a major project, “The Memories of Muizenberg”, exhibit, which was considered extremely successful by the many that attended. We

also co-sponsored the Raymond Ackerman movie at the Jewish Film Festival, and are a name sponsor of Shabbat San Diego, which unites South Africans and the whole San Diego community in a showcase of unified Jewish expression.

In addition, when you consider the publication of the Annual Directory and this Reporter magazine, I feel that SAJAC has just experienced one of our more successful years and has opened the door to building on that success.

Over the next 12 months, I would like to see SAJAC organize some community building events that bring people together in greater numbers and introduce a younger generation to a community that bonds through history and spirit.

We are always looking for fresh ideas and new blood... so if you are lying awake in bed late one-night thinking “what should I do that is fun but meaningful in my life?” give us a call. I can help you fall asleep.

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Message From the Editor

It seems like just last week I was writing my Editor's message for the last SAJAC Reporter. But of course it was not, and although SAJAC had a very good year, our country did not.

Even though all indications are that people should be happy and optimistic, we are in the midst of a dysfunctional divide that has thrown common sense and rationality out the window in favor of racism, bigotry and demagoguery.

While the economy is good, inflation is low, unemployment is down, the stock market up, housing good, auto sales good, oil prices are low, most other indicators still point to better times than we have experienced for many years.

Despite this good news there is an atmosphere of despair, disillusionment and hate among many citizens. Their wrath has raised several trends that should be particularly alarming to us as South Africans and even more particularly as Jews.

At the basis of this is a new found fervor of Nationalism that questions the very foundation on which this country was built. It questions the efficacy of immigration, the freedom of religion, the inalienable rights of all citizens to pursue a life of health and happiness and has replaced it with a bigotry and racism that is threatening to tear this country apart.

As a Southern African who left that world of hate and prejudice behind and as a Jew whose very safety is protected by the freedom of

religion, I honestly fear these changes. The growth of white supremacy, the refusal by political leaders to denounce and discredit this behavior and this atmosphere of hatred has been seen by Jews many times before. This is more than a blip in the continuum of America's history. It is a festering cancer that allows divisiveness and disrespect to be considered an acceptable norm.

As immigrants to this country, I believe we should be even more sensitive to these trends. Most of us left our homes in search of a better life and to see these changes rear their ugly heads should be cause for concern to all of us.

The SAJAC Reporter is all about unification. It helps to bring communities together and our greatest strength is in our joint commitment to ensure our children live the lives we promised them.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the usual gang of suspects that put hours of work into this magazine and without whose efforts and wise council this magazine would never print.

Thanks to Diane Marks Schachat for her incredible job in handling all the advertising for this publication. This is one of the largest issues we have ever printed and I am eternally grateful to her. In addition, Derek Berghaus has once again designed the Reporter and given it its unique and professional flair.

Thank you, thank you thank you.



SHABBAT SAN DIEGO

international unity shabbat

For the third year in San Diego, Jews and their friends of all denominations and religious beliefs are about to embark on an inclusive, meaningful experience as individuals, as families and as a local community. Connecting with worldwide Jewry on November 10-12, 2016, more than two million Jews in over 1,000 cities in 85 countries around the world will join as one in celebrating a traditional, cohesive and momentous Shabbat.

In San Diego, 130 local congregations, community organizations, schools and youth groups have united under the Shabbat San Diego umbrella to plan a unique three-day experience to inspire more than 20,000 Jewish San Diegans to join in a complete traditional, open, inclusive and fully educational Shabbat experience. The goal is to ensure that every denomination, affiliation, ideology and political persuasion is fully engaged, involved and genuinely welcome.

Last year more than 15,000 people participated in the Second Annual Shabbat San Diego. This included the Mega challah bake where thousands of people gathered on the fields of the San Diego Jewish Academy and Tiffereth Israel synagogue to join together in a communal baking session where literally thousands of challas were baked by individuals, friends and families living in this community.

In addition people attended cooking classes, chuggim, communal and private Shabbat dinners, Shabbat services, community activities and the Havdalah service that brought the exciting weekend to a close.

This year Shabbat San Diego will offer a similar schedule and are hoping to attract an even larger participation than last year.

Please visit shabbatsandiego.org for details and information on how to sign up for all the activities.



JOIN OVER 20,000 SAN DIEGANS:

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THURSDAY:

(November 10, 6:30PM)

COMMUNITY MEGA CHALLAH BAKES

FRIDAY / SATURDAY:

(November 11)

It's Time to Say "Shabbat Shalom!"

SELECT YOUR INSPIRATIONAL EVENT

Community and Private Home Shabbat dinners; Saturday Services, lunches, lectures, Seu'dah Shlishit

SATURDAY EVENING:

(November 12, 7:30PM)

UNITY HAVDALAH CELEBRATION

SHABBAT SAN DIEGO OBJECTIVES:

- Each individual has their most meaningful Shabbat yet
- Together build a unified community this Shabbat
- Enjoy global identity, pride and solidarity

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO ENSURE THAT ALL ENJOY THIS SHABBAT SAN DIEGO?

1. Sign in for yourself and your family.
2. Volunteer to be part of the Shabbat San Diego Team.
3. Ask all your friends to register, and participate and ask them to ask their friends.
4. Share the names and email addresses with us of all the unaffiliated Jews you know in the county.
5. Share your ideas with us. info@ShabbatSanDiego.org



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2016

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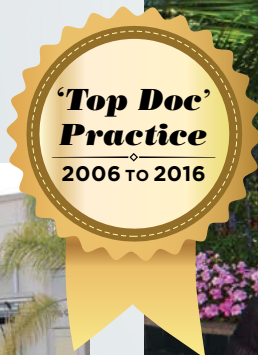
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disease, menopause, and many other health problems a woman may encounter.

We couldn't be more proud of our talented team and its dedicated individuals. In 2016 alone, **Dr. Goodwin, Saffer, Bales, French,** and **Meshkat** were all awarded **Top Doctor** by the San Diego County Medical Society. What an incredible feat to have five doctors from our practice earning this impressive award!

This is quite an exciting year as WCOG will be expanding locations to include the **Carlsbad Women's Center**, a new state-of-the-art facility, dedicated to serving comprehensive health needs of women in every stage of their lives. In addition to the new location, West Coast will be introducing two new excellent doctors to our team. **Dr. Christine Carter Sterling** and **Dr. Ariel Shuckett** will enhance our office and increase our ability to provide reliable, advanced healthcare to all our patients.



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Claire Ellman

HONOURING OUR AMAZING "LANDSWOMAN".

By Jean Edelstein Gaylis - Founder of
Shalom Baby



We send our most heartfelt Mazal Tov to Past Federation Board Chair, Claire Ellman, who was honoured with the prestigious Kipnis Wilson-Friedland Award at this year's International Lion of Judah Conference.

Claire's work in San Diego, in Israel and around the world has positively impacted countless lives and we are honored to have her in our San Diego Jewish Community.

This prestigious, internationally recognized Award is given to 'Lions of Judah' who have demonstrated the highest ideals of leadership and involvement. Winners are chosen by their communities as "women of valor" with a lifetime of commitment to the Jewish world.

Born in Cape Town, Claire's leadership extends from San Diego to around the world! Besides her myriad of local, national and international philanthropy board

involvement, she has served on the boards of Jewish Federation of San Diego (Chair), Women's Philanthropy, the Israel Steering Committee, Jewish Federations of North America, United Jewish Communities and the Jewish Education Service of North America.

Passionate about Jewish Day Schools, she served as President of the San Diego Jewish Academy and Board member of UCSD Hillel. She was a board member of the Jewish Community Foundation, the Jewish Women's Foundation, and President of the Agency for Jewish Education.

Internationally, Claire is Co-Founder (along with our very own Charles Jaffe) and current advisor of Chai South Africa, an international fund supporting Jewish institutions in Southern Africa. She is also a Wexner Fellow Graduate. Claire and her wonderful husband, David, have three children and a growing number of grandchildren, whom they adore.

Claire has also been passionate about Shalom Baby, San Diego's most successful outreach program housed at our magnificent JCC, and run by our truly dedicated and gifted professionals, Judy Nemzer and Vivien Dean, two magnificent South Africans. PJ Library is a program within Shalom Baby, which sends free subscriptions of Jewish books and CD's to San Diego children aged 6 months - 8 years old.

So, when PJ Library, was in desperate need of a new strategic funding partner the Jewish Federation of San Diego County came forward.

In June of 2015, Claire and David Ellman pledged a matching gift of \$36,000.

In 30 days, 426 donors, many new to Federation, stepped up to meet Claire and David's challenge gift, so that a total of almost \$100,000.00 was raised.

Thank you Ellman's, thank you Federation, and thank you LFJCC, for forging this tremendous strategic partnership with PJ Library. The results of this partnership have meant:

- No dropped subscriptions or waiting lists
- Approximately 3,000 subscriptions are received in SD county each month
- 9-11 year olds will receive PJ Our Way a special subscription just launched this spring
- ShalomBaby, which provides Jewish experiential activities and social engagement & connections, continues to grow in leaps and bounds

Todah Rabah, Kol HaKavod, and Mazal Tov to you Claire. You are a true Eshet Chayil.



a few **HOLIDAY THOUGHTS**

By Rabbi Zalman Carlebach

Apple announced a huge leap forward in audio technology, using wireless, smart ear-buds with ingenious features and great sound. I know that sometimes it hurts to move forward in life. And usually, that means dropping something that's tying you down. Like your old headphones. The new I Phone does not have a headphone jack rendering your old headphones obsolete.

Smart phones aren't just something we use. They've become an extension of our very selves. Thousands are protesting, petitioning, ranting and screaming, "We want our cables back!

Cables were useful. But now that they're not needed, they just tie us down. Apple assures us we're going to hear much better. You are not losing any connections. Conversations will be better, too. These are smart ear buds. They hear your voice, and block out everything else.

But look what you're gaining. Think of the minutes spent untangling that darn cable stuffed in your pocket, while politely pretending you're paying attention to the conversation. Think of the hours that could be used for more productive stuff -- like actually listening to the conversation.

We all have habits we learned as children to safeguard our vulnerability. Cables were useful. But now they just tie us down.

We all have cables that tie us to a pre-defined self that says, "I don't do that. I am secular. I am not a spiritual person. I am not into ritual. I don't do stuff my grandparents did. I'm not into changing the way the world works. I have to go to work, whatever day of the week. I have to be like one of them."

Apple only determines the future of the world's headphone cable. You still determine the future of all the rest of your cables that tie you up in knots and anchor you to your place.

Perhaps you too have a need an upgrade your cables and move on in life. And that usually means dropping stuff you're attached to, and stuff that's tying you down. Make a connection with something you can't see or touch. You'll hear music like you never heard before. You'll make conversation with the Infinite. You'll make connections to all that is. You'll hear the shofar as never before. You will unleash your soul.

Are you ready for this new freedom?

Rabbi Zalman Carlebach is the Rabbi at the Chabad Shul in downtown San Diego.

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SAJAC and Chai South Africa CO-SPONSORED THE RAYMOND ACKERMAN MOVIE AT SD FILM FESTIVAL



Raymond and Wendy Ackerman with local store manager

This year, as part of the San Diego Jewish film festival, movie fans were treated to a fantastic short film about well-known South African businessman and anti apartheid pioneer Raymond Ackerman.

The film, Good Business was shown at the La Jolla ArcLight theater and was attended by a sold out audience.

SAJAC and Chai South Africa were community sponsors for the event and hosted a welcome breakfast at the theatre for attendees and the film's director before the screening.

THE FILM: GOOD BUSINESS

The story captures how love, compassion, and forgiveness can combine in a successful business model. Raymond Ackerman, with the support of his wife Wendy, ignored the laws of Apartheid to grow an ethical business.

While many families fled South Africa under Apartheid, the Ackermans stayed to leverage their own powers for good. They pioneered breakthrough marketing—insuring that food prices would come down to affordable levels. Raymond and his wife built their company based on merit, not the color of one's skin. They grew the Pick N Pay from four to 1,200 stores, in six countries with 60,000 employees, 400 franchisees of color and \$6 Billion in sales.

Now, Suzanne Ackerman, who is the Director of Transformation, oversees a business incubator that supports entrepreneurs. The Pick N Pay has 100 empowerment projects put in place to stop the cycle of poverty. All the entrepreneurs are fully supported and encouraged to created products that can be sold through the chain of stores. The whole philosophy is based on "doing good is good business." For once, business is seen in a positive light as an agent of change and an inspiration for us all.

We interviewed person after person who had received an "empowering intervention" of some kind from the Pick n Pay family, and had taken that opportunity and converted it into something that would impact, not only their own lives, but that of their entire community

In this short documentary film we explore what these words and concepts mean for the people. We will begin to understand that not everything that counts can be counted. Not everything that can be measured, matters. That "doing good is good business" There may be a new, 'intangible' triple bottom line to business in this country... and it is possibly, best expressed with words like Love, Forgiveness and Compassion.

Members of the Chai SA advisors committee enjoy breakfast at the Good Business welcome breakfast.



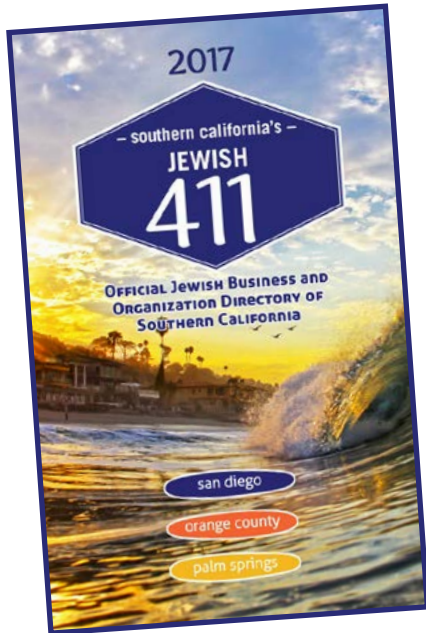
Left to right. Felicia Mandelbaum, Dave Ellman, David Mandelbaum, Claire Ellman, Sharleen Wollach and Mandy Katz.

Representatives from Chai SA and SAJAC meet the movie's producer.



Left to right: Mandy Katz, Miranda Magagnini, Sharleen Wollach and Brian Marks

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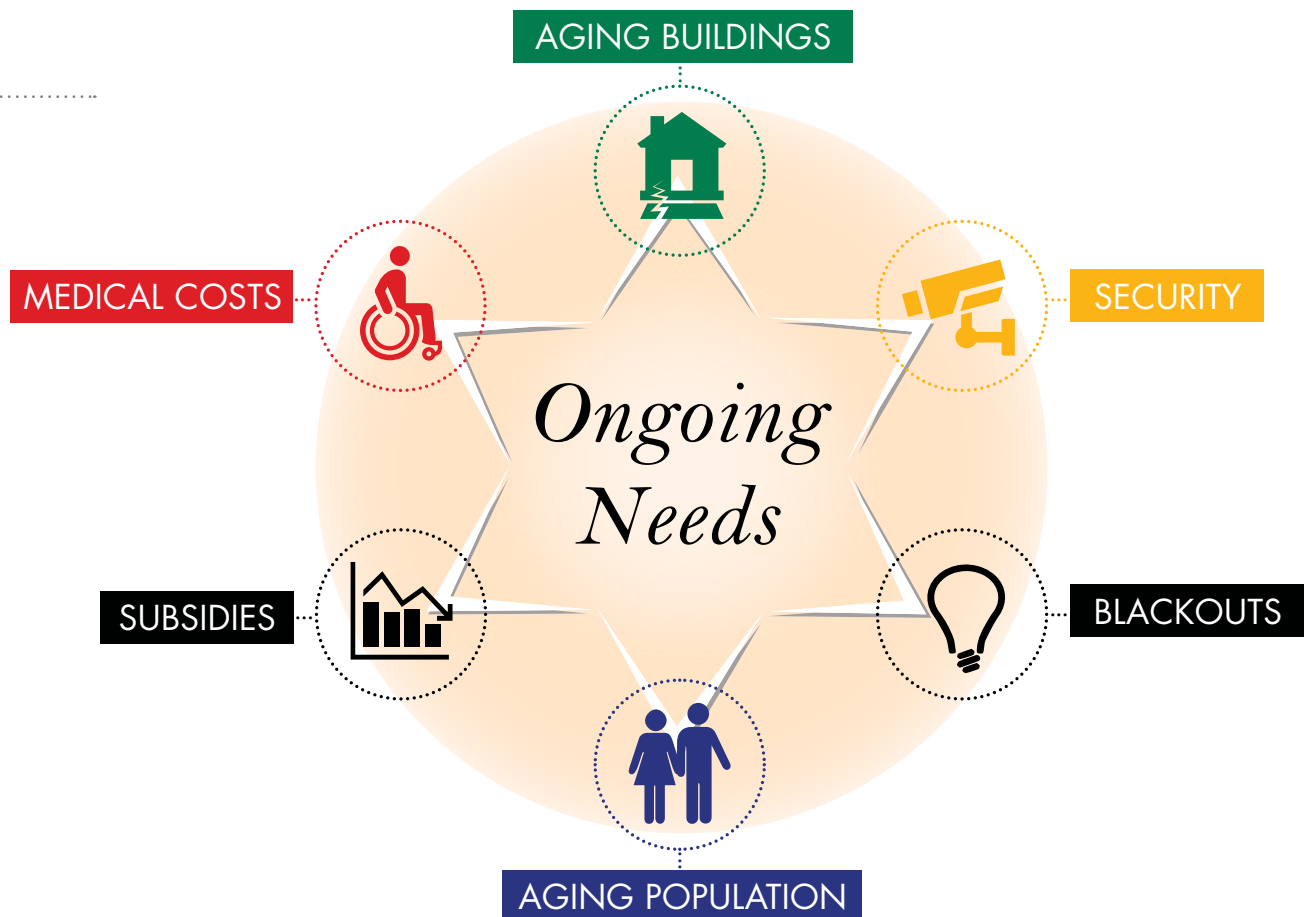
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The Diversity Visa or Green Card Lottery

By Marlene Z. Stanger



The New Year has again come round, in both the Jewish calendar and in the calendar of the U.S. Citizen and Immigration Service (USCIS). Unlike the Jewish calendar, the start of the USCIS's fiscal year is not moon-cycle dependent and starts on October 1 every year. This is when new visa numbers become available for distribution and when new hope dawns for

those who want to try and win the green card lottery.

The application period always starts at the beginning of the fiscal year and applications are accepted for about a month. The Fiscal Year 2018 (FY2018) Diversity Visa lottery opens for submissions on October 4 and runs until November 7. The visa applies to the following fiscal year. October 1, 2016, is the start of Fiscal Year 2017 so the current lottery for FY2018 applies in the following year that starts October 1, 2017.

For FY2017, 457 South Africans were selected and most of us know someone or several people who have won the DV since this program was implemented in 1996, so the odds are pretty good.

Common questions come up every year from people who wish to apply or who have friends or family who wish to do so. One is whether it is necessary to pay to enter. The answer is no. The U.S. Dept. of State, which administers this lottery, has an excellent website and if you go to www.travel.state.gov/content/visas/en/immigrate/diversity-visa/entry.html, or enter usdos.gov, and select the Diversity Visa link on the menu (on the right hand side of the page in green), you will find a wealth of information about the application process and even a video that explains this category in a user-friendly fashion.

The information requested all pertains to the applicant. It is necessary to upload a photograph with the correct specifications. But no fee is needed.

The fee only becomes payable to the U.S. Dept. of State (DOS) if you are selected and, again, this government agency does a great job of providing an explanation at each step along the way. Only one application per person is allowed and upon a successful online submission, you will receive confirmation with a number.

The DOS has set up an online system to check if your application has been selected, and, if selected, you will be notified by the DOS and will be instructed to submit the appropriate visa fee. If you are living abroad, you will have to go through consular processing and if you are legally in the U.S. in a nonimmigrant status, you will have to

apply for adjustment of status. This is explained on the USCIS website as well at <https://www.uscis.gov/green-card/other-ways-get-green-card/green-card-through-diversity-immigration-visa-program/green-card-through-diversity-immigrant-visa-program>.

Some DV lottery applicants would prefer to pay someone to apply on their behalf and this, of course, is an option. While all the information you need will be available on line, as with everything, there are online scams so be aware of this. When searching online, be aware that the government agency websites have a suffix of .gov. It is sometimes confusing for people who see a website that looks very much like a government agency because of the misleading logo and believe that this is the Dept. of State site to use - and pay the requested fee. Again, it is free to enter through the DOS website.

As with every lottery, you have to enter to win. So many people intend to enter then get too busy and the application period comes and goes and they have regrets they did not make the time to complete this simple process. For some odd reason, the application period start and end dates have a start and cut off time – starting 12 noon Eastern Daylight Time on October 4th and ending at 12 noon Eastern Standard Time on November 7th (FYI – Daylight time applies before we “fall back” to Standard time...so if you are in California, do not apply before 9 am on the 4th or after 9 am on the 11th!)

So, if you, your friends, or your family want to enter the DV lottery, set aside the time and just do it - or contact immigration counsel to assist you. Don't sit here next year and say “if only” when you could be celebrating your lottery win instead.

Marlene Stanger is an immigration attorney with Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy.



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whatever happened to America?

BY BRIAN MARKS

I remember the very first time I thought of America as a magical shiny place that was better and more exciting than anything I would ever experience in Bulawayo.

It was 1961. Southern Rhodesia had just welcomed the magic of television and one Saturday evening, I was watching “77 Sunset Strip”, a cop show set in Los Angeles where everyone drove a convertible, everyone was good looking, everyone was a slick dresser, everyone was funny, and everyone dated the most beautiful woman in the world. And even though we watched in black and white the whole country glistened and gleamed as if it had just been washed and painted.

UNREALISTIC AND SUPERFICIAL, BUT MY LOVE AFFAIR WITH AMERICA HAD BEGUN.

As I slid out of my childhood and into teenagedom, my fascination with America changed focus but became even stronger. It was the late sixties and the students at the Sorbonne had made themselves heard. The student movement in America listened and spawned a generation of love hippies, tolerance, racial equality and the rights of women. Students fought against the Vietnam War, Wounded Knee shone a light on the Native American, Martin Luther King shone a light on the blacks and Stonewall began the push for eventual gay rights.

IT WAS AN EXCITING TIME TO BE IN AMERICA AND I WANTED TO BE A PART OF IT.

To me, America now stood for something way more than the sparkle of the Strip. It stood for something I would never see at home. It was tolerant. It promised a constitutional guarantee of freedom, the absolute right to disagree, to dissent, to discourse and to gather without the fears that living in “unfreedom” automatically brings.

So for me emigration was never a question mark? . The real question was -- when?

I came to the States almost 40 years ago, and I was never that naïve to expect America to hit all the points on my expectations list.

Some things were disappointing. There was a lot of hype. It was more conservative than I thought. Religion influenced life more than I imagined and elements of racism and bigotry still trespassed into this tolerant world to remind everyone that there was still work to do.

But underneath it all there was still this thread of common decency. There was a healthy respect for divergent opinions and we could debate without the vileness that permeates society today.

WHAT HAPPENED?

Twenty four hour news happened. Radio and television talk happened. The internet happened. And with these, we lost the right to demand that truth was more important than opinion, that ratings were less important than substance and that innuendo was unacceptable in the absence of a reliable source.

Since cable TV and their radio networks were no longer under the

strict scrutiny of the Federal Communications Commission, it gave journalism a new found freedom. No longer forced to provide equal time to competing ideas or balanced reporting, it heralded the dawn of a new kind of journalism.

The shock jocks initially prevailed, but it was not long before the opinion shapers understood this new freedom and started to view their role as arbitrators and persuaders. The era of vileness had begun.

As a left of left liberal, it shames me to admit that liberal journalists have played their part in this tragic shift, but while this will incur the wrath of the conservative right, it was the Rush Limbaughs, Michael Savages, Glen Becks and fellow travelers that took their personal agendas and played to the fears and loathing's of an audience that was ripe for their particular brand of half-truths as they pushed for ratings and national syndication.

AND THEN CAME OBAMA!

Nothing burst my American bubble more than how many citizens reacted to the election of the first African American president.

Instead of hailing this momentous moment they followed the lead of right wing opinion-makers and stooped to the lowest form of subliminal racism. The N word became an acceptable way of describing the president in some parts of society, and by starting a campaign of innuendo and fear mongering, the door has opened to this form of campaigning and become an acceptable norm in the political arena. That trend continues with one of the foulest and most disgusting presidential campaigns that I have had the misfortune to witness.

Now as a liberal who believes in democracy, everyone has the right to their opinion, no matter how radical or diverse. But what disgusts me beyond disgust is the vileness with which these ideas are now propagated. Where racial slurs are part of the stump vernacular, where misogynistic prejudice goes beyond bad taste, where lies and filth are fair game to all parties and where the content of ideas, plays second fiddle to the personal agendas of talk show hosts and billionaire backers.

Today, friends with divergent opinions can no longer debate. The seeds of right and wrong are so entrenched by their isolated selection of media and opinion, that the spirit of political hatred trumps discussion and rejects any form of diverse enlightenment.

This was not the America I signed up for. The place I love will let you believe that both police and black lives matter. That, you can disagree with a president, without questioning his patriotism. That a quarterback can quietly protest an injustice without being called a traitor. That you can agree to own a gun but not any gun. That a woman can run for president without having to fight against the world. And that you can simply see that some people just need a little more help.

I pine for those days. I have a little faith left. But I keep getting the feeling that I'm the only one who really still cares.

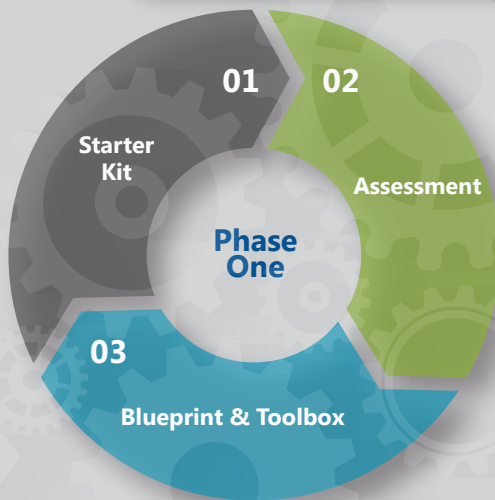


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SAJAC'S MUIZENBERG EXHIBIT -A GREAT SUCCESS

BY BRIAN MARKS





A special thanks to Hillel Katzeff who spent hours designing and painting the wooden beach box give-aways.

In March this year, SAJAC sponsored the Memories of Muizenberg exhibit, which originated in South Africa and has visited the four corners of the globe.

Held at the Cape Town restaurant on Miramar Road from Sunday March 20 to Sunday March 30, the exhibit was a glowing reminder of the golden days of Muizenberg that touched the lives and hearts of Jews and non-Jews from South Africa, Zimbabwe and all of Southern Africa.

The exhibit which featured a fantastic collection of historical banners, amazing photographs, and graphic representations of the colourful bathing huts, attracted visitors from throughout Southern California.

OPENING NIGHT

More than 100 people attended the opening reception held at Cape Town. Hosted by SAJAC and kosher catered by Shmoozers, the evening began

with a welcome from the show organizer Brian Marks.

However the guest speakers stole the show.

Mike Wallace, who lived in Muizenberg for many years, gave a delightful light and humorous recollection of life in Muizenberg and kept the crowd laughing with his incredible recollections, stories and slides. A true living-history.

Mike was followed by Helen Lieb who read a fabulous letter from the South African curator of the exhibit Joy Kopman. Helen and her husband Gerald were long-time residents of Muizenberg and we were lucky enough to see a few bathing photos of both of them in their prime.

I would specifically like to thank a few individuals without whom this would not have been possible. Mike Wallace, Gerald and Helen Lieb, Dave Sacks, Derek Berghaus, Pam Nathan, Hillel Katzeff, Lawrence Sher and Carol Abramowitz.

I would also like to thank all the sponsors.



Left to right: Betsy Sorkin, Mike Wallace • Gerald and Helen Lieb.



From Top to bottom, left to right: Barry Cohen, Cheryl Rabkin, Jack Berghaus, Ian Weisenberg
• Derek Berghaus, Pam Nathan, Brian Marks, Alan Davis • Malcolm Zeeman, Geoff Phillips, Marcelle Friedman • Cape Town pub Exhibit.

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AFRICAN AMERICANS YOU DIDN'T KNOW WERE JEWISH



AMAR'E STOUDEMIRE

When the NBA star's mother told him about his family's Jewish heritage, Amar'e immediately wanted to know more. He traveled to Israel to learn more about Jewish culture and even got a Star of David tattooed on his hand, sometimes wears a yarmulka, and even speaks a little Hebrew.



Maya Rudolph

Also gets her heritage from the music industry. Her mother is famous soul singer Minnie Riperton and her father is a composer, songwriter and Ashkenazi Jew.



RASHIDA JONES

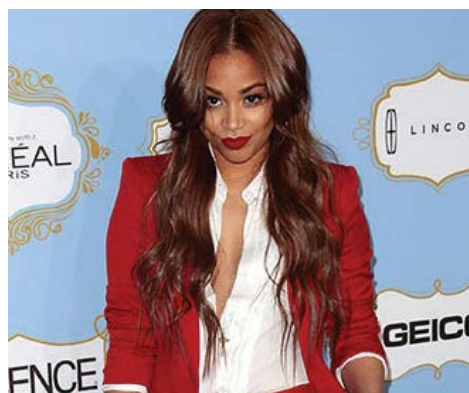
We all know that Quincy Jones is Rashida's father. But did you know that her mother Peggy Lipton is an Ashkenazi Jew (and *Mod Squad* star). Growing up, Rashida even went to Hebrew School. But even though she dropped out at age 10, she practices Judaism today.



SEAN PAUL

Dancehall king Sean Paul's real name is Sean Paul Ryan Francis Henriques. And he shares his last name with another famous Jewish-Jamaican: 17th century pirate, Moses Cohen Henriques.

Sean gets his Jewish heritage from his grandfather on his father's side, a descendent of the Spanish and Portuguese Jews who fled the British Caribbean during the Spanish Inquisition.



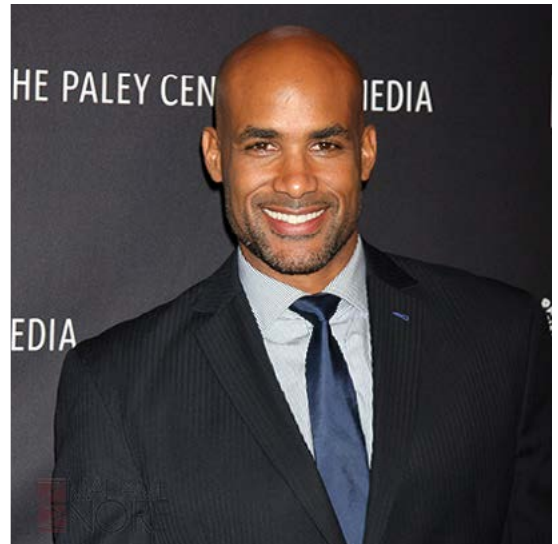
LAUREN LONDON

The ATL star's mother is black, but her father is Jewish.



LISA BONET

Lisa Bonet's mother isn't actually Claire Huxtable. It's Arlene Litman, a Jewish woman — from San Francisco not Brooklyn.



BORIS KODJOE

Boris' grandmother is Jewish, but he says that early on his mother taught him that they should "find our own way based on many different religions, that there were many different doctrines but that they all had the same purpose

SAMMY DAVIS JR.

Malcolm X found Islam in jail. Sammy Davis Jr. found Judaism in the hospital. In 1954 while recovering from a car accident almost took his life, the famous singer began studying Judaism after being "impressed" by the Jewish Chaplain at the hospital.

After recovering, Sammy says he found a new calling — and a deeper level of minority.



DRAKE

OK, everyone knows that Drake was born to an African-American father and a Jewish-Canadian mother. But did you know that he looked this adorable at his Bar Mitzvah?



LENNY KRAVITZ

Lenny's famous mother Roxie Roker — who played Helen Willis on The Jeffersons — gets a lot of press. But fewer people know that Lenny Kravitz' father is a Jew who traces his roots back to the Ukraine.

Lenny says his mother encouraged him to remember his heritage saying, "You are just as much white as you are black, just as much Russian Jew as you are African-American."

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FATHER'S DAY POEM

Is there something more profound than thoughts that become unwound when confronting ones progenitor,

having to concede that the one who sowed your seed was less than propitious

so despondent eyes look at skies and wonder how it could have been better

when someone we should venerate chose to eviscerate the essence of our being

if only you gave credence to your earthly power

My walk across a bridge would just mean going from one side to the other but because of you I hang upside down, staring at the water

And yes, we've all heard the story about no handbook for this journey

but unless you had a predisposition to a cerebral disorder,

you dear father were out of order.



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The Democratic Alliance (DA) party is bringing change to South African Politics

By Cllr. Errol Anstey (Chief Whip, City of Cape Town)

The 2016 Local Government Elections mark a tipping point in South African politics. Since 1994, our political landscape has been dominated by the ANC, the party of Nelson Mandela which liberated South Africans from the oppressive apartheid regime 22 years ago. The ANC, however, is no longer the party of Mandela, it is the party of Jacob Zuma. And whilst South Africa has made progress since 1994, corruption and mismanagement under the leadership of Zuma has pushed our country into an economic crisis where 9 million South Africans are currently unemployed.

The DA set out to change that in this year's elections. We proposed a very clear alternative, a call for change that stops corruption, creates jobs, and delivers better services. And the results of our campaign were staggering.



ERROL ANSTEY...A NEW VOICE IN SOUTH AFRICA

Partnering with the small opposition parties where necessary, we took power in 37 municipalities across South Africa, four of which are major metropolitan municipalities. These include the country's legislative capital, Cape Town; the administrative capital, Tshwane, South Africa's economic centre, Johannesburg; and the city named after our democracy's founding father, Nelson Mandela Bay.

The 3rd of August municipal elections mark an historic moment for our party. Our election campaign was the longest and most complex campaign the DA has ever undertaken. To get our message of change to a diverse population, we are constantly pioneering new campaign techniques and our use of data analytics, social media, and a variety of direct voter

contact mechanisms, meant that we were able to set the agenda in this election. Our systems and processes were on a par with the very best political parties the world over.

The DA calls on voters for their support based on how we deliver. "If we don't deliver vote us out at the next election," DA Leader, Mmusi Maimane asserted at the final rally in his hometown of Dobsonville, Soweto. This strikes a chord with a country, sick of corruption and desperate for change.

Where we were the incumbent party our support grew. In absolute terms the ANC declined by 1,000,000 votes between 2011 and 2016, whilst we grew by 840,000 votes. We made solid progress in Gauteng, where we grew by 300,000 votes and the ANC lost 220,000. In the Western Cape, we received a two-thirds majority in Cape Town and grew by over 200,000 votes. And in Nelson Mandela Bay, we grew by over 30,000 votes, while the ANC declined by just over 30,000.



DA Party Leader, Mmusi Maimane

But the real measure of our success can be seen in the growing diversity of our support. The DA is typically seen as the party for white and Indian South Africans but in Cape Town, for example, our support from black South Africans tripled in this election.

The DA has positioned itself as a party for all races, one that is intent on building an open opportunity society for all South Africans. And the fact that we are being endorsed by all sections speaks to the effectiveness of DA government delivery. We are set against perpetuating the cycle of corruption and cronyism where jobs are only offered to a connected few.

Our success in this year's elections helped launch South Africa into the age of coalition governments and render the ANC more vulnerable than ever before. It brought our message of hope to all South Africans.

Moving forward, we plan to build on this momentum as we prepare for the 2019 National Election. We know that the public will watch us closely to see whether we will be able to deliver on all the promises we have made in our newly won municipalities, but we will not disappoint.

The DA has governed in the City of Cape Town for two terms now and it has proven that clean, responsive DA governance can uplift communities. The City has the lowest unemployment rate in the country and is hard at work developing successful programmes that have made the Mother City the best-run municipality in South Africa.

We have set out to prove that wherever we govern, we can stop corruption, create jobs, and deliver better services than anywhere else in the country. A DA-led national government is within our reach.

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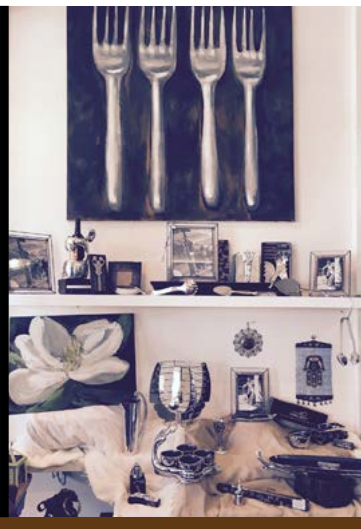
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Celia Levy and Nan Sterman host flower tour to Spain.



Thirty-six people, nine days, five cities, 35 gardens, and nearly 3,000 photos. Those are the numbers for the tour Celia Levy and Nan Sterman co-lead this year to the romantic gardens of Spain.

They toured by private coach, starting in Malaga, whose lush parks lure in visitors and locals and was just a short stroll to the Picasso Museum, dedicated to Malaga's most famous native son.

"On the way to Cordoba, we stopped in the picturesque town of Ronda, home to Plaza de Toros, the world's oldest bull fighting ring," said Nan.

"We strolled through Alameda del Tajo, Ronda's "Central Park." Its cliff-edge location features forever views of the beautiful Spanish countryside and Ronda's biggest tourist attraction the "Puente Nueva," a bridge that spans a 300-foot deep river-filled gorge. The views are gorgeous."



The tour came to Ronda in part to see Palacia del Rey Moro whose gardens inspired the gardens at The Prado restaurant (formerly Café del Rey Moro) in San Diego's Balboa Park. The fountain there is also replicated in the restaurant.

"The gardens are small but lovely," added Nan. When I looked down from the top level, I could envision San Diego architect Richard Requa standing on the same spot 90 years earlier, absorbing the design details that he would later use for his 1935 remodel of Balboa Park.

They moved on to Cordoba in time for the city's annual Patio Festival. In Spain, older homes are built in Persian style where public facades are unadorned without front yards. Houses are oriented inward, around a central, private courtyard open to the sky. Rooms face into the court-yard. Once a year, Cordoba holds the Patio Festival for the most beautifully planted and decorated courtyards. The winners are opened to the public for two weeks in spring.

Patios range from tiny to spectacular – filled with potted plants that overflowed with bright red and pink flowering geraniums. The intense colors were magical against the stark white walls.

From Cordoba the group left for Seville where they toured the Old City and the Alcazar Gardens

"This is one of my favorite gardens in the world. They hugely influenced San Diego architect Richard Requa in his 1935 makeover of Balboa Park, added Nan. "Some of these gardens are sunken,

others stepped. Each is organized around a central axis that includes a tiled water feature, often at the intersections of pathways.

"One beautiful Alcazar courtyard is planted entirely in orange trees. Others feature beds edged in boxwood that surround plants like bear's breech, Agapanthus, and roses. One wall is draped in a two story tall Bougainvillea. Arbors drip with wisteria whose vines are as thick as tree trunks" said Nan.

The group then headed towards Granada, stopping first in a tiny village of Niguelas. Their destination was an historic olive mill where villagers have gathered for centuries to press their olives between the mill's massive stones. The mill is now a museum.

They strolled through Niguelas' lovely central garden, then walked along narrow streets to a 200 year old garden belonging to Senor Muller. They stepped through a green wooden door set in a broad whitewashed wall. Senor beamed as the group marveled at his wild and formal gardens, making sure everyone noticed the 700-year-old chestnut tree.

In Granada, they walked the narrow, cobbled streets of the Albayzin which is set on a steep hillside. On the opposite hillside, the Alhambra and its summer palace look out over the Albayzin's two-story whitewashed houses and balconies of potted plants.

The ten day tour took them to old homes, where entire walls were covered in espaliered orange trees to elaborately planted public parks. They visited villas whose modest exteriors gave no hint of their carefully designed interior gardens that were filled with fragrant rosemary, bay, and mock orange, nor of the enormous mosaic rooms and shaded patios that surround those gardens.

"From peonies to palms, pines to pomegranates, we took it all in as we discovered the depth and beauty of Spain's romantic gardens," concluded Nan

Nan Sterman is an author, columnist, garden designer, speaker and host of A Growing Passion on KPBS. Celia Levy is a lifelong SAJAC member and a travel agent.©



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top officials put a **Jewish stamp** on the **Rio Olympics**

Mazel tov! That's perhaps how the big shots in charge of the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, the first to take place in South America, toasted victories when the competition got underway Aug. 5.

Three of the top officials of the Rio 2016 Organizing Committee, including its president, Carlos Arthur Nuzman, are Jewish.

Nuzman was eager to talk about the robust Jewish connections at the games, including a ceremony to honor the 11 Israelis murdered by Palestinian terrorists at the Munich Olympics in 1972, the Israeli company that is providing security for the games and his own deep ties — as an athlete, sporting official and Jew — to Brazilian sports.

"My connection with Judaism and with Israel is through sports," said Nuzman, who was part of the first Brazilian male volleyball team in 1964 when the sport debuted at the Olympic Games. "I started my career playing at the Brazilian Israelite Club and I have attended four Maccabiah Games in Israel."

Nuzman relied on other prominent members of the local Jewish community as deputies. Sidney Levy, a business executive, is the Rio 2016 committee's chief executive officer and has a \$2.2 billion budget to manage. Leonardo Gryner, a communications and marketing director who was part of the Rio 2016 bid, is deputy CEO.

"I have no connection to sports at all," Levy said in an interview published at the Keren Hayesod webpage. "My duty is totally business-related."

The Jewish trio at the helm of Rio 2016 is behind the ceremony to honor the Munich victims. The Aug. 14 event at Rio's City Hall was co-led by the International Olympic Committee along with the Olympic committees of Israel and Brazil.

Four years ago, the IOC rejected appeals for a moment of silence at the opening ceremonies of the London Games in 2012, the 40th anniversary of the tragedy. Critics at the time were not appeased by various events marking the anniversary that took place at other venues.

The IOC also announced a special area in the Rio Olympic Village to commemorate the memory of all Olympians who have died. In addition, a moment of reflection in honor of all dead Olympians will be held during the closing ceremony.



The Jewish trio in charge of the Rio Olympics: Carlos Arthur Nuzman is flanked by Sidney Levy, left, and Leonardo Gryner



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Tahini is the New, Trendiest Jewish Food

By Ally Miller

If you've been to New York city lately you've probably noticed that more and more restaurants are using tahini. Once eaten almost exclusively by Israelis as a condiment in falafel, shwarma and hummous, this sesame seed paste is now the trendiest new Jewish food and chefs are reaching for tahini whenever anything creamy or nutty is required.

And now, it seems that the rest of America is just as obsessed. For the first time ever, we're seeing tahini go beyond its historical territory and into dressings and sauces, hummus, and halva across the country. It's replacing peanut butter and almond butter in American classics like cupcakes, granola, and even smoothies!

The sesame seed craze doesn't stop at tahini; it's halva cousin is turning up in brownies, cakes and donuts, too. Halva is a flaky, tahini-based confection made with sugar or honey and tahini. The variations and textures are truly endless.

The tahini craze is likely the result of a few coinciding food trends: the rise of Israeli and Middle-Eastern food in the U.S., and Americans' interests in eating and cooking healthier foods. Local artisans found the perfect moment to introduce their home-spun tahini treats and the movement took off from there.

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Adam Behrman makes donation to Chai as part of Bar Mitzvah Project.



How did you first learn about the work of ChaiSouthAfrica?

Richard: With my son, Adam's, sense of curiosity we wanted to learn more about what had happened to Arcadia, the Children's Home in Johannesburg. My grandfather was one of the pioneers of Arcadia and as part of Adam's Bar Mitzvah project he felt the need to give back to his roots. In our research we came across the work of ChaiSouthAfrica. Interestingly, what I learned, was that Arcadia no longer has the same needs or requirements that it was intended for after World War II.

What inspired you to support and continue to support ChaiSouthAfrica?

Adam: ChaiSouthAfrica provides support for the individuals who don't make the commercials on television. You rarely see those who are mentally or physically disabled in a Red Cross ad, for example. What ChaiSouthAfrica does is amazing: connecting people who truly do need it most with people who are willing to give it.

Richard: I saw the credibility and history that Chai had to be able to disburse the funds to the homes that need it most in the most transparent way. Because Chai works to ensure that the community is still taken care of for generations to come.

In what way have you personally provided for particular projects at the homes?

Adam: First and foremost, as my Bar Mitzvah project, I donated \$300 to support the creation of a tennis program for children in the homes. I chose this because, as a huge tennis player myself, I feel that the sport can make anyone happy, and is relatively easy to pick up and play. My intention was to make it easier for those who didn't have the same opportunities as I did to now have the chance to play tennis. Additionally, my father and I had the opportunity on a recent visit to visit the homes and to see what our donations have yielded.

What would you like to say to those who may be living abroad for decades about the needs of the homes in South Africa?

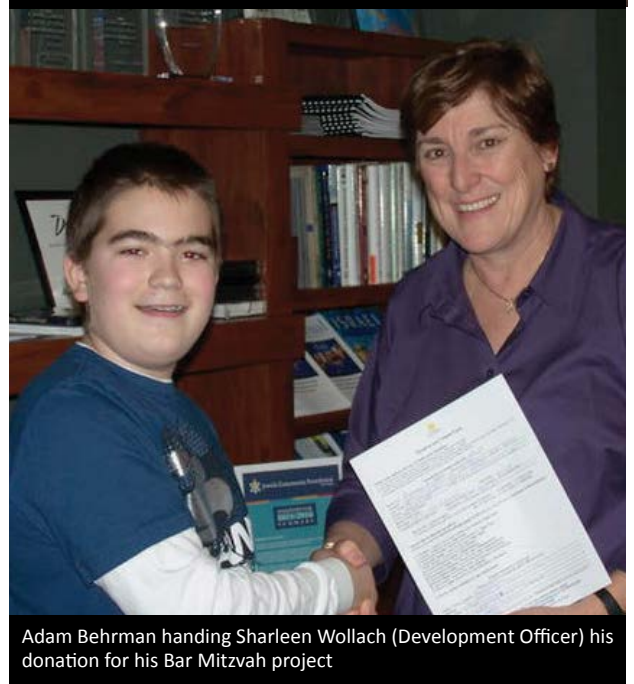
Richard: I believe that it is important to remember from whence you came. One cannot simply ignore or hide from their past. There is no such thing as an ex South African. Once a South African, always a South African, and it is our obligation to take care of those still in South Africa. Particularly as a way to remember the Jewish community that provided a home for all of us once upon a time.

Having left South Africa 35 years ago, what keeps you connected to your roots?

Richard: I still have family and high school friends that are dispersed throughout the country. We speak quite often to ensure that we stay in touch. I frequently read News24.com, as well as the Chai-SouthAfrica newsletters. So through the internet and phone lines, I have stayed connected to my roots. I would like to encourage others to remain connected as well. Support your local community and at the same time remember our heritage and those less fortunate.



Adam Behrman with his dad, Richard Behrman – 5 years later, all grown up



Adam Behrman handing Sharleen Wollach (Development Officer) his donation for his Bar Mitzvah project

“Not The Last Butterfly”.

The story of how a small symbol became a life lesson to the world.



This Fall, the Butterfly Project released their documentary, *Not The Last Butterfly*, at a standing room only pre-premiere hosted at the Museum of Photographic Arts at Balboa Park. This sneak preview private screening brought community leaders, Holocaust survivors, teachers, volunteers and donors together to share the story of the Butterfly Project and to chronicle how a small idea has become an international phenomenon.

THE PROJECT

The Butterfly Project's is a global education and arts program. Their mission is to paint and display 1.5 million ceramic butterflies to honor and remember each child killed in the Holocaust, and to foster education and awareness of the dangers of hate and bigotry, by mobilizing the global community to stand up against injustice and create a more compassionate and peaceful world.

The project was co-founded in 2006 in San Diego by educator Jan Landau and artist Cheryl Rattner Price as an initiative to take Holocaust education out of the textbook and bring



Survivors (Francheska Gelbart 2nd from left) holding up candles prior to the screening • Torrey Hills Shopping Center San Diego (10 public schools making 2000 butterflies)



Q & A May 3 2016 Museum of Tolerance West Coast Premiere, Los Angeles with museum director Liebe Geft and the filmmakers



Max and Rose Schindler with family at the screening

“Good ideas are common – what’s uncommon are people who’ll work hard enough to bring them about”

Ashleigh Brilliant

it to life in a way that inspires students to make the world a better place. As of 2016, installations totaling nearly 150,000 butterflies have been created in communities of all faiths across the United States and in such diverse countries as Israel, Mexico, Poland, Australia, Czech Republic, Canada and Argentina.

THE DOCUMENTARY

“NOT The Last Butterfly” tells the inspiring tale of The Butterfly Project and its message of hope and healing are woven together with the courageous stories of Holocaust survivors, whose dark tales include a little-known story of the Terezin concentration camp in Czechoslovakia, where a young Ela Weissberger was imprisoned as a child.

Now a survivor in her eighties, Ela reveals how she and other children were given the strength to endure the Holocaust by an artist and teacher who helped them express the trauma of their experiences through art. Both a moving account of survival and a lesson in the healing power of art working its magic, NOT The Last Butterfly offers young and old a new way to find hope in one of history’s great tragedies and empowers all of us to take action to create a more peaceful world

Their next screening will be as part of the 27th Annual San Diego Jewish Film Festival February 9-19 2017 at the Lawrence Family JCC in La Jolla!



Ela Weissberger survivor of Terezin with Cheryl at San Diego Jewish Academy Holocaust Survivor Wall



Students of San Diego High School of Science and Technology with Holocaust survivor Rose Schindler

My Pioneering Grandparents

– Maputo (Lourenco Marques)
Shul in Mozambique.

BY SUE SWERSKY

In 2003, my daughter Lauren began a Jewish roots project at SDJA about her pioneering great grandparents. She asked my parents about their parents, and after some research and discussion, unraveled the history of her pioneering great grandparents.

She learned that my mother Mona's parents had helped build a shul in Lourenco Marques (LM), now know as Maputo.

During her project, Lauren made internet contact with a lady Vivienne Pivo who filled in the many gaps in the shuls history over the years and its current status

HERE IS OUR PART OF THE STORY:

In 1923, my grandfather, Norman Wollman , an accountant with Ford Motor Company was transferred from London to Lourenco Marques (LM), Mozambique, known then as Portuguese East Africa.

On Friday night, my grandmother Bella, lit Shabbat candles in the window of their home in the hope of attracting other Jewish families to meet. Their Jewish neighbors came knocking and welcomed them with open arms.

My grandparents soon discovered that LM was filled with a history of Jewish community dating all

the way back to the 1890's . The community included both Ashkenazi and Sephardic Jews hailing from places such as Vilnius, Marakech, London, Lisbon and Durban. For many years they had met for services in homes and often feuded over liturgical matters.

Despite their differences, the groups came together to build a common Shul and the Honen Dalim congregation opened August 29th 1926. My grandparents were among the 16 families who had founded Maputo's first and only shul. It was never large enough to support a rabbi, so services were led by shul members.(See original photos of the shul)

My grandparents left LM for London when my grandmother became pregnant with my moms older sister Helene. After Helene was born they moved to New York to unite with my grandfathers brothers and my mom Mona, was born in Brooklyn New York.

Many years later after my mom and family moved to Cape Town, she and my dad Jack went on a cruise for their honeymoon in 1952 and when the ship stopped in LM they made contact with some of



the same families whom my grandparents had built the shul with !

Although the Jewish community in LM grew for a while after World War II and peaked at about 500, it began to decline when Jews started moving to South Africa and Zimbabwe. In 1975, Mozambique was taken over by a Marxist government and went through a civil war, further contributing to the decline of Jewish life. The synagogue, along with churches and mosques, was confiscated. The practice of religion was prohibited and the shul became a warehouse for storage for the Red Cross. Hostility towards religion halted Jewish life in Mozambique. Lourenco Marques was renamed Maputo.

In 1989, a non-Jewish business man, Alkis Macropolous, who served as honorary Greek Consul in Maputo organized a campaign to have the synagogue re-opened. The handful of Jews who had remained had no ties to the ritual requirements of Jewish life, but many who were self-taught, began reading and studying again. One visitor recalls stepping into the shul one day and hearing 12 people sing "Am Yisrael Hai" accompanied by a German Lutheran on a portable keyboard!

In 1989 recovery of the synagogue began with painting and repairs. A Bima was donated by the Delmas congregation in South Africa, chairs from an East London congregation. The community's Sefer Torah, which were presumed lost when most of the Jews scattered in 1975-76, were found in the safekeeping of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies. Because they were no longer kosher, the Chief Rabbi of South Africa, Dr. Cyril Harris, solicited the donation of another Torah scroll. The Schoender Street congregation in Cape Town donated a Torah to the Maputo community. The day the rabbi delivered the Torah happened to be on Rosh Hodesh, which was the first public reading from the scroll. It was the first time the community's younger members had ever heard the Torah being read. On Rosh Hashanah in 1993, the shofar was blown in Maputo for the first time in at least 18 years. In November of that



year, Mozambique and Israel established diplomatic relations.

Shabbat services are now held every Friday night. Long gone is the competition between Ashkenazi and Sephardic liturgical styles. Services accommodate those who speak only Portuguese (the first language of the community) and those who prefer English (the common language of visiting foreigners). The result is a mixture of the two, and lots of singing in Hebrew, the language with which everyone struggles equally.

Mozambicans are not the only ones who have returned to their Jewish roots. Some of the most active community members are non-Mozambican Jews who work at foreign aid and United Nations organizations and some are from the Brazilian, Portuguese, Dutch and British embassies to name a few. Many of them were not synagogue-going Jews in their own countries, but became Shabbat regulars in Maputo.

One of the shul's projects that has made great headway is the restoration of the cemetery. Since 1992, the community has met on Sunday mornings to remove trash from the cemetery grounds, plant new trees, and raise the walls to discourage vandals.

Remarkably some of the revival of the Jewish community of Mozambique has been helped along to a great extent by non-Jews. When you ask why they got involved, their replies seem to be personal friendships with Jews and esteem for the principles of Judaism. The government and the leadership of other religions have encouraged the revival of the community and despite its small size, the Jewish

community has participated as a full equal in national ecumenical events involving Catholics, Protestants, Muslims, and Hindu.

On May 19 2013, after more than a century of Jewish life in Maputo, a rededication of the Maputo Shul occurred with Rabbi Moshe Silberhaff carrying the original Sefer Torah into the Shul. Anne Harris wife of the late Chief Rabbi, Cyril Harris, presented the same scrolls that had been returned to South Africa for safe keeping in 1976. Over 100 people from many parts of the world attended the ceremony (More info about this and many wonderful photos can be found on <https://jewishmozambique.wordpress.com/2013/06/12/honen-dalim/>)

After a generation of civil war, socialism and recurring drought, it is uplifting and fitting that this community of more than 50 Jews today has now continued celebrating simchas including brisses, Bar Mitzvahs (the first since 1970 was Jordan Silvas in 2012) Bat Mitzvahs, weddings and more.

We are so proud of this heritage and my grandparents contributions to Jewish life in Mozambique.

It is quite remarkable that even when Jewish culture evaporates and religious knowledge lapses, Jewish identity remains and even the tiniest spark can ignite Jewish life once again!

Sources of info include family records, Vivienne Pivo, South African Jewish Report, Sam Levy, various internet sites.

Mozambique's historic shul rededicated

BY SAM LEVY

The historic Maputo Synagogue was rededicated on Sunday, May 19 in a lavish ceremony attended by Mozambican government officials, a delegation of the African Jewish Congress, representatives of other faiths, members of the diplomatic corps, international donors, and many friends of the Jewish community of Mozambique. The day's events included the unveiling of the commemorative stone, with the text reading: "This historic synagogue of Maputo, patrimony of Honen Dalim - the Jewish community of Mozambique - was re-inaugurated in the presence of HE the Minister of Justice of the Republic of Mozambique, Dr Maria Benvinda Delfina Levi, on May 19, 2013 (10 Sivan 5773)."

The unveiling was followed by the Hachnasat Sefer Torah ceremony, the formal return of the community's Sefer Torah by the SA Jewish Board of Deputies, amid shofar blowing and joyful songs led by Rabbi Moshe Silberhaff. This Torah scroll had originally been given to the Maputo Jewish community by the late Chief Rabbi Cyril Harris in 1994, and it was fitting that his wife, Ann, officially presented the same scroll that had been returned to South Africa for safekeeping after the Maputo Synagogue had fallen into disrepair.





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20 Seconds of Courage

BY DAN BAER, DIRECTOR OF CAMP MOUNTAIN CHAI

Nine of ten startups fail within the first 3 years of their inception. Of those, 42% fail because the market doesn't desire the product or service that they are providing.¹ The late Apple co-founder Steve Jobs famously said, "A lot of times, people don't know what they want until you show it to them." In tech accelerators, incredibly, the number of companies that succeed jumps from 10% to 50%.

At Camp Mountain Chai, campers get the first-hand experience of trying new activities, meeting new people, and going through the process of trial-and-error. We are our own accelerator. We accelerate growth and development for our campers through multiple stimuli at once. Our campers decide, especially in their chugim (electives) what activities they want to do.

We develop a schedule that allows them to go to each activity area at least once per session. We inspire them to do the new. Some of the world's most famous entrepreneurs went to Jewish overnight summer camp (e.g. Mark Cuban), and draw on their childhood experiences every day. They build their business and their life around relationships. What does it take to meet someone new? Make a new friend? Find a special someone?

Go up to a random stranger as soon as they get off the bus and ask them what they are most excited for? Answer: 20 Seconds of Courage.

Each of us has regrets, missteps, and lost opportunities. Think back to your most recent one. When is the last time you could have made a difference to yourself to others, but chose the easy road? At Camp Mountain Chai, we encourage our campers to take risks and chances. We encourage our campers to try new things, both in their activities and in their home lives. We encourage campers to have 20 sec-

onds of courage. We want them to say "yes" to one question or request they would ordinarily say "no" to. We teach them how to get over their greatest fears. We put them on a stage in our Teatron with programs like Chaidol. Our campers excel at these defining moments. Each moment of courage has 2 parts: The Commitment and The Act.

We take a deep breath and say to ourselves "OK, I'm going to do it." We then, usually, question why we decided we are going to do it, but we are committed. There is usually a bit of time between The Commitment and The Act, which is filled with pure, carnal fear. We question and run through the gamut of "what-if" questions and don't like the answers to any of them. We exhaust every thought before returning to The Commitment. Overcome by a sigh of relief, and a re-iteration of the same words, "OK, I'm going to do it," we go. It can be the moment we press send on an email that we've written, or the time we walk across the room to introduce yourself to a celebrity, but all it takes is 20 Seconds of Courage to live regret free. Take the chance you've never taken.



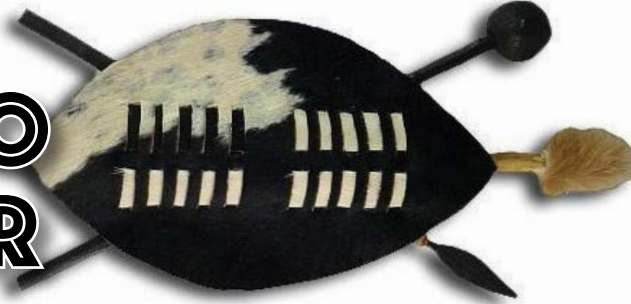
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ZULUS ARE ASKED TO SWITCH TO FAKE FUR



A leopard can't change its spots, but can South Africa's Zulus trade their traditional leopard-pelt adornments for a cheap knockoff?

For the sake of protecting the country's dwindling population of the big cats, conservation biologist Tristan Dickerson hopes they can. Dickerson has created a fake version he says is as good as the real thing—only cheaper and machine-washable. He is close to finalizing a deal with the 5.6 million-strong Nazareth Baptist Church, which blends Christian and Zulu traditions, the Independent reports.

"I have used digital photography and imaging to produce an exact synthetic replica of a leopard-skin stole with all the dots in the right place," says Dickerson, who leads the world's biggest study of leopards. But he faces an uphill battle, he says, as leaders including President Jacob Zuma are encouraging the tradition by wearing real furs. "On the same day as Prince Charles visited a black rhino conservation project, he did not seem to bat an eyelid in the face of all the poached leopard skin he saw at the king's palace," Dickerson says.

T'03

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Student volunteers across three continents visited survivors in their home kitchens to ensure one more aspect of their lives would not be forgotten.

Screenshot of project participant Larissa with her sponge cake. It's an unusual premise for a cookbook: recipes contributed by Holocaust survivors. But the creators of "Once Upon a Kitchen Counter" want to show the world that survivors have far more to share with the world than painful memories of suffering and loss.

Following months of intense preparation, "Once Upon a Kitchen Counter" is being officially launched at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. An initiative of the university's Hillel student organization, this Hebrew-language cookbook contains some 40 recipes collected by Jewish students working with survivors in Israel, the United States and the former Soviet Union. For many of the participants, this is the first time they put their recipes in writing.

"Once Upon a Kitchen Counter" (or "Ta'am Shel Pa'am," as it's titled in Hebrew) is the latest of a handful of books that seek to document the culinary histories of Holocaust survivors. In addition to ingredient lists and instructions, it also contains the personal histories of the survivors who salvaged these recipes and the stories behind them.

In preparing the cookbook, Hillel students across three continents spent a week visiting survivors at their homes, where they learned to prepare the dishes from the masters. These little cookbook workshops are documented in photos that accompany each recipe. Several well-known Israeli chefs, including TV personality Michal Ansky, also contributed to the effort, offering suggestions for improvements and variations on the original recipes.

Ultimately, the cookbook is a work of social activism. "Our primary motivation was to provide a different kind of assistance to Holocaust survivors," said Vitaly Viller, a 25-year-old student at Ben-Gurion University, who initiated the project.

Born in Ukraine, Viller, now an electronic engineering student, immigrated to Israel nine years ago. He is active in a program run by Ben-Gurion University Hillel for Russian-speaking students interested in reaching out to Holocaust survivors. With a special grant from the Genesis Philanthropy Group, an organization dedicated to enhancing the Jewish identity of Russian speakers, Viller traveled to Ukraine last year, where he learned about a similar cookbook project run by a local Hillel organization. He decided to import the idea.

The majority of foods in the book are Jewish family recipes from Eastern Europe. Recipes include "Elsa's yeast cake," "Chana's carrot cookies," "Layah's chicken soup," "Chaya's fish in cream sauce," "Tzila's kreplach," "Bassia's strudel," "Lola's cheesecake" and "Gregory's herring."

Some of the recipe names, like "Avraham's falsche fish," may not ring familiar to modern Jewish ears. But as the book explains and the name suggests, this is a dish intended to look and taste like it comes from the sea, even though it is actually made from sugar-sweetened chicken. Fish, it turns out, was in scarce supply in Avraham's landlocked hometown in Romania, so families like his learned to improvise.

The cookbook cover. Photo courtesy of 'Once Upon A Kitchen Counter' project.

Viller estimates that roughly 100 students and Holocaust survivors were involved in the cookbook project, with most of the funding coming from Genesis. All proceeds from sales, said Viller, will be invested in projects designed to assist Holocaust survivors. The book can be purchased for NIS 45 on the Hillel Israel website or for a discounted price of NIS 35 at Tuesday's event.

RECIPE: IRENE'S BRAISED CAULIFLOWER

Contributed by Irene Weiss to the "Once Upon a Kitchen Counter" project.

Ingredients:

One head of cauliflower
Two tablespoons butter
3/4 cup bread crumbs
Salt and pepper
Oil

Instructions:

1. Boil the cauliflower in salted water until not completely soft.
2. Drain.
3. In a large frying pan, heat oil and 2 tablespoons butter (optional)
4. Cook on low heat
5. Add bread crumbs, but do not brown.
6. Add cooked cauliflower.
7. Cook until lightly coated with crumbs. Add salt and pepper.

In memory of my parents

By Marlene Z. Stanger



This story is written as a tribute to my late parents, Abe and Pearl Davis, who lived in Muizenberg for 56 years before moving to Highlands House, Oranjezicht, in 2005. Abe passed away October 22, 2007 aged 94 – less than a mile from where he was born - and Pearl passed away on July 24, 2016, aged 92.

My granny, Mrs. Esther Bryna Herman, from Malvern by way of Vilnius, had a friend called Sonya Blechman. My dad, born at 2 Prince Street, Gardens, had an aunt called Tilly Josman. Mrs. Blechman told her friend, Aunt Tilly, about the beautiful daughter of her friend and Aunt Tilly thought,

"Ahh, time for my nephew Abie to settle down...enough of the post-war gallivanting..."

So next time Abie was up in Jo'burg – Roodepoort to be exact, to see the relatives – Aunt Tilly invited Mr. and Mrs. Herman and the Blechman's and Pearl came along too.

Abie was smitten. The blond, blue eyed, water-polo playing Davis boy could not stop thinking of the dark-haired, tall, thin and elegant Pearl and when he got home to Cape Town, he wrote her a letter. It was written on thin, air-mail paper on two pages on the letterhead of his brother, Simon's company that was simply called Simon Davis. But he had crossed out the name Simon and replaced it with Abe.

It was a love letter and said he believed they could have a happy life together. An engagement followed and Pearl, an only child, flew down to Cape Town to meet the Davis family. She wore a new white suit and a new stylish hat. They brought her to the family home at 7 Marais Road, Sea Point. There she met "Mother" (Chaya Itil "Annie" nee Josman) and "Father" (Hyman Davis formerly Melnick in the old country prior to telling Cape Town customs that his name was Chaim Dovid. The wedding took place at Marais Road shul and Pearl and Abe had to decide where they wanted to settle down.

1948 – what a year! As Hedy Davis aptly stated, "a veritable Shtetl by the Sea". They moved to Clevedon Cottage in Clevedon Road and had their first baby, Stan, in 1949. The following year they moved to Windermere Road and in 1951, baby number two, Annette was born. They named their house "Stanette."

I came along in 1954. And what do I remember?

I will first of all say that Bobba Bryna Herman was living with us by that time, since Morris Zelig (after whom I was named Marlene "Masha" Zelda) had passed away suddenly while on holiday in Muizenberg a few years before. I remember the promenade walks on summer nights, the ice-creams at the Milk Bar playing marbles on the field next to the Liebrecht's house – all under the loving protection of Abe and Pearl, and of course, Bobba. There were the Sunday drives through Tokai, stopping to buy Hanepoort grapes when in season,

By then, my dad had his own business importing home wares from China and traveling on sales trips. He had a driver, Courtman, who taught me Xhosa and who named his firstborn Stanley. Abe's fortune changed and he lost the business. I remember the anxious day when a man came to meet with my parents to talk about the insurance business. He was with Sun Life of Canada. My dad joined them and continued through to Liberty Life, leaving only in his 80's. The young staff by that time called him Uncle Abie. My mom got a job as well. She was secretary at Floyd and Emery, prominent architects in their day.

School, cheder, the beach, the freedom to play, catching the train to get lunch at Garlicks and a movie and still having change from R1. And the knowledge that the world had an order defined by a fine moral compass and the love of family. It was a village and it always takes a village.

Then there was the music. Dan Hill and his orchestra, Sinatra, Buddy Holly. And standing at my mom's dressing

table watching her get dressed to go dancing with dad on Saturday night. She wore The beautiful brocade dress with roses at the waist sash. It was purple satin with the built in petticoat and the impossibly small waistline. I learnt about perfume behind your ears and on your wrist in that room.

Into the teens it was socials at the Herzl Hall. How embarrassing that my dad and the shul committee were in the kitchen selling Fanta, Coke and Bar Ones. I didn't want him to see me slow dancing with Joburg boys in Muizies for the season. Bands were Shag and Jimmy Retief and the Idiots. Jimmy used to play the guitar with his teeth.

My mom always had an expanding Shabbat table. When dad came from shul, we never knew how many Navy boys he would bring home for shabbat. A reason to look nice for dinner! My mom had a remarkable vocabulary. I called her my walking dictionary. She graduated from Jeppe Girls' High with her leather bound prize books which I cherish. First in Latin, First in Math, First in class. She could have been a doctor but instead, she learned to type.

Baking, collecting rummage, organizing meetings – always involved in the community. My dad was shul chairman or president for as long as I can remember. Both life members of the shul. Charity and acts of loving kindness were always a part of my home, with early lessons about helping others always part of the lesson

We made one another happy and laughed so much. I watched

Monty Python with my mom at the Empire and at the opening credits we were already in tears from laughing so much. I learned about fun and laughter, music and dancing, from my parents. I learned about reading and hard work, about faith and loyalty and relationships. When Stan, Netty and I remember our father, we go : "He he he" (the e like staccato air without the r.) We learned about happiness and contentment, the riches of good family relationships, from him.

I cannot even begin to tell the whole story of who they were and what they meant to me and those who knew them. My beloved parents were village elders who held the community in their hearts whether in Muizenberg, where they lived their halcyon years or at Highlands House where they lived their final years together. Now they are together again. A Joburg girl and Cape Town boy from Muizenberg.

So when I walk on the beach in Del Mar and I wear the floppy hats I brought home after burying darling Pearl next to her Abe, I will think of those who wore the hats before me on the sands of Muizies and walk tall and happy, knowing that their spirits are both alive and flowing in me. The music, dancing, fun and reading, learning, working and giving will continue.

Wherever you may be, Mrs. Blechman and Aunty Tilly – thank you for the great mitzvah.



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Bella Kaplan.

A full life lived with style and grace.

By Laurence Bloch

Bella, beloved mother of Rahleen, mother-in-law of Laurence and grandmother of Gabriel Bloch passed away peacefully on January 10 this year. She was the eldest of three children born to Natie and Annie Geffin on 10th October, 1920 in Johannesburg.

Bella was a city girl who married Boris Kaplan on November in 1948, and then found herself in Winberg, one of the smallest country towns in the Orange Free State. Yet like everything she did in her life, she made the most of the situation with Boris, who was twice elected mayor. She had 3 Children Milton, Charles and Rahleen but still had time to get involved in the running of the town and founded many charitable organizations. She worked tirelessly for the ex-serviceman's league, for numerous Zionist organizations and the local Catholic woman's society soup kitchen.

However, you can take the girl out of the city but you can't take the city out of the girl and when country life became too much to bare -- or the fashions of Bloemfontein weren't up to scratch, she would travel the long roae back to Job'burg to her sister Estelle for some much needed respite.

Bella and Boris left Winburg for Johannesburg in 1983 where they both worked until the made Aliya to Israel in 1993. They immersed themselves in Kibbutz life and worked and participated for many years --despite not speaking a word of Hebrew.

As matriach of the huge extended Kaplan family, which was spread on four different continents she was the glue that held us all together, always ensuring we were up to speed with all the news. She was a living calendar! She never missed a birthday and was always the first phone call everyone received on their special days.

Her generosity and energy knew no bounds! She was a mover and a shaker! She arrived on her two month annual visits to San Diego from Israel, laden with gifts for all the friends she made here in the community. What amazed everyone was how she remembered the many details of their lives and conversations from the prior years and able to pick up threads of conversations a year or more later on subsequent visits. She organized everyone to take her shopping for all the gifts and birthday cards she insisted on getting for her three children and children in-law, nine grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren! It was all a huge undertaking that she took in her stride until the very end. While in hospital she was still thinking of others and instructing us to call this one and that for their birthday.

Bella was a voracious reader and informed on the events of the day. She read the newspaper every day from cover to cover. She had strong opinions on world affairs and politics and enjoyed a good debate. Her fierce independence, optimism and zest for life was inspirational and propelled her into an extremely full life even in her nineties. She was a woman of immense style and grace.

Bella was a remarkable woman, loved by many. She was a shining example of how to live life to its fullest, soaking up every opportunity while being staunchly committed to family, friends and community.



Esther Goldstein

An exceptional woman who is sadly missed.

By Brenda Lurie.

Esther Goldstein's story is a real life American dream.

She arrived in America in 1986 with \$1,900 in her purse, a suitcase, no job, no prospects but a place to stay. She moved in with her brother and pondered her options. Now at that time it would have been easy for a woman advancing in years to simply freeze in this new environment -- thousands of miles from her old life and the comforts of friends and home.

But if you think that, you really didn't know my mother Esther.

Esther went back to school at the age of 59 and after graduating found a job in Beverly Hills at a nail salon and not long after, she met Marvin Goldstein. They fell in love and got married.

Esther and Marvin had ten wonderful years together. He passed away in in 2003 and my mom then moved to San Diego to be near me and Errol and to be near all her wonderful grandchildren and great grandchildren. My sister Frances lives in Los Angeles and has two children in Cape Town but she had two grandchildren living in California.

Esther was an amazing human being. I miss her every day and her loss is felt by all her knew her. She was an incredible artist who never missed a Friday Shabbat. She had a wonderful group of friends and always kept in strong contact with her sister in law Lorna Metz, who lives in Irvine. Esther's sister Ada Rubin, still lives in South Africa and Esther has a gaggle of nephews and nieces all over South Africa, Canada and the States

When we lost our brother Gary several years ago, my mom always said that "it must be nice up there because no one ever comes back." We take solace in that thought and hope that she's resting in peace and with everyone she loves.

Esther you are sadly missed by Errol, Frances, John, our late brother Gary Kruger, your grandchildren Caren Zach, Mark, Chris, Roxanne, and Katherine, and your great grandchildren Ethan, Talor, Sophie, Damian and Jordan.



Debbie Galgut

A bright light that still shines.

By Lee Ehrlich

This year we said goodbye to a beautiful soul in San Diego – Debbie Galgut. Debbie and her husband, Allan, came to join their daughters Lee and Andy in San Diego in 2005. Debbie's biggest wish and greatest joy was to spend time with her family and to watch her grandchildren grow up. She enjoyed a wonderful 10 years doing exactly that, until she was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and she passed away on the 29th January 2016.

Debbie was a kind, thoughtful and generous person who always had a smile and a kind word at the ready. She had an uncanny knack of being able to see the good in people and also to bring out the best in those with whom she came into contact. Debbie was a bright light in the lives of so many and is sorely missed by her family and all who had the pleasure to know her.

Abe Tradonsky

A real mensch!

By Jonathan Aires

Our wonderful, sweet, decent and kind Papa Abe passed away in Johannesburg on August 24, 2016. The epitome of a mensch, he personified Jewish values and served as a tremendous role model for all who knew him, especially his family and his eight grandchildren.

I'll share a few vignettes that illustrate what made Abe so special.

His love of Judaism and the Jewish community:

He knew many of our Jewish prayers and services by heart, and he loved them. At the Pesach Seder, he led the singing of 'Pesach Time in Dixieland', a song that I've never heard elsewhere and will surely be a family heirloom. A lifelong shul-goer, he chose to start regularly laying Tefillin in his 80's, something that inspired me to do the same. On a visit to South Africa when he was well into his 70's he took me driving around Hillbrow (a very dangerous part of Johannesburg) to deliver food and meals to Jews in need. I was the nervous one, but his actions demonstrated the importance of charity and taking care of others -- regardless of the challenges.

The way he lived:

He lived with dignity and humility with a sweetness that's increasingly rare in today's world. Though he was never one for excess Papa appreciated a scotch, and we enjoyed many L'Chaims together over the years. We loved celebrating Simchas and Chaggim with him. I'll never forget how we danced the night away at my brother's wedding. Watching him pull some serious moves on the dance floor - at age 85! - while serenading one of the female band members brings a smile to my face every time I reflect on that special evening.

After a long and meaningful life, many of his friends had already passed on at the time of his death. Still, over 150 people attended his funeral in Germiston.

His view on relationships.

Papa didn't believe it made much sense to spend time arguing. The following remark is something I will remember forever. Delivered to my granny on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary it emphasized his love, admiration and respect for her: "Without you nothing is possible, and with you nothing is impossible".

May his memory be a blessing, now and forever!



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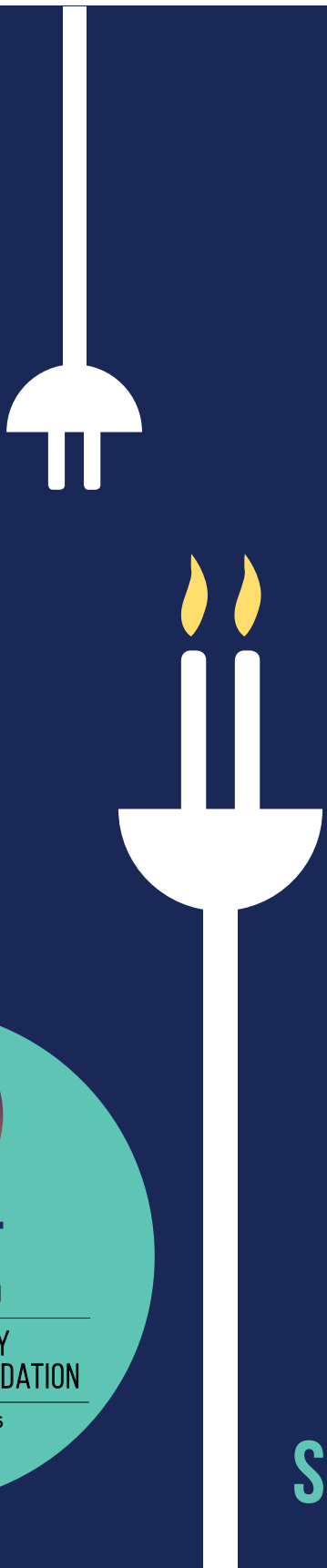
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