

## Community News

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"Your arrival to this moment shows that you understand the need to navigate the outside world [and] make a living that enables you not only to support families in dignity, but hopefully also to help others and to sustain our institutions," said Dr. Stone.

However, Dr. Stone added that the graduates need not choose between the Jewish or secular world.

"You don't have to drag along either part of life in mediocrity," he said. "You can be truly excellent and committed in both parts of your life: the learning of Torah and the living of a Torah life—surely the first priority—and the conduct of a business or professional career."

The program began with valedictories from four Touro graduates, followed by remarks from Dr. Mark Hasten, chairman of the board of trustees of Touro College and Touro University, and Alan Kadish, M.D., the president and CEO of Touro.

"We serve a variety of communities in keeping with the historic Jewish commitment to the transmission of knowledge, social justice, and compassionate concern for society," said Dr. Kadish. "It is my hope that each of our graduates will grow in their personal quest for *limud Torah* as well as *middos* and *ma'asim tovim*, appreciate the knowledge you have acquired at Touro and its role in your Torah life."

Valedictories were presented by Nathaniel Yankelev of LCM, who plans

to pursue a career as an actuary once he completes the rabbinical program at LCM; Rivka Halpert of LCW, who is applying for internships in psychology and child life and is planning to attend graduate school the year after, either in a clinical psychology program or social work; Aliza Batya Grossman Rubenstein of LAS-Women's Division, who is entering a Ph.D. program in computational biology and molecular biophysics at Rutgers University; and Yakov Glicksman of LAS-Men's Division, who has been accepted to New York Medical College.

The degree candidates of the Lander Colleges represent 15 different states, including California, Florida, Georgia, Michigan, and Texas, as well as four foreign countries—Canada, France, Israel, and Russia.

By the end of the 2012 commencement season, the Touro College and University System, which educates approximately 19,000 students at its schools and campuses, expects to have awarded a total of 5,745 doctor of osteopathic medicine, juris doctor, master's, baccalaureate, and associate degrees. ❖

### Wallenberg Commission Visits L.A.

A series of high-level meetings to further the goals of the Raoul Wallenberg Centennial Celebration Commission took place in Los Angeles last week to enhance the campaign to award Raoul Wallenberg with the Congressional Gold Medal.

The Raoul Wallenberg Centennial Celebration Commission is an effort spearheaded by The Friedlander Group



Esra Friedlander, Andrew E. Stevens, Stanley Black, Stanley Treitel, and Zach Zalben.

to recognize the heroism of Raoul Wallenberg in honor of the centennial of his birth. August 4, 2012 will mark the centennial of his birthday.

Raoul Wallenberg, acting under the War Refugee Board, is credited with saving over 100,000 of the remaining Jews in Hungary in a six-month period during the dark days of the Holocaust. Raoul Wallenberg's fate remains a mystery. In 1981, President Ronald Reagan along with the Congress of the United States proclaimed Raoul Wallenberg an honorary citizen of the United States, a bill that was introduced by the late Congressman Tom Lantos, who was saved by Raoul Wallenberg.

Representatives of the commission, led by Esra Friedlander, met with Mr. Sol Teichman who recently authored *The Long Journey Home*, a memoir of his youth in pre-war Munkacs and experience during the Holocaust. Mr. Teichman's father lived in a safe house, "shutzhouze," set up by Raoul Wallenberg under the protection of the Swedish Government. The Teichman family is known for their benevolent philanthropy and leadership of the Simon Wiesenthal Center.

Throughout the week, Esra Friedlander, CEO of The Friedlander Group, rep-

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representing the Wallenberg Commission, also met with prominent Los Angeles communal leaders Andrew Friedman, Esq., and The Honorable Emil Fish. Mr. Friedman, among various leadership positions, will serve as the co-chair of the upcoming Wallenberg Congressional Luncheon and serves on the Los Angeles Fire Department's board of fire commissioners and is the president of Congregation Bais Naftoli. The Honorary Emil Fish is a member of the U.S. Commission to Preserve America's Heritage Abroad, recently celebrated the restoration of the Bardijov Cemetery in Slovakia, is currently engaged in the building of a permanent memorial to the Jews of Bardijov, and will also be honored at the luncheon in Washington.

A major announcement of interest to the Los Angeles community is the addition of Stanley Treitel and Stanley Black to the board of governors of the Wallenberg Commission. Mr. Treitel, a well known and respected leader in the Los Angeles community, is credited with identifying Mr. Andrew Stevens as the guest of honor at the upcoming Congressional Celebration Luncheon on July 11, 2012 in the U.S. Senate, which will mark the passage of the Senate bill to award Raoul Wallenberg with a Congressional Gold Medal. Andrew E. Stevens, a Hungarian Holocaust survivor, today lives in Beverly Hills. He is a successful businessman and active philanthropist. Mr. Stevens was a fighter in the Budapest underground during the

waning days of the Budapest occupations by the Nazis. He personally saved hundreds of lives directly and indirectly by providing Raoul Wallenberg with forged documents that Mr. Wallenberg later used to save Jewish lives as acknowledged in Mr. Stevens' book, *Rebel with a Cause*.

Stanley Black is the CEO of Black Equities Group and he is most proud of his status as a benefactor of numerous charitable organizations and a passionate supporter of the State of Israel who utilizes his political relationships to further Israel's interests. ❖

**Discovering Key West**

By David Schneider

Florida is known for spring break or for retiring, but Key West has something for everyone: it's fun and laid-back. The Hemingway House is where the famous author lived from 1931 to 1940 and wrote *A Farewell to Arms*. "Papi," as Ernest Hemingway was known there, also wrote *To Have and Have Not* about Key West during the Great Depression.

His writing room was connected by a plank from the house's second-floor terrace. The house is an entire block that has the Koi Pond, a meditation garden, pool, and an archway full of flowers for outdoor weddings (907 Whitehead St., 305-294-1136, [www.hemingwayhome.com](http://www.hemingwayhome.com).)

Cats—which are believed to be descendants of Hemingway's cat, since they all have thumbs on their paws—lounged peacefully throughout the house and the grounds. Roosters that wake you up are also all over, especial-



Many couples are married under the wedding canopy in the garden of Ernest Hemingway's home.

ly in the Old Town section. When the United States took over Key West from Cuba in 1821, it banned fighting roosters, but they have remained.

Hemingway both boxed and refereed at the Blue Heaven Bar & Restaurant, 729 Thomas St., and drank at Sloppy Joe's Bar at 201 Duval St. Duval Street is the main strip for shops and bars.

A block from Hemingway's House is the island's only kosher meat restaurant, Mam's Best Food, 405 Petronia Street, 305-896-0923. The friendly Elana Nedmov has owned and operated Mam's restaurant for the past five years and provides home-cooked Israeli food

to the many Israeli shop owners. The outdoor restaurant is closed on Shabbos and *yom tov*. The Lubavitch emissary for Key West, Rabbi Yanky Zucker, supervises the restaurant.

The rabbi and his wife, Chani, have been in Key West since 1995. The rabbi gives two weekly night classes at the Chabad Jewish Center, 908 Trinity Drive. The rabbi and *rebbetzin* also welcome Shabbos guests. The Chabad website shows where to shop for kosher food and where daily *minyanim* are: [www.chabadkeys.com](http://www.chabadkeys.com). Rabbi Zucker can be reached at 305-295-0013.

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