

Thirteenth Avenue Renamed 'Wallenberg Way'

BY YOSEF RAPAPORT

NEW YORK, N.Y. — New York's City Council co-named Boro Park's main commercial avenue Wallenberg Way yesterday evening, in honor of a man considered by many to be one of the greatest heroes of World War II. Raul Wallenberg, serving as Sweden's special envoy in Budapest between July and December 1944, issued protective passports and sheltered

Jews in buildings designated as Swedish territory, thereby saving tens of thousands of Jewish lives.

The renaming capped an initiative by the Wallenberg Centennial Celebration Commission that was created to highlight the milestone of the centennial of Wallenberg's birth.

The commission, headed by spokesman Ezra Friedlander, is leading a campaign to have

Congress posthumously award Wallenberg the Congressional Gold Medal, one of the two highest civilian awards in the United States.

Speaking to *Hamodia*, the legislation's primary sponsor, Councilman David Greenfield, and co-sponsor Councilman Brad Lander, expressed great satisfaction that the Council has renamed the entire commercial length of Thirteenth Avenue.

"Usually they rename only a

corner or a block, as were most of the renamings today, but this one was different. It is a sign of the deep gratitude that the community feels toward one of the greatest heroes, who is said to have saved tens of thousands to about 100,000 Jews during the Holocaust," Councilman Greenfield told *Hamodia* just moments after the measure passed yesterday evening. "My district probably has the largest concentration of beneficiaries

of this great humanitarian."

Councilman Lander expressed his hopes to *Hamodia* that the name will catch on, and that establishments and stores will begin using "Wallenberg Way" on their signs and stationery.

"I will be speaking to the United States Postal Service to make sure letters that carry the new name should be recognized. I'm sure maps, including Google maps, will also reflect the new name," Lander said. "He was a hero — not only for the Jews but for all of humanity."

NYer Who Saved Jews During Holocaust Dies

RYE, N.Y. — A woman who helped hide more than 100 Jews during the Holocaust has died at a New York retirement community.

Tina Strobos died Monday in Rye, New York. She was 91.

Jur Strobos tells the *Journal News* that his mother was diagnosed with cancer several years ago.

Her acts of heroism are reported in Martin Gilbert's book *The Righteous*. As a twenty-year old medical student, she, her mother and her grandmother hid more than a hundred Jews on the top floor of their family home in Amsterdam, despite the fact that this was punishable by death. "We knew we couldn't just stand by while Jewish people were killed," she said later on.

Some of the Jews were smuggled to Spain, a neutral country, and to Switzerland; others were secreted to homes in the countryside.

Tina and her mother apparent-

ly had a sympathetic contact inside of Gestapo headquarters. Often, this person would telephone to warn them of an imminent raid; as a result, the hidden Jews had time to flee to other hiding places.

She was arrested on nine occasions, yet she gave no information about those whom she was helping. She would steal identity cards at social occasions, which were doctored by the underground so that Jews could use them.

"She was the only person I know who scared the Gestapo," her granddaughter wrote.

The director of the Holocaust and Human Rights Education Center in Purchase said none of the Jews she helped were ever captured.

"If the amount of people you save and help is what counts, then she's up there in the top," her son Jur Strobos said, as recorded in the *Journal News*. (With reporting from AP)

Zayin Adar Commemorated With Fasting, Selichos

BROOKLYN, N.Y. — Throughout Jewish history, Zayin Adar marked an important day in the Jewish calendar for members of the *chevrah kaddisha*. On this day, Hashem Himself performed the duties of *chevrah kaddisha* and buried *Moshe Rabbeinu* on the mountain.

It is therefore customary for members of the *chevrah kaddisha* to fast on this day and ask forgiveness from the *niftarim* they served throughout the year; lest they inadvertently showed

any act of disrespect to a *niftar* while preparing them for *kevu'rah*. In addition, it is a day of reflection on the meaning and importance of *kavod hames*.

Most *chevrah kaddisha* groups are familiar with the *minhag* to fast on Zayin Adar and they also *lein V'yachal* during *Minchah* as it is done on any *taanis tzibbur*. But it is not so well known that there are specific *selichos* to be recited by the *chevrah kaddisha* on this day. Misaskim was able to locate an old *siddur* that still had

the *Selichos* listed in it. In fact, Misaskim found all three different versions of *Selichos* for Zayin Adar; *Nusach Lita*, *Nusach G'chasha* and *Nusach Puzna*.

Misaskim would like to make it known that these special *Selichos* exist. The organization printed each version and made them available to the public in time for Zayin Adar. The *Selichos* can be obtained in print by contacting Misaskim at 718-854-4548, or it can be downloaded at misaskim.org/downloads.php.

Redistricting Targets Queens, Hudson Valley Seats

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Two New York officials familiar with a sealed redistricting plan say a Democratic Hudson Valley seat would be lost and either a Republican or Democratic seat would be lost in Queens.

The majority Senate Republicans and Assembly Democrats both propose eliminating the Hudson Valley seat

held by Rep. Maurice Hinchey who is retiring.

The officials, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because the plan is not yet public, say the Assembly majority proposes to eliminate the Queens-Brooklyn seat held by Republican Bob Turner.

Senate Republicans would

instead eliminate Democratic Rep. Gary Ackerman's district based in Queens and including part of Nassau County on Long Island.

New York's slow population growth requires the loss of two congressional seats.

A court is expected to make the proposals public late Wednesday.

Safe on the Ground



AP Photo/Mel Evans

Base jumper Jeff Provenzano is wrapped in his parachute after he jumped off the top of the a hotel in Atlantic City, N.J., yesterday. People jumped off tall buildings all around the country Wednesday, but no one got hurt. It was all part of a Leap Day promotion for a drink. In Atlantic City, two parachutists jumped off the top of a hotel, and landed safely in the parking lot. Similar jumps were planned in Miami, Detroit, Las Vegas and other cities.

Nosing About in Manhattan



TIMOTHY A. CLARY/AFP/Getty Images

A protester in Bryant Park outside Bank of America on 6th Avenue during an Occupy Wall Street 'Shut Down the Corporations' protest yesterday in New York. Occupy movements across the country are holding protests in dozens of cities against corporate power. The two main targets in New York City are Bank of America and Pfizer.