

A special audiovisual tribute was paid to the late Honourable Abe Abrahamson, former Chairman of the SA Jewish Report at the start of the function.



A night of glitz and glamour at *Absa Jewish Achiever Awards*



Stan Kaplan with Israeli ambassador Dov Segev Steinberg.



Members of the SA Jewish Report Board of Directors, Deputy Chairman, Issie Kirsh; Chairman Stan Kaplan (centre) and director Bertie Lubner (right) with Maria Ramos, Group Chief Executive, Absa, and keynote speaker Mervyn King.



Norman Lowenthal, director of the SA Jewish Report and Rabbi Mendel Lipskar



Guests and representatives of sponsor Johnnie Walker Charles Kramer, Myron Pollack, Rene Heitner, Solly Kramer, Alan Bulatkin and Rino Giacommozzi.



MC for the evening Nik Rabinowitz.



Gavin Opperman (Absa CEO), Alfie Naidoo (Absa Chief Operator), Lauren Miller and Alan Miller (Absa Head of Investments).



One of the sponsored bottles of Johnnie Walker whisky displayed on the tables.

HUMANITIES AWARDS



Issie Kirsh presents Raymond Ackerman with the Helen Suzman Lifetime Achiever Award, given this year in honour of the late Abe Abrahamson.



Bertie Lubner presents Willie Miller with the Cyril Harris Humanitarian Award.



Russell Gaddin, director of the SA Jewish Report presents international referee Jonathan Kaplan with the Sports Award.



Marlene Bethlehem, director of the SA Jewish Report, presents the Community Service Award to CAP, represented by Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein and Bradley Sifris.

The number seven is significant in Jewish history and celebrating the seventh annual SA Jewish Report Absa Achiever Awards - the seventh in which Absa has been involved - this year too, was special. So said Maria Ramos, Absa group chief executive, at the Jewish Achiever function at the Sandton Sun Hotel on Tuesday night.

STAFF REPORTER
PHOTOGRAPHS: ILAN OSSENDRYVER

ABSA IS the main sponsor of the Jewish Achiever Awards, with the other sponsor being Johnnie Walker.

"The number (seven) is holy and also represents the seventh day as being one of rest," Ramos said.

The bank, she said, was privileged to have been the sponsors for all these years.

"The awards are for Jewish people, some-

times young, who often start something from nothing. They contribute, not only to business, but also in the fields of science and medicine.

"They change society and make significant contributions to the world we live in."

They were inspiring youngsters and leaving a legacy, she said, adding that they were role models for others.

Ramos said the contribution of the Jewish community worldwide was enormous, given their relatively low numbers. Even in poli-

tics, the Jewish community had had a great influence, not only during the apartheid years, but post-1994 as well.

Stan Kaplan, chairman of the SA Jewish Report board, congratulated the editor and staff of the newspaper.

"We encourage businesses to take up the advertising advantage that we offer. Our readers include top business people and leaders. Test us and see for yourselves," he said.

Every nominee was a winner and the

judges had great difficulty in choosing the winners in the different categories, he said.

A special tribute was paid to the late Honourable Abe Abrahamson, former chairman of the SA Jewish Report board. The Helen Suzman Lifetime Achiever Award was made to business icon and philanthropist, Raymond Ackerman, in Abe's name.

Abe's daughter, Irene, was in tears as she paid tribute to her father.

"I am so sad that he cannot be here... himself. He was so proud of his Jewish heritage

BUSINESS AWARDS



Louis von Zeuner, Deputy Chief Executive, Absa and Stan Kaplan present the Absa non-listed Achiever Award to Darryl Egdes for his company MoreGolf (Pty) Ltd.

The Johnnie Walker Entrepreneur Award went to Aviad Eyal, presented by Benjy Porter, director of the SA Jewish Report and Vuyokazi Mhlophe, Johnnie Walker brand manager.



Louis von Zeuner, Deputy Chief Executive, Absa and Stan Kaplan present the Absa listed Achiever Award to Jeffrey Zidel for his company Cura Software solutions.

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Irene Salamon, Abe Abrahamson's daughter.



Reuel Khoza, chairman of Nedbank, with Maria Ramos.



Howard Sackstein, director of the SA Jewish Report delivered a vote of thanks at the end of the evening.



Patrick Wadika, Absa Media Relations, with Hans Mostert and Annemarie Mostert, Absa Head of Protocol.

and had a passion for Israel," she said.

Ackerman, founder of Pick n Pay, would only say in receiving the award, that he was very proud to receive it, "particularly so, because it is in Helen Suzman's name. She did so much to get the country to where it is today", he said.

The Arts, Science, Culture and Sports Award went to Jonathan Kaplan, well-known South African and international rugby referee.

Not for nothing has he been called "the best in the world", not only in South Africa, but also by the Australian and All Blacks teams. He started refereeing in 1984 at the age of 17.

He made his first debut in 1991 and was appointed to South Africa's panel of referees. In 1996, he made his international debut in a match between Namibia and Zimbabwe in Harare.

He was a touch judge at the Rugby World Cup in 1999 and controlled the first-ever Six Nations match between Italy and Scotland, as well as the Grand Slam decider between Ireland and England at Lansdowne Road.

He has been, among others, the referee for many Super 12 and Super 14 finals.

In receiving the award, Kaplan said he was embarrassed because he had nothing to do with arts and culture.

"I am defunct in both these areas. But I am a proud member of the Jewish community which is one of the strongest in the world in South Africa," he said.

The Cyril Harris Humanitarian Award went to Willie Miller of the Kadimah Occupational Centre.

This is a protective workshop, which caters for adults who, for a variety of reasons, are unable to work in the open labour market. It also caters for people who are intellectually disabled.

It was started 28 years ago and today hosts 90 workers.

In receiving the award, Miller said speaking was not his strength, but doing was.

"We have adapted the work to suit peoples' limitations so they can earn some money," he said.

The Community Active Protection Organisation received the Community Service Award.

CAP was started in 2007 with the co-operation of the City of Johannesburg and is an entirely community-driven project. No directors or volunteers benefit financially.

In the first year, CAP was funded through the generosity of individuals, lump-sum donations and voluntary debit orders by residents in the area.

Chief Rabbi Warren Goldstein has been instrumental in setting up CAP in various northern suburb areas.

In receiving the award on behalf of CAP, Rabbi Goldstein said that preserving life was a core essence of Jewish life.

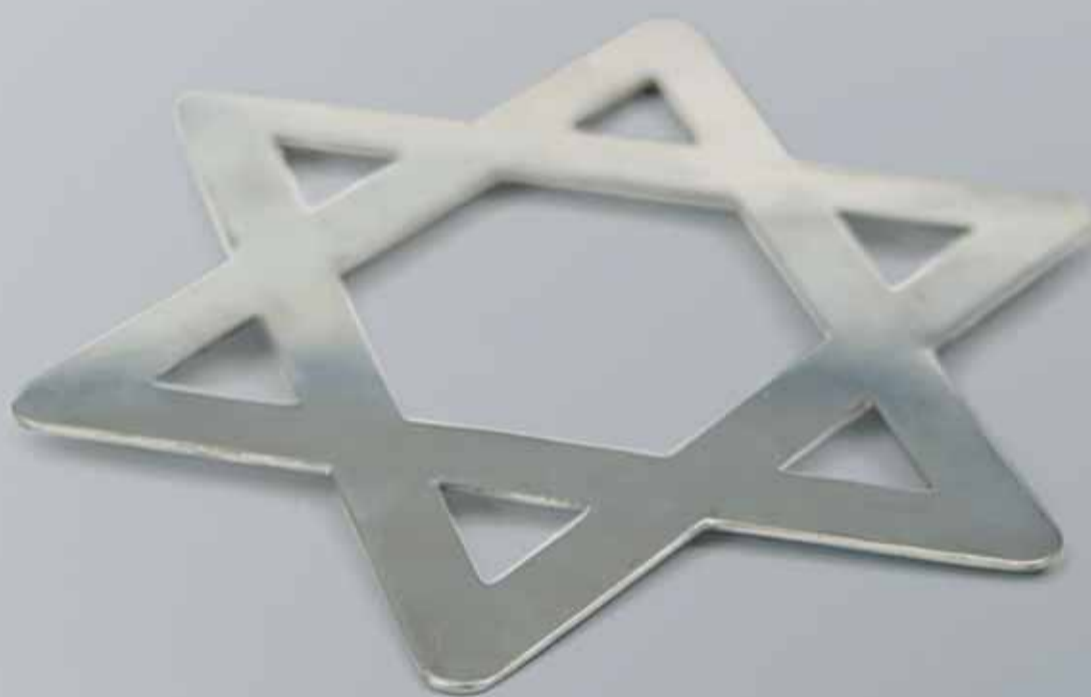
"There are many areas affecting the community which need rabbinic input, particularly when dealing with government and when interacting with the broader South African society. We have shown that crime can be beaten," he said, adding that in the areas guarded by CAP, crime was down between 80 per cent and 90 per cent.

"This is a story of miracles and wonders," he said.

Contact crime, which is human-to-human violence, had dropped from 18 incidents a month to one.

The most awe-inspiring aspect was the thousands of hours that volunteers put into the initiative, to bring safety to others.

"I am often asked why a rabbi got involved with crime fighting. Crime is a moral issue. One of the most sacred values in Judaism is



Mazel tov!

Absa Jewish Achiever Awards 2010

It's no surprise that behind every success, there's a group of individuals pouring their heart and soul into what they believe in. That's why we are the committed sponsor of the Absa Jewish Achiever Awards. We'd like to congratulate not only this year's winners, but everyone who aspires to inspire.

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ABSA
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to fight injustice," he said. Crime was also causing many Jewish people to leave the country.

The Johnnie Walker Entrepreneur Award went to Aviad Eyal. He started his company Cura Software, which is a governance, risk and compliance software provider and is regarded as one of the top 10 leading solutions globally. Cura has over 300 customers that include Vodafone, BHP Billiton, Dimension Data, the Coca Cola Company, Kellogg's, Johnson and Johnson and GlaxoSmithKline, globally.

Eyal co-founded Cura and has been its chief executive for the past six years.

In receiving the award, Eyal said he wanted to thank the SA Jewish Report and his family. He paid tribute to his late father, whom, he said, was his first mentor.

Jeffrey Zidel received the Absa Business Achiever Award in the listed companies' category.

He is chairman of Fortress Income Fund Limited, chairman of Property Index Tracker Ltd, non-executive director of Resilient Property Income Fund Ltd, and director of New Europe Property Investments.

On receiving the award, Zidel said he was "shocked and truly humbled". The recipe for success, he said, was to keep simple harmony.

The most rewarding aspect for him was the creation of 9 330 permanent jobs for people and about 15 000 in construction, maintenance and cleaning jobs.

"We have developed 311 000msq of retail in the country," he said.

The winner of the non-listed companies was Darryl Martin Egdes for his MoreGolf.

He joined Pro Shop as a floor assistant in 1981. There were two stores and the business turned over R8 million and employed 15 people.

Today the MoreGolf group dominates golf in South Africa, turning over in excess of R500 million and employs 509 people.

The company is the first internationally-branded golf teaching academy in South Africa. In receiving the award, Egdes said his had been a long, 30-year journey, so it was a "justification" in getting the award.

"It is a fantastic honour," he said.

Guest speaker was Mr Justice Mervyn King, a senior counsel and former judge of the Supreme Court of South Africa.

'Nature is starting to foreclose on us' - says Mervyn King

STAFF REPORTER



THE DIRE consequences of companies not taking the environment into account while going about their businesses, was spelt out in no ambiguous terms by Mervyn King SC, a former judge of the Supreme court of South Africa, who was guest speaker at this year's Absa Jewish Achiever Awards function in the Sandton Sun on Tuesday night.

"Planet Earth's resources are not limitless. Companies have to start absorbing their waste. Nature is starting to foreclose on us. We have reached our peak with oil resources; water is scarce, he reminded his audience of top businessmen and industrialists at the glittering cr me de la cr me function, where tribute was paid to Jewish achievers in various fields of endeavour.

Companies today were not the companies of yesterday, he warned. They were integral to society and contributed to its successes and failures.

Examples of this were the effect the collapse of Enron had on society and the world as a whole. The latest oil spillage in the Gulf of Mexico in the United States, when a BP oil well exploded, with millions of litres of crude oil spilling all over American shores, was another example of how society was being affected, said King.

"They no longer operate in a vacuum," he reminded his audience.

Speaking on the population of the planet, King said it was growing at an alarming rate.

About 100 years ago, there were one bil-

lion people; in 1945 just under two billion; in 2010 there are 6,5 billion; and by 2050, there will be an expected 9,5 billion.

On the "new economy" he said: "It is business as unusual and we have to make more with less. Sustainability has to be built into strategies.

"Coca-Cola is now recycling its waste water. It cannot finance consumption on credit." he warned.

King is professor extraordinaire at the University of South Africa on Corporate Citizenship, honorary professor in the department of Marketing and Communication Management at the University of Pretoria, and is a visiting professor in the Rhodes Investec Business School.

He has an honorary doctor of laws from the University of the Witwatersrand, is chairman of the King Committee on Corporate Governance in South Africa, president of the Advertising Standard Authority, first vice president of the Institute of Directors Southern Africa and deputy chairman of the Securities Regulation Panel, which oversees all mergers and acquisitions in South Africa.

King is chairman of the Global Reporting Initiative in Amsterdam and a member of the Private Sector Advisory Group to the World Bank on Corporate Governance, a member of the International Integrated Reporting Committee in South Africa, an expert adviser in the Office of the Inspector General in Geneva and chairman of Strate, the settlement arm of trades in financial instruments, in South Africa.

He also chaired the United Nations Committee on Governance and Oversight.



The Johnnie Walker girls with drinks from sponsors Johnnie Walker and Valpr .

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