

TRAVEL TALES

HELPFUL HINTS FOR THE JEWISH TRAVELLER

By MIKE COHEN

BUSY BOCA RATON: While staying in the Miami area recently, I convinced the family to make a day trip to Boca Raton. It had been more than a decade since I visited the area, but let me confess that I needed an excuse to dine at the fabulous Legal Sea Foods restaurant, which I had experienced last fall in Boston.

The Town Center on Glades Road is considered to be one of South Florida's top luxury shopping destinations. It features an outstanding mix of upscale and elite specialty shops and a lineup of six department stores – Neiman Marcus, Saks Fifth Avenue, Nordstrom, Macy's, Bloomingdale's and Sears. Among the 220 stores at Town Center, you will find The Apple Store, Tiffany & Co, Louis Vuitton, Tory Burch, Lilly

Pulitzer and many more. Parking options are more than ample, including three parking decks and valet stations. Conveniently located off I-95 and Glades Road, you'll find just what you need and more.

Mizner Park is an upscale lifestyle center in downtown Boca. Besides upscale shops, Mizner is also composed of rental apartments and offices. The Sample Road Festival Flea Market is a large indoor flea market, featuring over 500 unique stores under one roof!

DINING OUT: Legal Sea Foods (www.legalseafoods.com) is located in the Town Center on Glades Road. At one time there were also Legal locations at the Sawgrass Mills mega-mall and in West Palm Beach. The Boca franchise is thriving and

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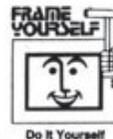
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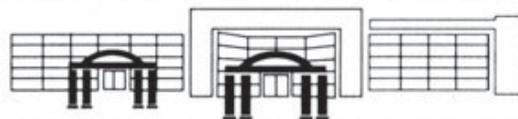
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been in my life. My mom wouldn't be here; she wouldn't have had my brother and me. I wouldn't be in this world. The stories everyone is hearing about Grandpa wouldn't exist had this wonderful man not saved him during a brutal time. It is amazing to think about one single person making a difference in so many lives. "

Marta Fuchs, a marriage & family therapist and librarian, is the author of Legacy of Rescue: A Daughter's Tribute (available on amazon.com and blurb.com) and co-author with her brother Henry of the multigenerational extended family memoir, Fragments of a Family: Remembering Hungary, the Holocaust, and Emigration to a New World.

TRAVEL TALES

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extremely well run.

The Jewish-owned chain was born in 1950

when George Berkowitz opened a fish market in the Inman Square neighborhood of Cambridge, Massachusetts. He opened it adjacent to his father Harry's grocery store Legal Cash Market where customers were given "Legal Stamps" (forerunners of S&H green stamps) with their purchases. It's here that the "Legal" name became synonymous with quality and freshness.

In 1968, the Berkowitz family opened its first seafood restaurant, right next to the fish market. The fish was simply prepared, either broiled or fried, and served on paper plates at communal picnic tables. Despite the low-key trappings, the food was second to none and word

quickly spread. This early success led to further expansion and now, six decades later with restaurants along the Eastern Seaboard, the family philosophy endures: Legal Sea Foods is a fish company in the restaurant business.

George's son, Roger, has been at the helm since 1992 and has expanded the business into new

markets while maintaining the company's focus on its proud tradition and core values.

Besides, of course, Massachusetts, there are Legal locales in Washington Florida, Georgia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Virginia.

The Boca restaurant *(Please turn to following page)*

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TRAVEL TALES

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has a really pretty look, complete with a large fish tank. Make sure to ask for manager Laura Nardi, a veteran of the Legal family who makes it her business to visit every table and even assist in the service.

Their selection of fresh seafood is quite plentiful: swordfish, tuna, salmon, rainbow trout, mahi mahi, snapper, grouper, shrimp and sea scallops. Legal's New England clam chowder is a wise starter. The same goes for the wedge and classic Caesar salads. There are some great desserts as well, including the three bon bons – bite size scoops of ice cream dipped in chocolate,

Opening hours here are 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.,

Monday to Thursday; 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday and Saturday; and Noon to 9 p.m. Sundays. You can call 561-447-2112 for reservations.

There are a number of kosher restaurants in Boca, including Grill Time, Orchard's Garden, Sagi's Mediterranean Grill and Asia Sushi.

Mike Cohen's email address is info@mikecohen.ca. Follow his travels at www.sandboxworld.com/travel.

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MIXED EMOTIONS

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talks with hopes of developing a specific proposal in May.

President Obama reportedly asked the Palestinians about the future of the Gaza Strip in future peace agreements, to which the Palestinians replied that hundreds of thousands of Palestinians in Gaza rallied in celebration of the Fatah anniversary in January, calling it an indication that when new elections are held, Hamas will lose control of Gaza.

Prof. Abd-el Majid-Swailem, who teaches political science at Al-Quds University, told The Media Line that the President's visit might give the peace process a serious push, but took note of what he saw as Obama's apparent agreement with positions on both sides. "The parameters that Obama describes relative to the Palestinian state are not the same parameters the Israelis think of," he explained. "Unlike the Israelis, President Obama sees the need for contiguity of land, sovereignty and independence. Where Obama agrees with the Israelis, according to Majid-Swailem, is that they both oppose what they see as Palestinian pre-conditions to returning to the negotiating table.

Meanwhile, on the streets of Ramallah, the atmosphere was less optimistic and far from jubilant. Activist Amin Shoman, who was one of the participants at a demonstration near the central Manara square, told The Media Line that, "Releasing the prisoners who were imprisoned before the Oslo agreement was signed should precede any negotiations [with Israel] and not be a result of it."

Amin Baker charged that the United States has proven to be a part of the aggression against the

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