

The

JEWISH VOICE

Jewish Historical Society DE
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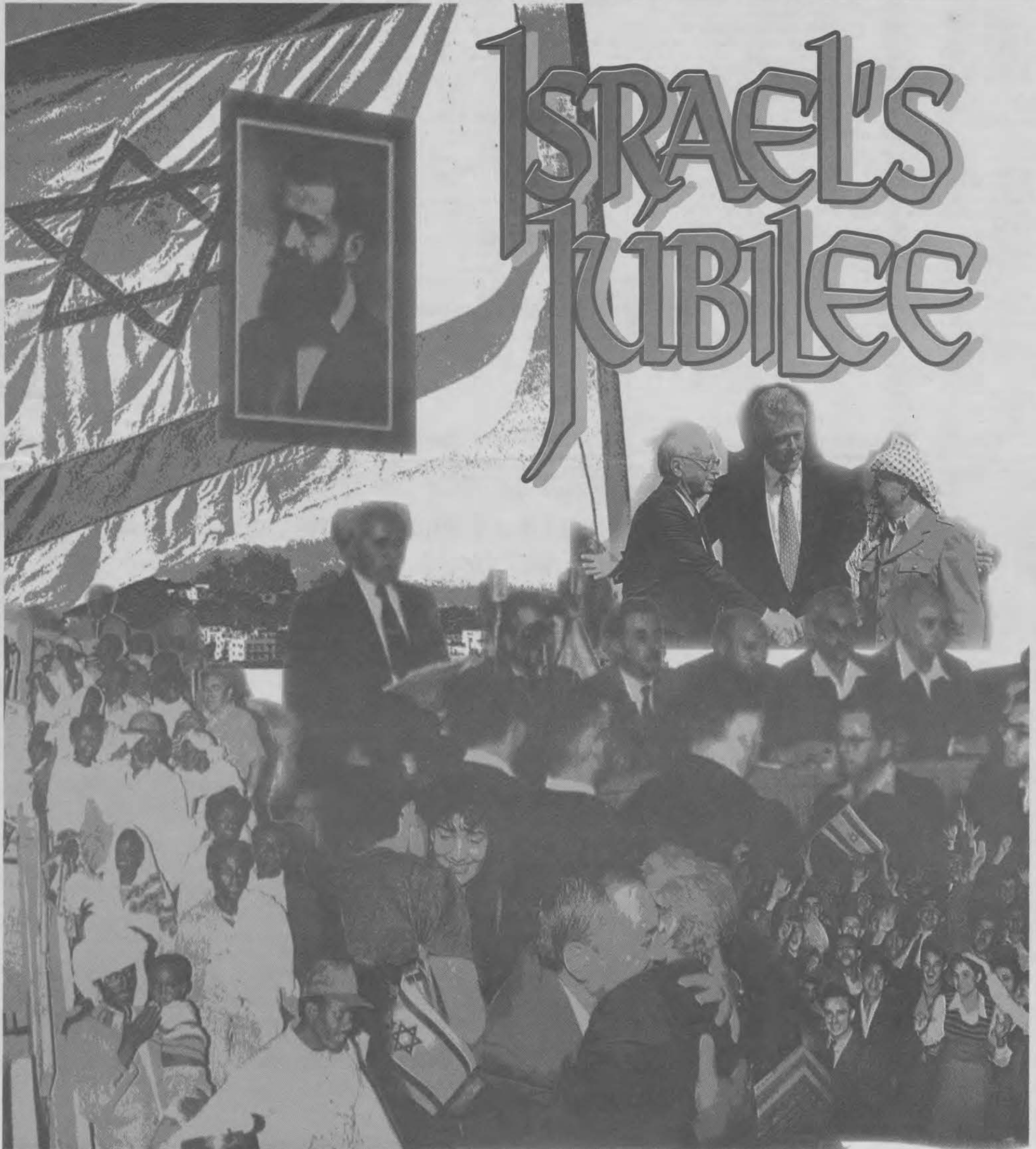
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ISRAEL'S JUBILEE



WHERE WERE YOU MAY 14, 1948?



When I heard the exciting news that the State of Israel was at last a reality, I was overwhelmed!

But I was living in Elkton, MD ... without a synagogue in which to celebrate or group of Jews with whom to share it.

In Baltimore, my native city, I had been a young Judea leader, a Hadassah board member and had attended many meetings to protest the British anti-immigration policies in then-Palestine and now at last we had a State!

Well, I had to wait until a week later when my Baltimore family came to visit and together we drank a "L'Chayim" to share this great Simcha.

Ruth Siegel

In 1948, journalist **Bill Frank** was the head of the news department at WILM radio, which focused on local news. He was handling the news on Friday, May 14 when Ben Codor, executive director of the JFD, rushed into the studio with great excitement and explained that the State of Israel had just been established. "Codor asked me if I would announce it. I agreed, and Codor quickly wrote out an announcement of the declaration of statehood. Then Codor suggested that we play Hatikvah and handed me a record he had brought with him. As Hatikvah was played over the air, I could see Codor outside the newsroom weeping, really in tears. The I started to cry. I had never heard Hatikvah on the radio." (As told to

Toni Young in 1989)

On Saturday, November 29, 1947, the day the United Nations voted on the Partition Plan, **Rabbi Leonard Gewirtz** gave a sermon about Palestine at Sabbath services. After Shabbat, he went to New York where he and Gladys danced in the streets with hundreds of other people. "The celebration and joy at the time of the partition plan was as great as on May 14, 1948," Rabbi Gewirtz remembers, "because that's when there was recognition that there would be a Jewish state. After partition, the declaration was a fait accompli." The moment of Partition was also the beginning of continuous fighting.

Leah Kraft recalls the tremendous excitement among the people who gathered at Beth Shalom for Sabbath services on Friday, May 14, 1948. "People were thrilled - they felt they should go to synagogue to thank God. We had waited two thousand years, and now we were going to be successful. When we all sang Hatikvah, you can just imagine the feelings that went through people ... Although we knew the mandate was ending and the formation of a state appeared imminent, there had been great uncertainty because the British were leaning towards the Arabs. We admired Ben Gurion for having the courage to declare statehood with all that was going on.

Howard Kattler, 13 years old in Philadelphia. I lived in a multi-generational family with my grand-

father, parents, sister and her husband. I remember sitting by the radio with the entire family listening to the news. My parents were really excited. I was not really aware of why they were so excited.

Deanne Kattler, I remember listening to the radio when the Partition Plan was approved. My father, who had volunteered with the Royal Fusiliers, a Jewish brigade that fought in Palestine during World War I, began to cry.

Bea Hirshout was a young mother in Eastern Maryland. "It was very exciting. There was a celebration at the synagogue twenty miles away."

Judge Bernard Balick - "Israel Independence Day was my eighth birthday. I remember being very proud that there was a Jewish state and that something so important had happened on my birthday." Balick also recalls a celebration at Beth Shalom Hebrew School at 18th and Washington Streets. "There were pictures of David Ben Gurion with his puffs of white hair and jovial appearance and of Chaim Weitzman with his goatee and more serious, business-like demeanor as well as blue and white flags. We all sang Hatikvah."

Ruth Eisenstat Weinstein was in elementary school at #30. When she came home from school on Friday, May 14, her parents were all excited because the state of Israel had been declared. "I remember that it was really important to my parents that the entire family go together to a Jewish place.

They wanted to express their unification with Israel and the closest thing was the synagogue. So the whole family went to Beth Shalom together." In addition to attending services with her family, **Barbara Eisenstat Yalisove** remembers the celebration at the Y. She was president of the Jewish sorority that everyone belonged to. The sorority used its fund raiser to collect money for youth aliyah.

Shortly after the state was formed, **Ruth Ann Levin Ger** remembers going with her mother to the homes of South African ORT members to make clothing to send to Israel. "Women would cut and stitch while children were given small tasks. At that time, South Africa had the highest per capita giving to Israel."

In 1948, **Sarah Goldstein** was a music teacher and worked at Beth Shalom, Adas Kodesch and Beth Emeth. She was part of their choir that sang at the community wide service at Congregation Beth Shalom. Sarah also remembers a big celebration at the Y. "The auditorium was filled with people, there were speeches and lots of excitement. When we sang Hatikvah it was like the bottom of everyone's soul coming up."

Nate Barnett was a student at the University of Cincinnati. "When I heard the news, I was very proud that Israel had been created, but I was disappointed with myself because I hadn't gone to Palestine. In 1947 an Israeli came to our Jewish Community Center to

recruit volunteers to dig potatoes while workers went to war. I didn't volunteer because I had been a soldier in World War II and I wanted to fight not dig potatoes. I've always regretted not going to Palestine in 1948.

On Rosh Hashanah 1948, **Dora Eisenstat**, President of the Wilmington Chapter of Hadassah, wrote "As Americans and Jews, pledged to the support of democracy and freedom throughout the world, it is particularly fitting that we should greet the world's youngest democracy. For the Jews of Palestine, who declared their independence on May 14, are like our 'American' Colonists were in 1776, fighting to safeguard their national territory. We have faith and confidence in Israel. As members of Hadassah we rededicate ourselves to our program of concrete building and healing - Youth Aliyah, Medical Services, Education and Care for the future mothers and children of Israel reborn in courage and dignity. It is gratifying to know that through the efforts and generosity of our members and our community, our local chapter added its strength to the many other Hadassah chapter throughout the United States in the "No Vacation" emergency campaign for medical supplies, clothing and funds, during this past summer that was flown to Israel. The Yishuv is counting on this continued support so that our combined efforts can help to make Israel a real credit to all of us!"

Congregation Beth Shalom Presents: Ruth Kaye in her One Woman Show *My Grandmother, My Mother and Me*

Sunday May 17, 199

Showtime 7:30 p.m.

**Gourmet Desserts &
Coffee After the Show**

Tickets

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Sponsor: \$50.00 (2 tickets)

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**1801 Baynard Boulevard
Wilmington DE 19802**



Miss Kaye begins her story in 19th Century Russia, portraying her grandmother Anna, who comes to America and begins to raise her family. As her narrative unfolds, Ruth focuses on her mother Leah, a beautiful resilient young woman, who marries her childhood sweetheart, survives a family crisis, and learns to make a life of her own. Finally, Ruth reveals herself as an awkward young adult, who later blossoms into a wife, mother and singer. In touching climax, Ruth celebrates the mysterious and beautiful link that connects one generation to another.

The story is told with narrative, monologues and songs, and is performed as a seamless theater piece. The songs include Yiddish and Israeli folk melodies, liturgical pieces, and songs from Broadway musicals with a Jewish flavor.



THE DRAMATIC NEWS OF ISRAEL'S BIRTH



Friday, May 14, 1948 Wilmington, DE

While the events of May 14 and 15, 1948 changed the lives of Jews throughout the world, Delawareans followed the fast paced drama in the News Journal papers. The news of the creation of the State of Israel was not presented with great joy but with realistic assessment of the great difficulties facing the new nation...

On Friday, May 14, the Wilmington Morning News' headline announced, ARAB ARMIES POISED TO INVADE HOLY LAND AT MIDNIGHT TONIGHT. The twenty-five year old British mandate was to expire at midnight (6 p.m. Wilmington time), and the U.N. which was meeting in special sessions at Lake Success, New York had been unable to reach agreement on the next step...

Continued on page 11

Delaware's Morning Paper First with the Latest News UNITED PRESS ASSOCIATED PRESS INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE

Wilmington Morning News

Latest City Edition Cloudy and Warm Weather Conditions, Tide, Temperature Page 4

VOL. 133 - NO. 117

WILMINGTON, DELAWARE, SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1948

FIFTY-SIX PAGES

PRICE FOUR CENTS

NEW JEWISH STATE RECOGNIZED BY U. S.

STOCK MARKET TAKES FRENZIED WHIRL UPWARD

\$1 to \$7 Gains for Top Issues Increase Total Value of Listed Shares By \$1,700,000,000

Trading Broadest on Record, Fastest in Eight Years; Dow Theory Signal Spurs Buying, Avalanche at N. Y.

Col. E. S. Stayer Renamed to Liquor Commission Post



Col. Edgar S. Stayer The Appointment of Colonel Stayer of Rehoboth Beach as Delaware's new liquor commission member...

TROOPS CALLED TO END RIOTING IN MEAT STRIKE

Minnesota Governor Acts After Mob of 200 Slugs Workers And Damages Property

CIO Steelworkers Vote To Bar Reds From Office In Union; Chrysler Appeals To Court to Curb Pickets

World-Renowned Boys' Benefactor Claimed by Death



Mr. Edward J. Flanagan FATHER FLANAGAN, BOYS TOWN HEAD, IS DEAD IN RFR IN

FOE BOMBS TEL AVIV; EGYPT ORDERS ARMY TO LAUNCH INVASION

Syria and Lebanon Have Units Poised On Border Awaiting Command to March

Britain Surrenders 25-Year Mandate Over Palestine At Stroke of Midnight

TEL AVIV, Israel, Saturday, May 15 - Arab raiders bombed this all-Jewish city at about dawn today. First reports said there were some casualties near the power and light station. Tel Aviv was under complete blackout all night but no sirens were sounded during the raid. Civil curfew was started and is to be...

Scene of New Strife



Action by President Blames Jews, Stun Arabs and Throw UN Into Confusion

American Delegate At Lake Success Caught Flat-Footed By Surprise Move

WASHINGTON, May 14 - President Truman in a move that surprised the world tonight recognized the new Jewish State of Israel Palestine a few minutes after the official act. The news caused intense excitement among the Zionists, stunned...

Wilmington Rejoices

Sylvan Silver, a native of Baltimore, was a reporter for the Wilmington Morning News and a member of the advertising staff of the News Journal Company from 1946-1959. He then served as Director of Public Relations at the Delaware Chapter, American Red Cross for seventeen years.

When Silver reported for work on Friday, May 14, 1948 at 1 p.m., about two hours after the State of Israel had been declared, city editor Emerson Wilson assigned him to cover the story of a service to be held that evening at Congregation Beth Shalom to celebrate the creation of the state. Silver recalls, "I was thrilled to be a

part of it. The service is something I'll never forget. Rabbi Kraft told us, "This is the greatest hour of the Jewish people." The following article, written by Sylvan Silver, appeared in the Wilmington Morning News on May 15, 1948.

JEWIS HERE HAIL PALESTINE STATE

400 Join In Prayer to Mark Its Birth at Service At Temple Beth Shalom

Wilmington Jews last night joined in a service of prayer to mark the birth of the new Zionist State of Israel in Palestine.

Over 400 persons attended the joint service at Temple Beth Shalom, Eighteenth and

Washington Streets, in which all local Jewish congregations, the Wilmington District, Zionist Organization of America, the Senior Hadassah, the Junior Hadassah, Pioneer Women and Jewish Workers Alliance participated.

"This is the greatest hour in the history of the Jewish people," said Rabbi Jacob Kraft of Temple Beth Shalom. "Not only has a new state been established, but a new world has been born. It is an indication of a new era in human civilization."

"It was done the hard way by our gallant fellow Jews in Palestine," Rabbi Kraft stated. "They carved a Jewish state with their blood and

have fought with magnificent courage." He hailed President Truman's action in recognizing the new Jewish state.

Rabbi Eliezer Ebner, of Chesed Shel Emeth Congregation, said that the establishment of the state of Israel is the embodiment of Jewish yearnings, hopes and dreams for the past 2,000 years.

"The Hebrew flag now flies over Palestine and Jewish rule, sovereignty and independence has been established in Palestine," Rabbi Ebner continued. "A nation has been revived and rejuvenated on the soil of its fathers in strength and dignity and in the consciousness of freedom."

He said that the new state posed a series of challenges to the Jewish people, but he added these would be met with success.

Rabbi Herbert E. Drooz of Temple Beth Emeth led responsive readings and a prayer for the success of the new state. The Temple Beth Shalom Choir sang a group of selections, including a number of Palestinian hymns. The service was concluded with the singing of the Hatikvah.

Editor's note: There was also a service at Adas Kodesch synagogue led by Rabbi Leonard Gewirtz. The Israeli flag was at the front of the shul, and the congregation sang Hatikvah.

Delaware Jewish Organizations in 1948

- Adas Kodesch Congregation
•Adas Kodesch Sisterhood & Men's Club
•Aleph Zadik Aleph
•Alpha Epsilon Pi
•Associated Hebrew Schools
•Beth Emeth Congregation
•Beth Emeth Brotherhood & Sisterhood
•Beth Emeth Federation of Temple Youth
•Beth Emeth Memorial Park
•Beth Israel Hospital - Hope Farm
•Beth Shalom Congregation
•Beth Shalom Men's Club & Sisterhood
•Beth Shalom - United Synagogue Youth
•Beth Shalom Young Judea
•Beth Shalom Young People's League
•Congregation Beth Shalom of Dover

- Beth Shalom of Dover Men's Club & Sisterhood
•B'nai B'rith First State Lodge Rishon
•B'nai B'rith Girls
•B'nai B'rith Lodge #470
•B'nai B'rith Women of Delaware
•B'nai Zion
•Boy Scout & Girl Scout Troops
•Brandywine Country Club
•Brith Shalom
•Chesed Shel Emeth Synagogue
•Chesed Shel Emeth Sisterhood
•Chevra Kadisha Burial Society
•Chevra Mishnah V' ein Jacob
•Covenant Club
•Delaware Jewish Beneficial Association
•Delaware Rabbinical Association
•Delaware Zionist Council
•Farband Branch #258 & Ladies Club

- Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations
•Free Hebrew Sunday School
•Golden Age Club of Wilmington
•Hebrew Free Loan Society & Auxiliary
•Hebrew Library Association
•University of Delaware Hillel
•Hug Ivri
•Hadassah of Delaware
•Junior Hadassah
•Jefferson Democratic Club
•Jewish Community Relations Council
•Jewish Federation of Delaware
•Jewish Federation of Delaware Women's Division
•Jewish Memorial Loan Fund
•Jewish National Fund
•Jewish National Workers Alliance Branch #258
•Jewish National Workers Society

- The Jewish Voice
•Jewish War Veterans - Department of Delaware
•Jewish War Veterans Ladies Auxiliary
•Jewish Welfare Association of Wilmington
•Jewish Welfare Association - Women's Division
•Kallah
•Labor Zionist Alliance
•Ladies Bichor Cholem Society
•Linath Hazedek Society
•Machzikey Hadas Congregation
•Machzikey Hadas Congregation Cemetery
•Machzikey Hadas Congregation Sisterhood
•Mischkind Society
•Mizrachi Women
•Montefiore Mutual Benefit Society
•National Conference of

- Christians & Jews
•National Council of Jewish Women
•Order of the Golden Chain - Delaware Link #48
•Phi Alpha Theta
•Pioneer Women's Organization
•Poale Zion
•Sigma Alpha Rho
•Sigma Phi
•Sigma Pi Sigma
•Tau Beta Gamma
•Vaad Hakashruth
•Young Friends Club
•Young Jewish Adults of Delaware
•Wilmington Zionist Society
•Women's American Ort of Delaware
•Workman's Circle Branch #69 & Auxiliary

List provided by Jewish Historical Society of Delaware



EDITORIAL



1948 Redemption of Israel

On the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel, it's important to remember the ideals that formed a nation. We reprint here the *New York Herald Tribune's* editorial of May 15, 1948. Rabbi Krinsky, editor of the *Jewish Voice*, judged it the best of all the editorials on the creation of the new state and published it in the June 1948 *Jewish Voice* under the title, "The Redemption of Israel."

"Everyone whose mind and spirit were nourished on the great names and the great deeds of the Hebrew scriptures must sense the high drama of the call that went out from Tel Aviv yesterday: the summons to the struggle for the fulfillment of the dream of generations - the redemption of Israel. The story of Israel is woven into the fabric of our civilization: the tragedy of the age-old dispersion of Israel looms large in the history of many people; the terror visited upon Israel in bondage is a terror which this generation has known all too intimately. And now that story has come to a climax with the proclamation of the Republic of Israel in the 'birth-place of the Jewish people.' The climax has its own tragedy, its own hint of terror, in the war clouds that hang so heavily over Palestine and the hand-wringing impotence of the powers that might have averted them. But for the devoted band who have declared their nationhood in Tel Aviv, it is a climax of dedicated courage which cannot fail to win the respect of the world.

"The Jews of Palestine have built a state. The chancelleries of the world may deplore, the gentlemen at Lake Success may debate, the Arab Legion may fulminate, but the impelling power of the 'dream of genera-

tions' has created a government, inspired an army, and made a desert bloom. These achievements cannot be ignored or brushed aside. They can neither be rationalized out of existence to suit some academic policy or warped to fit into some 'ideal' solution of the Palestine problem. They exist as the result of unflagging labor and unfailing courage, of the desperation of some who have known Hitler's tortures and the aspiration of many who have sought an ancient goal. The star which was imposed upon the Jew as a badge of shame is on the flag of Israel today, and the deep, powerful emotions mobilized around that symbol are now the most significant forces in Palestine.

"In recognizing Israel, President Truman has recognized an inescapable fact. However oddly his act may fit into the curious pattern of American diplomacy in the Near East, this step was the only one which was consonant with American traditions and with the realities of the case. Since the United Nations, largely as the result of the insistence of the United States, has not asserted paramount authority over Palestine, this country is free to deal with Israel on its own terms since officially and unofficially over the last thirty years, the United States has done much to make a Jewish state possible, it could not disavow its own work, and the declaration of Israel's independence must evoke a sympathetic response from a nation conscious of the shared spiritual heritage from which that declaration was drawn. Mr. Truman has given formal expression to the welcome Americans extend to Israel, the dream made real."

Israel 50-1998

As Israel celebrates the milestone of the first fifty years, how do we see Israel now?

The Zionist vision was one of nationalistic pride and egalitarian ideology ... is it still? What kind of country is Israel now? Is it representing Jewish values or has it become just another state?

It was to be a light unto nations, acting as a beacon of all that is good in the world. So in her fifty years how has this beacon shone?

A lot of extraordinarily wonderful events have happened in the first fifty years. The State of Israel is a reminder that safety and refuge can be had. Israel has opened her doors and her heart to all Jews, in fact many from Yemen, Syria, Morocco and especially those in need as hundreds of thousands of refugee Russian and Ethiopian Jews assimilate into Israeli life. She has taken the barren desert and turned it into nurtured blooming

life. Israel has been the backdrop for the cultural flowering of the Jewish people in fine arts, music and theatre. Israel has produced world famous authors, scientists, heads of state, retailers, artists, musicians, clothes designers, the list is endless.

Perhaps the American Jews are not pleased with Israeli infighting, but historically if there are two Jews in a room there are three opinions. Perhaps we have to acknowledge that the time of "chalutzim," pioneers spirit is past and we must learn to let the river flow. Perhaps there are many problems that Israel needs to solve, and we should help not withdraw. Now more than ever there are lists of needed involvement in our Jewish homeland ... so before the next fifty years pass us by ... get involved, go see first hand, make sure that 'next year in Jerusalem' becomes very personal.

Letters to the Editor

Warm greetings to all those celebrating the 50th anniversary of the creation of the modern state of Israel.

On May 14, 1948, the exile came to an end; the people denied a homeland for countless generations saw the fulfillment of their oldest dream. With the establishment of Israel, a haven was created for those who had wandered the earth, suffering every form of persecution, including the horror of the Holocaust.

Israel gathered its people from the four corners of the world, building a diverse society and a vibrant economy. In a land with few natural resources, the desert bloomed and cities rose. Israel achieved all this despite relentless hostility and decades of bloody struggle. Its achievements in the face of adversity have inspired free men and women the world over, and we continue to draw strength from Israel's example of how the power of the human spirit can bring dreams to reality.

Fifty years ago, President Harry Truman made the bold decision to recognize the new state of Israel, and America became the first nation to do so. President Truman was

deeply proud of that decision, and today we know that it was one of his wisest. It laid the cornerstone for a relationship between the United States and Israel that has grown stronger with every passing year. Now that friendship is broader, deeper, and more firmly rooted than at any time in Israel's history, and I am determined that it will remain so. Our relationship is not just between governments; Israel has always been a particular source of pride to our nation's Jewish community. And today all parts of American society feel close ties to the people of Israel. The extraordinary friendship between our nations and its strategic importance have guided my efforts to bring peace to the Middle East, which the people there so richly deserve.

My deepest wish for the people of Israel on this milestone anniversary is that they should enjoy in the next 50 years what has been denied them in the first 50: an end to conflict and terror; full security for all; and enduring peace with all their Arab neighbors. Hillary joins me in extending best wishes to all for a memorable anniversary celebration.

Bill Clinton

Dear Editor,

I would like to extend my heart-felt congratulations to the modern State of Israel on the celebration of its founding 50 years ago. The rebuilding of your homeland after centuries of war, hardships and economic strife speaks to your dedication to working towards creating a pluralistic democratic society.

Over the past half-century, Israel's economy has prospered. There is an established vibrant political system which supports free speech, press and fair and open elections, which have led to the establishment of many beneficial relationships with nations throughout the world.

This anniversary not only provides an opportunity to pay tribute to your family, friends and fellow Jews who suffered and died in the Nazi Holocaust, but it is also an opportunity to honor the survivors of this genocide. These 250,000 survivors went to then British-mandated Palestine and worked hard and fought for the creation of the free state of Israel, while facing wars, terrorism and economic boycotts.

Since then your homeland has become a melting pot for Jews from all over the world, many of them refugees from Arab countries, and you have worked hard to fully integrate them into Israeli society.

Israel is often referred to as a "special place," by those who have visited and those who have lived there, but I am sure to you it is most special, for it is your homeland. It is

my hope that Israel will continue to prosper and that the relationship between Israel and the United States will remain close and mutually beneficial.

Sincerely,
Mike N. Castle
Member of Congress

Dear Friends:

As Governor, I am pleased to extend to you my warmest greetings and best wishes as we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Israel's statehood. This occasion provides a wonderful opportunity to celebrate a nation which has served as the home for Jewish people around the globe - as well as serving as one of America's staunchest allies.

One cannot overestimate the challenges posed to Israel's very existence over the past five decades. With the help of Jewish Americans and others across the globe, Israel has met those challenges - and thrived beyond even our wildest imagination. The success of the "Jewish state" is testament to the hard work, dedication, and resilience of Jews around the world - including those of you in Delaware's Jewish community. As we celebrate this milestone, I salute you for your unwavering commitment to ensuring peace and prosperity in Israel.

I wish you all the best as we celebrate together.

Sincerely,
Thomas R. Carper
Governor

THURSDAY NOON DEADLINE
for all articles, advertisements and news for The Jewish Voice

ISSUE	FOCUS	DEADLINE
MAY 22	ISRAEL 50 ISSUE BAR MITZ/GRAD	MAY 14

All submissions in person for The Jewish Voice due at JFD offices or mail: The Jewish Voice, 100 W. 10th St., Suite 301
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A Local Discussion...

What Is The Biggest Issue Facing Israel's Future?

By Rabbi MOSHE V. GOLDBLUM

That the State of Israel is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary is a source of pride and fulfillment for Jews not only in Israel but for Jews throughout the world. However, I am personally upset with the implications of the celebration. Certainly one is forced to admit that modern Zionism has been one of the most unifying influences in modern Jewish life. It is well known to all of us that no other country in the world has been willing to accept Jews in the same numbers or proportions as Israel has done. We cannot forget the lives taken endeavoring to break through the British blockade. We must not overlook the coolness of our own government when it came to increasing the immigration quotas so that more Jews from the Displaced person camps could come to the land of freedom. The boat that headed for Cuba, but was not permitted to let any of its passengers disembark, went up the entire Atlantic coast of America and no port was any more hospitable than Havana.

We Jews have been clamoring for a state for almost two thousand years. Our messianic hopes and our daily prayers reiterate and describe the close relationship we have always had with the land of Israel. To say that the State of Israel is fifty years old is to make all feel like "Johnny come Latelys" who accepted the invitation to settle there as an after thought in our long history of four thousand years. The world must come to recognize that this modern state of Israel has come about as a result of thousands of years of sacrifice, suffering, and sanctions. The Day of the Holocaust precedes Israeli Independence Day by one week. One day brings us the greatest of fears and fills our hearts with doubt and alarm. The second day brings us pride and joy and we wonder how such contradictory and perplexing feeling can disturb such a small people as the Jews. Let us remember often the warning of a numbers of Jewish historians that if the Shoah had never occurred, the declaration of the State of Israel would never have been permitted by the countries of the World.

The state of Israel still faces many problems and Jews throughout the world must work together to make the four thousand year old dreams and aspirations into a permanent reality that can never be threatened nor endangered by an outside force, no matter how great. May the example of that state inspire the countries of the world to live in peace with one another and to make the

predictions of our prophets the guide posts for all future civilization.

By Rabbi SANFORD L. DRESIN

The now defunct comic strip character "Pogo" put it best when he said, "we have met the enemy and he is us." It is we Jews who constitute Israel's greatest challenge in the present and for the future, not the Arab countries, not the Palestinians and not the threat of biological or nuclear terrorism. We threaten Israel with our ever increasing factionalism and deteriorating sense of *Amcha* - peoplehood. We threaten Israel in America by the insidious erosion of our support for Israel, neglecting it as a primary source of Jewish identity and we threaten Israel within Israel as well as in the Diaspora by demonizing fellow Jews whose views may not be totally congruent with our own.

In both Israel and in the Diaspora Orthodoxy has grown more intolerant and has substituted extremism and fanaticism in both politics and religious practice for moderation and balance. On the other side of the spectrum fanaticism and secularism are no longer mutually exclusive. In America, still the worlds largest Jewish community, but barely, non-Orthodox Judaism has substituted secularism, political correctness, convenience, expedience and a situation ethic for the ancient laws and traditions that defined personal status, held our people together, defined who was a Jew and allowed our people to carry on despite an abundance of vicissitudes.

Amidst all the schisms that fracture our people, when all is said and done, amidst all the passionate partisan oratory, I firmly believe that history speaks to the priority of setting Jewish unity and love of Zion above worship, observance and even the quest for spirituality as the primary force for Jewish continuity and security. Our G-d is a loving parent and like any loving parent desires that children love and protect each other even at the expense of filial obedience and respect.

By Rabbi PETER H. GRUMBACHER

There are two immediate answers which come to mind. One is, of course, whether peace will reign or whether there will be continuous struggle between Israel and her neighbors, including the Palestinians. The other answer which quickly comes to mind is religious freedom for the non-Orthodox. Aside from those two, there seems to be one issue which all of us have to face.

Generation X and even quite a number of baby boomers do not have the emotional

connection to the State of Israel as the previous generation has had. Whether it is because they see intransigence on the part of the Netanyahu government is fulfilling the Oslo accords leading to a lasting peace, or whether it is because they simply do not see the significance of a "Jewish" State being insensitive to the lessons of the Holocaust, more and more young people appear to be disconnecting from financial and emotional support.

A generation ago, Jewish "radicals" raised the banner for Arab refugees and criticized Israel for its part in maintaining their status quo. Today there seems to be a "universal" banner which is taking its place. Organizations formerly dedicated to Zionist causes are finding that their members are attracted to a much broader range of interests. Zionism by itself may not sustain these historic organizations.

It is fortunate that many of our young people opt to visit Israel with NFTY and other youth programs that sponsor summer trips to the Jewish State. Thousands are introduced to Israel each summer, but how many thousands have no interest whatsoever nor find encouragement at home?

With all of its ramifications, this alienation from Israel, its history and its contemporary meaning, must be addressed as Israel faces its next fifty years.

By KAREN VENEZKY

As we celebrate the 50 years of Israel's existence, we can rejoice and feel that Israel is prosperous and thriving. The land was reclaimed; the state established; Jews were rescued and brought "home." A miracle in five decades. Now it is time to deal with the kind of society being created. Early Zionists believed that Israel should be a "light unto the nations." That light needs to start within Israel by forging a future based on tolerance and understanding.

Differences and stereotypes cannot be allowed to undermine the values of Israel's Declaration of Independence: freedom, justice, equality and peace. How will conflicts between religious and secular Jews, Israelis and Arabs, men and women be resolved, extending not just equal rights, but equal opportunities to all? What must be done to promote mutual understanding and concern? This is the challenge for the next five decades.

Letter To The Editor

To the Readers of the Jewish Voice:

In the Bible, the book of Exodus tells us of the arduous journey Moses undertook thousands of years ago, when he led his people from the tyranny of slavery and oppression in Egypt to the promised land of Israel.

Fifty years ago, the Jewish people emerged from under a tyranny and oppression of an equally, if not more, barbaric sort. During the aftermath of the Second World War and the unparalleled atrocities of the Holocaust, the path of Moses was symbolically recreated by these survivors through the establishment of the modern State of Israel. This return of the exiled Jews to the promised land marked the realization of the Zionist objective held for some thirteen centuries, and today still serves as a beacon of hope, freedom, and security for many around the world.

The years that followed the establishment of Israel were years of trial and turmoil. Few nations have endured through such challenges to their very existence. Through four wars, the outnumbered forces of Israel outmaneuvered, held at bay, and ultimately defeated the armies of its Arab neighbors. This is strong testimony to the perseverance and strength of the Israeli people, and the daring and visionary leadership of their gen-

erals and politicians, including Moshe Dayan, David Ben-Gurion, Golda Meir, Chaim Weizman, Menachem Begin, Yitzak Rabin, and many others. It is telling that, during these times of unrest and uncertainty, Jewish settlers from every corner of the globe continued their migration to the new promised land.

As challenging as the last twenty-five years have been, they have also provided hope that the struggles in the Middle East may be nearing resolution. The end of the Cold War, such achievements as the Camp David Accords between Israel and Egypt, the peace treaty between Jordan and Israel, and the more recent agreements between Israel and the Palestinians present real foundations for enduring stability, peace and even reconciliation in the Middle East.

Over the years, Israel has proven to be an invaluable partner to the United States. It is a relationship often explained by common security interests, but the cornerstone is rooted in shared democratic ideals. It is this partnership that can catalyze the historic opportunity before us for peace in the Middle East into a reality. The central pillar of this peace - indeed any United States involvement in this region - must always remain the inviolability of Israeli independence and security.

I offer my sincerest congratulations on the fiftieth anniversary of the nation of Israel.

Sincerely,
William V. Roth, Jr.
U.S. Senate

Albert Einstein Children Observe Holocaust Remembrance Day

Students in the Albert Einstein Academy observed Yom Hashoah Holocaust Remembrance Day by lighting candles - 1 for each million in the six million, by songs and reciting poems written by children in the Ghetto. Albert Einstein

Academy is the Jewish day school in the Brandywine Valley and is accredited by Middle States Assoc. of Colleges and Schools.

Albert Einstein Academy is a constituent of the Jewish Federation of Delaware.



Left to right:
Lauren Harad,
Jessie Neipris,
Erin Slaz-Marshall,
Sarah Stauber.

Voice Box

We extend our hand in peace and neighborliness to all the neighboring states and their peoples, and invite them to cooperate with the independent Jewish nation for the common good of all. The State of Israel is prepared to make its contribution to the progress of the Middle East as a whole.

from the State of Israel
Proclamation of Independence
"This is the greatest hour in the history of the Jewish People."
Rabbi Kraft
Beth Shalom, May 14, 1948

CANDLE LIGHTING

MAY

15TH — 6:51 PM

22ND — 6:57 PM

29TH — 7:03 PM



DID YOU KNOW ABOUT NACHLATH, DE?



On June 3, 1948, less than three weeks after the State of Israel was declared, the deed to a colony purchased with funds raised by Delawareans and appropriately named Nachlath Delaware, was presented to a local committee which had been collecting money for five years.

Between 1943 and 1948, Harry Cohen active Federation leader and former president of the Wilmington District of the Zionist Organization of America, David Katz, treasurer of the Wilmington district ZOA and Rabbi Simon Krinsky, president of the Delaware branch Jewish National Fund spearheaded the effort to raise

\$25,000, at the rate of \$5,000 per year. The Jewish Federation of Delaware, Hadassah, Pioneer Women, the Jewish National Workers Alliance and Auxiliary, Wilmington District of the Zionist Organization and Junior Hadassah joined in the effort and made generous contributions. The Jewish Federation decided to include Nachlath in its budget providing that there was no direct solicitation in the community and that individuals and organizations continued giving as before. Harry Cohen, David Katz and Aaron Finger were the most generous individual contributors to the campaign. By 1948, the Delaware community



Harry Cohen

had raised over \$27,000 to purchase the land, which was in the Negev, twenty kilometers northwest of Beersheba. (In 1953 when David Zinman visited Nachlath Delaware, it was part of Kibbutz Shoval)

Judge Morris Rothenberg, national president of the Jewish National Fund presented the deed to the 250 acre colony to the community at a mass meeting and celebration held at the YMHA. A large banner with the letters, "Long Live the Jewish State," in blue letters on a white background dominated the stage. Philip Cohen, president of the Wilmington World Zionist Organization presided.

Addressing the continued fighting in Israel Judge Rothenberg told the crowd, "Britain holds the key to peace in Palestine. Jews and Arabs

have agreed on the truce presented by the United Nations, but it will have meaning only if Britain makes King Abdullah come to terms with Israel." According to Rothenberg, Great Britain was "financing the present Arab attacks and directing military maneuvers through its officers."

The community celebration and ceremony made Delaware "the first to establish a colony since the proclamation of the State of Israel in Palestine." Delaware joined other states, cities and communities throughout the United States whose names graced land purchased by citizens of the Jewish faith.



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Mike Castle

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A Salute to Israel's
50th Anniversary

from

Senator Bill Roth

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☆ ISRAEL AT 50 ~ THE POWER OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS ☆

By DAN WEINTRAUB
JCRC Director

The Jewish Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Delaware supports Israel through education, communication with elected officials, countering anti-Israel propaganda and monitoring Israel-related issues of concern. The JCRC tracks progress towards Middle East peace; U.S. legislation impacting Israel; international relations; UN activity; political developments in Israel; economic development in Israel; pluralism issues and immigration trends.

Among the most visible of these responsibilities is countering anti-Israel propaganda, biased media accounts and factually incorrect reporting by commercial news organizations. Editorials attacking Israel and news stories which lack

balance in reporting about Israel and Palestinians often raise concerns for Delaware Jews. In Delaware there is often a lack of consensus about how the JCRC should respond to such material, or even whether to respond in given situations.

Dr. Barry Rubin, a professor at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, in a provocative analysis, suggests that Diaspora Jews often have one of two responses to United States and world media reporting which puts Israel in a poor light. Some of us blame the media and some of us blame Israel.

Rubin suggests that many Jews, especially those on the right, view such reporting (viewed as negative reporting) as a threat to Israel's warm relationship with America and to the security of Jews in America. He believes we have at times associated Jewishness with

vulnerability; this has yielded a defensiveness. A feeling that American Jewish status is dependent on neighbor's opinions has led to a focus on a vulnerable Israel's treatment in the media. Criticism of Israel or its policies has been seen as the most visible display of anti-Semitism.

Other Diaspora Jews view themselves as supporters of Israel but welcome constructive criticism of Israel. They hold Israel to a higher standard to be a Light unto the Nations. Rubin says these Jews, especially those on the left identify reporting on Israel as objective rather than negative. They do not fault the media and are more concerned that Israel's policies or actions are unjust, inhumane or impolitic. These Jews distance themselves as American Jews from uncomfortable Israeli actions.

Rubin summarizes, "Liberals hoped that Israel would not do anything to embarrass them; conservatives - ironically those who most praised American society - often argues that the goyim were out to harm an imperiled Israel through unfair criticism. Through Israel, both sides felt some of the sense of peril so often associated with being a Jew..."

Here in Delaware competing responses to troubling news or opinions about Israel are weighed and carefully balanced by the JCRC. Sometimes a particular media action is widely seen as bias or, conversely, some particular Israeli actions or policies are broadly regarded as missing the mark. However, most often a strong consensus cannot be found. The search for such consensus strengthens our community.

Media relations are important but not the only important work of JCRC. Community relations can be most effective when it is proactive and routine rather than reactive and occasional. Proactive efforts to work in coalitions with other groups of Delaware is essen-

tial for the greater good. Educational efforts when no crisis is present are most helpful.

Working closely with the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, an umbrella organization devoted to community relations, enhances the strength of our local community relations efforts. Experts with JCPA and its member agencies provide insights and examples which contribute to our best efforts here in Delaware.

As the State of Israel celebrates her 50th year and looks toward the

future, the JCRC will continue to work here in Delaware on Israel's behalf. Today Israel is at peace with Egypt and Jordan. A stalemate with the Palestinian Authority and other continuing challenges remain for Israel. The JCRC advocacy work, speakers bureau and service as a clearinghouse for Israel information will continue to support the people of the Jewish state. We will work together for a secure Israel, at peace with her neighbors, prospering and enjoying peace among Jews.

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Congratulations to Israel on their 50th



PROCLAMATION OF STATE OF ISRAEL



Document 26 State of Israel Proclamation of Independence

The Proclamation of Independence was published by the Provisional State Council in Tel Aviv on May 14, 1948. The Provisional State Council was the forerunner of the Knesset, the Israeli parliament. The British Mandate was terminated the following day and regular armed forces of Transjordan, Egypt, Syria and other Arab countries entered Palestine.

The Land of Israel was the birthplace of the Jewish people. Here their spiritual, religious and national identity was formed. Here they achieved independence and created a culture of national and universal significance. Here they wrote and gave the Bible to the world.

Exiled from the Land of Israel the Jewish people remained faithful to it in all the countries of their dispersion, never ceasing to pray and hope for their return and the restoration of their national freedom.

Impelled by this historic association, Jews strove throughout the centuries to go back to the land of their fathers and regain their statehood. In recent decades they returned in their masses. They reclaimed the wilderness, revived their language, built cities and villages, and established a vigorous and ever-growing community, with its own economic and cultural life. They sought peace, yet were prepared to defend themselves. They brought the blessings of progress to all inhabitants of the country and looked forward to sovereign independence.

In the year 1897 the First Zionist Congress, inspired by Theodor Herzl's vision of the Jewish State, proclaimed the right of the Jewish people to national revival in their own country.

This right was acknowledged by the Balfour Declaration of November 2, 1917, and reaffirmed by the Mandate of the League of Nations, which gave explicit international recognition to the historic connection of the Jewish people with Palestine and

their right to reconstitute their National Home.

The recent holocaust, which engulfed millions of Jews in Europe, proved anew the need to solve the problem of the homelessness and lack of independence of the Jewish people by means of the re-establishment of the Jewish State, which would open the gates to all Jews and endow the Jewish people with equality of status among the family of nations.

The survivors of the disastrous slaughter in Europe, and also Jews from other lands, have not desisted from their efforts to reach Eretz-Yisrael, in face of difficulties, obstacles and perils; and have not ceased to urge their right to a life of dignity, freedom and honest toil in their ancestral land.

In the second World War the Jewish people in Palestine made their full contribution to the struggle of the freedom-loving nations against the Nazi evil. The sacrifices of their soldiers and their war effort gained them the right to rank with the nations which founded the United Nations.

On November 29, 1947, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted a Resolution requiring the establishment of a Jewish State in Palestine. The General Assembly called upon the inhabitants of the country to take all the necessary steps on their part to put the plan into effect. This recognition by the United Nations of the right of the Jewish people to establish their independent State is unassailable.

It is the natural right of the Jewish people to lead, as do all other nations, an independent existence in its sovereign State.

ACCORDINGLY WE, the members of the National Council, representing the Jewish people in Palestine and the World Zionist Movement, are met together in solemn assembly today, the day of termination of the British Mandate for Palestine; and by virtue of the natural and historic right of the Jewish people and of the Resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

WE HEREBY PROCLAIM the establishment of the Jewish State in Palestine, to be called Medinat Yisrael (The State of Israel).

WE HEREBY DECLARE that, as from the termination of the Mandate at midnight, the 14th-15th May, 1948, and pending the setting up of the duly elected bodies of the State in accordance with Constitution, to be drawn up by the Constituent Assembly not later than the 1st October, 1948, the National Council shall act as the Provisional State Council, and that the National Administration shall constitute the Provisional Government of the Jewish State, which shall be known as Israel.

THE STATE OF ISRAEL will be open to the immigration of Jews from all countries of their dispersion; will promote the development of the country for the benefit of all its inhabitants; will be based on the principles of liberty, justice and peace as conceived by the Prophets of Israel; will uphold the full social and political equality of all its citizens, without distinction of religion, race, or sex; will guarantee freedom of religion, conscience, education and culture; will

safeguard the Holy Places of all religions; and will loyally uphold the principles of the United Nations Charter.

THE STATE OF ISRAEL will be ready to co-operate with the organs and representatives of the United Nations in the implementation of the Resolution of the Assembly of November 29, 1947, and will take steps to bring about the Economic Union over the whole of Palestine.

We appeal to the United Nations to assist the Jewish people in the building of its State and to admit Israel into the family of nations.

In the midst of wanton aggression, we yet call upon the Arab inhabitants of the State of Israel to preserve the ways of peace and play their part in the development of the State, on the basis of full and equal citizenship and due representation in all its bodies and institutions - provisional and permanent.

We extend our hand in peace and neighbourliness to all the neighbouring states and their peoples, and invite them to co-operate with the independent Jewish nation for the common good of all. The State of Israel is prepared to make its contribution to the progress of the Middle East as a whole.

Our call goes out to the Jewish people all over the world to rally to our side in the task of immigration and development, and to stand by us in the great struggle for the fulfillment of the dream of generations for the redemption of Israel.

With trust in the Rock of Israel, we set our hand to this Declaration, at this Session of the Provisional State Council, on the soil of the Homeland, in the city of Tel-Aviv, on this Sabbath eve, the fifth of Iyar, 5708, the fourteenth of May, 1948.

Document 27 The Law of Return

The "Law of Return" was passed unanimously by the Knesset on July 5, 1950 and written into the State Legislation.

The Law of Return states:

1. Every Jew has the right to immigrate to the country.

2. (a) Immigration shall be on the basis of immigration visas.

(b) Immigrant visas shall be issued to any Jew expressing a desire to settle in Israel, except if the Minister of Immigration is satisfied that the applicant:

(i) acts against the Jewish nation; or

(ii) may threaten the public health or State security.

3. (a) A Jew who comes to Israel and after this arrival expresses a desire to settle there may, while in Israel, obtain an immigrant certificate.

(b) The exceptions listed in Article 2 (b) shall apply also with respect to the issue of an immigrant certificate, but a person shall not be regarded as a threat to public health as a result of an illness that he contracts after this arrival in Israel.

4. Every Jew who migrated to the country before this law goes into effect, and every Jew who was born in the country either before or after the law is effective enjoys the same status as any person who migrated on the basis of this law.

5. The Minister of Immigration is delegated to enforce this law and

he may enact regulations in connection with its implementation and for the issue of immigrant visas and immigrant certificates.

Document 28

The Manifesto of the United Arab Republic (Preamble)

The manifesto concerning the principles to govern the new Federal State of the United Arab Republic was published in April 1963. It was prepared in connection with an abortive attempt to establish federal union in the Arab world. Signed by Gamal Abdel Nasser and the presidents of Iraq and Syria, it is of interest mainly in view of the reference to Palestine.

In the name of the Merciful Compassionate God,

In the name of the almighty God,

The three delegations representing the United Arab Republic, Syria and Iraq met in Cairo and in response to the will of the Arab people in the three regions and the great Arab fatherland, brotherly talks began between the three delegations on Saturday, April 6, and ended on Wednesday, April 17, 1963.

The delegations in all their discussions were inspired by faith that Arab unity was an inevitable aim

deriving its principles from the oneness of language bearing culture and thought, common history-making sentiment and conscience, common national struggle deciding and defining destiny, common spiritual values stemming from Divine messages and common social and economic understanding based on liberty and socialism.

The delegations were guided by the will of the masses of the Arab peoples, demanding unity, struggling to attain it and sacrificing in its defence, and realizing that the hard core of the union is to be formed by the unification of the parts of the homeland which have acquired their freedom and independence and in which nationalist, progressive governments have emerged with the determination to destroy the alliance of feudalism, capital, reaction and imperialism, and to liberate the working forces of the people in order to join them in alliance and to express their genuine will.

The resolution of July 23 was a historical turning point at which the Arab people in Egypt, discovering their identity and regaining their free will, set out on their quest for freedom.

Post Cards from Israel



Postcards purchased in Israel ca 1948-50 by Hans J. Preisler while living on Kibbutz Naan. Mr. Preisler is the father of Julian N. Preisler, JHSD Archivist.



LEARNING TO CARE: An NCJW Washington workshop on 'Key issues'; Karen Venezky ran successfully for her local city council, pushed in part by her leadership training at Hadassah. Karen was featured in the Jerusalem Report, April 30, 1998.



AARON FINGER ADVOCATE FOR A JEWISH STATE



In 1912, Aaron Finger passed the Delaware bar and became the first Delaware born, Jewish attorney. He was appointed deputy city judge in 1916 and served until 1918 when he resigned to fight in World War I even though as a state official he was exempt from military service. After the war, Finger served as Chief Deputy Attorney General from 1920-1923 when he resigned to resume private practice. He became a founding partner of the law firm of Richards, Layton and Finger and a leading corporate lawyer in the state.

During the years immediately preceding statehood, Finger, who had been active in Zionist affairs for more than thirty years, increased his involvement in the Jewish Agency and the Zionist Organization of America. He wrote letters advocating the establishment of a Jewish state to President Harry S. Truman, Senators John J. Williams, James M. Tunnell, and C. Douglass Buck, Congressmen Earle D. Willey and J. Caleb Boggs, and Delaware's chief justice Clarence A. Sutherland. Excerpts from his letters provide insight into the events of the 1940s and illustrate the important role American Jewish leaders played in the struggle to create Israel.

In September 1943, Finger wrote to Senator Williams asking him to support a movement to annul the illegal British White Paper of 1939 and to implement the Balfour Declaration so that "there may be free and unrestricted Jewish immigration into Palestine and the establishment of a Jewish Commonwealth at the conclusion of the war." According to Finger, the White Paper of 1939 was "in direct conflict with the Balfour Declaration and with the British Mandate for Palestine and was in every sense illegal. Palestine was never a British possession, and Britain's relationship to Palestine under the Mandate was that of a Trustee. It had neither the legal nor the moral right to deal with Palestine as a possession or colony or to restrict Jewish immigration into that land." When the resolution to abrogate the White Paper was in Congress in 1944, Finger wrote to Senators Tunnell and Williams explaining persuasively why they should support it.

In February 1947, Finger wrote to Senator John J. Williams explaining why the Jews in Palestine should be able to establish a government. "England's foremost duty under the Mandate was to "facilitate" Jewish immigration into Palestine; the Mandate was to



Aaron Finger

continue only until the Jews had attained the majority of the population there; and thereafter Palestine was to become a Jewish state, subject only to equal rights to the Arabs and other minorities and to suitable protection in respect to the holy places that are sacred to the three religions. The trouble has grown almost entirely out of the fact that the execution of the Mandate was in the hands of the English Colonial Office, which has always been hostile to the Mandate, and has done everything within its power to sabotage the Mandate by fomenting trouble

between the Arabs and the Jews."

Finger also reminded Senator Williams, "Although little or no Arab support was given to the allies in the First World War, and although in the Second World War the Arabs, under a cloak of neutrality, actually supported Hitler, vast under-populated areas, containing more than ninety times the area of Palestine, has been given to the Arabs, with independent states set up, but the Palestine pledge remains unfulfilled, although the Jews in Palestine are entitled to the principal credit for having stopped Rommel at El Alemein."

Finger emphasized that the Arabs were not being treated unfairly. "It is not a case of taking Palestine from the Arabs. It (Palestine) was wrested from Turkey under whom the Arabs lived wretchedly. For hundreds of years the Arab population in Palestine was stabilized at 600,000. In the last twenty years, since the Jews began to develop the land, their population has more than doubled. You will thus see that Arabs are not being displaced. They have increased in numbers and their economic and health conditions have improved to the point where the Palestine Arabs are the envy of the rest of the Arab world."

In January 1948, Finger wrote

to Senators Williams and C. Douglass Buck and Congressman J. Caleb Boggs urging them to aid in the prompt removal of the "inhuman, unjust and illegal embargo on the shipment of arms to Palestine." He explained that the Arabs had already been given sovereignty in 99% of the area claimed by them, and the U.N. partition gives the Jews less the 1/4 of the remaining 1%. In this small area the Jews constitute a majority. And yet the Arabs are being furnished with arms by England, with knowledge that the arms are to be used to defeat a decision by the U.N. which England as a member is honor bound to support, and the "middle levels" of our State Department are using the resources of the United States likewise to defeat a decision which we are in honor bound to support."

Judge Finger was so widely respected in legal circles that he was urged more than once to become chief justice of Delaware. Undoubtedly his articulate opinions about Palestine influenced those to whom he wrote as well as all members of the Delaware community with whom he shared his views. At this historic moment, it's appropriate to remember the actions of all who worked for the establishment of the state.

A Key UN Official Recalls Drama Of Partition Plan

By PETER EPHROSS

NEW YORK (JTA) - It was 50 years ago, but William Epstein still remembers the speech David Ben-Gurion made in the fall of 1947 to the United Nations committee deciding the fate of Palestine.

Many of the Zionist leaders had already spoken before the Ad Hoc Committee on Palestine.

Epstein recalls that Chaim Weizmann impressed the committee members with the gentle nature of his diplomatic appeal, as did Abba Eban with his eloquence.

But even though there was nothing special about Ben-Gurion's appearance - Epstein remembers the Zionist leader's trademark bald head with its shock of white hair and his ordinary suit - Ben-Gurion's "short, sharp" speech impressed the young Canadian.

It lasted no more than 15 or 20 minutes, and ended in part, as Epstein recalls it, with the following words: "We want a Jewish state in Palestine and an Arab-Jewish alliance."

By the end of November, the fledgling international body had granted Ben-Gurion - and the rest of the Zionist community - part of his goal.

Fifty years ago this week, on Nov. 29, 1947, the United Nations voted to partition Palestine, giving international legitimation to a modern Jewish state.

"It was an electrifying moment. The Jewish people had waited for 2,000 years, and the highest authority in the world had decided to grant them a Jewish state," says Epstein.

And the young civil servant played an important behind-the-scenes role in its creation.

His report recommending partition, written while he was working

in the Middle East and Africa affairs section, caught the eye of then-U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie and was used by the U.N.'s committee on Palestine.

A remarkably spry 85-year-old who still reports for work every day at the U.N. complex on Manhattan's East River, Epstein, the international body's longest-serving employee, is a living historical archive to the United Nations.

In his more than half-century there, he has become an expert on disarmament, authoring several books and publishing more than 300 articles on the subject.

He is currently a consultant for Richard Butler, the executive chairman of the United Nations Special Commission dealing with the disarmament of Iraqi weapons of mass destruction.

He has also been a member of the Canadian delegation to the U.N.'s General Assembly six times and was honored in 1989 by being appointed an officer of the Order of Canada - an equivalent to British knighthood.

A Canadian artillery officer during World War II - and a lawyer by training - Epstein was in London in 1945, working to settle claims against the Canadian government for damages committed by its soldiers. He received a telephone call from the Canadian high commissioner, offering to recommend him for a position with the preparatory committee that was working to establish the United Nations.

He was first assigned to the U.N.'s Security Council Department. Soon after the United Nations moved its offices to New York in the spring of 1946, however, Epstein, the son of a Zionist leader from the Canadian city of Calgary, was assigned to the department's Middle East and

Africa section.

Those were heady - and optimistic - times in the international community, particularly for those interested in Palestine.

The United Nations had just been created, and in the aftermath of the Holocaust, the question of Palestine was one of the main questions on the new organization's agenda.

In fact, the United Nations held a special session on the Palestine question in the spring of 1947 at the request of the British, which had controlled the area since World War I under a League of Nations Mandate.

The assembly created a United Nations Special Committee on Palestine to look into the issue. The Arabs opposed UNSCOP's work, believing that the policies would leave the Jews with a state and the Palestinian Arabs without one.

Attaining international support for a Jewish homeland was a difficult task.

The support of the United States was not guaranteed. Indeed, there were many within the State Department that staunchly opposed the creation of such an entity.

And both Britain and France had ties through their colonies to the Arab world.

Of the superpowers, in fact, the Soviet Union was the country most unambiguously in favor of a plan that would lead to Jewish sovereignty.

While the Communist state was anti-nationalist, the Soviet Union saw the end of the British Mandate as a way to waken Britain in the Middle East.

Epstein was one of three advisers on the Palestine issue in the Security Council Department. As

the Jewish adviser, he was assigned to interact with the Jewish Agency, the pre-state authority of Jewish Palestine.

He also wrote one of three reports on the Palestine question - the other two were written by an Arab and an Englishman. Epstein's report was the only one that proposed partition, and the one favored by Secretary-General Lie, a Norwegian who was familiar with the horrors of Nazism.

It wasn't always clear sailing being a Jew - or an Arab, for that matter - working on the Palestine issue.

In June of 1947, an UNSCOP delegation went to Palestine on a fact-finding mission, Epstein and his Arab counterpart, Saleh Mahmoud of Egypt, were kicked off the trip at the last moment - presumably to avoid possible complaints about their objectivity.

The trip went ahead with Eban, who became one of Israel's most famous politicians and effective diplomats, as one of the guides, representing the Jewish Agency.

The UNSCOP delegates were not always well informed. Eban remembers that after visiting a kibbutz, the Indian delegate said to him, "All right, we have seen a Jewish kibbutz; I assume that we shall be seeing an Arab kibbutz tomorrow?"

On Aug. 31, UNSCOP made its recommendation: Seven of the 11 members favored two independent states, separate politically but in economic union, and a separate status for Jerusalem.

UNSCOP's decision motivated the United States to come out publicly in favor of the plan for the first time.

Zionist leaders spent the rest of the autumn convincing members of

the United Nations that they should vote for the partition plan.

"It was touch-and-go," says Epstein.

The vote was scheduled for Nov. 27, but Zionist leaders did not have the requisite number of votes. After a day of filibustering, the General Assembly's president, Oswaldo Aranha of Brazil, postponed the vote until the 29th, the day after Thanksgiving.

The United States, under instructions from President Harry Truman, and Zionist leaders spent the days cajoling leaders from countries as far-flung as Haiti and Liberia to support the plan, which gave roughly 60 percent of Mandatory Palestine for the Jewish state.

On the evening of Nov. 29, when the vote was announced - 33 in favor, 13 against, with 10 abstentions - cheers rang out in the hall.

Arab countries stormed out of the room.

Those who had been unable to get into the General Assembly - and thousands of other Jews in New York, Jerusalem and around the world - danced in the streets.

Eban, along with Chaim Weizmann and other yishuv leaders, drank a bottle of champagne.

The excitement that engulfed them - and the Jewish community - however, soon gave way to a more sobering reality. Just three days later, Arabs attacked Jerusalem, Haifa and Jaffa.

But Eban says that half a century later, the partition vote remains historic.

"Its importance has increased with time," he believes. "The Israeli state has always had a problem with legitimacy, and legitimacy is the one thing the U.N. does define."

ROAMING IN REHOVOTH AND RISHON LEZION

By **LENI MARKELL**

Although we have visited Israel many times, and our recent trip was "just to catch up with old friends" we saw two very interesting places that we would like to share with you.

The Ayalon Institute and the secret of "Kibbutzim Hill" Rehovoth was fascinating. Kibbutzim Hill was named during the years of 1932-42 when several settlement groups (gar'inim) waited their turn on this hill to settle the land and establish new kibbutzim.

In 1945 a group of "A Scouts" reached the hill, waiting their turn to start a new kibbutz and unknow-

ingly its unsuspecting members were soon to become heroes. (workers in a manufacturing facility for "sten" bullets used by the freedom fighters of 1948.)

Haganah recognized that the Palmach (its striking force) would need uniform weapons - with the British against immigration and Arab hostility looming they knew they would have to defend themselves. The British Sten gun was smuggled into the country and reproduced successfully - but one problem remained - the lack of ammunition. And so top priority was given for the production of Sten bullets. Due to Jewish fore-

sight old machines for the production of bullets had been purchased and brought to Palestine from Poland - additional machinery needed for bullet production was purchased in England and brought to Palestine without undue suspicion.

However, now they needed a large area for the complicated process of bullet production, and it was decided to construct an underground ammunition plant in "Kibbutzim Hill", and to establish a kibbutz on the site as a cover and to provide the work force.

And so the "A Scout group" was chosen for the mission. They had planned to settle a kibbutz elsewhere - they would have to live under conditions of great secrecy, facing constant tension and danger. But after a stormy debate, they agreed and the details of implementation were carried out with maximum speed since arms and ammunition were essential to survival.

Remarkable construction was undertaken below the ground while above the structure was a bakery and laundry - not only to meet the needs of the kibbutz, but to camouflage the factory below. The noise of the laundry as well as thick mattresses concealed the noise of the machinery - and the oven's smoke stack enabled the flow of clean air inside.

Forty-five people worked in the

plant - leading a double life - sworn to secrecy and no one else in the kibbutz knew what was happening. Although working conditions were difficult and the worker's health deteriorated they continued with the production of bullets for three years until 1948 when the machinery was transferred to a new factory in Tel Aviv. The cover of secrecy was removed after Independence. The Ayalon Institute was abandoned and neglected until 1975 when restorations were made and now the community and the world can learn of the heroism of the people of Kibbutzim Hill. A place worthwhile visiting.

The Museum of Rishon Le Zion gives the history of the town's historic beginnings in 1882. There are guides available in English and Hebrew who can share the trials and tribulations of the first pioneers and their courage in "hanging in".

The Light and Sound show at the village well is unique and exciting, and informative going back to the 19th century. There is also a "pioneers' way" a yellow path painted along the pavements taking you from the museum to a number of historic sights.

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יום הולדת שמח

*May she hear the laughter of children in her cities
and know peace throughout the land*



Friday, May 14

Continued from page 3

Jewish men and women between the ages of 18 and 35 had been called to arms as a precaution against the possible invasion of Palestine.

By the time the Evening Journal was published on Friday afternoon, the headline read JEWISH STATE OF ISRAEL PROCLAIMED IN PALESTINE. Knowing that they could not do business on the Sabbath, at 4:06 p.m. Friday afternoon, the Jews issued a proclamation of statehood to become effective at 12:01 a.m. on May 15. The declaration cited the General Assembly's resolution of November 29, 1947 in favor of the establishment of a Jewish State in Palestine

and called upon the inhabitants of the country to take all necessary steps to put the plan into effect. Prime Minister David Ben Gurion called on Arabs living in the Jewish state "to return to ways of peace and play their part in the development of the state, with full and equal citizenship." The Arab League proclaimed a state of war with Palestine Jewry, and wiped out Kfar Etzion, a beautiful kibbutz established around 1945. Recognizing the great dangers facing the new state, the Evening Journal's editorial realistically explained, "The new Jewish state may be short lived. No one can say. But the six pointed star is in the ascendant today. There should be a place for it in the firmament of nations if those who have caused its rise do not despair."

On Saturday, May 15, the Morning News announced, NEW JEWISH STATE RECOGNIZED BY THE U.S. In forty-two fateful words, recognizing the provisional government as the de facto authority of the new state of Israel, President Truman placed the great weight of American prestige behind the new state. Truman's action, eleven minutes after the creation of Israel, caused elation among the Zionists, stunned the Arabs and threw the United Nations into turmoil. At the U.N. meeting, the Arab faction immediately attacked the recognition as a mockery. In the first story with a dateline of Tel Aviv-Israel, reporters announced that the city had been bombed all day beginning about twelve hours after the state was proclaimed. The editorial in the Morning News realistically assessed the problem, "...And the new entity called by the ancient name of the Jewish people is destined to endure much more pain and suffering before it has made good its right to live." Noting the opposition in the U.N., the editorial said, "American recognition of the new state as the de facto authority in Palestine does not concede its right to exist. That right must still be established by Jewish arms." With skepticism, the editorial continued, "But no one knows whether they, (the Israelis) have enough force to carry out their purpose in the face of Arab opposition."

On Saturday afternoon the Evening Journal headline was ARABS INVADE ISRAEL ON TWO FRONTS. Spiritual leaders

called on Arabs to bring holy war to Israel against the Zionists. Israel was invaded from the north and south and was shelled from the East. The Evening Journal's editorial clearly endorsed President Truman's recognition of Israel. "In any event the United States now has assumed a position of clear-cut leadership. This makes up at least in part for the indecision and bungling that marked its Palestine policy in the deliberations of the United Nations. For that we can surely be thankful."

With their focus on objective reporting, the news stories missed the idealism of the Jewish people which Rabbi Krinsky summed up so well in the Jewish Voice's editorial. "Jewry will become united under the flag of Israel to help Israel become a beacon of light for Jewish folk in the near east and throughout the world. The State of

Israel will become a center for Hebrew culture and the Hebrew language. Despite the raging of our enemies, they will not deter Israel from progressing to its ultimate destination as a great factor for peace, harmony and progress among the nations. The State of Israel is pledged to the full and unequivocal support of democracy, justice and freedom."

Today, fifty years after its turbulent beginning, Israel has become a power in the community of nations. This is the moment to celebrate the miracle of Israel's existence and to remember the sacrifices of so many individuals without whom our newspapers would be reporting very different news today. It is also the moment to rededicate ourselves to the ideals of democracy, justice and freedom, which Israel's founders proclaimed so loudly.

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★ Clinton Receives Honorary Degree ★

★ Partnership 2000 - Our Newest Endeavor ★

President Clinton will receive an honorary doctor of philosophy degree from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem at the White House as part of the White House's official celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the State of Israel.

"We confer this honorary doctorate as an expression of our deepest esteem not only for President Clinton, but for the American people. We, at the Hebrew University, like America, are strongly committed to a free exchange of ideas among people

of different religious beliefs, ethnic backgrounds, and political viewpoints," said Hebrew University President Menachem Magidor.

"President Clinton's aspirations and vision for a peaceful Middle East that will benefit the lives of all of its peoples, reiterate the hopes of the founders of the Hebrew University who envisioned the institution as a source of knowledge and advancement for all," Professor Magidor said, reading from the official scroll which he will present to President Clinton at the White House conferment ceremony.

For the past three years, Partnership 2000 has been an important component of UJA. It is a bold new initiative designed to bring Israel - Diaspora relationships into the 21st century. The goal is to make what has been termed the "Living Bridge" between Diaspora and Israeli Jewry a reality by linking American know-how and business acumen with the resourceful Israeli spirit.

Partnership 2000 thus transforms this relationship from one of donors and beneficiaries to a true partnership of peers cooperating to build for the future.

The Jewish Federation of Delaware has joined with a number

of New Jersey communities as the partners of Arad-Tamar which incorporates the Arad municipality and the Tamar Regional Council of 5 rural settlers.

The population is young, communally involved residents, most of whom are skilled professionals. Economy depends upon high tech companies like Motorola, mineral processing plants at the Dead Sea, tourism in the Tamar area with its world class hotels and spas.

The opportunities for partnership with this area are unlimited and include English camp counselor positions for our teens, WUJS post college education in Arad, volunteering in community centers or the army base outside Arad, visiting counselors to our JCC camp, joint chemical ventures etc. Toni Young is chair of our community Partnership 2000 project. Call the JFD office to become involved.



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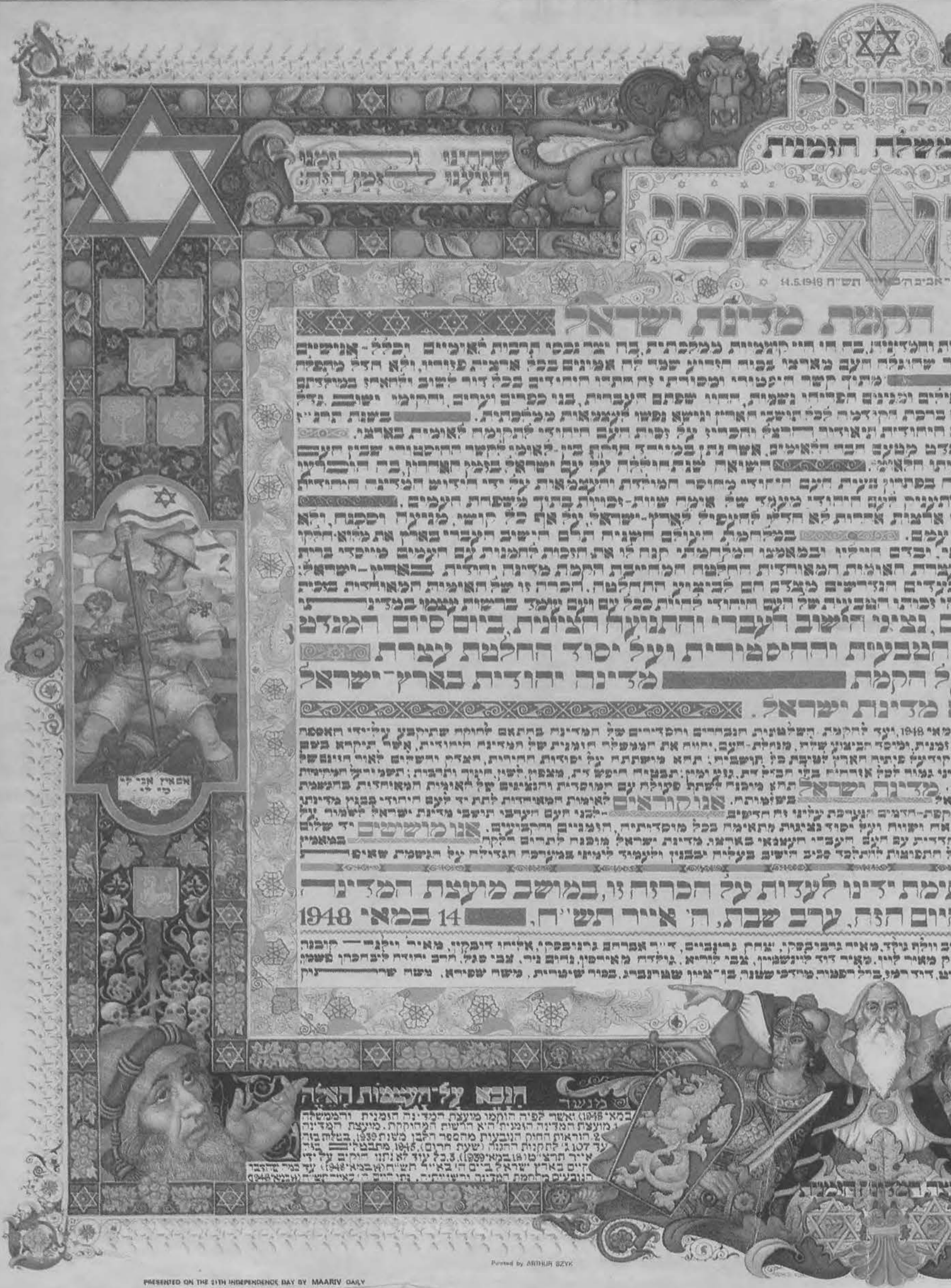
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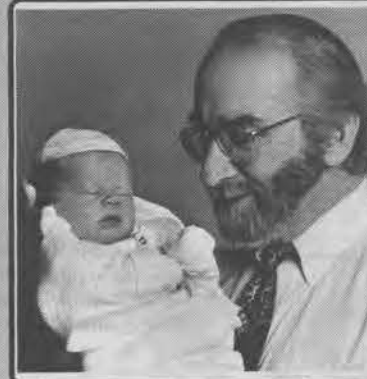
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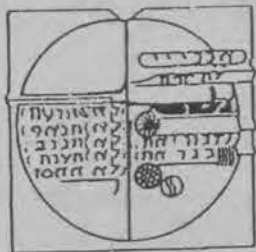
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The Palestine Resolution of the Congress of the United States

RESOLVED by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that the United States of America favors the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of Christian and all other non-Jewish communities in Palestine, and that the holy places and religious buildings and sites in Palestine shall be adequately protected.

Adopted unanimously by both Houses on June 30, 1922.

Signed by President Harding on September 21, 1922.

Congratulations to Israel on their 50th Anniversary

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FROM THE HOLOCAUST TO FREEDOM



By TONI YOUNG

"To me, the American flag represents freedom," says Dorothy Finger. "When I salute the flag or hear a John Philip Sousa patriotic march, I feel emotional. At the same time, when the flag of Israel flies, I cry," she explains. "The flag and the State of Israel represent the loss of my family and six million Jews."

Dorothy Kraushar, a young school girl from Chodorow, Poland, survived five years of brutality in two ghettos, a labor camp and the forest. At the end of the war she was taken to Eschwege, a displaced persons camp under American occupation in West Germany. If she had remained at the camp, she would have been sent to Palestine. However, Dorothy who had lost everybody in her family yearned to be with some relative and remembered that her mother's brother had emigrated to the United States as a young man. She had heard that America was a wonderful place, with freedom for all people. So she gave a letter with her name and background information to one of the American sol-

diers at the DP camp and asked him to see if her uncle could be found. When the letter appeared in a New York newspaper, a distant cousin saw it and contacted Dorothy's aunt and uncle, Anna and Jacob Krause, in Wilmington.

Very late one night two MP's appeared in the dorm and called out her name. "After all I had been through, I was sure they were going to kill me," Finger says. "Instead through interpreters they explained that my uncle had been located. His son Arthur was a captain in the air force and had an apartment in Bavaria where they wanted to take me the next day. They asked if I could be packed by the next morning. When I answered, of course, they kept telling the interpreter to repeat, does she understand? Can she be packed by tomorrow morning? They were the ones who didn't understand. It wouldn't take me long to pack. I had two dresses, the one I had on and another one. That was all I had in the world."

During the year she lived with Arthur Krause and his wife in Bavaria, Dorothy had a private

tutor in English. By the time the Krauses had to leave Bavaria, Dorothy's uncle had secured all the proper papers for her to emigrate to the United States, but she still had to wait three months until she was finally permitted to depart for the United States.

On November 17, 1947, Dorothy sailed on the "Ernie Pyle" under the care of the Committee for European Children. In an article, written a few months later, she described her joy at seeing the first lights of New York, "It was at night. The weather was very nice. We went out on the deck and looked at the wonderful light of the free country. Full of life and happiness, which I hadn't had for so many years. I was really happy. I looked back to Europe. It looked to me so dark, full of tears which I left. And I saw for me that country of my happy future, I didn't believe it. I thought that it was a Utopia. But I was really in New York. I think that it was the happiest day in my life."

After reaching the home of her aunt and uncle, Anna and Jacob Krause, in Wilmington, bashful, scared, Dorothy Krause entered

Wilmington High School. She was most fortunate to have a wonderful English teacher, Anna Kane, who treated Dorothy with special care, arranged two English classes a day and allowed Dorothy to work right at her desk. Dorothy found the students very immature. Many of them were only interested in her joining their sorority. Instead she joined the first interracial group at Wilmington High because the issue of treating blacks fairly was one she identified with easily after her experience. I thought I could help people understand a basic truth, "You don't have to like everybody, but you have no right to hurt people," Finger explains. No one asked Dorothy about her experiences during the war, probably because they thought it would be too painful, and they didn't want to hurt her.

In May, 1948 when the state of Israel was declared, Dorothy cried and cried. "I felt that it was the best thing that had ever happened and that it had happened to me personally. Having lost all my loved ones in the Holocaust and understanding that even after the war

many countries wouldn't take Jews in, I thought the creation of the State of Israel would mean a whole new world. I thought it would bring an end to the Jewish struggle. Anti-Semitism would disappear and there would be a new world. I also felt great pride in being part of the United States, the first country that accepted Israel. Mixed with my happiness was a sense that maybe I should have gone to Palestine from the DP camp, but I had wanted so badly to be with family and had dreamed so often about the United States."

In the article written for the Wilmington High School newspaper and quoted in the May 16, 1948 Sunday Morning Star, Finger expressed her joy at being in the United States. "I waited a long time for the day I can land in a free country where it is no difference of what race or religion you are, where everybody is free and happy. All kids are going to school and enjoying life. I am hoping to be a good student and a good citizen."

Dorothy Finger has become a citizen extraordinaire and an inspiration to all who know her.

Book Review Of Israel 50

BOOK REVIEW

By Commander

JONATHAN A. PANITZ,
United States Navy, Chaplain,
United States Naval Academy,
Annapolis, Maryland

I AM MY BROTHER'S KEEPER: American Volunteers in Israel's War for Independence 1947-1949 by Jeffrey Weiss and Craig Weiss (Schiffer Military History Press, 1998), 287 pp, 48 pages of photographs, \$29.95. Foreword by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Available at all major book stores.

I AM MY BROTHER'S KEEPER, chronicles the involvement and perils faced by North Americans of all faiths who witnessed and shared the horror of the Holocaust and yearned for the rebirth of Israel, a safe haven for Jews of the world. The exploits of hovevei Zion, lovers of Zion, and supporters of the Jewish state who fought in Israel's war for independence are graphically portrayed in this labor of love.

The American spirit has always prized freedom and democracy. From Zionists like Mickey Marcus, graduate of the Military Academy at West Point and Paul Shulman, a graduate of the United States Naval Academy, who served with distinction during World War II, to lovers of democracy like American Indian Jessie Slade and Canadian flyer Len Fitchett, this book is filled with the sagas of which dreams are made.

This history of the Aliyah Bet ships, S.S. Abril, S.S. Paducah and S.S. Northland, served as a vignette of the life of David Guttman, a merchant marine seaman whose loyalties to Israel were torn between the Irgun and the Stern Group. Tribute is paid to David Selznick, the Broadway producer, who supported the cause, and to Ben Hecht, the playwright, who wrote A FLAG IS BORN. Its success on Broadway contributed over a million dollars to the Irgun.

The tragedy of the S.S. Warfield, renamed the Exodus is revealed. The book also describes British attempts to prevent immigration and the clever schemes to circumvent their para-military actions.

A diversion into the work of the Haganah on the eve of Arab invasion after the UN partition plan sets the stage for the following chapters. Anecdotal accounts retell the life of Canadian Air Ace George Beurling, a non-Jew, and his recruitment into the fledgling Israeli Air Force. An entire chapter is devoted to the birth of Service Airways, the supply arm of the Haganah, and its field operations.

I AM MY BROTHER'S KEEPER contains anecdotal and historical information that is guaranteed to spark the interest of any reader. The only successful bombing raid on Cairo is meticulously detailed. The birth of the Israeli Air Force and its successes in legendary dog fights above the Negev desert are brought to life. Individuals who sacrificed education and status are portrayed with clarity and forcefulness. The human tragedy is painfully recounted even in the midst of the glee and glory of the triumph of the Israeli military machine.

I AM MY BROTHER'S KEEPER has something for everyone. If you are a history buff, the events are well documented. If you have nostalgic recollection of this period, the book will bring tears to your eyes. If you wish to reacquire yourself with the events of Israel's emergence from the ashes of the Holocaust, this is the book to read.

Chaplain Jonathan A. Panitz, Commander, United States Navy, currently serves as the Assistant Command Chaplain at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. He is a member of the Rabbinical Assembly and has been a Navy Chaplain for 16 years.

BOOKS CELEBRATE ISRAEL AT 50

By RAHEL MUSLEAH

Any good book needs a compelling story. The story of Israel's creation, survival and statehood is just that - a saga that pulses with the drama of war and independence, courage and piety, awesome vistas and vast change. This April, readers can celebrate Israel's milestone anniversary through new books that try to capture Israel's essence through art, literature, photography, politics and history.

In One Hundred Years of Art in Israel, Israeli curator, art critic and historian Gideon Ofrat views art as one path to understanding Israel's evolving self-definition (Westview, May, in cooperation with the Mizel Museum of Judaica in Denver). "This book is about the art of a small place," he writes, "torn between the mentality of a 'Manhattanized' Tel Aviv and a 'sanctified' Jerusalem, a place located in the Middle East but with its heart set firmly in the West." Ofrat conducts an eminently accessible conversation about Israeli art, tracing it from Jewish folk art in 19th-century Ottoman Palestine to today's kaleidoscopic postmodern patterns, with over 350 illustrations - 250 in full color - the volume creates an awareness of the diversity, sophistication, secularity and spirituality of Israeli art.

Photographer Michal Ronen Safdie's unerring eye in The Western Wall captures the blonde tourist in a shiny gold coat writing notes to place in the cracks of the Wall, Korean women on a pilgrimage and Bukharan bar mitzvahs as well as traditional scenes of contemplative Orthodox worshippers. As Israeli poet Yehuda Amichai writes in his introduction, "this book is not a tourist album. This is almost like a picture prayer book." Spectacular Israel, another stunning coffee-table collection edited by Amotz Asa-El and Shai Ginott, trains the lenses of Israel's most

prominent photographers on the diverse panorama of mountains, deserts, ruins and religions, cafes and kibbutzim (both from Hugh Lauter Levin Associates).

Testament: At the Creation of the State of Israel, by Baltimore-based photojournalist Aaron Levin, (Artisan, March, with an introduction by Shimon Peres), personalizes Israel's most prominent citizens as well as its everyday heroes through poignant black-and-white portraits. Each face is a map, a testament to the honor of battle and the heartbreak of loss. Each portrait is accompanied by a recollection that details remarkable events that transformed the subject's life. Medina Pearl, born May 15, 1948, meditates on her name - medina means state - as she sits in the courtyard of her family's house in Jerusalem. Munio Brandwein gazes at the olive trees he planted where three friends lost their lives. Standing on the street corner where he was arrested in 1946, former Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir recalls disguising himself as a rabbi to elude the British, only to be caught by an officer who recognized him by his eyebrows.

Israel: Yesterday and Today, the English-language edition of an Israeli title edited by geography professor Amiram Gonen (Macmillan), juxtaposes historical and archival pictures with modern views of the same scene today, creating a gift book that chronicles the state's miraculous growth. Camels on Tel Aviv's Allenby Street have given way to modern apartment buildings. The undeveloped cliffs of Herzliyya in the early 1930s now house hotels and tourist beaches. Also from Macmillan, Israel: The Historical Atlas: From Ancient Times to the Modern Nation, published in conjunction with The New York Times and written by ten Times' correspondents (including five Pulitzer Prize winners), offers a journalistic history combined with up-to-date maps by respected cartographers.

Photographer Malcolm Swanston. David Shipler reports on the Six-Day War; Joel Brinkley revisits the war in Lebanon; Serge Schmemmann examines the peace process.

Surprisingly, few Jewish publishers have 50th anniversary titles for 1998. Jewish Lights is an exception. Though tourism to Israel has reached a critical low, Jewish Lights is publishing Rabbi Lawrence Hoffman's Israel - A Spiritual Travel Guide: A Companion for the Modern Jewish Pilgrim. For each of 25 sites, the guide offers ancient blessings, medieval prayers, biblical references and modern poetry, as well as journal space for thoughts and reactions. Who is a Jew? Conversations, Not Conclusions, by Meryl Hyman, takes on the controversial issue that has polarized the American and Israeli Jewish communities. Jewish Lights is also reprinting theologian Abraham Joshua Heschel's Israel, with a new introduction by his daughter Susannah.

A variety of books explore Israel's founding, illuminate its heroes, events and personalities, and examine its political dilemmas. A sampling of titles follows. Israel: A History, by historian and author Martin Gilbert (Morrow, April), will be accompanied by a two-hour documentary of the same name which will air on The History Channel in the spring. Israel at 50 by Dan Perry and Alfred Ironside, features contributions by Elie Wiesel, Henry Kissinger and Shimon Peres (General Publishing Group, April). From Syracuse University Press: Israel at 50, a personal/historical perspective by journalist John Hohenberg, who was at the United Nations when the vote to establish the state of Israel took place (April); Exodus Affair: Holocaust Survivors and the Struggle for Palestine, 1947, by Aviva Halamish, a comprehensive

Continued on page 24

Israel At 50 Looking Back, Looking Ahead

By RUDY BOSCHWITZ

Americans look with pride upon the noble words inscribed on the Statue of Liberty, beckoning to our shores the tired, the poor, and all those yearning to be free. Throughout our country's history, the spirit of that message has offered hope to the world's down-trodden, and it was they, the refugees from the four corners of the globe who built this country and made it what it is today.

Only one other country on the face of this earth has likewise served as a sanctuary for refugees of every culture and background: Israel.

As Israel approaches its 50th anniversary, its people can point with pride to an extraordinary range of accomplishments. From science and medicine to art and literature, Israelis have excelled in every imaginable field and generously shared their achievements with the international community.

But above all, it is the human drama of Israel ingathering literally millions of exiles, and in just a few decades, forging a modern nation, that has so deeply moved

Americans, who rightly see much of our own country's spirit in the people of Israel.

On the day Israel was born, its population numbered some 650,000. During the next four years, the infant Jewish State took in nearly 700,000 new immigrants. They were penniless immigrants - Holocaust survivors from Europe whose property but not their spirit has been stolen or destroyed by the Nazis, and Jews who were expelled en masse from the Arab countries with just the shirts on their backs, their homes and property having been seized by the Arab governments.

Can one imagine the United States taking in over 200 million penniless immigrants during the next three years? Yet Israel was not overwhelmed by the burden of the newcomers. Indeed, it treated the burden as a blessing. Secular and religious stood side by side; fair-skinned immigrants from northern Europe joined hands with dark-skinned immigrants from the Arabian peninsula to build their new country. Incredibly, they did so at a time when Israel was under

attack by eight Arab armies, an invasion which was followed by decades of cross-border Arab terrorist attacks and several subsequent invasions. And despite the strains of mass immigration and the hardships of fending off Arab assaults, Israel has developed one of the world's most vibrant democracies.

Americans have watched with admiration as Israel's "ingathering of the exiles" has continued. While other nations cried crocodile tears over famine in Africa, Israel rescued tens of thousands of Jews from starvation and civil strife in Ethiopia. While other nations cheered from the sidelines as the Soviet Union collapsed, Israel took in hundreds of thousands of Soviet refugees, doing so at a time when Iraqi Scud missiles were literally falling on Tel Aviv.

Americans have done more than merely admire Israel's miracles from afar. We have proudly contributed to its triumphs in a wide range of concrete ways. We have contributed financial aid, to help build Israel build a modern and self-sufficient economy.

We have contributed military aid,

to help Israel not only defend itself against its attackers, but to serve as a militarily stabilizing force between the Arab nations themselves who have often been at war with one another. While the United States has maintained hundreds of thousands of troops both in Europe and the Far East to establish stability, other than recently due to Kuwait, no Americans were necessary in the Middle East Israel, the only democracy in the area, was the stabilizing balance for the free world.

We have contributed thousands of idealistic men and women who have chosen to make Israel their new home and have brought Israel the benefits of their experiences growing up in America - including two future prime ministers, Golda Meir and Benjamin Netanyahu.

As Israel's longtime strategic ally and as a fellow-democracy, the United States must do all it can to build upon that alliance as Israel enters its 51st year. We must continue providing Israel with the means to defend itself. We must continue to cooperate closely with Israel in the struggle against international terrorist groups, rogue

regimes that sponsor terrorism, and their mutual foes.

At the same time, we must be careful to make sure that our good intentions regarding Mideast people do not pave the way to danger for Israel. Our desire for achieving Arab-Israeli treaties must not lead us down the slippery slope of pressuring Israel to sacrifice its security needs. Our hopes for progress in the negotiating process must not lessen our insistence on Palestinian compliance with the commitments they have made. Our interest in selling U.S. goods, including military products, to Arab markets must not be permitted to compromise Israel's qualitative military edge over the Arab regimes.

Israel, at 50, has built a remarkable society and is well on its way to achieving peace with security.

In the interest of freedom, plus economic and diplomatic stability, let's do everything we can to help Israel reach that important goal.

Rudy Boschwitz, formerly U.S. Senator from Minnesota (1978-1991), is Honorary Chair of the Committee for a Secure Peace, a group of concerned citizens who want a secure peace for Israel.

CHRONOLOGY OF CONGRESS SUPPORT TO ISRAEL

1948 America Recognizes Israel

A quarter-century after Congress's 1922 resolution calling for the establishment of a Jewish homeland, Members of Congress speak out to buttress President Truman's decision to recognize the Jewish State. This begins consistent Congressional support for Israel.

1951 Aid to Resettle Holocaust Refugees

Congress approves the first aid package to Israel, \$65 million to help Israel take in Holocaust survivors and endangered Jews from Arab lands. Within 3 years, Israel's 650,000 Jews absorb 600,000 refugees from Europe and the Arab nations.

1955 Breaking the Ban on Arms to Israel

One-third of the House petitions the Eisenhower Administration to break its arms embargo of Israel and sell defensive weapons to the Jewish State. Even with continuing Congressional urging, the embargo does not end until 1962. The United States sells hundreds of millions of dollars in weaponry to Arab states during these years.

1956 The Sinai Campaign

Responding to years of Egyptian provocation, Israeli forces capture most of the Sinai. The Administration threatens UN sanctions if Israel does not withdraw. Congressional leaders stand courageously with Israel against the one-sided pressure, as they do consistently throughout Israel's history.

1962 Congress Supports Direct Negotiations

The Administration supports UN condemnation of Israel's retaliation against Syrian attacks on civilians. However, 232 Members of Congress affirm Israel's insistence on direct negotiations with her enemies. The State Department does not adopt this policy until 1979.

1965 Battling the Arab Boycott

Administration opposition weakens the first legislation compelling U.S. companies to reject the Arab boycott of Israel. Continuing Congressional pressure over the years eventually secures passage in 197 of comprehensive anti-boycott legislation.

1967 The Six-Day War

Egypt's President Nasser leads 6 Arab armies in an invasion of Israel. 365 Members of Congress polled oppose Israeli withdrawal without peace commitments.

1968 Maintaining Deterrent

Strength

When the Arab League rejects Israel's peace offer, Congress presses the Administration to sell Phantom jets to Israel. President Johnson recognizes the need for Israel to maintain her deterrent strength, in the face of Arab intransigence, and accedes.

1968 Congress Commits to "Qualitative Edge"

Although Congress fails to provide Israel with military assistance to counteract aid given to Arab states, the principle of preserving Israel's "qualitative edge" through military aid and cooperation grows into a firm Congressional commitment over the next 30 years.

1970 Rogers' Plan Rejected

70 Senators and 280 Representatives reject Secretary of State Rogers' "peace plan," which calls for Israel's unilateral withdrawal without any Arab peace commitments.

1973 The Yom Kippur War

71 Senators and 269 Representatives expedite a \$2.2 billion emergency aid package to Israel, which President Nixon approves. This is the first time the United States provides an outright grant of arms to Israel.

1974 Congress Asserts Control of Arms Sales

Congress secures authority to block military sales, forcing either the modification or the withdrawal of major arms sales. Over the next 24 years, Administrations modify or withdraw billions in arms sales to Arab states, helping to maintain Israel's qualitative edge.

1974 The Law to "Let Our People Go"

76 Senators and 288 Representatives co-sponsor landmark legislation denying the Soviet Union trading privileges until it allows its Jewish citizens to emigrate. More than 1 million Jews ultimately emigrate to freedom.

1975 Congress Contains Arms Sales to Jordan

Congressional opposition forces the Administration to agree that Hawk missiles sold to Jordan be placed in concrete silos targeted away from Israel. A decade later, Congressional disapproval persuades the Administration to withdraw an even larger weapons sale to Jordan.

1975 Ford "Reassessment" Refuted

Israel's refusal to unilaterally withdraw from the Sinai prompts President Ford to call for a reassessment of the U.S.-Israel relationship. 76 Senators reaffirm the spe-

cial bond.

1979 Israel-Egypt Peace Treaty

For two and a half decades, scores of resolutions, letters, and legislative language call for direct negotiations in the Middle East. Congress's vision is finally vindicated at Camp David, where peace is achieved through face-to-face talks.

1979 Aid to Israel

Recognizing the risks Israel took for peace at Camp David and the persistence of the Arab military threat, Congress approves a \$4.9 billion aid and loan package. From the following year on, congress provides all of Israel's aid grants. This assistance evolves into one of the most important symbols of the strength of the U.S.-Israel ties.

1980 Battling UN Bias

From the mid-1970s on, Congress increasingly takes the lead in battling anti-Israel bias in the UN. In scores of resolutions and legislative initiatives, Congress counters threats to expel Israel, challenges the elevation of PLO status, and pressures two Administrations to reject resolutions declaring East Jerusalem an occupied territory.

1981 AWACS Sale to Saudis

Congress narrowly fails to block the sale of AWACS planes to Saudi Arabia. In future years, Congressional opposition leads to the withdrawal of the bulk of a major fighter plane sale, defeats a proposed missile sale to the desert kingdom, and deters countless others from even being presented.

1982 Congress Resists Administration Aid Cut

In the wake of the war in Lebanon, the Administration suspends the sale of F-16 planes to Israel and tries to cut aid. The Senate responds by increasing military aid grants by \$225 million, sending a strong message of its support for Israel. Congress defeats every successive attempt to tie assistance to Israel to policy differences.

1983 Strategic Cooperation Endorsed

Israel, for 35 years excluded as a strategic U.S. partner for fear of provoking Arab wrath, is finally recognized as a strategic asset in a landmark Memorandum of Understanding. In future years, Congress expands this relationship - from recognizing Israel as a major non-NATO ally to funding an array of U.S.-Israel joint research and defense programs in the anti-ballistic missile arena.

1984 Turning the Tide on Terror

After a decade and a half of unmitiga-

ted PLO horror, Congress passes legislation that precludes dialogue with the PLO unless and until the PLO renounces terrorism. In future initiatives, Congress acts to close the PLO office, denies Arafat an American visa, provides the United States with the legal authority to prosecute terrorists, and restricts U.S. dealings with nations supporting terror.

1985 Emergency Economic Aid

400% inflation and spiraling debt accrued over 4 wars brings Israel close to economic ruin. Congress approves a \$1.5 billion emergency aid package, restoring order to Israel. Within a decade, Israel develops into one of world's strongest economies.

1985 Precedent-Setting Free Trade Agreement

Congress overwhelmingly approves the U.S.-Israel Free Trade Agreement. The first such treaty between America and another nation, it provides the impetus for explosive growth in trade and investment and sets a precedent for future agreements between the United States and other nations.

1987 Congress Condemns Zionism = Racism Resolution

Of the hundreds of UN resolutions attacking Israel, none is as obscene as the 1975 resolution equating Zionism with racism. In one of many measures, Congress passes legislation condemning the UN resolution.

1987 Joint R & D Against Missiles

In a far-reaching joint research and development program with Israel, Congress provides funding for the Arrow anti-ballistic missile (ABM) system, the first such system to be successfully tested. Israel eventually becomes America's most important partner in ABM cooperation.

1989 Insistence on PLO Compliance

When Arafat claims to renounce terrorism in a speech to the UN in Geneva, Congress insists that PLO deeds must match his words. This process for monitoring and reporting PLO actions becomes the basis for U.S. dealings with the PLO.

1991 Peace Not Pressure

At the Madrid Peace Conference, Arab states at last agree to face-to-face negotiations. 95 Senators resist intense Administration pressure for unilateral Israeli concessions and urge Secretary of State Baker to support Israel's peace efforts.

1991 Emergency Military Assistance

Israel endures 39 Iraqi missile attacks during the Gulf War without retaliating.

Congress approves \$650 million in emergency assistance to Israel.

1992 Landmark Loan Guarantees

Congress approves \$10 billion in loan guarantees to lighten Israel's extraordinary financial strain of resettling 600,000 refugees from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia. In the process, Congress fights Administration efforts to link this humanitarian effort to a halt in West Bank construction.

1992 Reining Rogue Nations

Landmark legislation authorizes sanctions on companies that provide either Iran or Iraq with the technology to develop unconventional warfare systems. The containment of dangerous despots becomes a Congressional priority.

1993 Oslo Peace Accords

Congress binds Palestinian fulfillment of commitments made in the historic Israel-PLO Declaration of Principles to diplomatic recognition and financial aid.

1993 U.S.-Israel Science & Technology Commission

This binational commission encourages development of a U.S.-Israel technological base for the 21st century. Coupled with similar programs in agriculture and applied sciences, U.S.-Israel joint efforts now top hundreds a year.

1995 Jerusalem Embassy Relocation Act

A decade after its first hearings on the issue, Congress passes legislation recognizing Jerusalem as Israel's capital and calling for the American Embassy's relocation. Administration implementation requires continuing Congressional pressure.

1996 Untying the Russia-Iran Knot

Congress moves to deny aid to Russia unless Russia stops selling missile technology to Iran. Legislation that imposes sanctions on Russian companies providing Iran with lethal technologies is now pending.

1996 Anti-Terrorism Act

In the ongoing war against terrorism, Congress authorizes action against American organizations that raise funds those on the government's list of terrorist groups.

1996 Continuing Constraints Against Libya & Iran

Congress moves for sanctions against foreign countries and companies that invest in either Iran's or Libya's energy sectors. As a result, potential projects worth billions never materialize, reducing the ability of these pariah nations to build and buy unconventional weapons.

JUBILEE CELEBRATION CAFE TAMAR

By KAREN MOSS

This May, when Israel celebrates its 50th anniversary, Cafe Tamar will mark its 22nd year. Cafe Tamar, a cabaret-style celebration of Israel's Independence

Day held annually at Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation, has become a Wilmington institution. This year it will be held on Memorial Day, Monday, May 25, at 7:30 p.m. Its roots go back to

1955, when William Finesmith asked his daughter, Bert Tanzer, to gather a few people together to sing Yiddish songs at the Bichor Cholem, predecessor to the Kutz Home. Bert contacted Faith and Lou Brown. The Browns, active Adas Kodesch congregants, ardent Zionists and musically oriented, embraced Finesmith's idea, and formed a singing group with a few other synagogue members including Naomi Goldstein, Sid Gross and Bert Tanzer. Before long, the fledgling choral group started to grow.

The singers entertained Bichor Cholem residents, as well as the Golden Agers, the senior group at the downtown YMHA.

By 1957, they were meeting weekly at the old Adas Kodesch at 6th and French streets. They presented their first concert that spring during Jewish Music Month. The program consisted of Yiddish and Hebrew songs, with three



Dancers at AKSE

Israeli dances thrown in for good measure. Even the dance costumes evoke nostalgic smiles. The women wore skirts sewn by Blanche Sklar, and the men's costumes were a bit more amateurish. "We took pieces of muslin, cut a hole in

the center of each and tied a cord around our waists. We looked like 'four barbers, no waiting,'" jokes Lou.

From this humble beginning, the dance group took off like a rocket. Bea and Joe Bell of Arden choreographed the dances in the early years. The dance group performed along with the choral group at each annual synagogue "Festival of Jewish Music and Dance." Soon the dancers were sought after all over the state. During the 1960s and 70s, they performed in Arden, Rodney Square, Market Street Mall and on the Playhouse stage in the Hotel du Pont. In Philadelphia, the group performed with the Pennywhistlers and was invited to dance with Theodore Bikel.

Audience response was gratifying. In 1976, Bill Frank, reporting on a DAR Bicentennial Commission music and dance festival at the Playhouse, wrote in the *News Journal*, "The Israeli dance group fascinated me, particularly their joyous dance based upon passages from the book of Isaiah."

Meanwhile, Faith and Lou were making a name for themselves on the informal Jewish entertainment circuit. In 1974, Roz Gordon, Rabbi Ellen Bernard's mother, asked the couple to sing in Philadelphia for the Pioneer Women. The Browns demurred. "We don't do that," they answered. But the Pioneer Women wouldn't take no for an answer. The Browns found an accordionist, and the Kol Rina Trio was born. Kol Rina performed in Atlantic City, Broomall, Philadelphia and Miami Beach.

During its first 20 years, the AKSE choral group performed without musical accompaniment. Audiences didn't seem to mind. Critic Otto Dekom wrote in the *Morning News* in 1968, "Simona mi Dimona," a Yemini song done by Faith and Lou Brown, brought the house down with enthusiastic applause." David Kozinski, music critic and father of composer Stefan Kozinski, lauded the group's "enthusiastic and memorable renditions."

In 1977 the Browns created Cafe Tamar. (*Tamar* is the Hebrew word for palm tree.) Rows of concert style seating gave way to casual nightclub style seating around round tables. "Eli Greenberg made falafel for everyone single-handed," recalls Lou. The program remained the same - choral and dance renditions, featured singers and teen dance group numbers. Gladys Gewirtz and the AKSE Cantor were regular soloists, and the Browns often sang a duet.

In the mid-1970s, Faith added musicians. This year's orchestra will include a drummer, violinist, accordionist, guitarist and pianist. Past performances have also included a trumpet player.

When asked to organize that first concert in 1957, Faith replied, "I'll do this until you can find someone else." Famous last words. That was over 40 years ago. To date, no one has found a replacement for this energetic and talented woman. No one has tried. After this year's Cafe Tamar, a search must begin in earnest, because Faith will be stepping down. Faith plans to stay involved in Cafe Tamar, but doesn't want to shoulder the entire responsibility. It's time for someone else to select the dance and choral numbers, schedule and direct the rehearsals, arrange for musicians, write publicity, oversee ticket sales, coordinate refreshments, worry about costumes and plan the program. My best guess is that it will take several people to fill her very capable shoes.



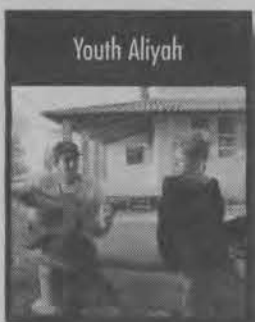
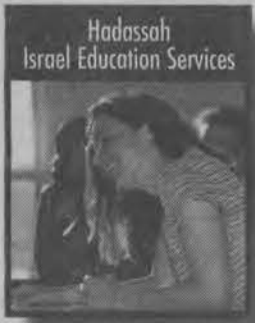
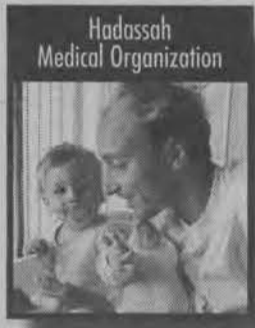
Faith and Lou Brown sing a duet at Cafe Tamar.

Hadassah

CELEBRATES THE MIRACLE OF

Israel's 50th Anniversary

HELPING A NATION GROW



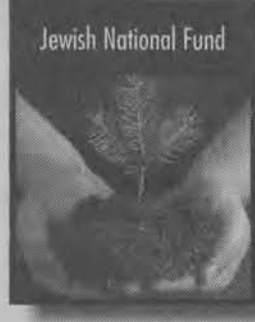
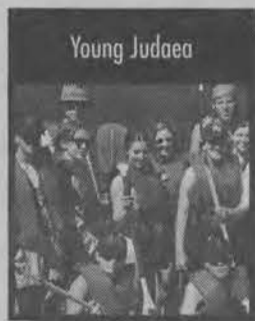
Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, salutes the land and people of Israel on the occasion of this milestone anniversary.

We are proud of the critical role we have played in the development of the Jewish homeland through our work in **healing, teaching, and research**. We have helped Israel grow by bringing modern health care to the region through the Hadassah Medical Organization, by **rescuing children at risk** through Youth Aliyah, by **educating and training** thousands of men and women at the Hadassah College of Technology and the Hadassah Career Counseling Institute, and with the Jewish National Fund by **transforming barren deserts into lush landscapes**.

In addition, Hadassah has infused generations of Americans with a love of Israel and Judaism. Our Young Judaea clubs, camps and Israel programs help to **transform young people into committed Jewish adults**. And we have provided hundreds of thousands of American women with uplifting **Jewish education** and life-saving **health education** programs, as well as the means to become **advocates** on the issues of concern to them.

We look forward to many more years of changing people's lives in Israel, the United States, and around the world and to a continued Hadassah-Israel partnership well into the future.

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SYNAGOGUE LIFE



My Grandmother, My Mother and Me

My Grandmother, My Mother and Me, a one woman show, featuring Ruth Kaye highlights this Spring's social events sponsored by Wilmington's Congregation Beth Shalom, on Sunday evening, May 17.

Miss Kaye, a mezzo-soprano, interweaves her family story with a potpourri of Jewish music taken from various sources. Miss Kaye's story begins in 19th Century Russia, as she portrays her grandmother Anna, who comes to America and begins to raise her family. As her narrative unfolds,

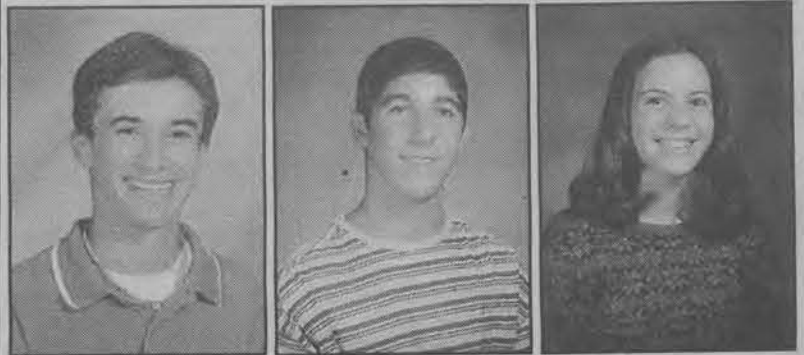
Ruth focuses on her mother Leah, a beautiful young woman, who marries her childhood sweetheart, survives a family crisis, and learns to make a life of her own. Finally, Ruth reveals herself as an awkward young adult, who later blossoms into a wife, mother and musical personality. In a touching climax, Ruth celebrates the mysterious and beautiful link that connects one generation to another.

Ruth Kaye's one-woman shows have long been in demand by synagogues, civic groups, and private functions throughout the country.

Tickets are \$18.00 per person, and includes gourmet desserts and coffee after the show. Sponsor and Patron tickets are also available at \$50 and \$100 and include two and four tickets respectively. Reservations can be made by calling the synagogue office (302) 654-4462 or mailing your remittance to the synagogue, 1801 Baynard Blvd., Wilmington, DE, 19803. The May 17th performance begins at 7:30 p.m.

"My Grandmother, My Mother and Me is a wonderful show, rich with memories, filled with music, laughter and tears, and a story for all ages" said Barbara Felzer, chair for this event, "and it couldn't come to Wilmington at a more appropriate time, what a memorable and appropriate Mothers Day Gift."

Silverman Scholarships Awarded



Jacob Milunsky

Jacob Cabelli

Allison Goldberg

Jacob Cabelli, Allison Goldberg, and Jacob Milunsky have been named the 1998 recipients of the Sylvia and Isadore N. Silverman Scholarship awards. Given annually, these stipends assist young people participating in a summer program of Jewish study or enrichment, while recognizing their achievements.

Cabelli is an 11th grader at Mt. Pleasant High School. He will participate in the Young Leadership Program of Volunteers for Israel. He is the son of Michael Cabelli (Continued on page 22)

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LETTER FROM YAKOV NEEMAN



Dear Friends:

With the approach of Passover it is fitting at this time of year to recall the story of the Exodus from Egypt: The tribes marched together, yet they did so one by one. Each one unique, with its own style and culture; each one with its own leadership and traditions. Yet, the tribes made up one very strong nation - the Children of Israel. No matter how disparate their individual customs, they shared one vision. And the way they chose to demonstrate that vision is beautifully summed up in the Book of Exodus.

The past 15 months have been turbulent for the Jewish communi-

ty in America. The strengths of American Jewry is not only reflected in their struggle for religious identity, but also within the American grass roots - and their efforts to benefit our people both locally and overseas. These efforts are most often initiated within the framework of the Council of Jewish Federations/United Jewish Appeal Partnership.

I accepted an invitation to address the CJF General Assembly this past November, where I gave my first public presentation on the progress of the Committee to American Jewry's most impressive annual gathering of leadership and philanthropists. They came from

all over, from small communities and large, in a show of Jewish strength and commitment.

These Jewish communities stood firmly together, deeply connected to the principles of a strong and independent Israel that has an unbreakable relationship with Jews around the world.

There was an outpouring of support for the Committee throughout the United States and Canada. The consensus is that it is better for people with differing views to sit around a table and hammer out differences.

The future is bright because there has been a bonding quality to our deliberations. This event has

strengthened us by recognizing the fragility of the Jewish connection, and the value we all place on it. Mutual consideration is important

both for the future of American Jewry and for Israel itself.

Sincerely,
Yaakov Neeman

Silverman Scholarships

Continued from page 21

and Rosanne Griff-Cabelli.

Allison Goldberg, an 11th grader at Concord High School, will attend the Ramah Seminar Program in Israel. Her parents are Vivian and Alan Goldberg.

Currently an 11th grader at Brandywine High School, Jake Milunsky will attend the Leadership Training Conference of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization. Jake is the son of Marlene and Cyril Milunsky.

The Sylvia and Isadore N.

Silverman Scholarship Fund was established in 1989, on the occasion of the Silvermans' 55th wedding anniversary, by their children and friends. The award honors their many years of dedication to the Wilmington community, especially to Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation and to the Boy Scouts of America.

Applications for next year's awards may be obtained at the office of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth, Washington Boulevard and Torah Drive. The Scholarship program is open to all Jewish youth in Delaware.

CORRECTION

In the last issue of *The Jewish Voice*, Paige Alderson was incorrectly identified as a "committed teen donor" who wrote a wonderful thank you letter to the Jewish Federation of Delaware. In fact, Paige is a dedicated 10-year-old donor! We thought she was older due to the time, effort and maturity displayed by her correspondence. Our apologies to the Alderson family, and we hope that Paige's actions are emulated by others - from 10 to 100.

Thank You JHSD!

The Jewish Voice would like to thank the Jewish Historical Society and Julian Priesler for the invaluable contribution to this issue. It is because of the JHSD that we were able to access so easily the resources that were necessary to make this issue successful.

Happy 'GOLDEK' Anniversary to Israel

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Though this small nation restored in the 20th century faces troubled times, it is destined to prevail. The Holy Scriptures affirm Israel's place within the ancient borders. they will not be displaced and will yet dwell peaceably within the promised land. Jeremiah 24:6

We wish to extend our best wishes on this 50th anniversary of Israel's statehood. We also wish to offer a faith strengthening review of the Scripture promises and prophecies being fulfilled for the Jew in the borders of their ancient land.

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Israel at 50: Freedom and Economic Strength

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COMMEMORATIVE COINS FOR ISRAEL 50



(Jerusalem) — The eyes of the world will turn to Israel this Spring as the nation celebrates the 50th anniversary of its independence. One of the ways the Bank of Israel is participating in the celebration is with the issue of the first commemorative banknote in the nation's history. This note is a special vari-

ant of the current 50 sheqel banknote bearing the portrait of famed Israeli writer and Nobel Prize winner, Shai Agnon. It was chosen because of the symbolic nature of its denomination. In contrast to the usual banknotes, these are printed with special colored ink (known as OVI), which changes color when

looked at from certain angles. In addition, the serial numbers consists of only five digits (instead of the usual ten).

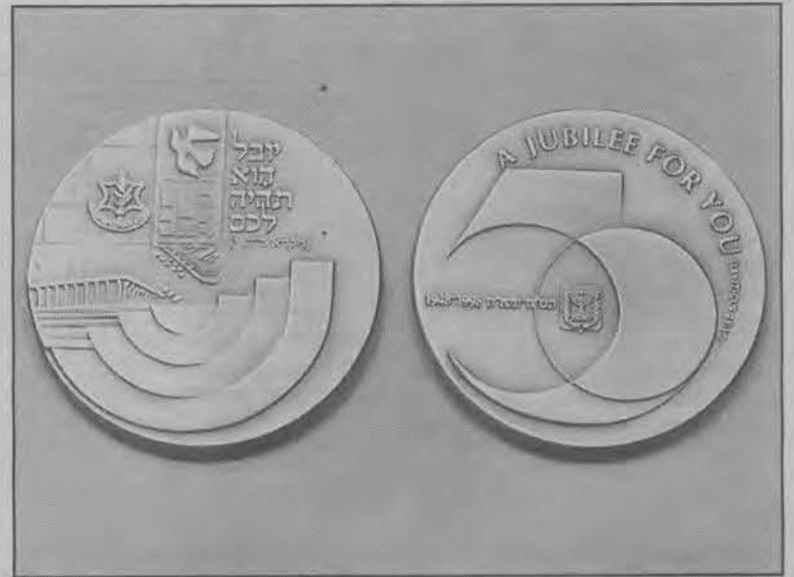
In total, only 20,000 notes were printed. 9,999 of them were offered as uncut sheets of three notes. These sold out soon after their release. 10,001 of them are still available individually for \$49 each. They are protected in a souvenir "50th Anniversary Presentation Folder."

In addition to these banknotes, an official State of Israel 50th Anniversary medal has been issued in silver and in large and small bronze versions. Designer Ruben Nutels configured the number "50" to form two almost complete circles. The closed circles symbolizes the fifty years of Israeli statehood that have passed, while the second, open one represents the fifty years to come. The reverse features old and new symbols of the State: a stylized menorah, the Knesset building, the Western Wall, the emblem of the Israel Defense Forces, an ancient Torah scroll, and computer chip and the dove of peace.

The pure silver version is struck in mirror-like proof quality, weighs 60 grams (1.93 troy oz.) and is 50 mm (1.97") in diameter. Limited to 7,500 pieces, its issue price is \$82.00. The antique-finish large bronze piece weighs more than 5 ounces measures 2 3/4 inches across and costs \$28.00. \$7.00 should be added to each order for these medals for insured shipping and handling from Jerusalem.

In an introductory offer from the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation, those wishing to obtain one copy of the 1 1/2 inch, one ounce small bronze medal may do so for \$14.95 delivered. Because of the demand for multiple pieces for use as gifts and mementoes, additional medals cost only \$9.90 each (all medals must be shipped in the same order).

To order, or for more information contact the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation, P.O. Box 7900, Jerusalem 91078, Israel (Fax orders: 011-972-561-2298, Internet address: <http://www.coins.co.il>). Orders may also be directed to the North



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Your Dollars Promote Tolerance, Diversity And Unity

As people in Delaware, across the United States and around the world celebrate Israel's 50th birthday, we pause to pose a few key questions:

Did you know that more money goes to fund the religious streams from the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) than from the three movements (Conservative, Modern Orthodox, Reform) combined?

Did you know that JAFI will

directly provide \$5 million in grants to the streams in 1998? The breakdown: \$2,081,000 to programs under conservative sponsorship; \$836,000 to programs under Orthodox sponsorship, and \$2,083,000 to programs under Reform sponsorship. In addition, JAFI has an additional \$16 million in other budget lines for programs devoted to promoting Jewish unity and religious diversity in Israel for

Israeli Jews.

Let's backtrack and explain how this works:

☆ Step 1 - Our committed & dedicated donors make pledges and satisfy their pledges to the 1998 UJA Federation Campaign in Delaware.

☆ Step 2 - The Jewish Federation of Delaware (JFD) Allocations Committee hears proposals from local agencies and

from the United Jewish Appeal. Based on your pledges, the committee allocates a certain amount of dollars to UJA. Currently, of each dollar donated to the campaign, approximately 66 cents remains for local needs.

☆ Step 3 - United Israel Appeal (UIA), which administers and supervises funds raised by UJA/Federation campaigns, then allocates dollars to JAFI. JAFI is

the primary instrument through which Israel and Diaspora Jewish communities conduct their partnership to ensure the unity and future of our people, and it is the largest source of support for religious stream activities and for programs supporting the unity of the Jewish people.

Of course, JAFI still retains the responsibility for immigration (*aliyah*) and absorption (*klitah*) of new immigrants to Israel. This includes bringing people to Israel, providing short-term housing, language and employment training when they arrive. In addition, the former Soviet Union (FSU) department rescues Jews from the FSU and prepares them for life in Israel with initial education, and with employment training and opportunities.

JAFI's Israel Department initiates job development programs to create career opportunities throughout the country for new immigrants and veteran Israelis, and it addresses other social needs of a developing society.

Strengthening Jewish identity; Improving the quality of life; Saving lives, and sponsoring innovative & creative programs. These are the results of your contributions to the UJA Federation Campaign. If you have yet to do so, please call 427-2100 and make your pledge to our 1998 campaign.

For further information on programs funded by JAFI, contact Bernie Greenberg at the Federation office.

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Book Review—

Continued from page 18

account of the boat that was denied entry into British Palestine (May); After the First Rain: Israeli Poems on War and Peace, edited by Moshe Dor and Barbara Goldberg, and Translating Israel, by Alan Mintz, which examines the problem of why books by Israeli authors do not reach a wider American audience (fall). A Bridge Across the Jordan, by Adaia and Abraham Shumsky, tells the inspirational story of the friendship between Mendel Cohen, a Jewish carpenter from Jerusalem, and King Abdullah of Jordan, who invited him to work at his palace in Amman (Arcade).

The Founding Myths of Israel: Nationalism, Socialism and the Making of the Jewish State, by political scientist Zeev Sternhell (Princeton) challenged standard Zionist history.

If you can't travel to Israel itself to celebrate this milestone year, these books offer numerous opportunities to revel in a land that has always balanced precariously between triumph and turmoil, between dream and reality.

Rahel Musleah is a freelance journalist and the co-author, with Rabbit Michael Klayman, of Sharing Blessings: Children's Stories for Exploring the Spirit of the Jewish Holidays (Jewish Lights).

Let's talk about the

Good News

from Israel on Jewish unity

While the debate on religious diversity swirled around us, 800,000 Jews representing every religious and political orientation, and from all across North America, proved that, during good times and bad, the UJA Federation system is still the place where all Jews can come together to build tolerance and responsibility.

- Working with our partners in the religious movements and concerned Jews throughout our communities, the United Jewish Appeal/Council of Jewish Federations Partnership helped create a respectful place for the exchange of ideas.
- Over 80 Knesset members signed a petition supporting the recommendations of the Ne'eman Committee, the Israeli committee charged with finding accommodations on the issue of Jewish conversions. Many of those Knesset members also visited American Jewish communities and Federations over the past 90 days so that they could understand Jewish diversity in the U.S.
- Last week the Knesset officially resolved to support the Committee's report in its entirety.

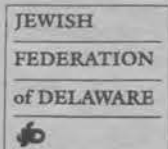
There is still work to be done for the report to be fully implemented, yet Jewish Federations should be proud of their role in the developments to date ... developments that could eventually preserve the unity of the Jewish people and create a far more tolerant Israel. Because, all through this, the UJA Federation system continued to ensure that no one was isolated or left out in the cold, no one went hungry, was left alone or uncared for.

As Jews we share a common history. Today, even as we celebrate the Knesset resolution, let us rededicate ourselves to a common future where all Jews are respected and every Jew who needs help gets it.

A message brought to you by



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ISRAEL AT 50



Jewish Youth See Zionism As Ideology Of Israel's Past

By JESSICA STEINBERG

JERUSALEM, Feb. 1 (JTA) - The Herzliya Gymnasia school sits on a corner plot of land in the prestigious neighborhood of north Tel Aviv, a sandstone-colored building surrounded by palm trees and grassy areas studded with flowers and benches.

More than 1,000 junior high and high school students attend the Gymnasia, which was established in 1905, the first high school in the country that taught Hebrew and later became a cultural center for the burgeoning city of Tel Aviv.

At the school's entrance is a display of photos and essays commemorating Israel's jubilee year - a large portrait of Israel's first prime minister, David Ben-Gurion, is posted prominently in the middle, as if to remind the students whom to thank for the tiled floor beneath their Doc Martens, shoes popular with teen-agers.

Lee Avzuk, Shimrit Tsiporen, Anat Tal and Lior Ben-Kereth four

typical Tel Aviv teen-agers dressed in baggy clothes - pay no attention to blue and white display and make their way through the maze of hallways and classrooms to the school's cafeteria where they plop themselves down to drink coffee and discuss Zionism and patriotism in their country's 50th year of statehood.

Tal, a lanky 11th grader huddled in her khaki green army-style jacket, is somewhat disillusioned with the concept of Zionism, commenting that it's a romantic concept from the past, existing only in politics. Her friends agree, adding that army duty and youth movements are two of the last vestiges of patriotism left in their young state, and even those are losing in popularity.

"All the guys have to say they want to be paratroopers, even if they don't want to," says Tal. "That's their Zionism."

That's a fairly typical reaction, according to Doubi Schwartz, director of Tel Aviv and Israel's

central region for Melitz, a non-profit organization specializing in informal education for high school students. Melitz has been organizing seminars about Israeli solidarity and patriotic values for the jubilee year, primarily in secular schools.

"Most students feel quite strongly about living here," says Schwartz, "but it's about belonging, not about history."

"They tell me, 'We were born here, it's our place,'" he says. "They don't want to talk about history or roots, they're more interested in the consequences, how today's headlines will affect them."

He adds that army duty has come to represent Zionism for most young Israelis, since "there aren't any swamps left to drain in Hadera," referring to agricultural projects done in the early years of the state.

Tsiporen, whose mother is American, believes that Jews outside of Israel are taking the jubilee year more seriously than Israelis, partially because they have no other identity.

"What they don't realize is that Judaism and Zionism are two different things," she says, "and because we're here, it's less important to us."

For the most part, Melitz educators are accustomed to approaching students with questions, not answers. It's a different attitude than that of the Education Ministry, which declared Israel's 50th anniversary as the central subject of the year, devoting additional class hours to the study of Israeli society's accomplishments. Yet the ministry, as well as the government's jubilee celebrations, has been plagued by managerial and internal troubles, and the recent death of Education Minister Zevulun Hammer hasn't simplified matters.

An Education Ministry spokesman said teachers spent several weeks during the summer attending workshops organized by the ministry about how to teach the jubilee material. But on Sept. 1, usually the first day of school, educators organized a countrywide strike, protesting their low salaries.

They returned to their blackboards and workbooks within a few days, but refused to participate in or organize any outside school activities until their salaries improved. High school students also got involved, organizing a student union strike in several major cities to protest the lack of school trips and extracurricular projects.

Not a good start to the jubilee year, but typical of Israel's politicized society.

"It's true," says Ben-Kereth of the Herzliya Gymnasia foursome. "The Russians didn't come here for Zionism, they came because it wasn't good for them there. They don't even speak the language."

"Who can blame them?" asks Avzuk. "They should come here for terrorist bombings."

By ELMER L. WINTER
Chairman
Committee for Economic
Growth of Israel

Jews, worldwide, have much to celebrate on Israel's 50th anniversary. During the nation's brief half century, the Israelis have created a homeland for Jews; built a society based on democratic principles; absorbed many cultures and have developed diplomatic relations with 150 nations. These accomplishments merit a "Well done, Israelis!"

But the people of Israel deserve our additional congratulations for having created an economic miracle that his highly respected and envied throughout the world. They have produced a remarkably high Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of \$98.4 billion in 1997, with a GDP growth during the past five years averaging 6 percent.

A major contributing factor to this formidable achievement has been the rapid expansion of the electronics industry. The revenue from this sector alone reached \$7.2 billion in 1997 - a stunning increase of 11 percent over the previous year. And 80 percent of the country's electronics production was sold outside of Israel.

Israel, in fact, has become a second Silicon Valley, attracting hundreds of American companies. Many of the world's largest computer concerns, including Microsoft, IBM, Digital, Hewlett Packard, National Semiconductor and Motorola have located facilities in the country and become part of "Israel - the In-Place for Innovation." There is every reason to predict that the nation will continue increasing its high-tech exports to Europe and the United States.

Currently, there are 2,000 start-up companies operating facilities in Israel. They are active in a variety of innovative high-tech areas, including voice and handwriting recognition, Internet video and voice transfer, smart cards, data security, push technology, bandwidth expansion, medical diagnostic equipment and design gear for the semiconductor industry, to mention only a few.

Here are a few of my predictions for the Israeli economy in the "post-50" era:

- Start-up companies will continue to raise capital on Wall Street and British and European stock exchanges because of the starting level of innovation and energy that has marked Israel's ascension in the world of high-tech.

- There probably will be a lessening of activity in Israel's low-tech industries because of high-labor costs. To compensate for this loss, many companies operating factories in Israel will subcontract part of their production to Jordan, Egypt and, eventually, the West Bank and Gaza - assuming peace will come to the area.

- More American high-tech companies will complete their downsizing programs by opening factories in Israel, to take advantage of Israel's unique incentives, including the country's high-quality engineers and scientists. Israel's electronics industry today employs a work force of 43,000, 60 percent of whom are engineers and technicians. Compared to other coun-

tries, Israel's ratio of scientists and engineers to the overall population makes it Number One in the world, by a wide margin. Israel has 145 of these technical workers for every 10,000 employees. The United States has only 78 per 10,000 while Japan has 75, Germany has 58, Sweden has 50 and Canada has 40. As a result, Israel's productivity in the electronics industry stands at \$167,000 per employee.

- Many American corporations will expand their "contracting out" programs to Israel. One reason is the shortage of high-tech personnel in the U.S. For a growing number of companies, Israel is the ideal place to conduct research and development and create software because of the availability and inventiveness of Israeli scientists, engineers and technicians. Furthermore, the Israeli government provides between 50 and 60 percent of the cost of R & D projects.

- Stock markets dealing in Israeli stocks will continue to expand in Israel and the United States. At this time, stocks of 75 Israeli companies, carrying a value of \$17.9 billion, are listed on Wall Street exchanges and 659 companies are traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. There has been a rapid expansion of venture capital companies opening in Israel. In 1997, 50 such firms invested \$1 billion in Israeli companies, a sure sign of confidence in the future of Israeli enterprises.

- Despite the roller coaster course of the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, American companies will continue to see Israel as the hub of operations throughout the Middle East. They rely on Israel because of its strong infrastructure, trained managerial corps, satellite facilities, and free trade agreements with the U.S., Canada and members of the European Community. They view it as the commercial port of entry to a potential market of 200 million Arabs, once a peace agreement is signed.

- American companies will look to Israel as a market to help offset the loss of sales to Asian customer beset by the Far East financial crisis. Israel in turn, will welcome orders from American companies to balance the losses Israeli companies have incurred in lost Asian business.

The bottom line is that the Israeli economy is well poised to move into the next century - provided, that a peace agreement is signed and adhered to by Israel and the Palestinians. High tech is the engine that will continue to drive Israel's economic machine. Hanan Ashraf, president of Motorola (Israel), noted recently that if Israel's industrial growth, per employee productivity and export volume continue to increase at the current rate, revenues of Israel's high-tech industry alone will soar from \$7.2 billion to \$20-25 billion by the year 2005. This would constitute a giant leap into Israel's "post-50" era - one that Israel's founders could not have imagined in their wildest dreams.

Elmer L. Winter, chairman of the Committee for Economic Growth of Israel, was the co-founder and long-time president of Manpower, Inc., the world's largest temporary help service.

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CALENDAR



Entries for the Calendar of Events are due on the Thursday deadline published in *The Jewish Voice*. Please provide entries in the same format as seen on this page. The *Jewish Voice* fax number is 427-2438.

MAY

SUNDAY 10

Congregation Beth Emeth and Jewish Family Service present the 1998 Margaret H. May Jewish Family Life Education Series, "Emotional Health and its Impact on Upon the Physical Being." Sean Hebble, L.C.S.W. and Marylou Misci, L.C.S.W. (Breast Cancer Survivor), 7 p.m.

TUESDAY 12

Board Meeting, Congregation Beth Shalom, 654-4462.

THURSDAY 14

Lag B'omer. Sports Day and Family Picnic, Congregation Beth Shalom, 654-4462.

FRIDAY 15

Hai Class Graduation. Congregation Beth Shalom, 654-4462.

SATURDAY 16

Junior Congregation Breakfast, Congregation Beth Shalom, 654-4462.

MONDAY 18

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, all performances 7:30 p.m. at the Bluett Theater on St. Joseph's campus. To reserve seats, call 610-667-4070 ext. 448.

Program, My Grandmother, My Mother & Me, 7:30 p.m. Congregation Beth Shalom, 654-4462.

Mother and Daughter Spa

Day. Spend a leisurely morning at the JCC Fitness Center from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. A continental breakfast will also be served. The cost is \$45.00 for JCC members and \$65.00 for non-members. For more information call Suzanne Rodriguez at (302) 478-5660.

New Births led by Rabbi Peter Grumbacher. Congregation Beth Emeth, 300 West Lea Blvd., Wilmington, 4:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Childcare will be provided.

Kutz Home Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting of the Milton & Hattie Kutz Home will be held at 2 p.m., 704 River Road, Wilmington, DE. The public is welcome.

A Day in Baltimore. Departs from the JCC at 9:30 a.m.; return approximately 5 p.m. There will be time for shopping and lunch in the Inner Harbor and then we'll spend the afternoon at the Baltimore National Aquarium. The cost is \$35 for JCC members and \$35 for non-members. Advance reservations are required. Call Michelle Silberglide, Senior Center Director at (302) 478-5660.

TUESDAY 19

Religious School, Last Day of Class & Awards Assembly, Congregation Beth Shalom, 654-4462.

THURSDAY 21

Hebrew School Closing, Faculty Meeting. Congregation Beth Shalom, 654-4462.

Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School Spring Semester Ends, Local Graduation.

FRIDAY 22

AKSE Honoring Gurwitz's 50th. 762-2705.

SUNDAY 24

Yom Yerushalaim, Congregation Beth Shalom, 654-4462.

JCC Family Campus Opens

For more information call Scott Katz, Recreational Services Director at (302) 478-5660.

TUESDAY 26

Rosh Hodesh, Executive Board Meeting, Congregation Beth Shalom, 654-4462.

THURSDAY 28

Kraft Education Meeting, Congregation Beth Shalom, 654-4462.

FRIDAY 29

Lunchtime Parenting Workshop "Siblings: The Rivalry, The Bond" presented by Lauren Pokras, MSW; Jewish Family Service. Co-sponsored by JFS and

the Newark Jewish Community Network Committee, 12:00-1:30 p.m. at Temple Beth El, Newark. Call 302-366-8330.

JUNE

MONDAY 8

Community Forums Discuss

Patients Rights. 7:30 p.m. Pipefitters Union Hall, 2111 W. Newport Pike, Stanton. Participants include Rep. Jane Maroney, Dr. Robert Frelick and other health care professionals and legislators.

WEDNESDAY 10

Jewish Family Service

Annual Meeting of Officers and Installation, 7:30 p.m. Call JFS for further info, 478-9411.

MONDAY 22

JCC Sports Classic. A full

day of golf, tennis and lawn bowling tournaments held at the DuPont Country Club. Awards reception held following tournaments.

SUNDAY 28

JCC Annual Meeting. 4 p.m. Annual Meeting includes election of Officers and Board members, followed by a family picnic with entertainment and family activities. Free of charge.

ONGOING

Meet the Physical Therapist. Bob Catalano from Rehabilitation Consultants will be available every Wednesday at 12:00 noon in the JCC Fitness Center. For more information, call Suzanne Rodriguez, Fitness Center Coordinator at (302) 478-5660

Young Jewish Singles of Delaware 20's and 30's. Weekly volleyball and dinner sampler after. For more information or to be put on our groups mailing list call Phil Gross at (302) 652-6688.

Jewish Heritage Video Collection. For more information, call Ella Zukoff at (302) 478-5660.

Confirmation or Graduation

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AN ABBREVIATED LIST OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

• **Ambassadors for Tolerance** ... Israel and US teens share in a leadership development program that promotes diversity and acceptance

• **Kefiada** ... College students from Diaspora communities serve in English summer camps in Israel

• **Connections** ... Israel and US high school students meet over the Internet to study joint curricula, and discuss Jewish identity and other issues affecting their communities

• **Women to Women** ... Conferences are arranged to discuss a variety of pertinent issues for women

• **Health Care Professionals** ... Doctors from communities meet with their counterparts from the regions to brainstorm on topical issues

• **Leadership Development** ... Young leaders from partnered communities meet and work together to build a cadre of new Jewish leaders

Partnership 2000, or P2K, as it is affectionately known, seeks to create mutual responsibility and personal connections between Jews in Israel and around the world. The program, developed jointly by UJA, Keren Hayesod, and the Jewish Agency, pairs 27 regions in Israel with over 90 U.S. Federations and all Keren Hayesod countries, more than 550 Diaspora communities in all, to:

- Develop Israel's priority areas—the Negev, Galilee and Jerusalem
- Enhance people-to-people relationships
- Encourage personal investment in Israel
- Transform the Israel-Diaspora relationship into a true partnership of peers

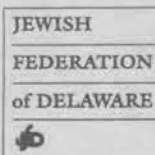
Day by Day, We Are:

- Raising the quality of life in Israel's peripheral areas
- Creating partnerships based on mutual self-interest and shared commitment
- Strengthening interpersonal bonds for every age group on personal, professional, spiritual and social levels
- Undertaking activities that teach us about each other: the similarities that bring us together and the differences we need to bridge for the sake of our Jewish future
- Networking with peers, creating new friendships and making our partnered region our "home" in Israel

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For the last five years, Partnership 2000 has successfully transformed the traditional benefactor/beneficiary relationship into a new model ... a model where Jews learn to cross cultures and to meet each other, heart-to-heart, mind-to-mind and home-to-home. Join us.

Partnership 2000 is funded by the UJA Federation Annual Campaign, from dollars already allocated to the Jewish Agency budget. The amount available for each region is based on cash received by UJA or Keren Hayesod from the region's Diaspora partner(s). Partnership 2000 helps personalize the Annual Campaign, providing opportunities to work with counterparts on joint allocation decisions.



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