

The JEWISH VOICE

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Jewish Historical Society
Mr. Julian H. Preisler
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"You heard it in
The Jewish Voice"

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20 Pages

JFD Vision and Mission Statement to be discussed at annual meeting

By PAULA BERENGUT

Editor of The Jewish Voice

"The Jewish Federation of Delaware is more open than people might realize," according to Toni Young. The proof, she says, is in the development over the last few months of a Vision and Mission Statement for the organization. Young, who serves on the committee that is steering the document through its formation, says the Statement "ought to change that perception."

Federation President William Topkis was the instigator of the project, according to Young. His idea stemmed mainly from the realization that there was a lack of participation in the Jewish Federation by the Jewish community. Topkis' goal was to change that.

Topkis' first move was to arrange for professional consulting and Thomas L. McFalls of MacIntyre Associates was brought in. Up until two years ago, McFalls served as President of the United Way of Delaware and has also served as that organization's campaign chairman.

Under McFall's guidance, a group of about one dozen people met in the Fall of 1990 to

Draft of the Vision and Mission Statement of the Jewish Federation of Delaware

MISSION: Mobilize the Jewish community to address issues, meet needs and build an agenda for the future.

VISION: Bring Jewish people together into a community coalition, grounded in Jewish teachings and heritage, to strengthen the State of Israel, the global Jewish family and local organizations in order to further the survival of the Jewish people.

GOALS: — Foster identification with our Jewish teachings and heritage to inspire an informed and involved community.

- Build an agenda for the future with clearly defined priorities.
- Take responsibility for raising funds which will meet mutually agreed upon goals.
- Allocate and manage the community's resources based upon the community agenda.
- Provide a structure for the Jewish community to interact with the non-Jewish community.
- Develop Jewish leadership.

discuss "what the Jewish Federation of Delaware could be." Soon after the initial meetings, the group was whittled down to the three-person committee that includes Young, Leslie Newman and Richard David Levin. Under their leadership, the Vision and Mission Statement has taken shape.

The "mission," according to Young, can be defined as "determining what business we are in." The vision translates to "what we want to be." And the goals are the means by which that vision can be brought about.

"We've been the authors," Newman said, Continued on 20

Analysis

Israel receiving most of blame as U.S. ponders next Mideast move

By DAVID FRIEDMAN

WASHINGTON (JTA) — While the Bush administration contemplates its next maneuver in the Middle East peace process, it does not seem averse to blaming Israel for the lack of movement through the "window of opportunity" the administration sees open in the Middle East.

When Secretary of State James Baker left Israel abruptly on April 26, after learning of his mother's death, State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler issued a departing statement blaming Israel for the lack of real progress after three trips to the Middle East since mid-March.

Yet earlier last week, Baker had nothing but understanding for Saudi Arabia's position that the desert kingdom could not directly participate in the peace process. And after some 10 hours of talks in Damascus, he had no words of reproach for Syrian President Hafez Assad, who refused to budge from his position that peace talks must begin with an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations.

At both the State Department and the Israeli Embassy here, officials are keeping a low profile, in order not to exacerbate a potential crisis in U.S.-Israeli relations.

This position will hold at least until Baker briefs Bush on his most recent trip to the region and the two decide whether he will return to the Middle East for another try.

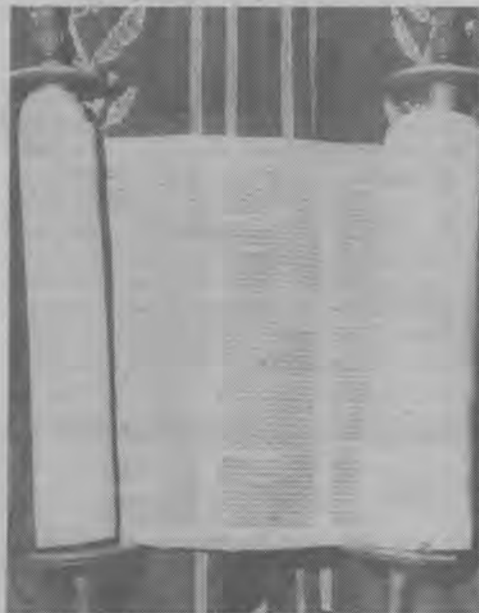
Israeli Ambassador Zalman Shoval was careful to refrain from criticizing the Bush administration during an appearance April 29 at a luncheon of the Overseas Writers, an association of foreign affairs correspondents. While noting the "sensitivity" of the issue, he nevertheless tried to show that Israel had been forthcoming on the peace process.

Considering "the ideological makeup" of the Israeli government, it "has gone to a surprising extent in the direction of concessions, of flexibility," the ambassador said. "Israel has, more or less, agreed to accept the positions which were proposed by the United States."

Shoval said one of the positions accepted by the Israeli government is that U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 should be the basis not

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Czech Torah scroll to be dedicated here



The Kolin Torah #337, which was rescued from the Nazis, will be dedicated at Congregation Beth Shalom on May 17. (Photo: M. Ariff)

The dedication of a sacred scroll from Kolin, Czechoslovakia, rescued from the Nazis, will be held at Congregation Beth Shalom on Friday evening, May 17, at 8 p.m. in the Kraft Sanctuary of the synagogue at 18th St. and Baynard Blvd. The congregation has called the event "The Rebirth of a Torah."

On June 17, 1942, some 600 members of the Jewish community from Kolin were gone, some to concentration camps and some by other means of escape. The synagogue lay still and the once active homes, glowing with the Sabbath candles and festive on the Holy Days, went dark after Hitler's Nazi horde had taken over the country. The Nazis were convinced that Judaism would become extinct, so they gathered the ancient artifacts and Torah scrolls and stored them in a warehouse for a unique museum they hoped to build after the war. It was to be called "The Museum of an Extinct Race - The Jews," a hope that never materialized.

There were no fewer than 2,000 Torah scrolls collected from the decimated communities of Czechoslovakia. There they lay until concerned Jews from the West pleaded for their release after more than two decades

when the Westminster Synagogue in London received permission to claim these scrolls. In the synagogue, in three rooms, shelves were built and numbered to accommodate these Holy Torahs. The Kolin Scroll #337, which is the one acquired by Beth Shalom, slept in bin #108.

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Laub, members of Beth Shalom, on a visit to London, learned that the scrolls were available for adoption and arrangements were made to have scroll #337 sent to Beth Shalom on permanent loan.

Paul and Gloria Fine, co-chairs of the evening's program, have announced that Mark Talisman, Director of Project Judaica Foundation, and an authority on Czech scrolls, will be the guest speaker. After the formal dedication and service, the Torah will be placed in a special showcase in the Beth Shalom foyer as a Holocaust Memorial for all to see as they enter the synagogue.

A catered dessert luncheon will be held following the program. The event is open to the community at no charge, but reservations must be made in writing to Congregation Beth Shalom, 18th St. and Baynard Blvd., Wilmington 19802.

JCC celebrating 90th anniversary in Delaware

The Jewish Community Center of Delaware will celebrate 90 years of service to the community at a 90th Anniversary Dinner, Thursday evening, June 6, at 6 p.m., at the Hotel DuPont in downtown Wilmington.

The event will pay tribute to the people, places and events that shaped the lives of Jewish Delawareans over the past nine decades, and will document the central role played by the YMHA, and then later, the JCC, in the life of the Jewish community.

"The history of the Center is very

varied," comments JCC president Richard David Levin. "We've run the gamut from serving the needs of immigrant families in the early part of this century to helping established American Jews preserve their Jewish identity. Now we're doing both," he notes.

An exhibit of historical photos, and special musical entertainment will be featured during the cocktail hour in the DuBarry Room. The photo display has been made available courtesy of the Jewish Historical

Society.

Dinner in the Gold Ball Room, will be followed by a brief Annual Meeting. The Harry Cohen Leadership Award will be presented by Sadie Toumarkine to Martin Lubaroff, past president of the Center and chairman of the 1991 nominating committee. The Barbara Weiner Memorial Young Leadership Award will be presented to this year's recipient by Mark Caplan, 1990 recipient. A highlight of the evening will be the premiere showing of a videotape

produced and directed by JCC Executive Committee member, Rand Synderman, with an original musical score by Israeli composer Rami Goren. The videotape will provide an overview of the history of the Jewish Community Center as it relates to the community.

To conclude the celebration, Emil Cohen, American humorist with a mastery of the Yiddish idiom, will entertain with songs and stories. Cohen, born and raised in Wilmington, transports his listeners into the

world of the Jews of Eastern Europe who created a culture that is now all but extinct. He maintains that humor was second only to Torah as the secret *shtetl* weapon that created a spirit which defied destruction.

Committee chairpeople hope to raise at least \$10,000 to provide for the capital needs necessary to refurbish the JCC's preschool. Much of the current preschool equipment dates back 21 years to the school's inception, according to JCC Execu-

Continued on 20

Editorial

JFD is asking for community involvement

Where do you fit in to the Delaware Jewish community? How do you become involved if you are not already? Whether you are involved or not right now, how do you effect change? How can you influence what happens, when it happens and how it happens?

The Jewish Federation of Delaware, in the process of drafting its Vision and Mission Statement (See Page 1), has issued an invitation to every member of the Jewish community — those who are connected and those who are not — to find a way to assist in the planning of our Jewish future, here in Delaware and around the world.

Instead of dictating the direction the community should take, The Jewish Federation of Delaware has asked for input from the community's organizations, synagogues and individuals regarding the future.

This Statement is not another opportunity for community members to become givers or receivers. It is, rather, a unique opportunity to become a participant. Without community participation and involvement the process and product cannot be successful.

Attend the annual meeting of the Jewish Federation of Delaware on Thursday, May 16. Listen to the report of the Mission and Vision Committee. But don't just listen. Plan to participate. Think about what you want this Jewish community to be. Commit yourself to the process of strengthening our community.

It's easy to sit back and criticize. Complaining is the easy way out. But the community suffers when that is all we do. The community's future is what you make it. You are being offered the opportunity to make a difference. The quality of our communal life depends on what you choose to do.

New column in this issue

On page 19 of this issue of *The Jewish Voice* is the first news and announcements column written in Russian for New Americans.

Settling into a drastically different environment, making new social connections, finding suitable employment, learning a different language... these are only a few of the tasks facing those who resettle here.

Luckily for those who immigrate to this community, a network has been established — professional and volunteer — to solve their problems and meet their needs. Besides taking care of their basic needs, Jewish Family Service's resettlement coordination project also takes care of acculturation by scheduling events, both social and educational, on a regular basis.

A subscription to *The Jewish Voice* is given to every New American family upon arrival in Delaware. But, obviously, language is a problem for many of them. In an effort to make the transition process as easy as possible, *The Jewish Voice* will make available the space for this column — prepared by Jewish Family Service — in the first issue of every month. It tells the New American about the programs and events planned in this community for them and advises and keeps them up to date on the immigration process.

It is our obligation to make these Jews feel welcomed, connected and informed. We are proud to assist in helping to teach them about the heritage that they have been forced to forget.

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- Israeli girl addresses U.N.
- Mideast terrorism down in '90
- British lords overruled on war crimes bill
- Nissan says it will sell in Israel
- Dovish Knesset delegation in U.S.
- Jewish caucus celebrates 10 years at U.N.
- Contributions for Kurds pouring in from Jews

These and many other headlines should be — but are't — in this issue of *The Jewish Voice*. We want our readers to have as much information available to them as possible. But the percentage of inches of news offered must be in direct proportion to the percentage of inches of advertising.

Advertising is an integral part of *The Voice's* budget. Without the dollars it brings, the rest cannot follow. During a recession, a newspaper with a limited audience like ours will be — and has been — the first to be cut from an advertising budget for many businesspeople.

Unless the advertiser is convinced that it is to his or her advantage to use *The Voice* as a means of doing business, that is. Our readers are instrumental in that regard.

Please support our advertisers. And when you do, please tell them you saw their ads in *The Jewish Voice*.

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DEADLINE

The next issue of *The Jewish Voice* will be published FRIDAY, MAY 24. The deadline for stories and photos is noon, FRIDAY, MAY 17. Material should be sent or brought to the Jewish Voice office at the Jewish Federation of Delaware, 101 Garden of Eden Rd., Wilmington, 19803. (302) 478-6200. All articles must be typed, double spaced.



Letter to the editor

We are soliciting your aid in publicizing our effort to locate people formerly associated with Sharre Shamayim Congregation in Philadelphia.

There will be a reunion of members of the original synagogue on Sunday, October 6, and we are looking for members of the sisterhood, men's club, Sunday and Hebrew school, Young

People's League, Young Judea and We are also searching for memorabilia, including pictures, newspaper clippings, etc.

For more information, please contact Selma Harris Forstater at 215-236-1037 (home) or 215-592-9280 (office) or Martin Aaron at 215-825-7407. On behalf of the committee, I wish to express our thanks for your help.

Len Seftin

PLEASE NOTE

CHANGE OF PUBLICATION AND DEADLINE DATES

The next *Jewish Voice* will be published on **FRIDAY, MAY 24**, one week earlier than has previously been listed. The deadline for submission of material for that issue is **FRIDAY, MAY 17**.

Quotes of Note

The following quotes of note are selected from the upcoming PBS documentary, "Moyers/Beyond Hate" (See page 15)

"We are sometimes literally taught by our parents to hate. We have minds of our own; who says we can't teach our parents?"

—High School Student

"Very frequently you find that hate is the glue that holds each ethnic group strong and ready to fight back and fight for its existence."

—Israeli Journalist Yoram Binur

"Whoever hates, hates his brother and whenever one hates his brother, one always hates himself."

—Elie Wiesel

"The worst part of the hater is when the hater says that it's not he, but the hated who's responsible."

—Elie Wiesel

The Jewish Voice

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No material will be accepted by the Jewish Voice which is considered against the best interests of the Jewish community.

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Op-Ed

By THEODORE R. MANN

It is not too soon for American Jewish organizations to ask themselves what they are going to do if the current efforts to revive a peace process in the Middle East come to an end.

It is fairly clear what Secretary of State Baker and President Bush will do. They will throw up their hands and say, "Well we tried our best." After that, their options are limited. If the U.N. Security Council calls for an international conference, the administration may veto or abstain. Or they may put on the table a substantive proposal outlining what Israel, Arab states, and the Palestinians might realistically expect from negotiations.

But what should the American Jewish community do? Should we press the administration to veto any Security Council resolution? Should we condemn the administration for putting forth its own substantive views?

Conversations last month in Israel between the leaders of Project Nishma and Israeli Defense Minister Arens, former Defense Minister Rabin and dozens of others led us to conclude that the current round of discussions is unlikely to be productive.

We told Arens that we share the opinion of the majority of Israeli reserve generals that political control over 1.7 Palestinians is not essential to Israel's security; that what is essential is demilitarization, meaning that no armed state be permitted to emerge in the West Bank and Gaza and that no Arab armed forces be permitted to enter those territories or, for that matter, Jordan.

We asked Arens whether in his view this

When the music stops What should American Jews do if Baker comes up empty-handed

formulation could form the basis for treaties with Arab states and with the Palestinians.

We asked him if he shared Golda Meir's conviction that the absorption of a million or more olim would greatly enhance Israel's security; if he thought the outside capital needed to create jobs for the huge Soviet aliyah would be available if the peace process were deadlocked; and if he thought the ten billion dollars in American housing loan guarantees would be forthcoming if there were no ongoing peace process. We asked him if Israel could realistically expect such guarantees while new settlements were still being created in the occupied territories.

Our dialogue with Arens was open, friendly and contentious. When it was over, we concluded that this was "deja-vu all over again". The United States and the parties to the conflict will engage in tendentious discussions over procedures and then become deadlocked — precisely as they had last year and on so many other occasions. The reason is that the real issues are not procedural but substantive: First and foremost, are the Arab states and Palestinians ready to make peace with Israel and accept Israel's security conditions? And is Israel ready to eventually yield political control over most of the territories, if security is as-

sured.

We share Israeli distrust of Palestinian intentions. But we also share the proud confidence evinced by senior Israeli officers that the Israeli Defence Forces are capable of enforcing strict demilitarization in the West Bank, within the context of a peace agreement that provides for extensive security arrangements.

Our rabbis tell us that the second Temple was destroyed because of our disunity. On the subject of peace, the only point on which virtually all Jews in the world are united is that Israel can never permit hostile, armed Arab forces within the territories Israel has occupied since 1967. Everyone agrees that Israel must actively pursue peace in that context.

But we are divided on how to achieve such a result. Some would have Israel annex the territories for religious or nationalistic reasons and ignore the demographic and anti-democratic implications of retaining control over the lives of the residents. Others believe it would be best if Jews kept the territories and expelled the Palestinians. Still others believe in unilateral withdrawal. We can tear ourselves apart fighting about the best approach for Israel to take.

But opinion surveys show that a clear majority of Israelis and American Jews want an

agreement whereby Israel retains all the military advantages of a demilitarized buffer zone in the West Bank, while extricating itself from political control over 1.7 million hostile and restive Palestinians. A postwar poll, released April 14, shows that 58 percent of Israelis today prefer "returning territories for peace" to annexation — and this percentage has grown every year since 1986.

If trading political sovereignty for military security proves unfeasible, if the Palestinians reject demilitarization and Israel's right to enforce it, then Israel will have no choice but to continue down its present path and will be supported by a united world Jewry. But if such an exchange is feasible, then that is the road the Israeli prime minister should travel, with the full support and active encouragement of all Jewish leaders.

So my answer to the questions posed at the beginning of this article are these: If deadlock throws the issue into the U.N., and the Security Council resolves to convene an international conference, American Jews should urge our government to veto that resolution if it grants the conference power to impose the terms of a peace agreement. But if the administration puts forth a substantive proposal consistent with the above views, we should strongly and vocally support it. The Israeli public, too, will support such a proposal, even if the Israeli government rejects it.

(Theodore R. Mann formerly chaired the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations, and is a co-chair of Project Nishma, a group of Jewish leaders who share similar views on security and peace.)

Shifting demographics: Will they bring turmoil or poetry?

By RABBI MARC SCHNEIER

According to the 1990 U.S. Census Bureau report, the makeup of the nation's population has changed dramatically during the past decade. In 1980, one of every five Americans was a member of a minority group (which the bureau categorizes as black, Asian, American Indian, Hispanic and other); by 1990, that ratio was one in four. The urban areas are most heavily affected, of course. In New York, for example, the minority population increased from 47.6 percent to 56.8 percent.

There has been ample comment on the report since it was released in Washington on March 10. Prominent economists, such as Rosemary Scanlon of the New York-New Jersey Port Authority, have noted that these types of shifts have the potential to shape business and industry, the way the Italian influx affected construction and the Korean immigration influenced greengroceries. Ben Wattenberg, an author and demographer, told *The New York Times*: "This is the dawning of the first universal nation. It's going to cause some turmoil, but on balance it's an incredibly poetic fact."

Whether minority growth will mean more turmoil or poetry for the Jewish community is an issue yet to be determined. There is no doubt that Jews have a strong tradition of working for and with other minority groups. But as the comments of Scanlon and Wattenberg indicate, the challenges ahead are probably more profound than most people realize. And I think there has yet to be, within the Jewish community, an agenda for improving and solidifying minority relations that bears the requisite scope and degree of priority.

Several recent incidents in New York illustrate the challenges already at our doorstep: A prominent Latino leader recently indicated that he identified with the PLO, which, he said, also stood for "Puerto Ricans Left Out"; a black minister denounced Mayor David Dinkins for visiting Israel during the Scud attacks, saying: "Black people from the U.S. have no business being in the Middle East"; a conflict is brewing in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn, amid bitter charges by Hispanic residents that Hasidim receive favored treatment from housing and law enforcement authorities. Situations such as these cannot be ascribed to mere bigotry. Rather, I think, they

point to a widening breach that has been left unaddressed by Jewish leadership.

A formal approach to broadening and strengthening relations with minorities is not an overwhelming task — not yet anyway. But it does require some rethinking of traditional roles. For example, through my participation in ethnic conferences I have noticed that attendant to the growth of minorities is a corollary shift in the character of these groups: Minorities don't want others working for them — they want others to work with them. And that makes sense, because the bonds that are formed by groups working as equal partners are likely to be more enduring than relationships in which one party is seen as patronizing the other.

In communities around the country, the means for egalitarian cooperation is the multigroup coalition — disparate parties that share a common goal work together to achieve their ends. For example, if two ethnic groups in one neighborhood are competing for housing or services, they can be encouraged, with support from appropriate agencies and leaders, to join forces and lobby for increased services that would be distributed equitably throughout their community. Or different groups might unite for the election of a candidate, the passing of legislation or improved education. In the process of working toward mutual goals, members of multigroup coalitions learn something about their differences as well — their sensitivities, their localities, their cultural eccentricities. I think Jewish agencies should increase their funding of, and participation in, such coalitions.

Working with other ethnic groups in the "universal nation" requires a shift of another kind, too. Jewish leadership has always been adept at forming bonds with prominent ethnic leaders and organizations; but the leadership that counts is the one in closest contact with its constituency. That means changing from a conceptual sensibility to a grass-roots one. Community groups, school boards and business associations are all represented by activists who are eager to join with others to work for the betterment of their communities. It is from these echelons that future national leaders will ascend with, one hopes, some sensitivity about the complex issues and concerns of the American Jewish community.

There is an added dimension to the issue of Jewish-minority relations, one that was forcefully illustrated by the Democratic primary of 1988. During the campaign season, many press reports touted a "Jews versus Jackson" scenario, despite independent polls which repeatedly confirmed that Jewish support for the Democratic Party was substantially higher than among any other white group. Clearly, in a media-driven world where, as advertising

executives say, "perception is reality," image must be addressed as well as substance. In recent years, there has been a proliferation of ethnic media. They provide excellent opportunities for communal leaders to learn about the concerns of other minorities, but they also provide an outlet for others to express their views. Agencies and individuals can learn to direct their public relations efforts to encom-

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Should Jews worry about melding of Poland's church & state?

By RABBI MARC TANENBAUM

The reported proposal of the Roman Catholic bishops to abrogate church-state separation in Poland holds ambiguous meanings for Jews.

Should such a revised concordat between the Polish state and the Catholic Church be enacted, it would not be the first time. Poland's constitution of 1921 had granted the Catholic Church an official and privileged position among the country's religious communities.

Article 114 of that constitution provided as follows: "The Roman Catholic religion, being that of the great majority of the nation, occupies the first place among the religions accepted as such by the State... The relations of the State and Church will be determined on the basis of a Concordat with the Holy See, which shall be ratified by the Sejm (Parliament)."

The forging of that church-state alliance had fatal consequences for the Jews of Poland. In the 1920s and 1930s, the Polish Catholic Church was integrally allied with right-wing, reactionary and anti-Semitic parties in Poland. The Camp of National Unity exploited anti-Semitism as a central political theme, and publicly made a case for excluding all of the several million Polish Jews from the country's political and cultural life.

In 1936, Cardinal Hlond, the Primate of Poland, issued a pastoral letter condemning Jews in invidious terms. He called for an economic boycott of all Jewish businesses and professions.

For obvious — and tragic — reasons, this latter-day attempt at a renewed alliance of Polish state and church represents far less of a threat to the Jewish community in Poland, which is today comprised of about 7,000 to 10,000 mostly elderly Jews.

Weighed in the balance must be the recent remarkable declaration of the Polish Catholic bishops who in January 1991 unambiguously condemned anti-Semitism and called for a systematic educational campaign to uproot these poisonous weeds from Polish life.

While I believe the cause of human rights should compel Jewish concern about such regressive moves in Poland or anywhere else, it would be foolhardy for Jews to be first in line to try to save Poland from its past.

The Polish intellectual and cultural leadership, particularly Polish youth, have a self-evident stake in keeping their nation open, democratic and committed to freedom of conscience and religion. The European Community, in which Poland may one day join, also has a primary interest in strengthening democracy and human rights among all their member nations, present or future.

Tragically, the Nazi Holocaust, which resulted in the destruction of more than 3 million Polish Jews, has rendered this church-state question more a symbolic issue than a real threat to the Jewish people.

(Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, for 30 years the director of the international relations department of the American Jewish Committee, is now a lecturer, writer and consultant.)

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24TH — 7:58 PM
31ST — 8:04 PM

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762-2705

Rabbi Nathan N. Schorr
Rabbi Emeritus Leonard B. Gewirtz
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Saturday — 8:45 a.m.
Sundays, holidays — 8 a.m.
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Monday through Thursday — 5:45 p.m.

BETH SHOLOM CONGREGATION OF DOVER

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Rabbi Moshe Goldblum
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A Torah Study group is led by the
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Rabbi Herbert Yoskowitz
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800 Society Blvd.
Claymont

798-6846

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Saturday — 9 a.m.

TEMPLE BETH EL

(Reconstructionist)
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Federation of Reconstructionist
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301 Possum Park Road
Newark

366-8330

Rabbi David Kaplan
SERVICES

Friday — 8 p.m.
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A Torah study group meets
on Saturdays at 9 a.m.

Dvar Torah

Parashat Behar, May 11th

Nothing gold can stay

By DAVID WOLPE

Special to The Jewish Voice

As children we believed in permanence. Nothing would ever fade, or break or die. The marvels of the earth would keep their sparkle. Those whom we love would never leave. The world we depended on would always be there.

In time that tightly gripped illusion begins to slip from our grasp. Life's dominant symbols are transformed — instead of the magic wand, before our eyes we see the hourglass. Time's relentless teaching takes hold, and we realize that all living is impermanence. "The woods decay, the woods decay and fall" lamented Tennyson. Even the sturdy products of nature do not last forever. Like human beings, the trees, the rocks, the spinning globe — all of it is subject to change, all of it will one day pass away.

That theme is the subject of much of the world's poetry and literature. Mortality nips at our heels, reminds us to run ever faster in a race that cannot be won. Mutability — the reality that all things are temporary — gives our brief span here a trace of despair, and as we grow older we glance back at old neighborhoods, old photographs, the fuzzy edges of ebbing memory.

The Bible has a great deal to teach us about this central pain of life. From the first it tells stories of mutability. Adam and Eve lose the garden and become aware of death. Abraham and Sarah break with the past and leave all they know. Moses must lead the children of Israel on a quest toward a land they have never seen, and most of them will never see. Their children will one day lose that land, and become wanderers again. "I am the Lord, I do not change" declares God in Malachi (3:6). But we understand the corollary: Everything else is not God. Everything else does change. Everything else will end.

That is the deeper message in the law of this week's portion from Leviticus: "But the land must not be sold in perpetuity, for the land is Mine; you are but resident strangers with me." (25:23) This declaration of the Jubilee year provides that all land must eventually return to previous owners. Every 50th year is a year of return, and all sales are temporary. Yet the Bible's phrasing tells us that much more is involved than a political statement about private ownership, more even than a theological statement about divine ownership. The Bible is subtly signaling a truth about humanity. We are strangers on this earth; we are briefly resident; and nothing, including our own lives, exists in perpetuity.

The Bible takes care to remind us that even the land is not forever. The earth had a beginning in time. It is in God's dominion and subject to God's decisions. Everything — the soil, the stars, the clouds, the world — is here for a while. Only God abides.

One reaction to the reality of impermanence is despair. If nothing can stay, then what is the purpose of life? We find that attitude expressed in the book of Ecclesiastes. Again and again Kohelet despairs of a life of meaning. What good, he asks, is all this effort when it will only pass away? Human effort is a mockery, for even the most robust accomplishment is so easily destroyed. He has seen one person devote an entire life to building an enterprise only to see a successor destroy it. To what end then was all that effort?

The law of the Jubilee year could support the same reasoning. One might imagine an Israelite arguing "Why should I purchase and work the land knowing that I will not be able to keep it? If it cannot be a permanent possession, to be handed on throughout time, why waste effort cultivating, tending, caring for the land?"

We can all understand the attitude. Knowing something will revert to another makes us careless of its use. It is hard to value that which will ultimately be taken from us.

The pessimistic possibilities in Ecclesiastes are clear. Change makes life a sadness. Mutability equals meaninglessness.

There is an alternative. While Judaism does not close its eyes to the anguish of change — the book of Ecclesiastes is in the Bible, and its challenge is understood — that is not our final word. For part of loss is learning, and part of change is love.

The Jubilee year could make someone abandon the land. Or the knowledge that the land will not be there forever could induce someone to work feverishly to cultivate everything possible within the time given. Knowing that life is not forever can make it worthless or precious. The same Kohelet who is anguished about the temporariness of all things has some sage advice: "Send forth your bread upon the waters... Sow your seed in the morning, and don't hold back in the evening... Whatever it is in your power to do, do with all your light." (11:1, 6; 9:10).

Both philosophies of life are woven throughout the Bible. The anguish of impermanence is neither hidden nor denied. Change and death can indeed be tragic. Yet, as with the Jubilee, life's rhythm can be a spur to greater effort, and greater resource. The Torah teaches that the fiftieth year is "holy to you." The Jubilee is holy because it reminds us that we build life on change. It reminds us that land, like love, like hope; is a temporary gift, to be cherished, cared for, and ultimately returned. The Jubilee reminds us to hold life close, for our grasp is fleeting.

The Jubilee teaches that the natural cycle of life is growth, and death. It tells us what Robert Frost taught in his poem some three thousand years later — that nothing gold can stay: *Nature's first green is gold, Her hardest hue to hold. Her early leaf's a flower;*

Continued on 20

The two revelations of Shavuot

By

RABBI BERNARD RASKAS

Shavuot, which falls this year on May 19-20, is referred to in the liturgy of the day as "z'man matan torah-teinu," the season of the giving of our Torah. It celebrates the covenantal relationship between God and the Jews as manifested by the divine revelation at Mount Sinai.

What, exactly, was revealed at Sinai?

In rabbinic terms, all of Torah is referred to as being "min ha-shamayim," of divine origin or, more literally, from heaven. According to tradition, revelation encompassed no less than the totality of Jewish law.

The all-inclusiveness of this concept is illustrated by the midrash which says as follows: "Even what a faithful disciple would in the future say in the presence of his master, was communicated at Sinai."

At the same time, there is a concept in Jewish tradition of "lo bashamayim hee"; Torah, despite its divine origin, is no longer to be found in heaven.

What does this mean? The Talmud, in the tractate Baba Metziya, offers the following instructional story:

Tradition has it that on that day Rabbi Eliezer advanced every conceivable argument without persuading his fellows. Whereupon he said to them, "If the law be according to my opinion, then let yon carob tree prove it." And a carob tree moved one hundred cubits from its place.

To which they responded, "What sort of demonstration does a carob tree afford?"

Whereupon he said to them, "If the law be according to my opinion, let yon stream prove it." And the stream flowed backward.

To which they responded, "What sort of demonstration does a stream afford?"

Whereupon he said to them, "If the law be according to my opinion, let the walls of this academy prove it." And the walls bent to the point of falling until Rabbi Joshua rebuked them saying, "When scholars contend with one another, what business have you among them?" And so they did not fall, out of respect for Rabbi Joshua, and they did not straighten, out of respect for Rabbi Eliezer, but remain aslant to this day.

Whereupon Rabbi Eliezer persisted and said to them, "If the law be according to my opinion, let them prove it from on high." And a heavenly voice sounded forth and said, "What have you against Rabbi Eliezer after whose opinion the law is always to be framed?"

At which, Rabbi Joshua arose and said, "The Torah declares concerning itself, 'It is not up in heaven.'"

What does this mean? Said Rabbi Jeremiah: The Torah has already been handed down from Sinai; therefore we are not obligated to heed heavenly voices.

Torah, then, while divine in origin,

is now in our hands. Revelation is over. It is up to us to interpret the tradition and apply it to our own lives.

How is this to be done? Does one have to be a great scholar to know the will of God, or can one find God through simple devotion? Is nearness to God an intellectual pursuit, as Maimonides claimed? Or was the Ba'al Shem Tov correct when he saw the divine in an ignorant, but sincere, shepherd? Is study of the Law the path to God, or is immersion in mysticism the way? Is God to be found in the head or in the heart? Is the vehicle study or prayer?

These are old questions that have been debated for centuries. Shavuot, of course, offers an appropriate time to raise them again. It also offers us a hint at how to approach these questions in our own time.

Mount Sinai was the site of not one, but two, revelations by God to Moses. The one we celebrate on Shavuot revolves around the dramatic reading of the Ten Commandments from the top of the mountain, accompanied by all the divine special effects recounted in the Torah reading for the first day of the holiday.

The new rules announced with such fanfare were strong statements of morality, law, justice — all subject to intellectual inquiry and examination. And, indeed, for 3,000 years the world has been studying, analyzing, interpreting and reinterpreting the words first heard by a collection of ex-slaves in the wilderness of Sinai.

But Sinai was also the site of another, earlier revelation. That earlier revelation took place when God revealed himself not to hundreds of thousands of people in a spectacular light and sound show, but quietly, in the form of a burning bush, to a humble shepherd named Moses.

Why did God choose to manifest in an unremarkable piece of foliage? The midrash answers: To teach us that God is to be found in the lowest and most humble person and experience on earth. God is everywhere.

Maybe the question of how to approach God is based on a false premise. Maybe it is not an either/or proposition; there may in fact be more than one way. Maybe God can be found both by painstaking intellectual pursuit and in a flash of mysticism. Maybe the intellectual and the simple man have equal access to the divine, just as they have an equal share in the glory of a creation that includes the stars above our heads and the grass beneath our feet.

"Where is God?" asked the Kotzker Rebbe. "Wherever you choose to admit him."

(Rabbi Bernard Raskas is rabbi emeritus of the Temple of Aaron, St. Paul, Minnesota, and visiting professor of Religious Studies at Macalester College. He is author of the trilogy, "Heart of Wisdom.")

Is your estate plan up to date?

Today, only experts can keep up with the changes in the tax law and the many rulings which are issued to interpret it. These changes can affect the plans you have made to provide for your retirement years and for your family after your death. However, there are other changes which can have a similar impact about which your tax expert may not know.

These include marriage, divorce or death of a spouse; birth of a child or a grandchild; new business venture; purchase of life insurance; job promotion; relocation to a different state, such as moving from Wilmington to Chadds Ford; or children becoming financially independent. Any of these changes in your life may affect your estate plan and your efforts to maximize income and reduce state taxes.

In reviewing your estate plan you may wish to consider charitable giving which can provide you with significant tax savings and a good measure of satisfaction. For additional information, consult your tax advisor or Connie Kreshtool, Endowment Director, 478-6200.

Arab league assailed for adding to boycott list

By HOWARD ROSENBERG

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Jewish groups have assailed the Arab Central Boycott Office for adding to its blacklist 110 companies that have business ties to Israel. The action was taken by the boycott office, an arm of the 21-member Arab League, at its 64th semiannual meeting, which ended Saturday in Damascus, Syria.

The boycott office also decided to remove 10 companies from its list, including the Coca-Cola Co., based in Atlanta, Ga. Coca-Cola was unofficially removed from the list in 1989 after Egypt and several Persian Gulf states allowed it to build bottling plants there.

Coca-Cola spokesman Carlton Curtis said the action would have "no effect on our business in Israel, which continues," the Washington Times

reported.

Of the 110 companies added to the list, 104 are partially owned by media tycoon Robert Maxwell, who apparently drew the boycott office's ire for his 1988 purchase of a one-third stake in *Ma'ariv*, an Israeli newspaper. Maxwell is also on the board of the *Jerusalem Post*.

Will Maslow, general counsel at the American Jewish Congress, and editor of its monthly Boycott Report, said the new additions were mostly "small" companies. "If that's all they came up with, it's not so startling," he said.

But Maslow criticized the boycott office for its "categorical refusal to accept Secretary (of State James) Baker's very mild proposal to stop boycotting American companies." Baker made the suggestion during

his recent visits to the Middle East, following the end of the allied war against Iraq.

The State Department had no direct comment on the announcement Sunday by the boycott office, except to say: "The position of the United States against the boycott has been firm and unyielding. As we have said many times, the Arabs should end their boycott and end their challenges to Israel's legitimacy."

The American Jewish Committee, in a statement Monday, criticized the latest blacklisting as "economic blackmail." The decision "tragically illustrates once again the unwillingness of the Arab world, except Egypt, to alter its unremitting hostility to Israel."

Of the 21 members of the Arab League, 13 participate in the so-

called secondary boycott of companies that have business ties to Israel. They are Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Palestine Liberation Organization, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

The eight Arab League countries that do not observe the boycott are all North African countries: Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Mauritania, Morocco, Somalia, Sudan and Tunisia.

Three other U.S. companies removed from the boycott list were the J.B. Williams Co., Helene Curtis International Inc. and the Home Insurance Co.

Also removed from the list were Lanitis Bros. Ltd. of Cyprus; Phoenix Assurance PLC of Britain; Europa Metall LMI Spa of Italy; Naniwa Kogyosho Co. Ltd. of Japan; Royal

Backing Industries Van Leer B.V. of the Netherlands; and Scott and English Ltd. of Singapore.

The six other companies added to the list were LeClic Products Inc. and Phoenix Ware, both U.S.-based; Codorniu S.A., a wine producer, and Control Electronico Intergrado S.A., a security systems maker, both Spanish-based; Sodepneu of France; and Stollwerk, a food company based in Cologne, Germany.

The Central Boycott Office also cleared eight other companies of possible ties to Israel: Atlantic Computers PLC and United Distillers Co., both British; Kleber Industrie of France; Intercosma West Spa of Italy; B.V. Belta of the Netherlands; Chiyoda Corp. of Japan; and the Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Ltd.

Congress urged to press Syria to let its 4,000 Jews emigrate

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Congress must press Syria to allow the 4,000 Jews living there to emigrate, an activist for Syrian Jewry said recently.

"Syria's Jewish community is a hostage community, living in a climate of fear and fundamental insecurity," said Alice Sardell Harary, vice president of the Council for the Rescue of Syrian Jewry. She testified at a hearing on Syrian human rights abuses conducted by the Congressional Human Rights Caucus.

Coincidentally, the hearing came as Secretary of State James Baker ended nearly 10 hours of talks in Damascus with Syrian President Hafez Assad, in an unsuccessful at-

tempt to get Syrian support for a regional conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Rep. Tom Lantos (D-Calif.), co-chairman of the caucus, expressed concern that the United States would make the same mistake with Assad as it did by ignoring for years the human rights violations of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

"Within the abysmal human rights record which the Syrian government has maintained, it is Syrian Jews who have been singled out for particularly adverse treatment," Harary said. She said Jews live under 24-hour surveillance and cannot travel outside the country unless they leave a large sum of money and a family

member behind. There are four Jewish men currently in prison for having tried to leave the country, she said.

The secret police check the attendance records at schools every day and if a child is absent, the child's home is visited to see if the family tried to escape the country, Harary said.

She added that Syria has refused to allow Jews to leave to join families abroad. She described one case in which two Jewish children, ages 8 and 12, are alone because their grandmother, who took care of them after their entire family went to the United States, has died.

U.S. court finds Good Friday to be legitimate state holiday

By

DEBRA NUSSBAUM COHEN

NEW YORK (JTA) — For the first time, a federal court of appeals has upheld the constitutionality of designating Good Friday a legal state holiday. In a 2-1 decision handed down April 30, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit upheld Hawaii's observance of the Christian holy day.

The majority opinion called the holiday "a minimal accommodation of the religious practices of some Hawaiians," and reasoned that the state was not favoring religion, but merely giving workers a day off.

Both judges who ruled in favor of the state — Diarmuid O'Scannlain and Stephen Trott — were appointed by President Ronald Reagan, according to an Associated Press account.

In a dissent, Justice Dorothy Nelson said, "The holly and the ivy, jingling bells, red-nosed reindeer and frosty snowmen this is not. What this case is about is Hawaii's endorsement, by means of a state holiday, of

a day thoroughly infused with religious significance."

The decision "turned the First Amendment on its head," according to Joel Goldstein, an attorney and president of the West Central region of the American Jewish Congress, who filed a friend-of-the-court brief in the case. "What Hawaii did is nothing less than a declaration that Christianity and its observances are its own. Surely, this is literally an establishment of religion," Goldstein said in a statement.

The plaintiffs in the case were represented by the American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii.

According to ACLU staff attorney Carl Varady, "We've had lots of calls from Christians and Christian clergy saying they think it's inappropriate for the state to give sanction to the day of Good Friday."

Mark Stern, legal director for the American Jewish Congress, was surprised by the decision. "It's so obvious (that this infringes on the separation of church and state) that

you wonder how judges can get it wrong," he said.

The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and Americans United for Separation of Church and State signed on to the AJCongress brief. "That a religious holiday should be designated a state holiday seems inconsistent with the letter and the spirit of the establishment clause of the First Amendment," said Steven Freeman, ADL's legal director.

The ACLU plans to pursue the case by asking the appellate court to reconsider its decision or by taking it to the U.S. Supreme Court.

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BAT MITZVAHS

Jill Chernekoff honored by JNF

WTXF-TV FOX 29 news anchor Jill Chernekoff will be honored as the "Woman of the Year" by the Jewish National Fund Future Leadership at a special Gala tribute set for Saturday evening, May 11, at the Ballroom at The Ben, in center city Philadelphia.

Proceeds from the event will be used to establish the Jill Chernekoff woodland of trees in Israel.

Honorary chairperson of JNF Future Leadership. She also served on the Boards of the ALS Association, the Keystone State Head Injury Foundation, the March of Dimes and the National Foundation for Ileitis and Colitis. She has also served as host for many telethons including the

United Negro College Fund, the Children's Miracle Network and the Cerebral Palsy Association.

Chernekoff is presently the co-anchor of the Ten O'Clock News on Fox 29 in Philadelphia. She has been in this position since January 1990. Prior to this she was a midday anchor for Ted Turner's Cable News Network in Atlanta.

She is the recipient of the Associated Press Broadcasters award for best feature story in 1988 for a story on Siamese twins and the AP Broadcasters award for spot news for a report on the TWA strike of 1986.

Before beginning her TV career, Chernekoff was a newscaster for WZZD radio in Lafayette Hill, WPEN radio in Philadelphia and WDEL radio in Wilmington.

The Jewish National Fund is the organization responsible for afforestation and land reclamation in Israel. Since 1901, the JNF has been transforming a once-barren land into a nation of thriving forests, agricultural communities, parks, and industrial areas.

With the massive influx of Soviet and Ethiopian immigrants to Israel, JNF's bulldozers have been hard at



Jill Chernekoff

work clearing land and preparing the infrastructure for housing sites for these new immigrants. Under the campaign "Operation Promised Land", the JNF is preparing over 70,000 housing sites throughout Israel.

Israel brokers diplomatic ties

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Israel has brokered a diplomatic rapprochement between the Soviet Union and South Africa and was thanked for its efforts, according to a report that appeared under banner headlines in the Israeli daily *Ma'ariv* last month.

"The newspaper quoted sources in the South African Embassy here as saying that South Africa and the Soviet Union would soon open "interest sections" at the Austrian embassies in Moscow and Pretoria respectively.

The embassy sources declined to confirm that Israeli mediation led to the diplomatic move.

But according to *Ma'ariv*, the Soviet prime minister, Valentin Pavlov, thanked Israel for its role when he met last week in London with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

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The following have made contributions to The Jewish Voice's voluntary subscription drive since the list of contributors was printed in the February 22 issue. We are very grateful for the support received during this drive.

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Delaware's synagogues to hold Confirmation celebrations

According to tradition, Shavuot is the day on which the Torah was revealed to the Jewish people on Mount Sinai. The custom of holding Confirmation services on Shavuot was established to emphasize the relationship between the holiday and the study of Torah.

ADAS KODESCH SHEL EMETH

Services will be held on
Sunday, May 19, at 8 p.m.

JOSHUA EISENBERG

son of Arnold and Jacqueline Eisenberg

JOSHUA HANDLER

son of Richard Handler and Dr. Cynthia Handler

MARISSA HOLOB

daughter of Gary and Adeline Holob

KEREN INI

daughter of Avi and Rivka Ini

JEFFREY KAHN

son of Jules and Priscilla Kahn

MARK SILVER

son of Paul and Faith Silver

ABBY SIPRESS

daughter of Roger and Terry Sipress

SCOTT SNYDER

son of Frederick and Sandra Snyder

MEREDITH VINOKUR

daughter of Jack and Iris Vinokur

TEMPLE BETH EL

Services will be held on
Sunday, May 19, at 10 a.m.

ALLYSON COHEN

daughter of Hilton and Rochelle Cohen

JILL BELL

daughter of Lynn and Lynda Bell

MATTHEW FRIEDMAN

son of Howard and Phyllis Friedman

STACEY GINSBURG

daughter of Michael and Eileen Ginsburg

STACEY SCHWARTZ

daughter of Jeffrey and Denise Schwartz

REBECCA STELLENBERG

daughter of Jay and Lynda Stellenberg

SCOTT ZETLAN

son of Andrew and Karen Zetlan

CONGREGATION BETH EMETH

Services will be held on
Sunday, May 19, at 11 a.m.

JILL S. BERNHARDT

daughter of D. Steven Bernhardt

and Sonia Bernhardt

ABBIE K. GOLDBERG

daughter of Dr. Joseph and Annette Goldberg

DAVID N. GRUMBACHER

son of Rabbi Peter and Suzy Grumbacher

DENISE J. JONAS

daughter of Steven and Dr. Susan Jonas

ELISHA K. OZER

daughter of Larry and Patricia Ozer

STEFANIE B. SCHATZ

daughter of Jay and Esther Schatz

JODY B. SIMON

daughter of Linda Simon

KIMBERLY R. SLOAN

daughter of Alan and Joan Sloan

CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM

Services will be held on
Sunday, May 19, at 10 a.m.

SHANA DEITCH

daughter of Stephen Deitch and Jacqueline Harad

DANIEL KORELEK

son of Dr. Alan and Leslie Korelek

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Two Jewish groups criticize severity of Pollard sentence

By ALIZA MARCUS
NEW YORK (JTA) — Two major U.S. Jewish groups have publicly criticized the life sentence given to convicted spy Jonathan Jay Pollard, signaling a shift in the community's position toward the American Jew who spied for Israel.

The American Section of the World Jewish Congress, which represents 40 mainstream Jewish groups, issued a statement April 29 asking that Pollard's life sentence be commuted to time served. And the Reform movement's Central Conference of American Rabbis, the organization of Reform rabbis, said April 30 it believes an "injustice" was done in Pollard's sentencing.

The statement from the CCAR executive board also said the group's officers will consider filing a "friend of the court" brief next month, when Pollard's lawyers file an appeal for a new trial.

Some Jewish community leaders have said that these recent statements exemplify a new outlook in the organized American Jewish community concerning Pollard, who once was studiously ignored by many community leaders and organizations.

"I'm pleased (with the publicity) and think it's reflective of a change in the mood in the community," said Seymour Reich, former chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, an umbrella group representing 47 major Jewish groups. Reich, who three weeks ago visited Pollard in the maximum security prison in Marion, Ill., where he is being held in solitary confinement, added that since then, "everywhere I go, people come over to me and say that it's about time the

community responds to the harshness of the sentence."

Pollard, a former naval intelligence officer in Washington, was arrested in 1985 for passing hundreds of secret documents to Israel. Two years later, he was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Pollard's arrest aroused the ire and embarrassment of many in the U.S. Jewish community, who feared raising the issue of dual loyalty and who were angered that Israel would endanger the standing of the Jewish community by using an American Jew as a spy.

But those involved in organized Jewry say the community is beginning to believe it can criticize Pollard's sentence without excusing his crime. "We would like commutation of the sentence, because we feel he has served enough," said Evelyn Sommer, chairwoman of WJC's American Section. "We believe his suffering is really out of proportion to the crime."

Alan Dershowitz, Pollard's lawyer, said the WJC statement "is an important first step and reflects the growing grass-roots sentiment in the Jewish community" that Pollard's continuing imprisonment "is an affront to Israel, to American Jews and to justice."

The Persian Gulf War, and the Iraqi Scud missile attacks on Israel, may have helped ease the tension between Pollard and U.S. Jewry, because of his contention that he gave Israel early warning of Iraq's weapons capabilities. During the Gulf crisis, his sister, Carol Pollard, said in an interview, "Right now is Jonathan's time," because people "realize that the information he gave

Israel ensured that Israel was prepared" for such a threat.

In a recent interview, she added that the WJC statement is "a historic step, given the size and stature of the group." She applauded the Jewish community for taking a more public stand on her brother's imprisonment.

The WJC resolution was also hailed by Israel's Knesset Lobby on Behalf of Jonathan Pollard, which sent a letter to the WJC saying it had made a "very important decision." It expressed hope that other American organizations would soon follow suit.

The group has been campaigning on behalf of Pollard. Last winter, it organized a petition, signed by 70 Knesset members, asking President Bush to treat Pollard with leniency. "We believe that the crimes that Jonathan Pollard committed stemmed, in great part, from his intention to warn also of the unconventional Iraqi threat, which endangers the security of Israel and indeed the whole world," said the Jan. 29 statement issued by the group.

Pollard's supporters have long argued that he received an unduly harsh sentence, given that he was charged with passing classified documents to an ally.

They cite much shorter sentences given to others who have passed classified documents to non-enemy nations. Pollard's sister referred to a 10-year sentence given to a weapons analyst for passing information to South Africa, and the less than four years given to a rocket scientist who tried to smuggle missile material to Egypt.

In a plea bargain agreement reached with the U.S. government, Pollard agreed to cooperate and plead

guilty in exchange for a reduced sentence. But the Justice Department later claimed he broke his part of the agreement by speaking to journalist Wolf Blitzer, who wrote a book about the case.

Pollard's supporters have suggested that anti-Semitism played a role in the long sentence, and they point to alleged statements by former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger showing great hostility toward Pollard. Dershowitz said Wein-

berger was known to have a "problem" toward Jews and Israel.

After Pollard's arrest, Weinberger referred to him as the most dangerous spy in U.S. history, saying he grossly compromised national security. A secret memo he wrote to the judge in Pollard's case has never been released. "It's un-American to prosecute someone and sentence them on the basis of secrets and whispering, and people whispered into the judge's ear," said Dershowitz.

Some 90 percent of Soviet olim prefer Israel to U.S., says poll

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Despite perceptions of a corrupt bureaucracy, unfriendly neighbors and cheating by shopkeepers, 90 percent of Soviet immigrants would stay in Israel even if they could emigrate and settle in the United States, according to a poll taken among a representative sample of 600 new olim.

The survey, conducted by veteran pollster Mina Tzemach for the Center for Volunteers in Israel, discovered that 50 percent of the newcomers think Israelis are not friendly, and 80 percent say older Israelis are friendlier than younger ones.

Over 45 percent think Israel's bureaucracy is as corrupt as the one they left behind, and 15 percent think it is more corrupt. But 55 percent say Israeli bureaucrats are as efficient as their Soviet counterparts. The pollster did not explain whether that should be taken as a compliment to the Israelis.

More than 80 percent of the Soviet immigrants list legal advice as a basic need for their successful absorption. Tzemach said the poll showed the immigrants fear they are easy prey for Israelis who take advantage of their situation. About 45 percent think they are being cheated when they shop or seek services, and another 16 percent were not quite certain. A third of those questioned professed to be victims of fraud and exploitation.

But despite their troubles, 80 percent of the olim said they have a strong sense that Israel is their homeland.

Although only 25 percent said they have family in Israel, compared to 70 percent who have relatives in the United States, no more than 10 percent would go to the United States if they could get visas, the poll indicated.

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Yugoslavia Jews have so far avoided strife

By CHARLES HOFFMAN
 JERUSALEM (JTA) — Yugoslavia's Jewish community has managed so far to evade much of the nationalist strife and separatist tensions that are tearing the already loose confederation of six republics apart.

"In the past, these kind of problems started with the Jews," reflected Rabbi Cadik Danon of Belgrade. "The good thing today, though, is that no one is bothering us."

Danon, 73, a former diplomat who serves Yugoslav Jewry as its sole rabbi, said that one reason for this is that the Jewish community has been

very careful not to take sides in the current strife. Danon was interviewed while attending a gathering of the Conference of European Rabbis held here late last month.

"In the Federation of Jewish Communities in Yugoslavia," he said, "we all try to work out a common political approach, and try not to hurt each other."

"Individual Jews who do not represent the community are politically active in the various republics, but as a community, we try to stay out of the question of what direction the country should take," he explained. But he added that "no one knows what

will happen" in the future, "and this makes us all worried."

There are 6,000 to 7,000 Jews in Yugoslavia today, compared with a pre-war population of 80,000. About 15,000 survived the Holocaust, half of whom went to Israel.

The three largest Jewish communities are in Belgrade, the national capital, which is in Serbia; Zagreb, in Croatia; and Sarajevo, in Bosnia. Serbia and Croatia have long history of tensions that was aggravated by World War II. Serbia was occupied by the Nazis, while Croatia was ruled by a pro-Nazi puppet government, headed by local fascists, the Ustashi.

The six republics of Yugoslavia are Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro and Macedonia.

Danon noted with gratification that "there have been on pressures on any Jewish community to support the independence movements in any of the republics. While I did make a statement in support of the Serbian minority in Kosovo, no one has asked me to support Serbia's political aims," he said.

"In Croatia, it worries us to see some of the old Ustashi forces emerging," Danon said. "But on the good side, the deputy foreign minister is a Jew, and the president of Croatia laid

a wreath at a memorial for Holocaust victims. The Serbians have always had good relations with the Jews," he said, adding that the Serbians "have also developed good ties with Israel."

Danon graduated from a rabbinical seminary in Sarajevo in 1937. During the war, he served in the Yugoslav army and was taken prisoner by the Germans in 1942. He escaped from a prison camp and joined the underground resistance in Sarajevo. He was arrested and sent to a prison camp in Italy, but escaped to join the Italian partisans when the Allies invaded Italy in 1943.

He served briefly as a rabbi in Belgrade after the war, then moved to Israel for several years. He returned to Yugoslavia and joined the diplomatic corps, where he worked until his retirement in 1970. In 1972 he was asked by the country's Jewish community to serve as rabbi.

Danon, who was a member of the Communist Party, said that when he "studied at the rabbinical seminary in the 1930s, when Hitler was coming to power, all of the youth identified with progressive political forces. Later on I belonged to the Shomer Hatzair." At that time this Zionist youth movement was militantly socialist.



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Second Annual Young Leadership Cabinet Local Mission Caravan

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387 Arab-on-Arab murders reported

TEL AVIV (JTA) — A total of 387 Palestinians have been killed by other Palestinians since the intifada broke out in December 1987, and 1,285 have been wounded in internecine attacks, Israel's Government Press Office announced recently.

Three Palestinians were murdered and three more were injured in the past week alone by fellow Palestinians. The press office said its figure did not include five Palestinian bystanders killed in attacks aimed at Jews or the 37 prisoners in detention centers murdered by other inmates. There were 24 such murders at the Ketziot detention camp in the Negev, the press office said.

Biden responds to JWV

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.
 DELAWARE

United States Senate
 WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0802

April 5, 1991

Mr. Israel Weiner
 Commander
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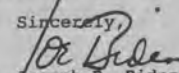
Dear Mr. Weiner:

Thank you for sharing your views with me regarding the war in the Persian Gulf and Israel's role in the post-war Middle East.

I assure you that the friendship between the United States and Israel continues to be strong. The United States has long had a close relationship with Israel. This relationship is based on shared values -- Israel is a democracy and supports U.S. foreign policy, particularly in the United Nations. Its restraint during the Scud missile attacks reinforced that cooperation and friendship. That is why I supported recent legislation that provided Israel with financial emergency assistance.

The United States must also do its part to encourage a settlement in the Middle East. However, that settlement must include guarantees about Israel's legitimacy and the right to secure borders with her Arab neighbors. I have long believed that an important component of our Middle East policy should be the vigorous pursuit of the Camp David accords -- negotiated between Israel and Egypt in the late 1970s -- which provide an important framework for peace in the region.

Again, thank you for sharing your thoughts with me.

Sincerely,

 Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
 United States Senator

Senator Joseph R. Biden responded to the Jewish War Veterans of Delaware letter by assuring continued friendship between the U.S. and Israel.

Focus on Federation Agencies

A COLUMN WRITTEN BY THE AGENCIES ABOUT THE AGENCIES

Tree of Love at Kutz Home

The Auxiliary of the Milton and Hattie Kutz Home, a 700-member organization dedicated to enhancing the life of the residents, donated a "Tree of Love" to the facility. The formal dedication took place on September 28, 1989.

It was unanimously agreed by members of the Board of the Auxiliary that all proceeds from this fundraiser would go directly to the Home to be used for operating expenses.

The brass "Tree of Love" has 300 leaves and rocks at its base. The trunk, all four branches, 12 rocks and 121 leaves have already been purchased. It was necessary for the Auxiliary to buy an additional ten rocks because the original ones had been sold. It is, indeed, "a tree which leaves the richness of its fruit forever."

Unlike Trees of Life, which are familiar in area synagogues, the "Tree

of Love" at the Kutz Home affords people the opportunity to honor the memory of the deceased as well as to commemorate joyous events in the lives of their loved ones.

To members of the Auxiliary of the Milton and Hattie Kutz Home the "Tree of Love" stands as a symbol of hope, love and life... a very powerful symbol to have in a home for the aged. It represents their continuing pledge that the residents will not be forgotten.

Passover included young and old

Passover at the Milton and Hattie Kutz Home was a special time for the Residents. The dining room was decorated most attractively; the food prepared by Mr. Milton Broddie, Dietary Supervisor, and his staff was super-"pesadic;" the Residents were dressed-up in their finest and some had family members as guests.

The first seder was conducted by

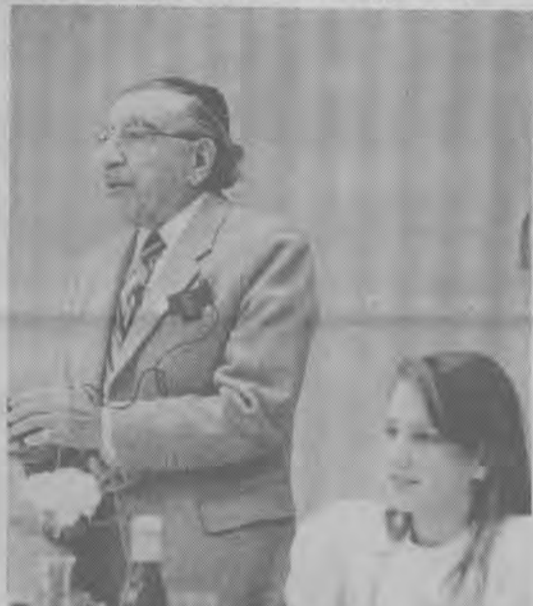
Ms. Ann Greenstein who used Rabbi Peter Grumbacher's haggada. Sally Sugarman, daughter of resident Mrs. Ida Sugarman, asked the four questions.

Dr. Charles Levy conducted the second seder using the traditional haggada. It was the fifteenth seder Dr. Levy has conducted at the Home. His granddaughter, Regina Koenig

from Santa Domingo, asked the four questions. Also attending were her brothers, Ricardo and Eduardo.

"It was wonderful to have young people at the seders. It gave more of a family feeling," said Daniel Thurman, Executive Director. "The night was truly different from all other nights, as the haggada says."

At right, Dr. Charles Levy conducted the second seder at the Kutz Home. His granddaughter, Regina Koenig, is at his side. Below Ann Greenstein conducted the first seder. Kutz resident Jenő Lieberman follows along from his haggadah.



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Funding problems delay removal of Auschwitz's nuns

By JULIAN KOSSOFF
London Jewish Chronicle

LONDON (JTA) — Funding problems are still holding up the relocation of a Carmelite convent from the grounds of the former Auschwitz death camp in southeastern Poland, a senior Vatican official has said here.

Archbishop Edward Cassidy, president of the Vatican Commission for Religious Relations With the Jews, could not say when the interfaith prayer and education center that is to house the convent would be completed. "The building is well advanced. Financial contributions have come from outside, including from the holy father," Cassidy told British Jewish

leaders during a conference here. "But it is a constant struggle to reach completion," he added. The Vatican is reported to have contributed \$144,000 toward the project.

The presence of Carmelite nuns at Auschwitz, where an estimated 1.4 million Jews perished during the Holocaust, outraged Jewish opinion and led to sorely strained relations between Catholics and Jews, which have only recently been repaired.

As long ago as February 1987, the European Catholic cardinals pledged to world Jewish leaders that the convent would be relocated within three years. That deadline was not met. But construction began last year

on a new complex, across the road and out of sight of Auschwitz, that will contain a cloistered convent.

It is supposed to be completed next year. Bishop Henryk Muszynski, chairman of the Polish Episcopal Commission for Dialogue With the Jews, said during a visit to the United States last month that the first building of the complex would be dedicated in May or June. But Cassidy could give no date.

And in New York, Rabbi Leon Klenicki, who recently returned from a visit to the Auschwitz site, said the nuns "will move into their new cloister a year and a half from now." The structure of the convent has been

completed, though the interior remains unfinished, said Klenicki, who is director of interfaith affairs at the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

When asked why it would take 18 months to put down floors and install fixtures, Klenicki replied, "Poland is not like America. It takes years and years to get things done."

Archbishop Cassidy was also challenged by Hayim Pinner, secretary-general of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, over the Vatican's refusal to establish diplomatic relations with Israel. He replied that certain questions had to be resolved, including the status of Christianity in Israel before formal relations could be es-

tablished.

He said speculation that Pope John Paul II would visit Jerusalem soon was therefore premature. The pontiff has publicly expressed a desire to go there.

Cassidy sought to calm Jewish fears that the Decade of Evangelism proclaimed by the Vatican is aimed at converting Jews. Its purpose is "the renewal of our own communities that have wandered away from their Christian roots," he said.

Cassidy stressed that Catholic attitudes toward the Jews have been steadily improving since the "Nostra Aetate" document on reconciliation was issued at the Second Vatican Council in 1965.

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Snub to Sharon in Washington doesn't sit well at home

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The Bush administration's snub of Housing Minister Ariel Sharon in Washington last week seems to have bred only more defiance in Israel. The drive to build settlements in the administered territories has accelerated, despite U.S. admonitions that they are an "obstacle to peace."

But Sharon's triumphal homecoming Sunday, to the cheers of right-wing admirers, has also exposed a serious rift at the top echelons of the Likud government.

Foreign Minister David Levy chose the time of his arrival to deliver a stinging public attack in Tel Aviv on "elements in the coalition" who are trying to "impose" their anti-peace

policies on Likud.

Sharon, in turn, railed against left-wing Knesset members Dedi Zucker and Yossi Sarid, who exposed his immediate settlement plans in the press. He called them a "commando of talebearers." But he confirmed their claims that more settlements would soon go up in the West Bank. Sharon said the first mobile homes would arrive shortly at Har Manoach, near Kiryat Arba.

He and the Gush Emunim activists who are his hard-core constituents insist it is not a new settlement but an expansion of Kiryat Arba that was begun years ago and then abandoned.

That sort of explanation does not sit well in Washington, which was

embarrassed by the establishment of two new settlements in the midst of Secretary of State James Baker's recent peace mission to the Middle East. One of them was also alleged to be an extension of an existing settlement, though it was set up on a hilltop two miles away.

Apparently as a consequence of Sharon's open opposition to U.S. policies, the State Department and the White House intervened last week to have Housing and Urban Development Secretary Jack Kemp call off an official reception he had planned for Sharon at the HUD office. The two met, but in private capacity under the auspices of the Israeli Embassy.

Sharon succeeded in convincing a

majority of opinion at home that the slight was aimed at the sovereign State of Israel, not himself. Even opposition Knesset members took umbrage. Israel lodged a formal protest with the United States on Thursday.

But that done, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir seemed anxious to put the episode behind him. He refused to be drawn into a discussion of it at Sunday's Cabinet meeting.

Political observers grieve that the snub to Sharon benefited the controversial minister's political position at home.

Several hundred settlers and a half-

dozen right-wing and religious Knesset members were at the airport to greet Sharon on Sunday when he arrived from the United States.

Notable among them was Knesset Speaker Dov Shilansky, who admitted that the conventions of his office should have kept him away. But the occasion demanded a demonstrative gesture, said the speaker, who is himself a Likud hard-liner. "There are times in the life of a nation when people should rise above their differences," he said, adding, "We are a free people in Eretz Yisrael."

Sharon told his supporters, "We Jews will never give in" when it comes "to matters that pertain to the essentials of our existence here."

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Jews concerned by move to end Church-State separation in Poland

By **DEBRA NUSBAUM COHEN**
NEW YORK (JTA) — The Polish Catholic Church, which has lately sought to improve Catholic attitudes toward Jews, has called for an end to the separation of church and state in Poland.

Though the proposal is not considered likely to win majority support in the current parliament, the first fully democratic parliamentary elections in late October could give way to a more sympathetic legislature.

A formal move to make Poland a theocracy would cause some concern among American Jewish communal leaders, because it could challenge the status of Poland's dwindling Jewish community, which

numbers less than 10,000 out of an overwhelmingly Catholic population of 38 million.

But Jewish experts are also concerned that such a move could set a new political trend in Eastern Europe. "Poland is a bellwether for the rest of Eastern Europe and Russia," explained George Spectre, director of political education at B'nai B'rith International in Washington.

"Poland's future as a Western-oriented state will hinge heavily on its willingness and ability to be pluralistic, even though it is overwhelmingly Polish Catholic," he said.

"Poland must create an atmosphere where minorities can feel that they're equal, not subsumed under an officially religious state," he said. "It needs to set an example. This is not the kind of message Poland needs at this time."

The proposal to unify church and state is suspected to have the support of Poland's staunchly Catholic president, Lech Walesa. "Without Walesa's okay, I'm not sure this would be happening," said one observer, adding that former Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki, who ran against Walesa, "would have used all of his influence to defeat it."

The Polish Episcopate first introduced the notion of the church as state a year ago, and brought it up again several days ago, according to Bronislaw Geremek, the parliamentary leader of the Solidarity bloc, who spoke by telephone with Rabbi A. James Rudin, director of interreligious affairs for the American Jewish Committee.

Geremek, who serves as chairman of the parliamentary committee creating a new Polish constitution, told Rudin he believes "there can be and should be cooperation between the Roman Catholic Church and Poland." But he added that, "in a modern European state, the principle must be the separation of church and state."

Walesa: I'm no anti-Semite

By **JULIAN KOSOFF**
London Jewish Chronicle

LONDON (JTA) — President Lech Walesa of Poland is still trying to erase the image that he is anti-Semitic. "I have so many times had to prove I'm not. And each time I have tried to persuade people I'm not, everybody believes that I am," the former Solidarity trade union leader said during a three-day state visit to Britain last month. "The more I prove, the more they disbelieve," he said.

Walesa had the same complaint when he visited the United States in March and spoke to Holocaust survivors in Washington on March 21.

Accusations of alleged anti-Semitism on the part of Walesa arose with the bitterly fought political campaign in Poland that culminated in his election to the presidency in December. During that campaign, there were constant anti-Semitic innuendoes aimed at Walesa's opponent, then Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki, who, though now Jewish, was lobbed with oblique accusations that he was not "a true Pole."

Walesa is faulted for having done nothing to restrain the remarks, especially so because of his reported angry retort that he is "100 percent Polish," when asked at an election rally if there weren't "too many Jews" in the Polish government.

Walesa said he neither created nor exploited anti-Semitism in the election campaign, but admitted it was a major problem in a country with fewer than 10,000 Jews in a population of 38 million. "I say wherever anti-Semitism appears, no matter what people think of me, I oppose it," the Polish leader declared.

He is scheduled to visit Israel in May in an attempt to mend fences with Jews in Poland and abroad. Apart from the symbolic importance, his visit is expected to improve bilateral and commercial relations between Poland and Israel.

Bishop Henryk Muszynski, chairman of the Polish Episcopate's Commission for Dialogue With Judaism, agrees with this position. "Both the church and state need the separation," Muszynski told Rudin in a telephone conversation. "The church can best do its role free of the state."

But others in the church apparently feel differently, though it is not yet clear whether the proposal has the backing of the entire Polish bishops organization or just a particular faction of clerics.

According to Rudin, the proposal was revived by the episcopate partly

to further its interest in outlawing abortion, which was made a common form of birth control under Communist rule. While anti-abortion legislation is reportedly opposed by nearly 60 percent of Poles surveyed recently, Walesa is said to feel beholden to the church for its central role in toppling the Communist regime.

As one observer put it, "it's a delicate little dance he has to do" between his loyalty to the church, as the Catholic leader of an overwhelmingly Catholic country, and his commitment to bringing Poland into the family of democratic nations.

Czech leader: Prague to sell tanks to Syria

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Economic exigencies are forcing Czechoslovakia to sell tanks to Syria, its prime minister, Marian Calfa, explained here Monday. Calfa, who is in Jerusalem as guest of the World Jewish Congress' ninth plenary assembly, acknowledged that the weapons, Soviet-designed T-72 tanks, pose a military challenge to Israel.

His admission drew an angry response from Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who reminded the Czechoslovak spokesman that the Soviet bloc

had always demonstrated its hostility toward Israel by selling or supplying advanced weaponry to Israel's enemies.

But Czechoslovakia is no longer part of a Communist bloc and is striving for democracy and a market economy. That in essence is the reason why it must sell its products to all comers, Syria included, if it is to achieve economic viability, explained Calfa, who clearly views world Jewry as a potential source of investments in his country. "We Czechs would

much prefer to lock up the arms factories and convert to peaceful production," he said.

Both in public and in his private session with Shamir on Monday, Calfa stressed that his country's position was dictated by economic imperatives.

Czechoslovakia wants to phase out its massive armaments industries and convert to civilian production, he said. But that takes time and costs money. Meanwhile, Czechoslovakia is hard-pressed for funds, and its famous arms factories employ tens of thousands of breadwinners.

Calfa told reporters here that he was appealing to Israelis and to Jewish businesses worldwide to help his country convert to civilian production by investing in its economy.

Pizza to hot to handle

The religious township of Bnei Brak has banned hot pizza because the food could lead to contact between the sexes. Rabbinical authorities feared boys and girls would stand in the same lines at pizza parlors waiting for their slices to be heated. But pizza fanciers have rabbinical sanction to buy slices cold and heat them at home.

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Separate passports for Arab states and Israel due for hearing

By **JOSEPH POLAKOFF**

Special to The Jewish Voice

WASHINGTON—Saudi Arabia's refusal to allow U.S. Senator Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) to enter that country because his diplomatic passport showed he had visited Israel is to be aired by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that is considering legislation to discourage that practice by Arab countries. Lautenberg introduced the legislation based on his recent experience while on a Senate leadership delegation to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Senator Daniel P. Moynihan (D-NY), a committee member who has cosponsored the legislation, has called for the committee's hearing that will bring State Department officials into explaining their present practice of issuing two passports to U.S. government personnel and private citizens. One enables a holder to visit Arab states and another for entering Israel.

Before the delegation's departure in late March, staff members routinely asked the Saudi Arabian Embassy to provide visas for the senators. Because Lautenberg's passport had an Israeli entrance stamp from a visit there, the Saudis would not give him a visa. A second attempt for a visa at the embassy also failed.

The State Department then issued Lautenberg an entirely new diplomatic passport as the means to secure a visa from the Saudi Arabian and Kuwaiti Governments and thus enable him to participate in the Senate group's trip.

In addressing the Senate on his measure April 17, Lautenberg said that, apart from Egypt, "the Arab nations continue to isolate and alien-

ate Israel politically" and "continue to refuse the reality of Israel's existence."

Calling the refusal for a visa "a slap in the face of all Americans," Lautenberg said "in maintaining their visa policies, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait are sending a clear but disturbing message to all Americans. American soldiers coming to fight to restore security in the region are welcome. But Americans who have committed the offense of ever having visited Israel are not. Would the Saudis and Kuwaitis have denied an American soldier entry if he or she had visited Israel?"

"It is an insult to Israel" and to the U.S. that American ambassadors and other government personnel and tourists should have to have two passports to travel in the Middle East if they want to visit Israel," Lautenberg said.

"The U.S. Government," he said, "condones" this policy and "accepts the fact that American diplomats and other travelers have to endorse the Arabs' refusal to even recognize Israel's existence in order to travel to a majority of Arab countries. It buys into this hatred and totally unacceptable view."

Under the proposed legislation, U.S. diplomats in the Middle East would "immediately commence negotiations" with Arab governments to reserve their policy. If within 90 days of enactment of the legislation "negotiations have not resulted in a commitment from each Arab country to reverse this policy, the State Department will be prohibited from issuing duplicate passports" to U.S. officials traveling in the Middle East and also "immediately prohibit the

issuance of passports designated for travel only to Israel."

The State Department has not publicly replied to a reporter's request for an explanation of its policy of two passports. However, unofficially Department sources have informed this reporter that every coun-

try has a right to restrict who is allowed to enter it. They said both the U.S. and Israel bar individuals for political or security reasons.

An aide to Lautenberg categorically reject "this excuse," noting that "only Arab countries bar a citizen of a third country who happens to have

visited Israel. That is an ugly practice." He mentioned as an example that China does not bar Americans who have been in Taiwan.

An Israel Embassy official said Israel restricts entry only to those who are known to be members of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Boschwitz: Ethiopia to increase emigration

By **HOWARD ROSENBERG**

WASHINGTON (JTA) — President Bush's special emissary to Ethiopia said Monday that he expects the Ethiopian government to increase the rate of Jewish emigration to Israel from the current rate of 1,000 a month. Former Sen. Rudy Boschwitz (R-Minn.) told reporters after meeting for 15 minutes with Bush and his top advisers, "We'll be watching for the emigration numbers to change."

Boschwitz said that he and top U.S. African experts, who met with Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam and other senior Ethiopian officials for 13 hours late last month, did not hammer out a formal agreement with the Ethiopian government in the sense that something was signed. But he did not rule out that an understanding was reached.

The fate of Ethiopian Jews is tied closely to the success or failure of U.S. efforts to bring about negotiations between the government and rebel forces from the northern provinces of Eritrea and Tigre, Boschwitz said.

"All of that is interconnected," Boschwitz said.

The rebel forces are within 40 miles of Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital, where the country's estimated 17,000 to 18,000 Jews have con-

verged in the hope of being swiftly airlifted to Israel. He said that "most people will tell you the rebels have gained the upper hand." But "they haven't come into Addis," Boschwitz said, a holding pattern he implied is the result of U.S. efforts aimed at "trying to bring about some kind of negotiations."

Boschwitz said the rebel leaders themselves are not particularly hostile to the Jews despite their ties to Israel, which has been accused of supplying the government with weaponry. He said Israel had supplied Ethiopia only with "very light arms in small quantities."

"I don't think it's the rebels that one would be concerned about," Boschwitz said. "It's just the fact that if Addis Ababa goes into an unrestrained (situation), it may in fact be an orgy in which many thousands of people are killed. And if much destruction is rained on the city," he added, the Ethiopian Jews "clearly are vulnerable."

The Jews are "particularly vulnerable because they are seen as a privileged group," he said, referring to special aid that they have received from the worldwide Jewish community.

Asked if he was satisfied with whatever understanding was reached,

the former senator said, "I'll be satisfied with it when I see something happen. Thus far, it's not much beyond the normal emigration that's occurred," he said.

During a photo session in the Oval Office, Bush told reporters that getting the Jews out of Ethiopia "is a concern that I share, and Rudy took a big step forward there in talking to the Ethiopian authorities."

Bush, who called the trip a "mission of conscience and a mission of compassion," added, "I know you got some words of encouragement from the Ethiopian government, and I think it's a mission that many in this country, when they understand it, will appreciate."

Also attending the meeting with Boschwitz were Vice President Dan Quayle, Chief of Staff John Sununu, Secretary of State James Baker and Brent Scowcroft, the national security adviser.

Boschwitz was accompanied on the trip to Ethiopia by Irvin Hicks, deputy assistant secretary of state for African affairs; Robert Frasure, director of African affairs on the National Security Council; and John Hall, the State Department's Ethiopia desk officer.

Continued on 16



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Obituaries

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Clio Straight

Clio Edwin Straight, a retired Army brigadier general who prosecuted hundreds of war crime cases in Germany after World War II, died April 22 at St. Francis Hospital. He was 96 years old and lived in Greenville, Del.

He died of pneumonia, a spokesman for a funeral home said.

General Straight, a 1930 graduate of the University of Iowa Law School, practiced law in Iowa before joining the Judge Advocate General Corps at the outbreak of the war.

In 1945 he was sent to Germany to direct arrangements to prosecute thousands of German officers accused of atrocities.

He prosecuted about 1,000 cases and also reviewed death sentences. In 1948 he was named chief of the litigation division of the office of Judge Advocate General and was later promoted to assistant Judge Advocate General for civil law.

He retired from the Army in 1961 and joined Champion International Corporation. In 1972 he joined the firm of Frost & Jacobs in Cincinnati and retired in 1977.

He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; a daughter, Mary Straight of Wilmington; a son, William of Bri-

arcliff Manor, N.Y.; three brothers, a sister; and two grandchildren.

Hundred, or charity.

Molly Levitsky

Molly Levitsky, of Parson Thorne Apartments, Milford, died May 2 of cancer in Milford Memorial Hospital, where she was a patient. Her age was not disclosed.

Miss Levitsky owned Molly's Kiddie Shop, Salem, N.J., from 1945 until 1978, when she retired.

She moved to Milford in 1980 and was an active member of Milford Planning & Zoning Commission; the Democratic Party of Kent County and the ladies auxiliary of Fraternal Order of Eagles, Millville, N.J.

She is survived by her mother, Fanny Levitsky Levinson, and two sisters, Ellan Orkin and Dorothy Sinner, all of Milford.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Delaware Hospice Inc., Georgetown, or Oheb Shalom Synagogue, Eighth Street, Salem, N.J. 08079.

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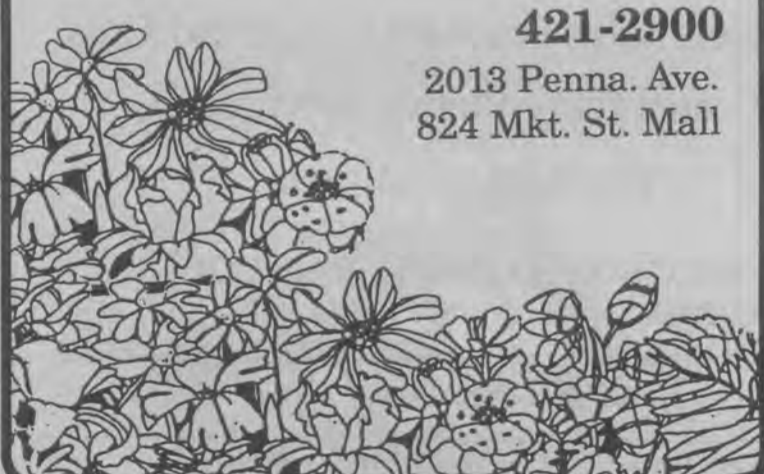
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Composer Jack Yellen dead at 98

NEW YORK (JTA) — Jack Yellen, composer of Yiddish and English songs who wrote the words to Franklin Roosevelt's first campaign song, "Happy Days Are Here Again," died April 17 at the home in upstate New York. He was 98.

Yellen's "My Yiddish Momme," which he composed with Lew Pollack, was made famous by singers Molly Picon and Sophie Tucker, and was performed regularly by Al Jolson. In particular, Tucker's Yiddish rendition of the song became an anthem for Yiddish-American theatre.

Others among the more than 130 songs for which he provided either the music, the lyrics, or both, include "Mr. Segal, You Gotta Make It Legal," "I Wonder What's Become Of Sally," "Are You From Dixie?" and "Are You Having Any Fun?"

Also among his credits are show scores, including "Rain or Shine" and "The Ziegfeld Follies of 1943."

Yellen, the son of a Polish pawnbroker and the oldest of seven children, began his career as a reporter for the *Buffalo Courier*. He quit in 1917 and moved to New York, where he wrote songs which he promoted

in dance halls.

His honors included induction into the Songwriters Hall of Fame in 1976, and service on the board of directors of the American Society of Composers Authors and Publishers between 1951 and 1969.

Yellen retired in the late 1940s to work on his farm.

Dear Rachel

Several weeks ago our daughter was stillborn. As you can imagine, this has been a nightmare for us and for our children. Unfortunately, I don't think most people can imagine. At the seders, our out-of-town relatives ignored the whole tragedy. They acted as though nothing ever happened. Most of the people we know here have said the stupidest, most painful things I could never have dreamed of. People tell us our family is complete anyway, because we already have one of each. Others tell me not to feel badly, since they know that I will get pregnant again in a few months. Several idiots have assured us

that it was for the best; there must have been something wrong with her. The dumbest remark has to be, "Take mine, please!" That one is usually followed by a list of complaints about their healthy, living children.

Our daughter's death is real. We can't just go on as though nothing happened. We ache for what she might have been. We lost our dreams and hopes and love for this child. We are deprived of the ritual comfort of sitting shiva and saying kaddish. So if you really care about how we feel, try to be a little sensitive about what you do and don't say.

All My Children's Mother

Dear Mother,

Most people get so worried about the fact that they don't have the right answers that they forget the power of asking the right question. A simple "I'm sorry to hear about your loss", followed by, "How are you doing?" goes a long way toward letting you know that people care about the loss you and your family suffered. The question is good for several months; it doesn't get used up.

May God comfort you together with all the mourners of Zion and Israel.

Rachel

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T.V. Review

'Hate' will be explored in PBS documentary

A young man in Los Angeles is beaten by police; a woman loses her family to Northern Ireland's religious war; Arab and Israeli children enact a centuries-old conflict; a South African leader spends 27 years in jail. These people are witnesses to, and victims of, hate.

Bill Moyers explores the origins and dimensions of hate—and efforts to move beyond it—in Moyers Beyond Hate, premiering Monday, May 13 at 10 p.m. on WHYY. The 90-minute special, produced by Catherine Tatge and Dominique Lasseur, was inspired by "The Anatomy of Hate" conference convened by Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel in Oslo, Norway last year, and is the first of three Moyers programs to explore facets of hate in the world today.

"Nothing about hate is simple," says Moyers. "The closer you come to it, the more paradoxical it seems, presenting first one face, then another. But if we are ever to go beyond it, we must know it well."

Moyers credits Elie Wiesel with calling his attention to the importance of looking anew at an ancient issue, and conversations with Wiesel thread through the documentary.

Through the experiences of world figures, gang leaders, and young people trying to cope with violence in their lives, Beyond Hate chronicles the impact of hate on its victims and probes its many dimensions. Each story illustrates a different facet of hatred, yet all resonate with one another to yield some unusual and thought-provoking insights.

As the special shows, hate is an all-pervasive and multi-faceted emotion from which few people are exempt. As former President Jimmy Carter states, "The most disturbing thing about hate is that all of us have it in us."

The documentary was taped in Oslo, Norway; Bensonhurst, New York; Washington, D.C.; Los Angeles, California; Portland, Oregon; Bedford, Virginia; and in Israel. It includes profiles of the following:

"The Anatomy of Hate" Conference

In Oslo, Norway, at "The Anatomy of Hate" conference, Moyers interviews witnesses to hatred such as Elie Wiesel, Nelson Mandela, Vaclav Havel, Jimmy Carter, Li Lu, and Mairead Corrigan Maguire. They tell of their own experience with hate and the personal resilience and resolve that helped them to deal with it. Maguire defines hatred as "a form of death" and Carter calls it a "deprivation of basic rights." Wiesel comments, "When language fails, violence becomes a language." Also interviewed are John Kenneth Galbraith and Romila Thapar on the economic basis of hatred.

Gang members in South Central Los Angeles

Gang members from the "Bloods" and the "Crips" describe the experience of living in an environment that thrives on conflict. For them, hate has become a weapon for survival—so deeply entrenched in their way of life that it is seldom questioned.

"White Aryan Resistance" group

Tom Metzger leads one of the largest and most active hate groups in America, the White Aryan Resistance. Metzger and his son John were sued in Portland, Oregon by the family of Mulugeta Seraw, an Ethiopian beaten to death by three skinheads. The Metzgers were accused of instigating violent attacks by skinheads through the youth division of their organization. Coverage of the trial, interviews with the Metzgers, and footage from Tom Metzger's long career as a militant white separatist examine the way the message of hate is transmitted and used as a mobilizing force, often disguised as a message of self-preservation and love.

Arab and Israeli youth

George, an Arab-Israeli from Nazareth and Ariel, an Orthodox Jew from Southern Israel are seen preparing to come to Legacy, an international training center in Bedford, Virginia where youth from around the world learn the tools for dialogue and understanding.

At Legacy, the documentary captures the beginnings of the fragile but important friendship that develops between these two young men, and listens as they speak to each other about the realities of their present and their hopes for the future.

Students, race relations and homophobia

In Bensonhurst, (Brooklyn) New York, Moyers visits two dynamic classes at New Utrecht High School—one focusing on conflict resolution and the other on race relations. The 1989 murder of Yusef Hawkins deeply affected the Bensonhurst community. Most of those accused in the murder were past students at New Utrecht. In response to growing community tension, Principal Allen Liebowitz set up a number of special programs for his students, including the two highlighted in the documentary.

Featured also is a student discussion about gay-bashing and the death of James Zappalorti, a gay man from Staten Island, N.Y. As one of the adult leaders of the discussion, activist Norman Siegal, explains, "This guy... was killed by two white people only because he was gay." Also interviewed is a young man who speaks openly about being gay in a society that is often hostile.

In Washington, D.C., a survivor of the Holocaust teaches young children how stereotyping and the seem-



Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel (left) and South African leader Nelson Mandela (right) will be among those discussing the problem of hate with world leaders, youth gang members, high school students and others about the many faces of hate on a PBS documentary to air on WHYY on Monday, May 13, at 10 p.m.

ingly innocuous hatred that we feel can lead to persecution of horrible dimensions.

Myrlie Evers, Walter Anderson

Another manifestation of hate is explored in the personal testimony of people such as Myrlie Evers, who was victimized by hatred when her husband, civil rights activist Medgar

Evers, was assassinated outside their home in 1963. She describes the feelings of the victim, drawing on her experience growing up in a racist society and especially on the night her husband was shot: "I literally wanted to get a machine gun and just mow people down, just take lives." She also touches on the explosion of her own hatred that night, "All I could see was the color of skin, and I hated everyone at that time who was white," and how its intensity and strength enabled her emotional survival.

Walter Anderson, a Vietnam veteran and editor of *Parade* magazine, discusses how anger and hatred developed from the irrationality of his feelings toward the enemy in Vietnam. According to Anderson, "Hate can never be a positive force. Hate is ill will seeking a victim."

Domestic violence

Also featured is an interview with a man who battered his wife, an example of the way people act hatefully when their sense of identity and self-worth is threatened. In reference to battered women, Moyers says, "What goes on behind closed doors may be strikingly similar... seeing in another person the source of one's own troubles and despair."

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Announcements/Events

Naches



Mrs. Roberts

Bady

Tammy Bady, a student at Nova in Florida, was recently awarded the title of Hillel Female Student of the Year for the state of Florida. This annual award is given to those who have shown outstanding service to Hillel. Tammy is the daughter of Eileen Sidlow and Richard Bady and the granddaughter of Mrs. Jack Lundy, formerly of Wilmington, now of Miami Beach.

Deckinger/Leeds

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Leeds of Wilmington announce the marriage of their son, Michael, to Stacy Deckinger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Deckinger of Orlando, Florida, on May 11. Michael is a graduate of the Tatnall School and The George Washington University. He is employed by Arthur Anderson. Stacy graduated from Emory University and is a special education teacher. The couple will reside in South Florida.

Goodman

Dr. and Mrs. Fred Ehrich of Wilmington have announced the birth of a grandson, Alexander Ehrich Goodman, born on April 20. He is the son of Meg and Bennett Goodman and the brother of Jared, of Scarsdale, New York.

Panitz

Beth Panitz has been elected to Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest scholastic honor society, at the University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland. She is completing her junior year and is a journalism major.

Beth is a 1988 graduate of Concord High School and Wilmington Gratz Hebrew High School. She is the daughter of Bernard and Sylvia Panitz of Chalfonte.

Abrams/Roberts

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert D. Abrams of Claymont, have announced the marriage of their daughter, Tammy Robin, to Hunt Jeffrey Roberts, son of Dr. and Mrs. Jay Roberts of Rosemont, Pennsylvania. The ceremony took place on March 24 at the Horticultural Hall. Rabbi Leonard B. Gewirtz officiated.

Angela Watson served as Matron of Honor and Dr. Jay Roberts served as his son's Best Man. Bridesmaids were Shelly Storbeck, Mindy Abrams and Kathy Chesen. Ushers were Richard Stone, Laurence Abrams and Dr. Neil Chesen. Mrs. Helen Cohen, the groom's grandmother completed the wedding party.

After a honeymoon in Cancun, the couple resides in Ardmore, Pennsylvania.

Jacobs

Andrew Jacobs, 15-year old son of Jack and Marion Jacobs, has recently won an ASCAP (American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers) Foundation Grant to Young Composers for his composition "Piano Trio" for violin, cello, and piano. ASCAP grants are awarded annually to encourage the development of talented young American composers, based upon a national competition open to composers up to age 30. Andrew will be honored at a reception to be held for competition winners in New York City this June.

Andrew's "Piano Trio" has also won the John & Margaret Pierson Composers Award sponsored by the National Federation of Music Clubs. He has previously won national awards from that same organization for music that he composed in 1990 and 1989.

Beginning in the Fall of 1991, Andrew will study composition and theory at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, on a full-tuition scholarship. This program of study at Curtis will be in addition to his attending Tower Hill School, where he is currently a 9th grade student.

Levine

Ross Levine, son of Barbara and Stanley Levine of Surrey Park, has been selected by the faculty at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia as a recipient of the Crozier Award for outstanding achievement in the Foundation Program. This award is based upon both artistic and academic achievements. He will be honored with a cash award at the awards ceremony on Friday, May 17.

Peninnah Schram will tell stories at Beth Shalom



Peninnah Schram

Peninnah Schram, storyteller, teacher, recording artist and author, will be the guest of Congregation Beth Shalom on Sunday, June 2.

Storytelling has always played an important role in people's lives in all cultures. Wit and wisdom, traditions and customs, values and morals, history and identity have been most effectively transmitted from one generation to the next through the art of the storyteller. When people listen to a story, their imaginations are unleashed and can carry them on flights of fancy which may possibly be an influence on their dreams and goals for the future.

Schram, Associate Professor of Speech and Drama at Stern College of Yeshiva University, has traveled all over the world performing Jewish stories from Biblical, Talmudic, Midrashic, Hassidic, Yiddish, Sephardic and Israeli sources — as well as folk tales from around the world. She first heard stories from her parents in New London, Connecticut. Her father, a cantor, told her Talmudic and

Midrashic tales, while her mother shared the proverbs and folk tales of the Jewish people.

Through the masterful use of her voice, animated facial expressions and the spoken word, Schram is

known for her ability to involve her listeners in the story so that the storyteller tells only stories she loves and the audience explores and shares the magical experience. Often she incorporates song (a nigan, a lullaby, or a love song) and audience participation into her stories. In this way, the dialogue of storytelling continues to strengthen the Jewish heritage.

Jews are a storytelling people whose rich treasure-house of stories includes thought-provoking and serious tales, as well as clever humorous folktales, which teach, entertain and enlighten.

This program, funded by the Rabbi Jacob Kraft Educational Foundation, is free and open to the public. A barbeque picnic supper will be served at 5:15 p.m., preceding Schram's performance at 6:30 p.m. There is a fee of \$2 per adult and \$1 per child for the dinner. Reservations can be made by sending a check by May 24 to Congregation Beth Shalom, 18th Street and Baynard Boulevard, Wilmington, DE 19802.

Sisterhood Sabbath

The Shabbat Service, on Friday evening, May 17 at 8 p.m., at Congregation Beth Emeth is known as "Heart's Delight — Welcome to Shabbat", with Sisterhood members participating. Featured will be the installation of new members of the Board of Directors of Sisterhood of Congregation Beth Emeth, for 1991-93. This event is chaired by Stella Mandel and Joan Helfand and is open to the entire Jewish community.

Teen pregnancy NCJW topic

The last meeting of National Council of Jewish Women for this year will be held on Wednesday, May 22 at the home of Ruth Rosenbaum. A board meeting at 10 a.m. will be followed by lunch at 11:30 and a program at 12:30. Martha Macris of Planned Parenthood will be the featured speaker of the program and will discuss the topic of teenage pregnancy. Reservations may be made by calling Ruth at 762-5007 if you plan to attend.



Boschwitz

Continued from 3

Israeli officials have remained tight-lipped about any possible evacuation plans. Boschwitz, when asked if the capacity exists to get the Jews out quickly, replied, "Yes. That means more airplanes."

In New York, Malcolm Hoenlein, executive director of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, said, "Everything is set. Everything will be there for a quick removal when the time comes." Hoenlein added, however,

that "it's still not clear what the outcome will be" of the Boschwitz mission, which he called "very important."

Boschwitz said he told Bush that Ethiopia is "fairly close to some kind of a transition and that it was really almost a noble utilization of American diplomacy to prevent bloodshed that could easily occur there." He said it remains unclear if he will return to Ethiopia, but he said State Department officials "are keeping me very much in the loop since I'm a presidential emissary."

Collection of articles by N. Even-Or to be published

A collection of articles by the late Nisson A. Finkelstein who wrote a regular op-ed column in *The Jewish Voice* under the pen name N. Even-Or and the heading "On the other hand..." from October 1979 until his death in October 1989 will be available this fall.

Finkelstein commented on a broad spectrum of issues and events of Jewish interest, frequently flavoring them with gleanings from the Bible, Midrash, Mishnah and Talmud which he studied passionately. Twice monthly for over ten years, he supplied the Delaware Jewish community with historical perspective on topics as diverse as peace in the Middle East and the births of his granddaughters.

The book will be published in soft-cover and will be sold at cost, according to Rona Finkelstein who is directing the project. The maximum projected cost is \$20 per book; if a large enough number of people reserve copies, the cost should be reduced, she said. In order to keep the cost down, this will be a limited edition and reservations in advance are recommended.

To reserve one or several copies, call Rona Finkelstein at 478-7598.

AKSE registering students for 91-92

Early registration of new students to the Pre-Aleph, Talmud Torah and Bikkurim Programs of the Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Religious School is requested in order to plan accurately for the 1991-92 school year. The "B'reisheet" class (Hebrew Play Group) is for children 4 and 5 years of age, and the class is held on Sunday mornings from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Classes for Grade One (PA-1) and Grade Two (PA-2) are held on

Sunday mornings from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. Rivka Ini will continue to teach "B'reisheet" and PA-2 Class, and Shoshana Harris will continue to teach the PA-1 Class for the coming year.

The Talmud Torah classes (Grades Three through Seven) meet two afternoons each week and on Sunday mornings. The Bikkurim students (Grades Eight through Ten) meet on Sunday mornings and on Tuesday evenings. Detailed assignments of days and teachers, will be mailed to parents as soon as possible.

Registration forms are available at the Synagogue office, or call 762-2705 to request that a form be sent to you.

If you have any questions about the AKSE Religious School, or about the placement of your child in any of its programs, call Helen Gordon at the Synagogue office.

More
Announcements
on Page 18

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF PUBLICATION AND DEADLINE DATES

The next *Jewish Voice* will be published on **FRIDAY, MAY 24**, one week earlier than has previously been listed. The deadline for submission of material for that issue is **FRIDAY, MAY 17**.



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ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT PAID FOR BY THE JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

JCC Senior Anniversary Celebration

The Jewish Community Center will launch its 90th anniversary commemoration with a celebration for seniors, Wednesday evening, June 5 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sol and Tanya Zallea Auditorium of the JCC. The evening will include an old-fashioned Jewish dinner, Yiddish entertainment and reminiscing sparked by old photographs and memories. This celebration, planned by the Senior Center Site Council, under the leadership of Ann Metzker, president, will begin with a cocktail party. Jewish War Veterans of Delaware will lead Presenting of the Colors, joined by Jewish servicemen and Chaplain at the Dover Air Force Base.

Dinner will feature classic Jewish favorites including brisket and kasha with bowties. Renowned American Jewish humorist and native-born Wilmington Emil Cohen will help his audience relive the lives of the Jewish of Eastern Europe: their hopes and aspirations, their spiritual longings, their folklore and their laughter. Added to his talent as a raconteur, is a melodious voice. Ray Freshman and members of the Senior Center Site Council have issued a special invitation to former members of the boy scout and girl scout troops, AZA and choral groups and all the other groups and clubs

that used to make the "Y" buzz with excitement. Anyone who was part of one of these groups is urged to attend this once-in-a-lifetime event. All seniors are invited to come eat, drink, laugh and cry and remember the "good old days", while celebrating the Jewish Community Center's 90 years of service to the Delaware community. The contribution for this event is \$5.00 per person and reservations must be made by May 29 by calling 478-5660. For more information on this special anniversary celebration, please contact Ray Freshman, Senior Center Coordinator at the JCC.



Emil Cohen, Renowned American Jewish Humorist to Entertain at Senior Anniversary Celebration Wednesday, June 5, 1991

ART GALLERY

May 1991
Rose Brien Finkel
Exhibit

Internationally acclaimed artist Rose Brien Finkel will exhibit her extensive collection of hand-pulled block prints and embossings in the JCC Art Gallery during the month of May.

Summer Toddler's Play Offered

We are pleased to announce that this popular parent and tot program will be offered for a six week summer session beginning June 5, 1991. The class will meet on Wednesdays from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m., and will be led by Judi Rosenberg. The fee is \$ 30.00. Sign your 12-20 month old up for Toddler's Play...you and your toddler will develop new friendships and enjoy the experiences of singing, games and art. Register at the JCC Front Desk, or call Jane Hormadaly at 478-5660 for further information.

NEWCOMERS Welcome to Wilmington !

New to the area ?

Call Jodi Gevurtz, Membership Secretary
at the JCC - 478-5660

Camp JCC K'Ton Ton Program = Pre-School Fun !

Jane Hormadaly, Director of the Children's Center and Camp K'Ton Ton, has planned a pre-school day camp so unique, that each child is guaranteed a multi-faceted experience and an enjoyable summer. Camp K'ton Ton is a day camp experience for 2, 3 and 4 years olds that provides an atmosphere for exploration, social interaction, Judaic enrichment, arts and music appreciation and basic, plan old fun. The camp is based in the air-conditioned comfort of the JCC, with plenty of outside activities to punctuate the day with enjoyment of the Family Campus facilities as well.

The camp runs for 8 weeks, with choices of 5 or 3 day enrollment, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. There is an optional "Stay 'n' Play" enrichment program, from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m., where children can bring a brown bag lunch and enjoy some extra play time. Also, full day programs from 7:15 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. are available. Camp K'Ton Ton will parallel thematically with Camp JCC's "Camp Earth" theme which will stress ecology, conservation and recycling. This theme will be played out in various creative ways that will tie-in with Jewish life and traditions.

"We hope to provide a safe, relaxed, interesting summer experience for children and instill a value of being part of the world, both natural and human on to keep it good, clean, healthy and beautiful", said Hormadaly of the camp's theme. JJ Alter, Director of Camping Services, is pleased to be working with Jane this summer. "Jane's plans for Camp K'Ton Ton have meshed beautifully with our 'Camp Earth' theme and her dedication to the social development and enjoyment of the young campers is a terrific combination", he said.

Hormadaly has served as Director of the Children's Center since July of 1990 and holds a Masters Degree in education and has over 10 years experience in pre-school education. Her philosophy and attitude toward the very young bring a kindness and gentle touch to the extremely important and delicate task of building a child's self-esteem and his or her learning to grow as an individual and function as part of a group. If you are looking for a wonderful summer experience for your pre-school child, please call Jane Hormadaly at 478-5660 for registration information.

JCC Celebrates Ninety Years of Service to the Community

Thursday, June 6th
6:00 p.m.
Hotel DuPont

Featuring
JCC Annual Meeting
Historical Videotape
Entertainment by Emil Cohen



"A Celebration of Life"

Wednesday, June 5th
5:30 p.m.
JCC Auditorium

Sunday, June 9th
1:30 p.m.
Jewish Family Campus

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Announcements

You and your aging parent

"When we were children, our parents just couldn't do enough for us. Now it may seem like the other way around. As our parents age and become more dependent, we often feel pulled emotionally, physically, psychologically and sometimes financially," according to Myrna Ryder, Director of Family Life Education for Jewish Family Service.

Learn about the aging process and

the changes that our parents, and we, will all face. Ideas for dealing with difficult problems and situations will also be shared. This program, presented by Ryder, will be held on Wednesday, May 22, at 7:30 p.m. at the J.C.C. This is free of charge and open to the entire community. The registration deadline at the J.C.C. is May 15. "You and Your Aging Parent" is co-sponsored by Jewish Family Service and the J.C.C.

Family court seeking children's advocate

The Family Court of the State of Delaware is offering an opportunity for people to make a difference in the life of an abused, neglected, and dependent child. In an expansion of the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program, the Court is presently seeking qualified adults to serve as CASA volunteers.

Court Appointed Special Advocates are trained volunteers assigned by Family Court judges to represent the best interests of abused, neglected or dependent children who are the subject of Court proceedings. The volunteer conducts an independent investigation into the child's life and presents facts to the Judge in the form of a written report and verbal testimony. As an official of the Court, the CASA advocates for the best interests of the child through investigating and monitoring a case until the child is provided with a stable and permanent home.

CASAs are selected, trained, supervised and evaluated by full-time Program Coordinators from the Family Court Staff. A program attorney provides legal representation for the CASA and legal advice for the program. The Delaware CASA program was begun in 1981 with the support of the Wilmington Chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women and the Junior League of Wilmington. NCJW Chapters have continuously supported CASA programs throughout the United States. The Delaware CASA program has 101 volunteers and in fiscal year 1990 served over 240 abused, neglected and dependent children.

Volunteer training is scheduled for New Castle County Family Court on June 18, 20, 24, 26 and 27, 1991. To participate in the program or for more information, call the CASA office at 577-2239.

Weekend of Jewish renewal is planned

In the bucolic setting of the mountains of northeastern Pennsylvania a widely varied group of Jews — men and women; babies and seniors; singles and marrieds; traditional and liberal; gay and straight; professionals, academics, business people and artists — will gather on May 31, June 1 and 2 for a weekend of Jewish renewal.

The National Havurah Committee's annual Mid-Atlantic Regional Retreat will have two session classes on topics that include "The Mysterious Meeting of King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba; A Fantasy," "The Spiritual Challenge of Illness," and "The Behavior of Davening and How It Got That Way" among others. There will also be workshops and services including two simultaneous services on Shabbat morning, one traditional/egalitarian and one a learner's service.

There are children's programs and nature walks, good vegetarian kosher food, a heated pool and a lakefront plus rooms built for the senior citizens who use the New Jersey YM/YWHAs' Kislak Senior Camp during the summer.

The National Havurah Committee

calls itself a diverse, cross denominational network of people seeking to enhance their Jewish lives. Throughout the year, the Committee serves as a national resource center for both free-standing and synagogue-based havurot, groups of Jews who join together for self-directed study, prayer, life cycle events, education and socialization or any mix of these elements.

The NHC holds an annual week-long Institute each August at Harcum College in Bryn Mawr, PA, that brings people together from all over the United States and Canada. The Mid-Atlantic NHC region draws on the Washington, Philadelphia, New York/New Jersey and lower New England area.

The cost for the retreat weekend is \$135 for non-NHC members and \$125 for members if registering before May 10; late fee is \$15. Children 4 and over are \$60 and NHC membership is \$25 per year. Registration forms with the course selection list can be obtained by calling Fern Amper at (201) 836-1192 or Jeff Haverson at (201) 736-4088. NHC national offices are at 9315 S.W. 61st Court in Miami, FL 33156.

Local expert on nuclear disaster management working in Israel with Children of Chernobyl project

(JERUSALEM) The activity of the Chabad organization in Israel to rescue children exposed to massive radiation in the Chernobyl nuclear accident has worldwide implications for nuclear disaster management, according to Dr. Asaf Durakovic, a world renowned leader in that field.

Durakovic, clinical chief of Nuclear Medicine at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Wilmington, announced his findings after a week of examining and interviewing the 321 children evacuated from Chernobyl by Chabad for medical treatment in Israel. The doctor's visit, coinciding with the fifth anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster, was arranged by Chabad who invited the doctor to evaluate the work of the Chabad Children of Chernobyl Program and confer with the Israeli medical team regarding future cooperation.

"This group of children is the most homogeneous group of human beings who have experienced multi-isotope radioactive exposure since Hiroshima and Nagasaki," said Durakovic, a U.S. Army Field Hospital Commander specializing in the treatment of victims of nuclear disasters. "Following their medical progress will provide us with a wealth of data that can be applied to victims of nuclear accidents — both those that have already occurred and those which may occur in the future." Durakovic noted that the Chernobyl contamination was 50 times more toxic than that of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Emphasizing that the probability of nuclear accidents is constantly increasing as more nations rely on nuclear sources of power, Durakovic stressed that contamination from a nuclear mishap can create a danger to human life for years and threaten areas far beyond its original source. "All countries who are members of the 'nuclear club' must be prepared



Dr. Asaf Durakovic, Chief of Nuclear Medicine at the VA Medical Center in Wilmington, with some of the children from Chernobyl being treated in Israel. Durakovic was in Israel last month on the fifth anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster. (Photo: I. Freidin)

to deal with the results of such accidents," he stated. Illustrating the international magnitude of Chernobyl alone, Durakovic pointed out that in addition to the children at Chabad, 7000 Jews from the contaminated area of Bylorussia have settled in Israel and tens of thousands more in the U.S. since the accident. "All are potential victims of radioactive contamination and therefore stand to benefit from the results of this program," he said.

Durakovic's examinations of the Chernobyl children at Kfar Chabad suggested that current statistics on the accident may greatly underestimate the scope of existing and potential casualties. Conversations with the children, all of whom lived within a 70 kilometer radius of the reactor, revealed that local residents continued eating food and drinking water

now know to be highly contaminated for weeks after the accident, and no immediate steps were taken to evacuate the area. "Some second graders described watching four of their classmates die of leukemia within a very short period of time," Durakovic reported. "From such a high percentage of fatalities in just a small sampling of victims we can extrapolate that the toll on human life from this accident is infinitely greater than we may have originally thought."

The Chernobyl children were evacuated at the request of their parents, most of whom will join their children in Israel. A total of 321 children have arrived in three groups since August 1990, with another group expected to arrive shortly. The youngsters, ranging from age six to 15, are housed at Kfar Chabad, 15 miles south of Tel Aviv.

14 women inducted as members of previously all-male Cantors Assembly

LOS ANGELES — For the first time in its 44-year history, 14 women have been inducted as members of the Cantors Assembly, the world's largest body of cantors (hazzanim). Of these 14, Hazzan Shelly Weiner, daughter of Dr. Ben and Ruth Weiner of Claymont, is the cantor at Congregation Ohev Shalom in Wallingford, Pennsylvania. Another, Hazzan Naomi Hirsch, cantor at Beth El of South Orange in Maplewood, New Jersey, is the sister of Marga Hirsch of Wilmington.

Their induction at the Assembly's annual convention here May 7, along with that of 18 of their male counterparts, culminated a three-year struggle between liberals and traditionalists in the organization involving the Cantors Assembly and the Jewish Theological Seminary, both arms of Conservative Judaism.

In Jewish tradition, women had been exempted from observing time-related commandments such as daily communal prayer. The traditional interpretation of Jewish law (*halacha*) also holds that one who is not required to fulfill a commandment cannot serve as the "enabler" — such as a cantor, who represents the congregation in prayer — for those

who have this obligation. For these reasons, until recent years, women have not served as clergy — rabbis or cantors — in Jewish houses of worship.

In response to contemporary egalitarian mores, barriers against women in Jewish religious roles are gradually fading. The Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (Reform) ordained the first woman rabbi in 1972 and the first woman cantor in 1975. Orthodoxy, the most traditional of Judaism's branches, does not permit women to officiate as either rabbis or cantors.

Conservative Judaism, which is based on the evolution of Jewish law, has adopted a middle-of-the-road position, seeking to adapt Jewish custom to modern times while retaining loyalty to tradition. In 1985, the Jewish Theological Seminary ordained the first Conservative woman rabbi. This action was based on a responsum by Rabbi Joel Roth of the Seminary's law committee, who held that if a woman voluntarily chose to obligate herself to observe time-related commandments (such as daily communal prayer), she could then be permitted to serve as a rabbi.

In December 1986, Dr. Ismar

Schorsch, chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary, informed leaders of the Cantors Assembly that he was prepared to interpret Rabbi Roth's responsum on the ordination of women rabbis as appropriate to women cantors as well. In February 1987, Dr. Schorsch announced that the Seminary would grant the diploma of (*hazzan*) to two women who would be graduating from its Cantors Institute that May.

Some traditionalists among the members of the Cantors Assembly felt that applying the Roth responsum to women cantors would go beyond the bounds of *halacha* as they interpreted it, and urged that women not be permitted to join the Assembly. Liberal members expressed the view that since the head of the Conservative movement had ruled that the ordination of women as cantors was permissible according to *halacha*, they should be admitted to the Cantors Assembly.

Last August, under the admitting authority granted by its by-laws, the executive council of the Cantors Assembly voted 29-1 to admit qualified women cantors as full-fledged members of the organization and to induct them at its 1991 convention.

Share your good news
in the 'Naches' column

Buenos Aires cemetery desecrated

NEW YORK (JTA) — Some 110 gravestones at a Jewish cemetery on the outskirts of Buenos Aires were destroyed April 30, the World Jewish Congress reported.

The vandalism of the cemetery in Berazategui interrupts a period of relative calm with regard to anti-Semitic acts, Manuel Tenenbaum, director of the Latin American Jewish Congress, told the WJC.

The DAIA, or Delegation of Israelite Associations of Argentina, has publicly called for an investigation of the event. David Goldberg, president of the DAIA, the representative body of Argentine Jewry, was quoted as saying that the vandals had hammered the tombstones to pieces but left no graffiti.

Some 230,000 Jews are estimated to live in Buenos Aires, out of a quarter-million Jews living in all Argentina, which has Latin America's largest Jewish population.

Graves overturned in France

PARIS (JTA) — Four gravestones were overturned in the Jewish cemetery at Hochburg-Wihr in eastern France.

The desecration, which occurred on the Sabbath, was discovered Sunday, and the Jewish community of the Upper Rhine region promptly filed a complaint with the police. An investigation was reported to be under way.

The same cemetery was vandalized last September, when 43 gravestones were upended. The police arrested a 15-year-old boy, who confessed but gave an incoherent explanation of his act.

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GARAGE SALE
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TWO YEARS college, experience in pulp and paper industry; experienced in house painting and general maintenance. (English fair: taking courses).

FOUR YEARS college; electrical engineering. (English very good).

For more information on the above, call Roberta Burman, Resettlement Coordinator at Jewish Family Service, at 478-3906.

New American Column

This Russian language column is appearing for the first time in The Jewish Voice. The column will provide New Americans with a calendar of upcoming events, programs and classes available to them. It will also offer national, international and local news and an update of the immigration and resettlement situation. Produced by Jewish Family Service in cooperation with The Jewish Voice, the column will appear in this location in the first issue of every month.

ИНТЕРЕСНЫЕ ЗАМЕТКИ

Уважаемые Новые Американцы! Начиная с этого выпуска, для Вас будет печататься информация на русском языке в первом номере каждого месяца на предпоследней странице. В этой русской колонке под названием "Интересные Заметки" мы планируем освещать новости страны и события, происходящие в нашей общине. Если у Вас есть предложения об информации для этой колонки, звоните, пожалуйста, по номеру: 478-3906.

НОВОСТИ

Группа работников ХИАСа недавно вернулась из Советского Союза с новой информацией о количестве беженцев, которые должны приехать в Америку до конца этого года. Вице-Президент ХИАСа, Карл Зуйкерман, сообщает, что Американское Посольство в Москве собирается ускорить процесс оформления беженцев. Благодаря этим переменам большее количество людей сможет выехать из Советского Союза с марта по сентябрь этого года. Несмотря на улучшения на Американской стороне процесса оформления беженцев, многие проблемы остаются неразрешенными:

§ Советское правительство по-прежнему значительно задерживает оформление документов. ОБВИР во многих городах Советского Союза оформляет выездные визы намного медленнее, чем в предыдущие годы.

§ Большое количество людей не приходят на назначенные встречи в Американском Посольстве в Москве. ХИАС объясняет это тем, что многие люди - особенно те, у кого нет родственников в Америке - решают не дожидаться разрешения Американского Правительства и уезжают в Израиль.

ХИАС сообщает, что из-за этих проблем, количество еврейских беженцев из Советского Союза может не достичь 40,000, утвержденных Американским Правительством на 1991-ый финансовый год. Американское Правительство делает все возможное, чтобы ускорить процесс оформления и выезда Советских евреев. 6300 евреев из Советского Союза приехали в Америку с октября 1990-го года по февраль 1991-го года.

ЗАМЕТКИ

Новые Американцы Вилмингтонской общины организовали клуб для обсуждения книги "Девять вопросов еврейства". Эта группа встречается раз в месяц, в доме одного из членов клуба. Первая встреча состоялась 21-го апреля в доме Людмилы Бабинской. Следующая встреча назначена на 19-ое мая в доме Ли Гайдук.

Это сообщение для Новых Американцев, которые ожидают приезд своих родственников в Америку. Пожалуйста, сообщите им, что они должны высылать свой багаж на Ваш адрес в Вилмингтоне. Попросите их не соединять их багаж с багажом людей, которые едут в другие общины. Распределение совместного багажа в Нью Йорке занимает много времени и стоит дороже. Доставка багажа в Вилмингтон может задержаться на несколько недель.

Blame

Continued from 1

only of the negotiations, but also of the outcome of the talks. Unlike in the past, Israel did not insist on coupling a solution to the process agreed to in the 1978 Camp David Accords.

Israel also agreed to "some sort of international event" that would be co-sponsored by the United States and the Soviet Union, with representation from the European Community. But Shoval stressed that Israel does not want to convert the talks, "through the back door, into an international conference."

While the envoy did not say so directly, he apparently was referring to the Israeli Cabinet's decision to reject Baker's proposal that if direct talks failed after six months, the regional conference that opened the talks should be reconvened. At such a conference, Israel would be a minority of one with occasional support from the United States, Shoval explained.

He said that situation would be even worse if the conference were to be sponsored by the United Nations. "We have never had a fair deal at the United Nations," which has not repealed

the 1975 General Assembly resolution equating Zionism with racism, he said.

Shoval said that the Arab countries have shown no indication they are willing to have direct negotiations with Israel. He expressed disappointment at the U.S. partners in the coalition that drove Iraq out of Kuwait, particularly Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

"These countries are now taking themselves out of the peace process," he said. This leaves Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians, the same three that were involved before the Persian Gulf crisis. "But that was not the idea which many of us hungered and hoped for" during the Gulf crisis, Shoval said. During the war, Arab ambassadors in Washington, including the Saudi and Kuwaiti envoys, indicated a new willingness to accept Israel. But now that the war is over the Arab countries continue to reject Israel, the Middle East is returning to the pre-Gulf crisis situation, Shoval said.

However, two Egyptian diplomats at the Overseas Writers luncheon argued that the Arab countries cannot negotiate with Israel until the Palestinian issue is resolved. "If you solve the Palestinian question, I am absolutely

convinced that the relations between Israel and the Arab world will be automatically and ipso facto solved and normalized," said El Sayed Abdel Raouf el-Reedy, Egypt's ambassador to Washington.

Tahseen Basheer, a retired Egyptian diplomat, said that Saudi Arabia cannot publicly support the peace process as long as Israel administers the West Bank, Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem.

Shoval replied that "with good will on all sides, Jerusalem could be the least of all problems," since Israel allows Moslems and Christians, as well as Jews, to administer their own religious sites. But he stressed that Israel is in the West Bank and Gaza Strip because it was attacked in 1967. There is no rule that a country which was attacked must return territories from which aggression was launched, he said.

"Arab states should not be rewarded for their aggression on Israel," he maintained.

Despite all the talk about the impasse over the method of negotiation, Washington's pique with Israel may have more to do with Jewish settlements in the territories than anything

else.

During the last two weeks, while Baker was in the Middle East, the militant Gush Emunim movement established two settlements in the West Bank, in an obvious affront to Baker. While Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has denied advance knowledge of the settlements, there is no indication that Washington believes him.

Bush has made it clear that he personally objects strongly to the establishment of Jewish settlements in the territories. He has specifically warned against settling Soviet Jewish immigrants there and has received a promise from Israel that it will not do so, though immigrants are free to live there on their own initiative.

But Israel rejects the administration view that East Jerusalem, which it annexed in 1967, is part of the territories. When Basheer suggested at the April 29 luncheon that Israel wants the territories to settle Soviet Jews, Shoval angrily denied it. "Immigration has nothing to do with the territories," he said. "We don't need one square inch of Judea, Samaria, of the West Bank and Gaza, in order to settle immigrants."

JFD Statement

Continued from 1

"but we need direction."

That's where the community comes in. During February and March, the committee met with representatives of the JCC, Jewish Family Service and the Kutz Home, as well as with representatives of the Federation's constituent agencies and non-constituent agencies in the community. During these meetings, the basic idea of the Mission and Vision Statement was discussed and input from those attending was collected.

"This experience has been educational for the three of us," commented Levin. "It has allowed us to interview about 150 people and get an understanding of the cross section in this community. The lesson has been that there is more than one view in the community

on every one of a variety of issues. Our hope is to channel those views and bring the community together while serving its needs."

Currently a draft (see box) of the Statement exists and, while the document remains unfinished, the draft was presented last month to the Federation's Board of Directors and the "concept of the Vision and Mission Statement" was approved as a "working document."

"The more input we get, the more reflective our goals will be of what the community wants," Young said.

So the committee is now asking for help from the community again. A committee "reflecting the widest range of people in the community" will be assigned to each "goal."

Each committee will resolve different issues,

according to Newman. "Without that, we would end up with a very slanted view of the needs of the community." Representatives of organizations and synagogues as well as individuals are being urged to become involved.

"We've done the easy part," added Levine. "The hard part is going to be in recognizing how to achieve the Mission and Vision." The three committee members agree that that part will be completed and operational by this time next year.

"The Jewish Federation of Delaware is not a thing. It is people coming together, becoming a coalition for one reason: the survival of the Jewish community," Young stresses. "We may each have different organizations or interests within the Jewish community, but we really all have the same goal. Our goal is working towards the strength of the future of the Jewish community, here in Delaware and around the world."

And what if there is a need for change? "This is a 'living document' and should new things come to our attention, the document can be modified to reflect the community's wishes," she added.

A report by the Mission and Vision Statement committee will be presented at the Jewish Federation's annual meeting on Thursday, May 16, at 7 p.m., at the Jewish Community Center. At that time an invitation will be extended to the entire Jewish community to become involved in the process of discussing the goals and refining the document, Young said. She said that the committee is anxious to get through the next stage and put the Statement into operation.

"Mission statements and vision statements can be written and then forgotten," Young said. "We are not going to let that happen. Our goal is to stick to our plan and have our guidelines operational as soon as possible."

Demographics

Continued from 3

pass ethnic press and minority broadcasts. In the coming years, I believe, Jewish leadership's actions in improving and broadening relations with other minority groups will have to achieve a degree of priority equal to that of our traditional concerns: Israel, poverty education. Indeed, our success in dealing with

this salient and timely issue will affect not only our work and our lives here in the United States, but also the future base of American support for the Jewish state.

(Rabbi Marc Schneier of New York's Park East Synagogue is president of the Foundation for Ethnic Understanding.)

Torah

Continued from 4

But only so an hour. Then leaf subsides to leaf. So Eden sank to grief. So dawn goes down to day. Nothing gold can stay.

That can be a cause for grief, or a spur to celebration. We can meet the change with despair, or with a deep love of the blessings of life. It all depends upon whether one sees the Jubilee year, the change and flow of life, as a decree which ensures emptiness, or a law which liberates us to pursue meaning. The Torah's philosophy is clear: "And you shall hallow the Jubilee, the 50th year. You shall proclaim liberty throughout the land, and unto all the inhabitants thereof (25:10)." For the Torah, for the Jewish people, the Jubilee is a call to meaning, to liberty, even to love.

(Rabbi David Wolpe is director of the Ostrow Library at the University of Judaism in Los Angeles. He is the author of "The Healer of Shattered Hearts: A Jewish View of God" (Henry Holt and Company).

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JCC

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tive Director David Sorkin. From three classrooms in 1970, the preschool and daycare programs have grown to occupy 15 classrooms serving over 200 children. Despite the consistent effort of staff and parents, the operating budget, bake sales and flea markets can't keep up with the desperate need to maintain and enhance the facility," he said.

Repairs and refurbishment alone will cost at least \$10,000, and new state laws require that an additional \$8,000 be spent to renovate the preschool kitchen.

The following donor categories have been established for this event: *Tzadik* - \$250 per person, *Gibor* - \$125 per person, *Chacham* - \$90 per person and *Chaver* - \$75 per person. The event is being chaired by Richard Levine, JCC President. Ellen Koniver is dinner chairperson, and Deane Kattler is fundraising/ticket chairperson.

"We hope to bring together as many people as possible to celebrate, as a community, our 90 years of accomplishments and service," says Levin. For reservations or further information, call 478-5660.

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The Jewish Community Center
Board of Directors
cordially invites you to our

90th Anniversary Celebration

Thursday evening, June sixth
at six o'clock
at the
Hotel DuPont
Wilmington, Delaware

Cocktails in the DuBarry Room - 6:00 p.m.
Dinner in the Gold Ballroom - 7:00 p.m.
(A fish entree will be served)
Anniversary Program

Annual Meeting of the Jewish Community Center
Awards and Presentations
An Historical Videotape Presentation
Outstanding American Humorist - Emil Cohen
Proceeds to benefit the Early Childhood Education Center

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Please call Ella Zukoff at (302) 478-5660 for more information.