

OVER 450 GIVE GENEROUSLY ON MITZVAH DAY

Community-wide day of service an overwhelming success

By Joel F. Glazier

From age two and up members of Delaware's Jewish Community turned out on Sunday, October 9 to participate in the Jewish Federation of Delaware's Live Generously Mitzvah Day. More than 18 (Chai) projects throughout New Castle County were offered both indoors and outside on a day after a drenching rain in the area.

"A wonderful and powerful start," is what Beth Shalom Cantor Michael Horwitz said to the group that had assembled at 8:15 AM for a



Rabbi Beals discusses the "First time in history a community wide Shachris service was held in the new Siegel JCC" with Stuart and Jewish history author Toni Young.

Shachris service at the Bernard and Ruth Siegel Jewish Community Center. Rabbis Michael Beals of Congregation Beth Shalom, Sanford Dresin of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth and Peter Grumbacher of Congregation Beth Emeth all participated in leading the first ever community wide service to be held in the newly opened pre-school assembly area of the Center.

At the kick-off Pep Rally in the JCC auditorium the large crowd heard remarks of encouragement, thanks and respect from elected officials, area rabbis and Mitzvah Day Co-Chairs Caryl Marcus-Stape and Jon Brilliant. JFD President Bob Pincus accepted a printed "Tribute of Thanks" from New Castle County Executive Chris Coons presented "On behalf of half million New Castle County residents, thanking you at Mitzvah day for reminding us all to give back to the community."

"Thank you all for what you do in the course of the year. Government can't do it all," said Delaware's lone U.S. Representative Michael Castle. State Treasurer Jack S. Markell reminded the participants that "Mitzvot are to be incorporated in daily lives," before he traveled to Beth El in Newark where he joined participants in the "5K Scott Makler Run/Walk". State Insurance Commissioner Matt Denn called the day "A tremendous event" before joining volunteers at the Kutz Home to sing for the residents.

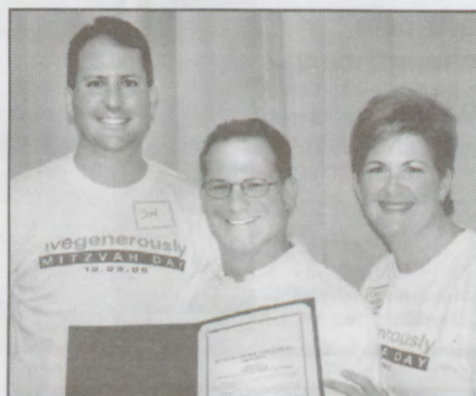
4 Rabbis share Teachings

Underscoring the community wide appeal of the day, rabbinical instruction was provided from 4 perspectives. Rabbi Beals spoke of getting involved by citing the late activist rabbi Joshua Heschel who declared "I felt my legs were praying" as he had walked hand in hand with Martin Luther King for civil rights. "Pirkei Avot reminds us one should be as scrupulous in performing a 'minor mitzvah' as in a 'major mitzvah'. All are important and we should look to avoid extremism," urged Rabbi Dresin. "Our ancestors didn't give us anything real tough and it is most important to recognize our relationship with one another. Relationships are without measure," shared Rabbi Grumbacher. Einstein Academy principal, Rabbi Jack Sparks challenged the participants to interact with the



Rabbi Sarah Messinger chats with Lauren Unterberger as she works on decorating a pumpkin to be distributed to an area hospital.

work they were about to do, to categorize them into the areas mentioned in **Micah** : 6. "Which tasks today represent doing justice, goodness or mercy?" he asked.



Jewish Federation President Bob Pincus (center) with Tribute of Thanks Certificate issued by New Castle County for Mitzvah Day. Co-chairs Jon Brilliant and Caryl Marcus-Stape.

Making a Difference

Most participants happily expressed extreme satisfaction and willingness with their tasks.

Avery Flubacher, age 2, kept pencils sharpened for his parents Aimee and Todd, as they wrote happy notes to accompany the 2000 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches created in the hallways of Einstein Academy. "I've made plenty of sandwiches for my own kids so this is not difficult," Deane Kattler said about the basic snacks that were later delivered to the Sunday Breakfast Mission.

"We saw the grounds needed some upkeep and I came down from Abington (PA) to help my brother Jake," said Dan Noznisky at the Jewish Community Cemetery on Foulk Road. Bags of unwanted weeds and shrubs were hacked away by a large group of BBYO members. "We're here because we have a role in the community and welcome all high school aged young men to join us," said Alex Resch, President of the local Brian Dombchik Chapter of BBYO's AZA organization.

"With all the construction nearby, I saw the cemetery needed some upkeep and this time of year I was glad to do it. I'd be happy to continue this work again," shared Riva Brown. "It was great. Several hours at the cemetery made a big improvement. You can see the difference," said AKSE President Elliott Echt.

At Beth Emeth, Rabbi Sarah Messinger organized interactive learning centers along with

hands-on Mitzvah work. "A congregant, Warren Schrier, dressed as a homeless person. How the children ignored or acknowledged him and his presence led to discussion about how invisible or visible the homeless and poor are in communities," said Messinger. There were also activities about the prices of goods, and sensitivity to hunger and the homeless, before an array of gifts, foods and crafts were made for distribution to the Children's Hospital, Sojourner's Place and for nurses at area hospitals. "We were happy to help decorate cookies that will be given to those in need," said sisters Miriam and Rachel Eisenstat at Beth Emeth. Having all the youth activities in one location and combining **zedakah** and interactive learning together was a fantastic," said Alanna Sklover, Youth Activities Director at Beth Emeth.

"All this was a grand success," said Gratz High School Principal, Marlene Milunsky. She was referring to the large suitcases filled with needed goods, clothing and toiletries that were assembled with the cooperation of Lisa Driban, volunteer coordinator of Jewish Family Service. JFS had compiled lists of needed goods for specific families and the Gratz students matched up those needs with the donated goods.



Connie Sugarman helps load the 2000 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches made by Mitzvah volunteers. The sandwiches were delivered to the Sunday Breakfast Mission.

"It felt good to do this during the 10 days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur," said Milunsky.

These pictures which appear on the cover and on page 13 reflect the many faces and places of the Mitzvah Day experience.

Photos by Joel F. Glazier

RABBI DRESIN PARTICIPATES IN PENTAGON TORAH DEDICATION

Rabbi Sanford Dresin, spiritual leader of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth in Wilmington was among the 150 military personnel, dignitaries and special guests gathered at the Pentagon Memorial Chapel last month to dedicate a Torah - making sacred space at a site defiled by terrorists some four years ago. Rabbi Dresin, who came to AKSE after a 26-year career as an active duty chaplain with the United States Army, was honored to help sanctify the spot where 189 people lost their lives in the horrific Pentagon plane crash on

September 11, 2001. Rabbi Dresin, who served as the Chief of Chaplains at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. and as the Senior Jewish Chaplain in the United States Armed Forces, watched intently as Rabbi Shmuel Wolfman of Jerusalem, completed the last letters of the scroll which now resides in an Israeli-built ark whose steel door is secured by a safe lock.

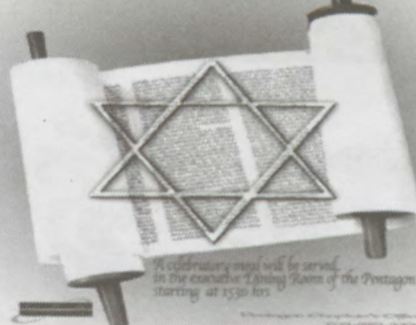
The Torah dedication, a first for the home of the U.S. military establishment, was a cooperative effort between The Aleph

Institute, a Miami-based national non-profit Jewish organization devoted to Jews in the military and the Pentagon. The Torah scroll was donated by Jacob "Hank" Sopher, a New York real estate magnate.

"the dedication of a Sefer Torah in the mightiest fortress in the most powerful country in the world validates true strength, which is the strength of Torah which is a moral and ethical power," said Rabbi Sholom D. Lipskar, founder and chairman of The Aleph Institute who presided over the ceremony.

Sefer Torah Dedication Ceremony 26 September 05

The Jewish Community invites you to come celebrate this special event in the Pentagon Chapel (Room 1E438) from 1400 - 1500 hrs.



A complimentary meal will be served in the executive Dining Room of the Pentagon starting at 1530 hrs.

INSIDE THE VOICE

Coming Events15
 Editorials and Opinions.....4

Federation Focus3
 Global Jewish News10

Inside Delaware11
 Milestones14



Judy Levy



Phil Epstein



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Zanna Tilson



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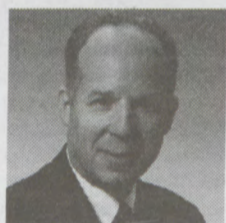
READY FOR A SMALLER, MORE CONVENIENT HOME?

Now may be the time to take advantage of the equity you have earned to move to a home that's more convenient for you. Did you know that MSN Money reports that home values in the Wilmington area have increased 62.5% in the past five years?* You may be surprised at just how much your home is worth.

If you're interested in learning your home's current value, at no cost and with no obligation, or in finding out about local options for a more carefree lifestyle, I'd love to talk with you.

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will be Published December 9th
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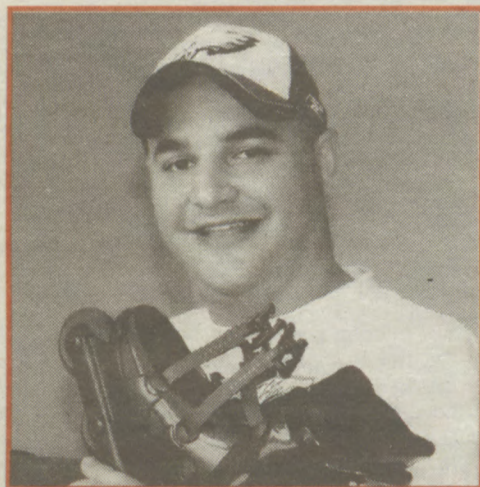
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FEDERATION FOCUS

Hello mishpocha (family)!



Idan Kligerman

During this holy week of Sukkot, named after the improvised sheds that Israel people built after they walked out of Egypt, we

celebrate the Jewish values of hospitality and welcoming all different types of people. As the Torah says, we should congratulate everybody in our sukkah. One of my favorite stories talks about the four species-each of which has different qualities than complement and complete each other.

During this holiday where we welcome the stranger, I would like to take this opportunity to thank this wonderful community that has made me feel at home. I'd also like to tell you about my home-Israel-and talk more about Arad/Tamar, Delaware's Partnership 2000 community. Arad was founded in 1962, located in the northern Negev, west of the Dead Sea, 30 miles east of Be'er Sheva and 1800 feet above sea level. In choosing the location of Arad, it was taken into consideration that the town will serve as the central settlement for the whole population of the eastern Negev area. The climate, the landscape, the closeness to the Dead Sea and other natural reserves of the state of

Israel were taken in consideration as well. The climate in Arad is very dry and Arad is well known internationally for its clean air.

Every day the 28,000 residents of Arad enjoy this beautiful landscape. The town is expected to grow to 55,000 residents due to the influx of new immigrants from Ethiopia and the former Soviet Union. 40% of Arad residents have college degrees. They work in tourism, commerce and a variety of other local industries. Our mishpocha in Arad are warm and welcoming. This community does a lot of volunteer work for people in need, just like you folks here in the Delaware Jewish community. Thanks to the recent Live Generously Mitzvah Day, the children who play in Arad's roller hockey team will enjoy new equipment!

What am I trying to say here? Simply put, there are many similarities between our two communities and the people of Arad would like to get to know you better. I encourage you to volunteer in this community and have

the time of your life. Ask Iris Tocker what it's like to work one-on-one with the residents of our Partnership 2000 community and experience the majesty of Massada, Ein Gedi and The Dead Sea.

For more information about volunteering in Arad/Tamar, please contact me at 427-2100, ext. 30.

I'd also like to tell you about two classes that I will teach. The first is **ISRAELI COOKING** and the second is **IVRIT CAFÉ**-a chance to brush up on your Hebrew conversation skills. Each class is designed to be small so please email me at IDAN@SHALOMDEL.ORG if you are interested.

Drop-In for Hebrew Conversation with Idan-Nov. 8, Dec. 13, Jan. 17 from 10:00-11:00 AM in the Jewish Family Services of Delaware classroom. Call Idan at 302-427-2100 ext. 30 for more information.

Have a great week and please follow my articles!

Mitzvah Day Musings

Written by Jillian Lipman

Al Shlosa D'varim HaOlam Omed. The world stands on three things. Al HaTorah, Al HaAvodah, v'Al Gimilut Hasadim. Torah, Work, and Tzedakah. On Sunday, October 9, 2005, we fulfilled one of the mitzvot that G-d has commanded us; the mitzvah of contributing to the community, tzedakah. On Live Generously Mitzvah Day, regardless of affiliation, we all came together as one group, a very large group of 450, and served those citizens in Delaware who are in need.

The group that I was a part of sorted clothes at the Clothing Bank of Delaware which is part of the Friendship House. More than 30 people from the ages of 8 to 82 gathered together, despite our busy schedules, to put the homeless, underprivileged members of our community first. Generations of families joined together, we had representation from various synagogues, and new members of the community come together for a single

cause.

We were led by Pat, Sylvia and Karen of the Clothing Bank who showed us their routine and explained what we should do, how to do it and most importantly who we would be helping. After over an hour of hanging, sorting, folding, tagging, and bagging, I heard a tired voice complain about the repetition of the task at hand. Some of us were nodding our heads in agreement but one enthusiastic voice said, "Just think of a cold child being warmed by that sweater on the table in front of you." It was hard for us to believe that someone would not have any clothes and would need a place to get donations. The Clothing Bank is that place and they provide the clothes for free. Each morning when you wake up and see the freshly laundered clothes laid out for you, think of the meaning of a simple sweater or what it could mean to a cold child or to someone who needs a nice suit for a job interview to support their families.

In the end, I thought that performing this mitzvah ended up being fun. Roland Roth, new Education and Program Director at Beth Shalom, was even singing cheers and many others screaming the cheers back. We certainly had the mitzvah day spirit!

Mitzvah Day was a great chance to get involved in the community and be with your friends and family. When we finished singing the schechichanu (celebrating our first opportunity to do a mitzvah at the Clothing Bank) and we were walking out, I realized that I did not want to leave. Being in that large

room with piles of clothes that others had donated and the feeling of helping others was so overwhelming that I wanted to come back as soon as possible. By helping others, you can help yourself. Walking in there, I had no idea what this meant but now I know, after you have done a good deed, your heart is filled with warmth and compassion that you could have never felt without helping out.

For additional information about the Friendship House and the Clothing Bank, please call 302-652-8278 or email them at www.friendship-house.org.



Establish a new Endowment Fund with the Jewish Fund for the Future before December 23 and we'll make you a Star.

The Jewish Fund for the Future will "match" your new endowment gift with a \$500 contribution to the Delaware Jewish Community Capital Campaign.

Please contact Jennifer Young at 302-427-2100 ext. 19 for details on this exciting matching opportunity.

GET INVOLVED AT JFS!

"Join the network of individuals already making a difference in our community"

JFS is looking for volunteers in the following capacities. Interested parties should contact Volunteer Coordinator, Lisa Driban at 302-478-9411, ext. 21.

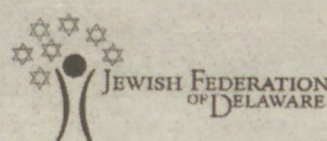
- ★ Office assistance to answer phones, handle data entry and filing
- ★ Creative individuals to assist with assembling and wrapping baskets
- ★ Delivery assistance for delivery of meals and baskets
- ★ Caring individuals to make friendly visits or phone calls to community members

Hours are flexible. No experience is necessary, we will train you!



In North America, almost 10% of Jewish elderly live below the poverty line. Today, all over the world, Jews are aging faster than the general population. In the Former Soviet Union, the caseload has more than tripled over the past five years. And in Israel, nearly a third of the 600,000 elderly suffer from hardship and poverty.

**On December 4, Super Sunday,
when the phone rings, pick it up.
You'll do a world of good.**



To volunteer, watch for on-line registration at www.shalomdelaware.org
(302) 427-2100

EDITORIALS AND OPINIONS

To begin again

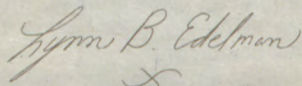
It isn't often that life gives you second chances. Yet Jewish life is rife with opportunities for resolution and renewal. During the recent High Holidays, we reflected on the direction of our lives, assessed the quality of our relationships with family, friends and colleagues, confessed our shortcomings and vowed to do better in 5766. Many of us emerged from synagogue last Wednesday physically shaky from fasting and prayer, yet spiritually fortified. I felt as if I was given a gift-the chance to begin a new year with a clean slate and boundless opportunities.

As we go to press, we are nearing the conclusion of our Sukkot celebration. We rejoice in the bounty of our fall harvest and remember the protection that G-d gave to our ancestors during the 40 years they spent wandering in the desert. As we dine with family and friends in our sukkahs, we retell the tale of our patriarch Abraham who

sat in his tent with all four flaps open to welcome the weary travelers who sojourned from all directions.

How appropriate that we, the people of the book, end this week-long festival of Sukkot with Simchat Torah-a holiday that celebrates the year-long cycle of reading the Torah, the five books of Moses. On Tuesday evening, we read the very last chapter of Deuteronomy, then roll the Torah back to the beginning and begin the very first chapter of Genesis.

Let us all rejoice in this rare opportunity to begin again. May the study of Torah gladden our hearts and enrich our lives. Gut YomTov,



Lynn B. Edelman
Editor

From the Days of Awe to the Season of Awe



**Creation is
"Very Good"**

**Rabbi Peter H.
Grumbacher**

**Rabbi
Peter H. Grumbacher**

It's wonderful to know that the Creator found favor with creation. "Very good" is how the *Kadosh Baruch Hu*, the Holy One of Blessing, evaluated what was seen. We're now in that Bereshit season, the time we begin all over again, not only reading the earliest sections of Torah, but knowing that we've got a chance to learn from Torah yet again. There is joy in celebrating this moment as we experience Simchat Torah; there is the anticipation that the sacred text will give us insight into both the minds and hearts of the ancients as well as lessons for daily living.

Do we see God's creation as "very good" as we enjoy the spectacle of autumn leaves moving into the season of cold and snow? Do we pay attention to the natural order of things? Or do we close our eyes to the beauty of the earth and ignore the responsibility we have as mortals who received Creation and were told to guard it and preserve it? There's a midrash which informs us that God said to Adam (read, "said to 'us'"), "This is a beautiful world that I have given you. Take good care of it; do not ruin it."

There is little we can do about natural disasters except in response. There's a lot we can do to beautify what was given to us and

to protect our precious planet from eco-disasters caused by our own mistakes. Every school child knows the blueprint for doing what must be done, and yet sometimes it is an attitude of superiority that creates avoidable ecological tragedies. We wring our hands in disgust when oil tankers spill their cargo and ruin shore lines, and yet we'll toss trash indiscriminately. If creation is "very good" and we're in charge, then for Heaven's sake, we should take that responsibility seriously.

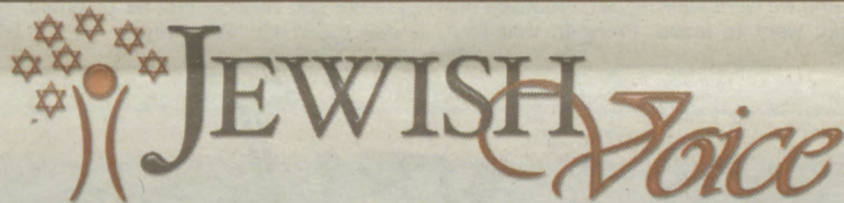
I'm not a summer person; I hate the heat. I'm not a winter person: I hate the snow. Spring's just fine except we don't always have a springtime in the Mid-Atlantic states. But autumn! What a season! When I traveled the country two years ago I had the longest autumn of my life, driving west and following the reds and browns, the yellows and oranges of changing trees. In mid-October I had to get out of my car in Berkley Springs, West Virginia because I couldn't concentrate on the road. That's how glorious the expanse of the autumn trees was. It's times like that that I appreciate Creation most, and give thanks to the Creator who has fashioned nature to do its thing in such an awe-inspiring way. We read, "In Your love You have given us the power to behold the beauty of Your world, robed in all its splendor. The sun and the stars, the valleys and hills, the rivers and lakes - all disclose Your presence." In all we do, let's try not to forget that regardless of the season of the year.

Rabbi Peter H. Grumbacher is the spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Emeth in Wilmington.

SHABBAT Candle Lighting

October 28TH - 5:47 PM

November 4TH - 4:39 PM



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

ISSUE	FOCUS	DEADLINE
November 4	Dining Out (Thanksgiving)	October 27

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Looking back ... looking forward

The Jewish Community Center is about to enter into its 105th year of existence. It clearly has gone through many changes since several visionary women gathered together and created the idea of a gathering place for the Jews of Wilmington. We celebrated just four short years ago the first 100 years of a "JCC" in Wilmington. Now, to go back and review the last hundred years is too much for this letter, but a brief trip back to the time when this building was built in the late sixties is in order.

Imagine back then, that the preschool was built with a total of three classrooms. The teachers, (who were required to wear dresses), worked with small classes of three and four year olds, for a couple of hours, two or three days a week. Today, in our beautiful new facility, we have fourteen classrooms plus a fabulous library and our teachers provide educational programming starting at 7:15 in the morning until 5:45 in the evening for children starting as early as six weeks old. More than 120 children attend classes two, three or five days a week.

The fitness center was not a fitness center at all. It was a health club. Now for those of you who remember early health clubs, they featured a box into which you climbed to receive the slimming benefits of steam. Or you wrapped a leather harness around your waist and then the machine proceeded to shake the fat off in some miraculous fashion. Our health club did eventually become a fitness center, fifteen years ago or so, but was still relegated to a basement with low ceilings and no windows.

Today, in our state-of-the-art Pincus/Grant Fitness Center, we sport glass walls that climb over 20ft. high giving us a beautiful view of the north side of the property and which let in natural, beautiful, amazing sun light. We have over 85 pieces of the most modern and sophisticated fitness and exercise equipment. The soon to be renovated

lower level facilities will include a second exercise studio, a yoga room, a babysitting room, beautifully renovated locker rooms and new steam and sauna rooms. Our entire facility come January will be bigger, brighter and more beautiful than ever.

But so what? It's just a building. A beautiful building, but just a building. I can assure you that Richard Stat has not worked tirelessly for the past many years to just build a beautiful building. What we built, is a building that will help us to continue to build "Meaningful Jewish Community" here in Delaware and Southeast Pennsylvania. We have filled this building with a group of dedicated volunteers working in partnership with a fantastic, devoted staff and we're proud of what we do.

This building is infinitely more beautiful when it was filled recently with children listening to the sound of Rabbi Michael Beals, spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Shalom, blowing the Shofar. The building is infinitely more beautiful when the children of Albert Einstein Academy make the trip over to this very amphitheater for their Kabbalat Shabbat. This building is infinitely more beautiful when friends gather at the fitness center to catch up on each other's lives and to wish each other a Shana Tova. This building is infinitely more beautiful when a mother drops her children off at the preschool to begin their Jewish education, takes a half hour to work out and get energized and then rushes to her classroom to continue her Jewish education in a Melton class.

This JCC, this Bernard and Ruth Siegel Jewish Community Center, is not just the best preschool facility in the area, it is not just the best fitness center in the area, it is a community of people working together to make special things happen. Whether it was the 300 people who shared Shabbat dinner in the courtyard during our hundredth

Continued on page 5

MATTER OF OPINION

An obsessive anti-Zionist shows his stripes

By Abraham H. Foxman

Like some of the more extreme Palestinian ideologues whose cause he has made his own, Norman Finkelstein has built his career on two things: an obsessive, vitriolic hatred of Zionism and Israel, and a penchant for distorting the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Unlike his compatriots in Ramallah and Jenin, however, Finkelstein uses his academic credentials and proficiency with scholarly forms to cast as "research findings" what would otherwise be recognized as propagandist bunk.

It is the sign of a true obsessive that he sees the subject of his obsession everywhere. For Finkelstein, everything he sees is filtered through the prism of his anti-Israel animus, with results that would be merely absurd were they not so often used to incite hatred against Israel and undermine efforts to diminish anti-Semitism in the world.

An essential component of Finkelstein's obsession is the assumption that anything that in his view benefits Israel must be a calculated attempt to cover up Israel's essential depravity.

In his first book, *The Holocaust Industry*,

he applied this "logic" to Holocaust education initiatives and attempts to obtain compensation for survivors, insisting that these be viewed not as efforts to learn from history or obtain justice for survivors, but as cynical efforts by powerful Jewish groups to somehow "immunize Israel from criticism" for its alleged human rights abuses. Along the way, Finkelstein skewered some of the hagiographic components that had developed around the Holocaust, a move that was applauded by some. But his shrillness and faulty logic left most of us scratching our heads.

In his new book, *Beyond Chutzpah: On the Misuse of Anti-Semitism and the Abuse of History* (University of California Press, 2005), Finkelstein confirms his obsession with the "evil" of Israel and Zionism. This time his target is anti-Semitism, insisting that efforts of Jewish organizations and other concerned bodies to oppose anti-Semitism around the world are really nothing more than an effort to "exploit" or "manufacture" claims of Jewish suffering in order to "immunize Israel against criticism" for its "racist" and "Nazi"-like treatment of Palestinians and its "unprecedented assault

on international law."

It is shocking but true: sixty years after the Holocaust, Finkelstein argues that today's anti-Semitism is merely a result of Israel's occupation of Palestinian land. Dismissing Israel's security concerns and the existence of terrorism, Finkelstein declares, "Current resentment against Jews has coincided with Israel's brutal repression of Palestinians," adding, "A patent remedy and quick solution would plainly be to end the occupation."

This reductionist theorizing is not what one would expect from a college professor, but it is par for Finkelstein's course, where "proof" usually consists of nothing more than assertions of vague chronological contiguity. Finkelstein's "proof" that Holocaust commemorations are intended merely to promote sympathy for Israel is the vague observation that such commemorations increased starting in the late 1960s, at a time when "elites" in the U.S. were eager to establish Israel as the foremost American ally in the Middle East.

Similarly, his "proof" that warnings of a new anti-Semitism are calculated distractions from Israeli atrocities is his observation

that American Jewish groups tend to warn of increasing anti-Semitism at times when Israel is under international pressure to make concessions to Arab states or the Palestinians. If that observation seems dubious — especially in light of Finkelstein's own claim that the international consensus has always been that Israel needs to make such concessions — that's because it is wrong.

Jewish organizations have been fighting anti-Semitism and opposing bigotry since long before the State of Israel was born. Yet, who would subscribe to the notion that anti-Semitism is an invention of powerful and media-savvy American Jewish organizations, when Jews are depicted on Arab satellite TV as ritual murderers who literally drink the blood of their victims, when newspapers serialize the Protocols of the Elders of Zion and when Mein Kampf tops the best-seller lists in the Arab world? Well, an anti-Semite might. So would Norman Finkelstein, whose obsessive hatred of Israel brings him to about the same place.

Abraham H. Foxman, National Director of the Anti-Defamation League, is the author of *Never Again? The Threat of the New Anti-Semitism*.

What's on Eighth? An Israeli Simchat Torah primer

By Teddy Weinberger

"On the eighth day you shall hold a solemn gathering."—Numbers 29.35

Growing up in America, I always knew about the concept of "yom tov sheni shel galuyot." According to this tradition, for each holy day of a festival, two are celebrated by those Jews living outside of Israel. I always wondered, however, about the Simchat Torah holiday. On the other festival holy days (the

first day of Succot, the first and last days of Passover, and the Shavuot holiday) it was clear to me that the second day outside of Israel was basically a duplication of the first. But after the seven-day holiday of Succot (one holy day plus 6 days of festival in Israel, 2 holy days plus 5 days of festival outside of Israel), we Jews in the Diaspora celebrated first Shmini Atzeret ("the eighth day of assembly") and then Simchat Torah. Unlike the other "second days," here seemed to be an example not of mere dupli-

cation but of a separate "second day" holiday—Simchat Torah. What then I wondered went on in Israel? If Israelis did not have two holy days at the end of Succot, when did they celebrate both Shmini Atzeret and Simchat Torah?

Since I will be celebrating my ninth Simchat Torah in Israel this year, I think I have finally grasped what goes on here during this holiday (believe it or not, the process took me a few years). For the ritually curious, all of the rites that are celebrated in the Diaspora over two days are packed into one day: the special prayer for rain, the Yizkor memorial prayer and the hakafot ("circuits") with the Torahs, etc. all occur on the one day of Simchat Torah in Israel. Yes, for all intents and purposes there is no Shmini Atzeret in Israel, there is only Simchat Torah. It's true that the liturgy speaks not of "Simchat Torah" but of the "holiday of the eighth day of assembly," but the central rite of the holiday, the completion of the Torah cycle with the reading of the end of Deuteronomy and the renewal of the cycle with the reading of the beginning of Genesis, carries the spirit of the day.

An interesting aspect of Simchat Torah is that it provides the only case where Israel alone repeats a major holiday rite. I am talking here about "hakafot shniyot," a second night of dancing with the Torah, that has come into vogue throughout Israel. Hakafot shniyot take place this year on Tuesday October 25, the evening after Simchat Torah

in Israel, a time that is technically weekday here. Because of this, the hakafot are accompanied by live music. The custom is helped by the fact that children do not have school the next day (and thus many people take off from work). In Givat Ze'ev, the music is provided by a local professional keyboard player accompanied by a number of other musicians (a number that is dependent both on the financial situation of the municipality and whether or not a mayoral election is approaching).

I have no idea exactly what percentage of Israeli Jews celebrate Simchat Torah. I do know that as a religious person, it's nice to live in a country where my local town government sponsors hakafot shniyot. Yet, as usual, I will be bothered by the fact that practically all of the people who will be celebrating hakafot shniyot in Givat Ze'ev will be religious. After all, there are both religious and cultural reasons to dance with a Torah. It pains me that almost no secular residents of Givat Ze'ev find reason to celebrate at hakafot shniyot. The national religious camp in Israel is currently undergoing a great deal of soul searching about how to bridge the religious-secular divide that was so much in evidence this past summer. Judging from my experience in Givat Ze'ev, there is plenty of work to do on issues of Jewish culture before one gets to more thornier issues of Jewish theology. Plus, as hakafot shniyot demonstrate, it's a whole lot more fun. Happy Holiday.

This Week in Jewish History



Celebrate 350
Jewish Life in America
1654 - 2004

This Week in History" is an introduction to 350 years of American Jewish history, brought to you by the Jewish Women's Archive. More information about each of the events described below can be found on JWA's website at http://www.jwa.org/this_week/week_31.html

OCTOBER 17, 1988

The October 17, 1988 announcement that chemist Gertude Elion had won the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine represented the culmination of an unlikely career.

OCTOBER 18, 1948

"The Goldbergs," a popular television comedy portraying a warm and amusing Jewish family, created by actor and producer Gertrude Berg, had its television premiere on October 18, 1948.

OCTOBER 18, 2004

The Jewish Women's Archive joined with National Women's Philanthropy for an historic celebration of 350 years of Jewish women in America at the International Lion of Judah conference on October 18, 2004.

OCTOBER 17-19, 1854

Ernestine Rose, a leading early American advocate for women's rights, presided over the Fifth National Woman's Rights Convention in Philadelphia on October 17-19, 1854.

OCTOBER 21, 1944

On October 21, 1944, Frances Y. Slinger, R.N. became the first American nurse killed in Europe after D-Day.

OCTOBER 23, 1973

On October 23, 1973, Rabbi Sally J. Priesand offered the opening prayer in the United States House of Representatives, at the invitation of Congresswoman Bella Abzug.

Letter to the Editor

Continued from page 4

anniversary celebration or the 200 people who participated in the snowball run or the 300 people who spent the evening raising money for the Center by betting on fictitious horses at our Night of the Races or the 600 children who attended camp last summer or the thousands of people who are members, we are a community of people working together to build "Meaningful Jewish Community".

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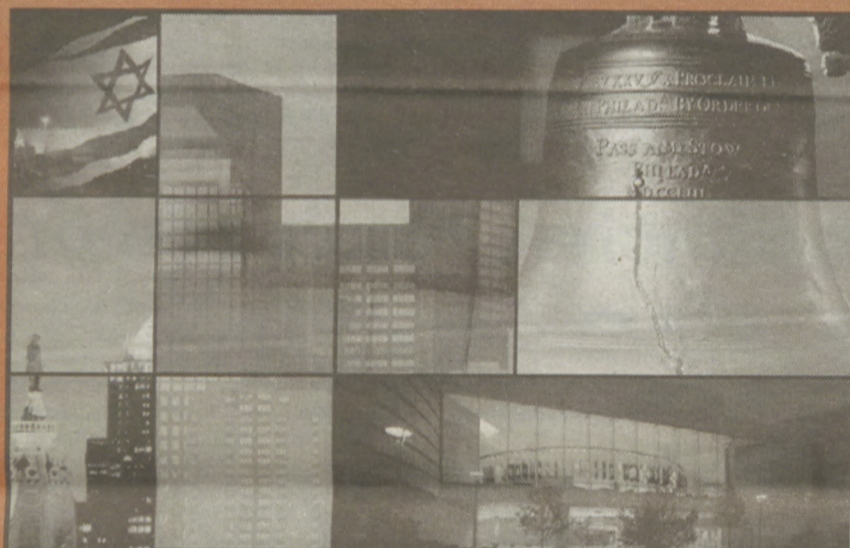
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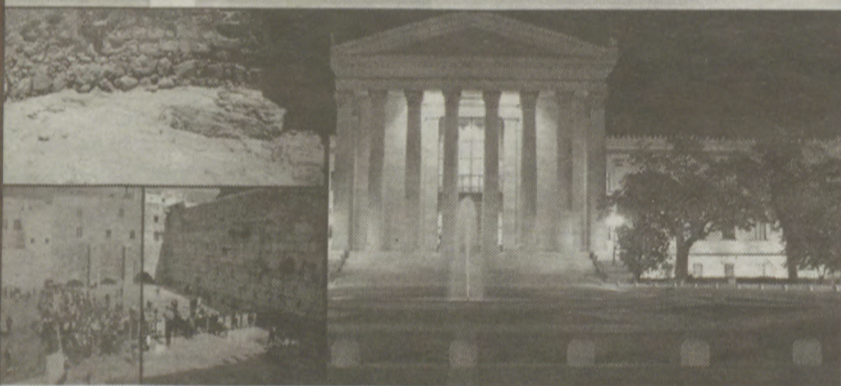
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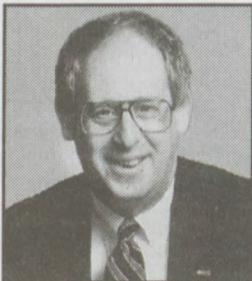
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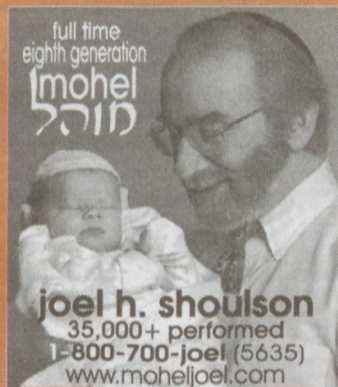


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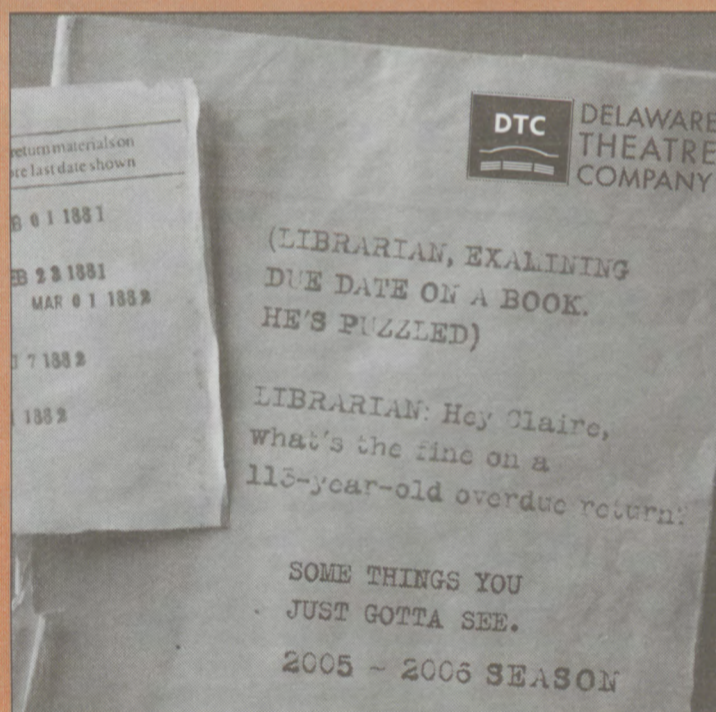
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While the premise for Glen Berger's *Underneath the Lintel* sounds like the start of a joke, the play actually deals with intense issues such as the existence of God, the meaning of life, and one hell of a mid-life crisis involving spiritual, physical and monetary paralysis.

But, director David Stradley explains, it's okay to laugh. "That's the great thing about Glen Berger's play - he makes it a lot of fun to struggle with some of the all time big questions." *Underneath the Lintel* tells the story of a Dutch librarian who discovers a returned book that's slightly overdue... by 113 years. Suitcase in hand, the determined bookworm sets out across the globe to find the mysterious and elusive perpetrator. At the heart of the play is the myth of the Wandering Jew - an ancient myth regarding a Jewish man who is doomed to roam the world, never stopping, never resting because he did not help Christ as he rested under the Jew's lintel (horizontal crosspiece over a door) on his way to Calvary. Although for the Wandering Jew (and many other mythical wanderers wandering is a punishment, *Underneath the Lintel* posits that wandering may just be a heroic act and a key to understanding the wonders (and horrors) of the world.

GLOBAL JEWISH NEWS

German Jews positive about Merkel

By Toby Axelrod, JTA

As Germany stands on the brink of a new political era – about to have its first woman and first former East German as Chancellor – Jews are peering over the horizon with cautious optimism. Seven years of Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder turned out to be rather good for the Jews. But Angela Merkel isn't exactly an unknown quantity either.

When it comes to relations with Israel and with Germany's Jewish community, a Merkel administration isn't likely to bring much change, observers say. And transatlantic relations, another issue of import to the Jewish community, are likely to improve. Merkel's Christian Democrat Union and Schroeder's party, the Social Democratic Union, are crafting their coalition. Paul Spiegel, head of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, reserved comment until the new Cabinet ministers are named, but others were less shy.

"There's no 'getting to know you,' no breaking-in period needed," Rabbi Israel Singer, chairman of the World Jewish Congress and president of the Claims Conference, said of Merkel in a telephone interview with JTA. "We know her commitments." Merkel "frequently finished a sentence that I began when we talked about Jewish issues. It's rare that you sit with somebody whom you don't need to win over and who is not only on the same page as you are, but on the same line as you are," Singer said.

Merkel has "demonstrated considerable interest in a positive and dynamic relationship with the Jewish world," Deidre Berger, head of the American Jewish Committee office in Berlin, who also has met frequently with the CDU leader, said in an e-mail interview. Merkel's track record on Jewish issues is "excellent," said Michael Wolffsohn, a history professor at the University of the Bundeswehr in Munich. "She has always been in touch with the Central Council and the Israeli

Embassy," Wolffsohn said in an e-mail comment.

"Jewish-Israeli matters are close to her heart," as they are for the leadership of her party in general. Merkel "is a direct, serious, knowledgeable, hands-on person who listens," said Abraham Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League, "and she has very clear views on issues of our concern." "I for one feel comfortable that her leadership will continue the dual tradition of taking responsibility for the past and being guided by it," Foxman said.

Merkel was born in 1954 to a Lutheran pastor and a teacher. She studied physics and worked as a chemist before becoming involved in politics after the fall of the Berlin Wall in November 1989. She became a political protégé of former Chancellor Helmut Kohl, and has headed the CDU since 2000.

A proponent of economic and social reform, Merkel wants to make Germany more competitive by allowing longer work-weeks and removing barriers to firing employees.

She is a strong advocate of transatlantic relations, and even supported the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq at a time when the view was most unpopular in Germany – a "high political risk" that Jewish leaders respected, Wolffsohn said.

In keeping with majority German opinion, however, Merkel rejects Turkish membership in the European Union.

For German Jews, the top items on the domestic agenda are integration of Jews from the Former Soviet Union, funding for cash-strapped Jewish communities, support for Jewish education and training of rabbis, security, and efforts to combat anti-Semitism.

Internationally, the issues are close ties with Israel and the United States. Under Schroeder, Jewish communal life took a great leap forward with the signing of an historic contract in 2003 between the Central Council and the German government that placed the



World Jewish Congress Chairman Israel Singer with newly elected German Chancellor Angela Merkel, in a file photo.

Jewish community on a legal par with the Protestant and Catholic churches.

Schroeder's foreign minister, Joschka Fischer, proved to be a great supporter of Israel, most observers agree. The Schroeder administration also took a strong stand against anti-Semitism, particularly at the 2001 U.N. Conference Against Racism in Durban, South Africa, where Fischer defended Israel, and at the conference on anti-Semitism in Europe convened by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and hosted in Berlin. Merkel was one of the speakers at the OSCE event.

"I look to Mrs. Merkel for at least as much understanding" as the past administration showed, Singer said. She "has always been sympathetic to us when she was in the opposition, and helped us on every issue in the

last seven years," including the fight for homecare payments to Holocaust survivors.

Growing up in East Germany taught Merkel "the importance of what it is like to live under the yoke of a system that is not amenable to human rights," Singer said. Foxman said Merkel had made "her own pilgrimage" to come to terms with the Nazi past. "She said to us that her parents ... tried to enlighten her contrary to what she was taught" in East Germany, which held that the Nazi perpetrators had all come from western Germany and which tended to deny the unique nature of the Jewish genocide.

Merkel "is aware of the poison that was fed to millions of Germans on the eastern side for years," Foxman said. The government "has the responsibility not only to be aware of it but to deal with it."

All eyes turn to United Nations

By Chanan Tigay, JTA

On the surface, there's nothing special about a recent U.N. committee request to renew the mandate of divisions that promote the Palestinian agenda at the United Nations. But some Jewish groups are watching how U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan and the General Assembly react to the annual request. They see it as a barometer of how serious the United Nations is about reform – and about institutionalizing an improved atmosphere for Israel.

The request from the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People to look at the mandates of the Division of Palestinian Affairs and the Special Information Program on the Question of Palestine came on the heels of last month's U.N. World Summit, where world leaders signed on to a document calling for significant U.N. reform.

"Has Kofi Annan been given the power to organize his own house?" wondered Amy Goldstein, director of U.N. affairs at B'nai B'rith International. "If he can do it for everything else but the Middle East, then it is absolutely illegitimate. That would just demonstrate that the U.N. is signaling out Israel and the Middle East for special treatment which basically is anti-Semitic."

Israel recently has undertaken a series of steps aimed at increasing its role at the United Nations. Israel's U.N. ambassador, Dan Gillerman, last month submitted Israel's first-ever candidacy for the Security Council. Israel also recently proposed its first U.N. resolution.

The Israeli mission and U.S. Jewish organizations hope the 30-year-old Palestinian-related committees will be shut down.

Goldstein sees them as "the institutional-

ization of the Zionism = Racism resolution," the infamous 1975 resolution that stood until 1991. As part of the U.N.'s management reform, Annan is looking to review General Assembly mandates that are more than five years old. Member states are negotiating over whether or not the secretary-general will be given the power to make recommendations with regard to the future of older mandates.

In the meantime, at least, the General Assembly itself has the final say, and will most likely take up the issue during its current session, which ends in December. "Getting rid of these entities is very important," said Shai Franklin, director of international organizations for the World Jewish Congress. But he added, "If the member states refuse to empower the secretary-general or if they refuse to do what they need to do in order to get rid of these entities, that doesn't mean that the secretary-general or his advisers are not genuine in their efforts to promote Middle East peace."

A U.N. spokesman told JTA that Annan would look into the mandates in the near future. "That review will be done looking at what these bodies do and what their usefulness is," said Farhan Haq. "There wouldn't be any specific comment about this or that body at this stage." Annan "should be objective enough and courageous enough to say that the mandates are against the principles of the organization because they simply take sides in a conflict; they serve to adopt and promote the narrative of one side of the conflict," a diplomatic source at Israel's U.N. mission, who asked to remain anonymous, told JTA. "And they really don't, I think, reflect the priorities of the organization in the 21st century."

Even if Annan does find that the committees have outlived their usefulness, the diplo-



The Palestinian U.N. representative, Nasser Al-Kidwa, right, addresses the International Conference of Civil Society in Support of Palestinian People in New York on Sept. 13.

matic source was skeptical that the General Assembly would adopt a recommendation to kill them. "It is obviously a test case, but with some reservations," he said. "It's important to remember that there is a distinction to be made between the secretariat and membership" of the General Assembly.

At a moment when the United Nations is looking to bolster its credibility, it should break with the "business as usual" of anti-Israel activity, said Hillel Neuer, executive director of U.N. Watch in Geneva. The Palestinian committees are part of a larger, systemic problem, he said. "Kofi Annan ought to be at the forefront of exposing this obvious waste of U.N. resources, money that could be

used for Palestinian development and humanitarian aid and is instead wasted on propaganda," he said. "Kofi Annan should be the first to speak out on this and ought to lead the rest of the General Assembly in moving forward, away from its ignoble past."

Gillerman has said that the committees cost the U.N. \$6 million annually. But Franklin noted that it's not a huge sum in the context of the U.N. budget.

"We're not looking to save money," he said. "It's the symbolism, and it's the idea that there is a U.N.-sponsored propaganda machine turning out material which undermines the efforts that the U.N. is on record as supporting."

DELAWARE

Delaware's 1st IB Diplomas

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Zachary Rowen



Debra Shlossman

are required for the diploma.

Diploma candidates also must complete a course in Theory of Knowledge, which brings together themes from across academic disciplines, such as Logic and Aesthetics. They are required to write a 4,000-word essay on a topic they choose in consultation with an advisor. In addition, they must complete 150 hours of what the IB program calls "Communication, Action, Service," which includes participation in community service

and activities such as sports, the arts and civic and school organizations.

Albert Einstein Academy is the only Jewish Elementary Day School in the Brandywine Valley. Albert Einstein Academy is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, and is a constituent of the Jewish Federation of Delaware.

For more information about Albert Einstein Academy, call 302-478-5026. Visit us at www.aeacademy.org

Ratner

By Marvin

This c
Congregat
honor two
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the Torah

tival of Simhat Torah to honor two members that have made significant personal commitment to the synagogue and the community.

Frances Ratner is a native of Long Island, undergraduate of Cornell University and NYU Law School. She resides in Brandywine 100 with husband Steve and their daughters Jenny, Lizzy and Hannah. "Frances has been a great asset to Beth Shalom," said congregation president, Alan Lipschultz. "As coordinator for our Tot Shabbat programs and our Hebrew school she has added much to the Jewish life for our young families. Frances often reads Torah on Shabbat

in the synagogue. She is founding member of the Autism Society of Delaware and a cast member of the Wilmington Drama League's 2003 production of "The Music Man".

Hayim Weiss, also a native of Long Island (Queens), began his community service in his youth, active in Bnai Brith youth (AZA), Eagle Scout, Community Orchestra (cello), Red Cross, and Students Against Drunk Driving. A graduate of Muhlenberg College (Social Gerontology) and the University of Pittsburgh where he was active in a variety of social welfare organizations and causes. While attending

he met Meredith, they friends, realized they common, particularly dry humor, and three she graduated, were m is a Senior Human Systems Analyst for the Health System.

At the Jewish Way, Holidays, Rabbi Irving Greenberg describes the special aliyot (honor) for the hattan and kallah as one that "evokes the classical symbols of marriage and covenant to extol the faithfulness of the Jews to the Torah". On Wednesday morning October 26 as part of the 9:30 am Simhat Torah service and celebration, Frances and Hayim will be escorted to the bimah under a chuppah. A luncheon following the services will honor Frances and Hayim. The community is invited to join the congregation in this annual tradition.

Shalom

How does the media impact our lives?

Is the Fourth Estate being eroded by bottom-line pressures, affecting the quality of journalism? Is one of the cornerstones of our democracy, the First Amendment, hale and hearty? What is the impact of technology and the internet age on the media?

Questions abound as to the state of contemporary media in our society and the future of the watchdogs of democracy. These questions and more are sure to be addressed in the during the kick off of the second season of Forum USA Delaware on Saturday, November 5, 8 p.m. at the DuPont Theatre in the Hotel duPont. The Media in Our Lives is the first forum in a series of three.

CBS Evening News Anchor **Bob Schieffer**; **Michael Powell**, former Chairman of the FCC; founder of the Center for Public Integrity and native **Delawarean Charles Lewis**; TIME Magazine columnist and CNN political analyst **Margaret Carlson** will share unscripted conversation with program moderator **Ray Suarez**, senior correspondent for The News Hour on PBS.

The Forum's conversations will be continued in various New Castle County Libraries. For more information call, 302-395-5600.

Remaining programs in the second season of Forum USA Delaware:

Getting Education Right - Thursday, Feb. 23, 2006, at 8 p.m.

Geoffrey Canada, Wendy Kopp, Rod Paige and moderator Nora O'Donnell.

Talking Authors - Friday, May 5, 2006, at 8 p.m.

Joyce Carol Oates and Salman Rushdie.

Additional panelists to be announced.

The Forum begins at 8 p.m. in Wilmington's DuPont Theatre. For more information on Forum USA Delaware and for tickets, visit www.forumusadelaware.org.

Series subscriptions (\$120-\$180) and tickets range from \$45 to \$65 and are also available through the DuPont Theatre box office at (302) 656-4401, (800) 338-0881, or online at www.duponttheatre.com. Ultimate Packages, which include prime theatre seats and a photo with a panelist, can be purchased by calling (302) 888-2488.

Jewish women to hold Public Affairs Forum

In a forum on November 1st, the Wilmington Section of the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) will explore the issue of Forgiveness, addressing it both on a personal level and in the context of working for social justice. The event, to be held at the Terrace at Greenhill, is entitled "Forgiveness: Healing Ourselves, Our Relationships and Our World."

The forum will include presentations by Robin Sesan, PhD, Founder and Director of the Brandywine Center, LLC and Gail Ball, NCJW Wilmington Section's Vice President of Advocacy and BenchMark Campaign Chair and NCJW national board member.

Sesan will discuss the challenges of forgiving ourselves and others, addressing questions such as: What

is forgiveness? How can I forgive myself and others for past wrongs? Is there a way to make my world safe again?

Ball will focus on the role forgiveness plays in the field of advocacy by examining how transforming our personal relationships with our adversaries facilitates the pursuit of social justice.

The Forum will be of particular interest to all members of the community who find themselves in an advocacy position. This includes individuals engaged on a personal level with family members, institutions, and governmental agencies as well as those working in the public interest promoting legislation and other systemic changes. Attendees will take away

ideas and tools for furthering their cause.

The forum is from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. and will include light refreshments. The basic cost is \$25.

NCJW is a volunteer organization that works through a program of research, education, advocacy, and community service to improve the quality of life for women, children and families. Previous Wilmington Section gatherings have focused on end of life care, domestic violence, bullying, gun control, education reform, and dating dangers.

To request an invitation to the Nov. 1st event or to learn about sponsorship opportunities, please contact Kerry Meluskey at 302-479-5421 or kndmeluskey@verizon.net.

Women's Philanthropy ensures the strength of the Jewish community

Call Jennifer Young at

302-427-2100, ext. 19 for more information

I am a Lion.



Dinner for new, potential members

Congregants who joined Beth Emeth in 2004 or 2005 and anyone currently considering membership, along with their families, are invited to be guests of the congregation at Beth Emeth's annual New and Potential Member Shabbat Service and Dinner. The event is planned for Friday evening, November 4, 2005. Dinner will be served in Beth Emeth's social hall at 6:00 p.m.

New members and their families will be blessed and honored at the service, which will be held at 8:00 p.m. in the chapel.

The Oneg following the service will provide an additional opportunity for members of the congregation

to welcome new and potential members and enjoy a relaxed chat following the service.

Families and individuals who are considering joining Congregation, Beth Emeth, but who haven't yet made the commitment are especially welcome to attend this event and learn more about the congregation. There is no charge for this dinner, but since it will be prepared by a host of volunteers, it is essential that you make your reservations by October 28, 2005 by calling Adele Kessel at 302-478-0776.

Membership information may be obtained by calling Verna Schenker at 302-478-6673.

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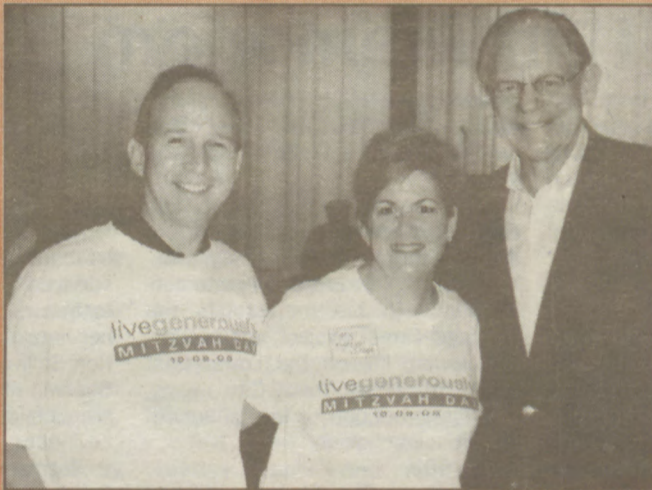
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MITZVAH DAY MUSINGS



Jake and Daniel Noznisky help clean up the Jewish Cemetery on Foulk Road.



Caryl Marcus-Stape with Democratic State Treasurer Jack Markell and Republican U.S. Representative Michael Castle.



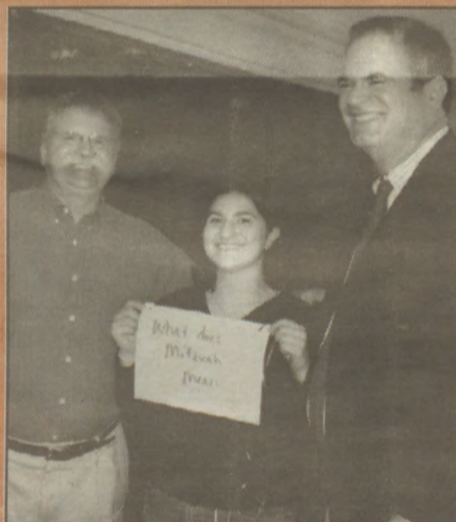
Regina Alonzo and family sort books for use by Foster Grandparents Program.



The members of Wilmington's BBYO AZA Chapter visit the grave of former member Brian L. Dombchick for whom their chapter is named.



Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches were prepared for delivery to the Sunday Breakfast Mission by Deane Kattler and Suzy Grant.



Jeff Eisenstat, Director of Youth and Camping of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation, Alanna Slover, Youth Activities Director at Beth Emeth and Rabbi Grumbacher share a basic lesson sign used at Mitzvah Day's interactive learning and hands on projects at Beth Emeth.



Beth Emeth member and "homeless actor" Warren Schrier and son taught volunteers about homelessness and poverty at Beth Emeth. Later children worked on food and craft gifts for hospitals and shelters.



Mitzvah Day began with the daily mitzvah of davening Shachris at the Siegel Community Center. Cantor Horwitz conducted the community wide service and rabbis Beals, Dresin and Grumbacher all took part in leading different prayers.



Lisa and Sarah Driban at kick-off rally before they help sort parcels of supplies for homeless and women's shelters.



Rebecca, Nancy and Shoshannah Lustig helped sort the dozens of boxes of books that were delivered to the Foster Grandparents Program for their use.

MILESTONES

In Memoriam

AUGUST

Samuel August, 88, of Claymont, died October 13th.

He is survived by his sons, Gerald of New York City, NY and Gil of Denver, CO; a sister, Sylvia Barrow of Philadelphia, PA and a granddaughter, Lena Sophie August.

A funeral service was held on October 16th at Schoenberg Memorial Chapel with interment in the Jewish Community Cemetery on Foulk Road.

The family requests that contributions in his memory be made to either Deborah Heart and Lung Foundation, c/o Mary Weinstein, 8602 Society Drive, Claymont, DE 19703 or to Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation, Washington Blvd. and Torah Drive, Wilmington, DE 19802.

JABLONER

Harold Jabloner, 67, of Landenberg, PA, died suddenly on October 4th of complications from Parkinson's Disease.

A native of New York City, he exhibited academic proficiency at an

early age. He graduated from high school at the age of 15, earned his BS degree in chemistry from City College of New York and went on immediately to study for a PhD in polymer chemistry from the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn.

He spent his entire career at Hercules Inc. and held the distinction of being named the company's first distinguished scientist. In this role, he served as Hercules' primary liaison to the world's technology community. He held more than 30 United States and foreign patents in areas ranging from polyacetylene chemistry to biomedical implants to resin for aircraft engine rotor blades. He held key leadership positions in several professional organizations.

Mr. Jabloner was an avid traveler and a passionate gardener.

A devoted family man, he will be missed by his wife, Anne Boyd; his children, Paula Jabloner of San Jose, CA, Matthew Jabloner of Bainbridge Island, WA, Amy Jabloner of Rockville, MD, Bill Turek of Escondido, CA and Laurel Turek of

Minneapolis, MN; his beloved grandchildren, Sam, Ari, David, Zoey, Aidan and Griffin and extended family and friends.

A funeral service was held October 7th with interment in Beth Emeth Cemetery on Faulkland Road.

The family would appreciate contributions in his memory to the Eldridge Street Project, memorializing Jewish life on the Lower East Side of New York City, www.eldridgestreet.org; or to a charity of the donor's choice.

LEVINSON

Thelma S. Levinson, died October 8th at Crosslands of Kennett Square, PA, where she had resided for the past two years.

Mrs. Levinson was formerly a resident of Wilmington, DE and Palm Beach Gardens, FL. Known as "Teddy" to friends and family, she was born in Middletown, DE and attended grade school there. She graduated from Friends School in Wilmington and Gettysburg College. She was actively involved in ORT, the AFS Committee at Mt. Pleasant High

School, the Sisterhood of Congregation Beth Shalom of Wilmington and was a founding member of the MOT Senior Center in Middletown.

She was predeceased by her husband of 56 years, Milton and is survived by her son, Eric and daughter-in-law, Sue of Newark, DE; and her daughter, Frances and husband, Ron Sullivan of Kennett Square, PA. She will also be missed by her two grandchildren, Andrew and Jillian Levinson.

A graveside service was held on October 10th in the Jewish Community Cemetery on Foulk Road.

Memorial contributions may be made to the MOT Senior Center, 300 South Scott Street, Middletown, DE 19709; or to Neighborhood-Visiting Nurse Association, 795 Marshall Street, Suite 204, West Chester, PA 19380-4412.

ROSENBLUM

Esther Greenfield Rosenblum of Philadelphia, PA, died September 25th. She was the wife of the late Leo Rosenblum, mother of the late

Gloria Stein; and grandmother of Linda and Jane. She is also survived by nieces and nephews.

A graveside service was held on September 27th in Har Nebo Cemetery, 6061 Oxford Avenue in Philadelphia.

SHUR

Manuel Shur, 68, formerly of Wilmington, died October 6th in Baltimore, MD.

He was a former member of Congregation Beth Shalom and a past president of the Jewish War Veterans Harry Fineman Post.

Mr. Shur is survived by his daughter, Judy Handelman and her husband, Fred; son, Bruce and his wife, Phyllis and another son, Harry. He will also be missed by his grandchildren, Lisa Berman, Tom Handelman and Marcia Cook.

The family would appreciate memorial contributions to Beth Shalom of Carroll County, 2020 Liberty Road, Taylorsville, MD 21157 or to Rodney Street Tennis, 41 Paladin Drive, Wilmington, DE 19802.

NACHAS NOOK

Margules and Grossman Named JNF Co-Presidents

During installation ceremonies on October 20, 2005, it was announced that David Margules, current president of the Delaware Region of the Jewish National Fund, will share the role of President with Jerry Grossman for the 2006-2008 fiscal years.

Grossman has recently become involved with the development of the JNF Board of Directors for the DE Region, and also serves as a Makor Member for JNF.

Margules and Grossman anticipate an active year spent engag-

ing others about the work of JNF, while creating a larger DE Board and Executive Committee.

Those interested in becoming involved with the JNF DE Region should contact Ariane Aronhime, Senior Campaign Executive at (302) 655-5995.

Goldberg and Kessler to wed

Vivian and Alan Goldberg are happy to announce the engagement of their daughter, Allison Faith to Lawrence Helfgott Kessler, son of Ann Helfgott and Dr. David Kessler of Port Jefferson Station, Long Island, NY. Allison is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, magna cum laude, and is a third year medical student at Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Larry is a graduate of Columbia University and the Jewish Theological Seminary, cum laude.

The couple plans to get married during the summer of 2006.



Goldberg and Kessler

DELAWARE NEWS NOTES

JFS Kimmel-Spiller Healing Center slates fall programs

Jewish Healing Service — Free & open to the community

2nd Tuesday of every month
1:00 pm–2:30 pm in KSHC
Led by Rabbi Michael Beals

Bereavement Group — Free & open to the community

1st & 3rd Thursday of every month
10:00 am–11:00 am in KSHC
1st Thursday led by JFS staff; 3rd Thursday led by Rabbi Dresin, AKSE.

Women in Transition Group — \$20/session or \$75 for entire program

Discussion group for women of any age who are contemplating or experiencing changes and choices in their lives. Wednesdays (from October 19 through November 9)
6:00 pm–7:30 pm in KSHC
Led by JFS staff member Nona Smolko, LCSW

COMING SOON—Are you ready to live the life you want? Come to 7th Path!

Transformational Meditative Self-Hypnosis led by Beth J. Kell, B.S.N., H.B.C.E., C.H.

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This three-part program begins November 3rd and will be held weekly in the Kimmel-Spiller Healing Center—details to come! Please call Lisa Driban at 302-478-9411, ext. 21 for more information.

ALSO...

NOW FORMING! SIGN UP TODAY!—Media Matters programs

Computer Maven

This four-part program, open to older adults in the community, teaches basic computer skills such as e-mail and how to surf "the Net" (Internet). Cost: \$25/JCC members, \$35/non-members. Tuesdays, 1:00 pm, in the JFS Classroom.



Schoenberg Memorial Chapels



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lynn.edelman@shalomdel.org or 302-427-2438

COMING EVENTS

Seaside Holds Open Discussion Group: October 27th at 7:30pm at Seaside. Everyone is welcome! Topic is: "What is the Difference Between Ashkenazim and Sephardim?" Where do they come from? What are their practices? Are you one or the other? Presented by Dr. Peter Koelle, Department of Spanish at Bryn Mawr College.

Note: Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, there will be no meeting of the Seaside Discussion Group in November. The meetings will resume in December.

Bible study is usually on the 3rd Thursday of each month and Discussion Group is usually on the 4th Thursday of each month so set your calendars and join us.

Unless listed otherwise, all the above events are held at the Ocean Wave Lodge. Correspondence should be mailed to Seaside Jewish Community, P.O. Box 1472, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

Jewish War Vets Slate November Program- Roger Hall, a member of the OSS and author of a popular book called "You're Stepping on My Cloak and Dagger" will speak on Sunday November 20th, at the B'nai B'rith Building, in Claymont at 10:30. Members, spouses, patrons, and new members are welcome to attend.

The Jewish War Veterans of Delaware need new members, young or old and patrons. It is extremely important that this Jewish Organization continue. Please call Len Markovitz at 302-234-4785 or Milt Slovin 302-478-4888. You do not have to be a veteran to join.

Please help stock the JFS Mitzvah Pantry! Thanks to the generosity of a community member, the Volunteer Network now has a freezer to store meals for the community. We are currently accepting single or double portion, kosher or kosher-style meals. These meals will be stored in the freezer in the volunteer project room at JFS and shared

with community members in need. So cook an extra portion and share a meal with a member of the community who will appreciate your generosity. For more information about this program, contact Lisa Driban at (302) 478-9411. JFS is looking for volunteers in the following capacities. Interested parties should contact Volunteer Coordinator, Lisa Driban at 302-478-9411, ext. 21.

• Office assistance to answer phones, handle data entry and filing

• Creative individuals to assist with assembling and wrapping baskets

• Delivery assistance for delivery of meals and baskets

• Caring individuals to make friendly visits or phone calls to community members

Hours are flexible. No experience is necessary, we will train you!

Fall Israeli Dancing Schedule Announced- Israeli dancing continues twice a month in Wilmington area. It is at the Siegel JCC the second Sunday of each month from 3-5 p.m.: November 13 and December 11; and on selected Wednesdays at the Arden Gild Hall starting at 7:30: October 26, November 30 and December 21. Sharon Kleban and Howard Wachtel teach more beginning dances the first hour, and the second hour gets progressively more advanced.

For further information, please contact Elaine Schmerling at (302) 475-3708.

Beth Emeth Hosts Bowling Bonanza- Bring your family to Bowlerama in New Castle for the holiday on Friday, November 11 at Noon for a special event for the kids. Children under 12 enjoy a hotdog lunch and bowling for the special Beth Emeth Outreach price of just \$5 per Child (includes shoes). Adults can bowl separately at the cost \$2.75 per game plus \$2.75 for shoe rental (lunch is extra). Reservations are required - call the Temple Office

at 764-2393 or write bowling@bethemethoutreach.com. The Outreach Committee is proud to also hold events for singles, interfaith families, those new to the community, and gay and lesbian families. More information is always available at www.bethemethoutreach.com

Get Ready for Jewish Book Month- In celebration of Jewish Book Month, The Florence Melton Adult Mini-School will hold a Book Discussion led by Cyra Gross of "Rashi's Daughters" by Maggie Anton, on Wed. Dec. 14th at the Siegel JCC at 7pm.

This novel takes place in 11th century France and centers on Rashi's daughter, Joheved. It is highly recommended for historical fiction lovers. This event is open to the community.

Reserve your place by calling Melton Director, Lynda Bell at 302-478-5660 or lyndabell@siegeljcc.org.

Delaware Gratz Goes to the Big Apple. Be the first to see The Woman In White, one of Broadway's hottest new shows. The bus will leave for New York on Wednesday, November 30th at 8:30 a.m. leaving plenty of time for lunch (on your own) before the 2 p.m. performance. Leave New York for home at approximately 5:00 p.m.

For reservations, please make check payable to Delaware Gratz Auxiliary and mail to Annette Chason, 400 Whitby Drive, Wilmington, DE 19803 or call her at 479-0848.

Clean Out Your Closets- Support Congregation Beth Emeth's garage sale of "Used, Not Abused" clothing, house wares, pre-owned computer equipment, and more! November 2nd from 9-4:00 and November 3rd from 9-12:00 and 1-4:00. Donations accepted through Oct 31. 300 West Lea Boulevard, Wilmington

Chanukah Shop in Manhattan-New York City is particularly lovely during the Winter Holiday season.

Take a bus to NYC on December 14th for a mere \$35.00 including tip! Shop, see a show, catch a museum exhibit or tour Lincoln Center. It's up to you. Bus will depart from the Brandywine Town Center at 8:30 a.m. and will leave New York for home at 5 p.m. There will be a pay-your-way dinner stop at the famed Harold's New York Style Deli. Your check is your reservation. Please make checks payable to Delaware Gratz Auxiliary and send to Annette Chason, 400 Whitby Drive, Wilmington, DE 19803.

Buy Hanukkah Stamps- The Hanukkah stamp, re-released dreidel design of 2004, should be available at all post offices no later than November 1st. The "Madonna & Child" Christmas stamp will also be the same as last year's because the United States Postal Service is anticipating a rate increase in 2006. In 2006 there will be a new Christmas stamp while the (dreidel) Hanukkah stamp will remain the same again as confirmed by the USPS. The USPS still claims there is not a sufficient demand to issue a new Hanukkah stamp every year. I do not believe this to be so (please visit my website: www.hanukkahstampquest.com for more about this). Let's show the USPS they are wrong and that there is a sufficient demand. Make sure your post office has the Hanukkah stamp and that they keep a continuous supply. Buy as many as you can and use the Hanukkah stamp on all your mail.

If your post office does not have any Hanukkah stamps after November 1st and they tell you they won't be getting any, please, let me know immediately via email: hanukkah@mypspeakworks.com or regular mail: Ronald Scheiman, P.O. Box 741324, Boynton Beach FL 33474-1324.

Jewish Family Services Open House - A Festival of Family - Thursday, November 10, 7:00pm to 9:00pm. JFS welcomes friends, fam-

ily and the community to celebrate their new home! The evening's informal program will include facility tours, a guest speaker, and special acknowledgement of community friends. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will be served. There is no charge for this event, but you **MUST RSVP by November 1** to Michelle Kramer-Fitzgerald, 302-478-9411, ext. 12 or info@jfsdelaware.org.

Spend Winter Break in Israel. The Kristol Center for Jewish Life at the University of Delaware (Hillel) is now taking applications for its FREE 10-DAY TRIP TO ISRAEL!! Spots are limited and interviews are now going on, so **APPLY NOW!!** Contact [Johanna](mailto:Johanna@udel.edu) at 302-453-0479 or email her at Johanna@udel.edu for more information about this exciting birthright Israel adventure!

Special Exhibit at the Delaware Art Museum- October 22, 2005 - January 29, 2006

Pirate Tales and Beyond: The Adventures of Rip Squeak & Friends

More than 70 paintings and drawings by nationally renowned illustrator Leonard Filgate, created for the Rip Squeak series of children's books written by his wife, Susan Yost-Filgate. The stories detail the adventures of an unusual group of friends—a mouse named Rip and his sister Jesse, an abandoned kitty named Abbey, and a thespian frog called Euripides. The friends use their imaginations, improvisational skills, and each other's unique qualities to care for each other, overcome challenges, and have fun. Pirate Tales and Beyond will enjoy a perfect context at the Delaware Art Museum where Filgate's lively images will be in the company of the Museum's revered collection of American illustration, particularly the famous pirate paintings of Howard Pyle, which inspired Filgate's vision for the costumes and settings for the Rip Squeak adventures.

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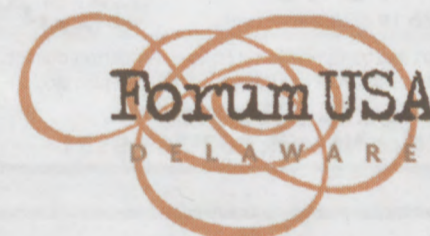
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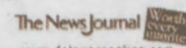
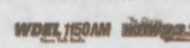
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