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Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres Speaks In The Delaware Valley

By DAN WEINTRAUB
 Editor of The Jewish Voice

On a podium in the front of a room filled with 2,000 people, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres presented a vision of Middle East peace to the Delaware Valley communities of Philadelphia, Delaware and Southern New Jersey. He declared that Israel can only achieve a lasting, secure peace by helping her Arab neighbors prosper economically. The address at the Wyndham Franklin Plaza Hotel in Philadelphia, was sponsored by the Consulate General of Israel, The Jewish Federations of Greater Philadelphia, Delaware and Southern New Jersey, and The Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Philadelphia.

Peres had orchestrated the Oslo process, the back channel negotiations with the PLO which led to last year's Declaration of Principles. On Monday night he emphasized the need for Middle East economic development as a key to peace. He explained that Islamic extremism is fueled by the poverty and underdevelopment of desert lands. He de-emphasized the importance of borders in a day when long range missiles ignore borders, and information and commerce also ignore borders.

The Foreign Minister's talk with the Delaware Valley Jewish community came during a ten day visit to the United States. He spoke at the United Nations last week to praise the work of the U.N. Development Program in Gaza. He argued that the General Assembly should double the budget for Gaza development to reduce poverty and increase the chances for peace. Recently he hinted to U.N. Secretary Boutros Boutros-Ghali that Israel might support admission for Germany and Japan to the U.N. Security Council if the two countries commit money for an expanded Gaza project.

While in the United States, Peres also helped oversee the establishment of diplomatic relations between Israel and Tunisia. The North African nation joins neighbors Egypt and Morocco in recognizing Israel. Since the signing of the Declaration of Principles on the White House lawn last year, Israel has established relations with numerous countries around the world.

On Monday, Peres met with Jordanian Crown Prince Hassan and President Bill Clinton in Washington. Progress was made on economic and diplomatic fronts building upon meetings in June and July. Later that day Peres spoke to students at the Wharton School of Business at the Irvine Auditorium at the University of Pennsylvania. He had dinner at the Union Club which for the first time in its history flew the Israeli flag next to the American flag and, another first, served a kosher dinner.

After the hotel ballroom filled Monday night, the Consul General of Israel, leaders of the Jewish Federations of Delaware, Philadelphia and Southern Jersey, and of the Jewish Community Relations Council took to the podium which was embellished with flowers and flags. Toni Young, President of the Jewish Federation of Delaware (JFD), was prominent among the leaders in the first row with just one chair between the Foreign Minister and she. Also on the podium was Judy Wortman, the Executive Vice-President of JFD. Rabbi David Wortman, the Executive Director of the JCRC of Greater Philadelphia, who is a Delaware resident was also seated on the podium.

When he took to the lectern Peres presented his perceptions about changes in the Middle

East and prospects for the future. He said that there are more Muslims in the world than Catholics. Since Israel looks for a secure and lasting existence surrounded by an always growing number of Muslim peoples, a future with shared prosperity he believes will lead to a bright future. "An island of prosperity in a sea of poverty makes you an object of hatred," he explained.

Peres stressed that closer economic ties between Israel and moderate Arab countries can help those secular governments combat Islamic extremism. Peres says that extremism, sometimes referred to as fundamentalism, "is a protest against want and discrimination and need, and we have to take it seriously." He added "If we don't change, and the land becomes desert, and the desert produces poverty, and poverty produces fundamentalism, the fundamentalists will equip themselves not with stones but highly sophisticated weapons. Then what will we do? It will be too late. We have to diffuse the situation before it becomes too late."

He was interrupted by supportive applause when he said "to dominate people is a moral mistake and a political mistake." This was in reference to the Israeli relations with Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He discounted the views of those who seem reluctant to see the peace process move forward. "Some people" he said "prefer to remember than to think."

Philosophically, he countered the views of those for whom the old equations of borders and weaponry were paramount in an age where economic might and information play an increasingly important role. He contrasted the rise of small Japan to the fall of Russia. Japan musters and impressive level of economic achievement and a high standard of well being for its citizenry. Russia and other areas of the former Soviet Union struggle to provide food for its peoples, structure for its societies and direction for its economies. Israel has had many bright immigrants from the areas of the former Soviet Union which prompted Peres to question how a country with so many intelligent people could have a system which so clearly was not.

He spoke of how the tools of yesterday were not well equipped for the challenges of today. "Can you kill poverty by guns?" he said. "Can you stop fundamentalism with tanks? Can you save air by bombing?"

Peres also opined that the "disappearance of enemies is not equal to the disappearance of danger." He seemed to be stressing the critical need for the continuing support of the Delaware Valley Jewish community as Israel took necessary risks for a sustainable peace. Fundamentalist strikes against innocents in Argentina and Great Britain this summer as Israel and Jordan initialed agreements in Washington underscores the continuing difficulties faced by the Jewish people.

Peres told the crowd in the Wyndham Franklin Plaza Hotel of an upcoming economic conference in Morocco in which Israel will participate along with governments and private enterprises from around the world. Companies and individuals, including Americans, Israelis, Palestinians, Arabs, Europeans, and Asians will gather to plan investment in the Middle East. Peres declared that since Companies have the money and Governments have responsibilities (such as transforming the Middle



Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres tells the Jewish community of the Delaware Valley about progress in Israel's quest for peace with her neighbors. Toni Young, President of JFD, seated next to the American flag listens with interest. The banner of the JFD is draped behind the Foreign Minister. Jewish Voice photo by Dan Weintraub.

East into a stable prosperous region) they can work together. In recent days he has also called for a development bank for the Middle East region.

The Israeli leader who served as Prime Minister from 1984 to 1986 and as Vice Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs from 1986 to 1988, Peres spoke of his country's modern day triumphs. Israel he said uses one fifth less water than any other nation. He joked that Israeli scientists were close to raising fish without water since they have become so adept at using limited resources. He spoke with pride about Israel's emergence as an economic power particularly on the strength of its technological prowess. Given the influx of gifted musicians from the areas of the former Soviet Union he said smilingly that there is nearly an orchestra for every village. He noted that unemployment is down to 7% in Israel.

Peres was Vice Premier and Minister of Finance from 1988 through 1990. He has served as Foreign Minister in the administration of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin since 1992.

On difficult negotiations which lie ahead with Syria he compared the process to an air flight. Although at a very high level there is agreement - clear skies - there are thick clouds of detail and disagreement which must be crossed before bringing the efforts in for a landing.

On Monday night he praised the United States' role as the initiator of the modern

democracy. "The United States is more of a constitution than a continent." He peppered his comments with anecdotes of a few American leaders from the past. He offered a remark which looked to the future of the Jewish community in America and elsewhere in the Diaspora. "A Jew" said Peres, "is a person who keeps his children Jewish."

(Contributing to this story were Rick Black of the Israeli Consulate and Joyce Cutler of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Philadelphia).

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Dinner of Commitment - Great Success

60th Anniversary Campaign Off To Promising Start

On Sunday, October 2, the JFD inaugurated the celebration of its 60th anniversary campaign with the most successful Dinner of Commitment in its history.

Sid Laub, a contributor to the 1935 campaign and a former JFD president, and his wife, Bea Laub, former head of the Women's Division campaign, chaired the event.

Shoshana Cardin, chair of United Israel Appeal and past chair of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations, described the challenges facing world Jewry.

Dinner participants, who last year made record increases, again established an aggressive pace for the campaign, pledging just under \$450,000 thus far.



DINNER OF COMMITMENT ATTENDANCE. FRONT ROW: Bernard Siegel, Bea and Sid Laub, Chairs, Shoshana Cardin, Speaker, Toni Young, President, Clara and Bentley Hollander. **2nd ROW:** Judy Wortman, Executive Vice President, Yetta Chaiken, Kathie Rabinovitz, Judy Topkis, Barbara Schoenberg, Campaign Chair, Stuart Young. **3rd ROW:** Rhoda Dombchik, Bruce Rabinovitz, William Topkis, Frank Chaiken, Ruth Siegel, Josh Slawitt, Francia Isakoff. **4th ROW:** Steven Dombchik, Carol Rothschild, Irving and Charlotte Shapiro, Gloria Fine, Nadine Slawitt, Lawrence Isakoff, Alan Schoenberg. **5th ROW:** Rabbi Marla Feldman, Steven Rothschild, Ruth Weinstein, Paul Fine, Doris and Albert Heisler, Doris Morris. **6th ROW:** Phyllis Aerenon, Sheldon Weinstein, Shelly Mand, Muriel Gilman, Martin Mand, Marvin Gilman, Karen Morris, Irving Morris, Amy Leviton, Alan Levenson, Henry Topel. **7th ROW:** Normal Aerenon, Steven and Miriam Edell, Patricia Sloan. **8th ROW:** Garth and Ellen Koniver, Lelaine Nemser, Assistant Director, Stuart Nemser, Michael Leviton, Rabbi David Wortman. **Not pictured:** Alice and Bennett Epstein, Danielle and Irving Grossman. *Photo by Nick Carrino*

The JEWISH VOICE

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Beth Shalom Torah Highlights Hillel Celebration

The Hillel Student Center at the University of Delaware found itself full of students this past holiday season. On the Monday night of Labor Day weekend, the first night of Rosh Hashanah, there were about 200 students attending services at the Abe and Pearle Kristol Hillel Building. By Kol Nidre night, there were between 350-400 students.

The holiday season was topped off with a Simchat Torah Celebration/Sefer Torah Dedication. Barbara B. Keil came and spoke, representing the Hillel Board and Congregation Beth Shalom, which donated the Sefer Torah. (Mrs. Keil, besides helping Hillel obtain the Torah from Beth Shalom, also hand embroidered the curtain for their custom made ark.) Ariane Marnberg, president of Hillel's student board, accepted the

Torah on behalf of Hillel. The students and everyone else danced and sang in celebration.

Hillel's upcoming calendar includes a Hay-Ride, a trip to the Comedy Cabaret, a Semi-Formal, as well as Shabbat dinners. Beginning on Oct. 27, a Beginning Hebrew Crash Reading Course in 5 easy lessons will be offered on Thursdays from 3:30-5:00. (Contact Hillel at 453-0479 for more details about any of their programs.)

Anne Frank Play Oct. 23

The play "The Diary of Anne Frank" will be performed by the Children's Theatre Stage One at the Grand Opera House on Sunday, October 23 at 8 p.m. For tickets or information call (302) 652-5577 or 1-800-37-GRAND.



Shoshana Cardin spoke at the Dinner of Commitment

JCC Childrens' Center To Establish Preschool Library

The Early Childhood Committee of the Children's Center has embarked on a new initiative to create a preschool library.

Plans for a library designed exclusively for preschoolers have been developed by a committee chaired by Elly Alexander and Carrie Jo Reed. This unique library will include an extensive Judaic collection, a special section for Caldecott books representing the best of children's literature for the preschool age group, fiction and nonfiction collections, a collection of books on tape and an Azudio station with multiple headphones, a video library of quality children's films, a Big Book library, music collection and fine arts poster and book collection and a computer station with multiple computers.

Envisioned is a space designed for both large and small group use to provide an environment which enhances and cultivates literacy — the primacy of reading and communication. In addition to developing the secular collection, plans are in place to create an extensive collection of

(Continued on page 16)

BRIEFS

NATIONAL • INTERNATIONAL

Israel And Jordan Make Further Progress At White House Monday

By MATTHEW DORF

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Jordan's Crown Prince Hassan met at the White House with U.S. President Bill Clinton this week.

The Monday meeting produced concrete programs to implement economic development, increase tourism and study water resources.

Peres, who spoke in the Delaware Valley that night, called the agreement "more than I had hoped for."

Peres' meeting with Clinton and Hassan in Washington came during a 10-day visit to the United States which centered primarily on meetings at the United Nations with foreign ministers and diplomats from dozens of countries around the world.

A highlight of the meetings, which coincided with the opening of the U.N. General Assembly, was Tunisia's decision to exchange an economic interest section with Israel.

President Clinton called the progress between Israel and Jordan "the building blocks of a modern peace between these ancient lands."

A joint communiqué by Clinton, Peres and Hassan signed Monday expands on goals established at earlier meetings in June and during the July 25 summit between King Hussein and Rabin in Washington, when the two leaders officially de-

clared an end to their state of war.

Under the agreement reached this week, businesspeople and some economic reporters will be able to travel back and forth between Israel and Jordan to discuss joint ventures beginning immediately. Peres and Hassan also agreed to explore the possibility of establishing a free-trade zone around Aqaba and Eilat.

In addition, with the help of U.S. grants, Jordan and Israel will commission a study on a Red Sea Marine Peace Park and convene a symposium on the feasibility of a Red Sea-Dead Sea canal.

Israel and Jordan also agreed to consider erecting dams on their borders to ease the crunch of scarce water supplies. Israel officials said the dams would cost between \$80 million to \$120 million and estimated the price tag of a final solution to the region's water problems at \$13 billion.

The two nations also agreed to open another border crossing in northern Israel. The border is slated to be opened Oct. 15 by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who will be returning to the region for Mideast peace talks.

The two sides also agreed to continue discussing an Israeli proposal to set up a Middle East regional bank to help fund some of the projects.

Clinton said the projects represent "solid evidence that Jordan and Israel have not only ended their state of war but are following through on their commitment to cooperate with each other and negotiate as rapidly as possible a final peace treaty."

This week's agreement comes only weeks before Israel and most of the Arab states will convene an economic conference on the Middle East in Casablanca, Morocco.

This agreement clears the way for Israeli and Jordanian officials to seek outside funding for many of the projects.

Hassan said of the agreement: "The work that we have commenced is a work that is going to live up to the hopes and aspirations of our peoples for a breakthrough for the future of both our peoples, and for the peoples of the region."

Although Hassan said he is "optimistic" about the future, the prince cautioned, "We must eliminate the barriers that create obstacles to its realization."

For his part, Peres said, "A year ago, when we started, many people thought that we are looking for photo opportunities."

"Today we can say we have attained not a photo opportunity, but a deep and moving change in human experience," the foreign minister said at the news conference.



ANNIVERSARY-CONCERT ... OSLO -- PLO leader Yasser Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres shake hands during a concert marking the first anniversary of the historic interim peace pact Sept. 13. Peres and Arafat also agreed on ways to speed up donations to Palestinian self-rule projects. CREDIT: RNS Photo/Reuters

Israeli Court Clears Way For A Volunteer Israeli Force To Haiti

TEL AVIV (JTA) — After temporarily blocking the move, Israel's High Court of Justice this week unanimously approved sending a 30-member police contingent to assume peacekeeping duties in Haiti.

The court's decision, combined with the Cabinet's approval of the mission last week, cleared the way for the departure of the 28 men and women who volunteered to help restore stability in Haiti.

Prime Minister Rabin authorized the contingent on Sept. 11, after President Clinton telephoned for Israeli assistance in the multinational effort to bring democratic rule to Haiti.

U.S. Supreme Court Declines To Review The Demjanjuk Case, Seeking Light Docket

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Without uttering a word or issuing a document, the U.S. Supreme Court has thrown a wrench into the judicial machine that will decide John Demjanjuk's fate.

But the Justice Department, members of Congress and Jewish leaders, disappointed by the court's decision not to hear the case involving the man accused of Nazi atrocities, have vowed to step up their campaign to fight for a second deportation.

The rejection of the Demjanjuk case was one of more than 1,600 cases the court turned down on its opening day Monday.

Europe Inches Closer To Israel By Approving Scientific Association

BRUSSELS (JTA) — Israel will soon become the first non-European country to be associated with the European Union's research and development programs.

In recent years, Israel has tried to elevate its trading status to gain better access to the European market. Israel is currently suffering a \$5 billion trade deficit with the E.U., which is its main trading partner.

The E.U.'s 12 member nations decided to strengthen their relations with Israel after it signed the Palestinian self-rule accord last fall.

Ministers were able to approve the move after two of the leading opponents, Britain and France, were convinced to lift their opposition.

The high level of Israeli scientific research was key to getting the move approved.

Most U.S. Jews Don't Visit Israel

TEL AVIV (JTA) — More than 70 percent of American Jews have never visited Israel, according to a Haifa University researcher.

In his study, based on statistics provided by various Jewish federations across the United States, researcher David Mittelburg also found that intermarriage was higher among young American Jews who have not visited Israel.

Mittelburg's study, which covered some 10,000 people, disclosed that in the 35-44 age group, only 19 percent had ever visited Israel.

Among those between the ages of 18-34, 30 percent had visited Israel; in the 45-and-above age group, the total rose to 44 percent.

The study indicated that in the 18-34 age group intermarriage was as high as 62 percent among those who had never visited Israel, as compared with 19 percent among those in the same age group who had traveled at least once to Israel.

Gulf States Partially Ease Boycott

By MITCHELL DANOW

NEW YORK (JTA) — Jewish and governmental leaders here have joined Israeli officials in hailing the decision by Saudi Arabia and its five Persian Gulf trading partners to ease the Arab boycott of Israel.

But while applauding the Gulf states' move last week to terminate the secondary and tertiary boycotts against Israel, pro-Israel activists said a total termination of trade restrictions against Israel were long overdue.

Israeli commentators called the move an important milestone in the peace process, and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres welcomed the decision as "an additional move in dismantling the walls of hatred and separation and boycott."

Israeli Finance Minister Avraham Shohat said the easing of the boycott would provide a boost to the Israeli economy, which over the years has suffered the adverse effects of foreign companies fearful of ignoring the boycott.

Even two years before the founding of the Jewish state in 1948, Arab countries had imposed a trading boycott against the emerging Jewish state in an effort to undermine its economy and isolate it politically.

In 1951, the Arab League extended the restrictions, imposing a secondary boycott on companies engaged in trade with Israel and a tertiary boycott on firms doing business with those companies.

The announcement to terminate the secondary and tertiary boycotts reflects a dramatic change in Arab

attitudes toward Israel in the year since Jerusalem signed the self-rule accord with the Palestinians.

The announcement came in a statement issued last Friday by Saudi Arabia following an annual meeting at the United Nations between the Gulf Cooperation Council and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

According to Israeli media reports, Christopher put heavy pressure on the Saudis.

One of the agreements he used, according to the reports, was that Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, given his difficult negotiations with Syria over withdrawal from the Golan Heights, needed some sort of "peace dividend" to help sway Israeli public opinion behind his efforts.

Dropping the indirect boycott against Israel, Christopher reportedly argued, was the lease the Saudis could do to help advance the peace process.

One Israeli commentator noted that last Friday's developments marked the first time the Saudis came down from the fence, went beyond verbal declarations of support for the Middle East peace process and expressed their support with an open, practical step.

As a result of the Saudi move, Israeli citizens were given the message that it is worthwhile for their leaders to take chances in the name of peace, Israeli commentators said.

In addition to trading opportunities lost as a result of the boycott, Israel has also suffered in the area of foreign investment, which has cost

the country billions of dollars in foreign capital.

Observers believe that Israel will now benefit from the investments of foreign multinational corporations, particularly those from Europe, Japan and South Korea.

In announcing the end of the Gulf states' participation in the secondary and tertiary boycotts, the Saudis also called on the Arab League to review its boycott policies at its next meeting, scheduled for March.

Free Export Zone Will Boost Israeli Economy, Say Supporters

By LARRY YUDELSON

NEW YORK (JTA) — Get ready, Israel. The capitalists are coming.

After a two-year struggle, a group of American Jewish business executives have succeeded in obtaining Knesset approval for a Free Export Processing Zone, where foreign companies can operate free of Israeli taxation and bureaucracy.

Now, the group — the Israel Export Development Co. Ltd. — is working to sign up tenants.

Access to Israeli workers and isolation from Israeli ministries, the group promises, will create a haven for research and development, financial services and light manufacturing that can compete with similar zones from Ireland to Hong Kong.

(Continued on page 16)

EDITORIAL

New Initiatives Funded By Delaware's 1994 'Live Jewish' Community Campaign

The Jewish Federation of Delaware (JFD), the central planning agency of Delaware's Jewish community, in recent years surveyed the community to determine their priorities. These priorities made the community planning process more systematic and rational. The priorities helped determine the allocation of such resources as money, people, and partnerships with agencies outside of Delaware.

In addition to providing for the continuation of certain longstanding programs, the priorities process gave rise to several new initiatives for Delaware's Jewish community. Some of these added programs are aimed at such presently under-served critical populations as youth and college students. All but one of these new initiatives will be funded by through resources developed in the "Live Jewish" Community Campaign. One is being funded by the Jewish Community Endowment Fund, outside of Delaware.

The Editorial Committee of *The Jewish Voice* salutes the progress shown in the introduction of these new initiatives to better serve the needs of The Delaware Jewish Community. The following new programs are worth noting.

1. Youth Worker - The Jewish Federation of Delaware (JFD), in partnership with beneficiary agencies and Delaware synagogues, is hiring a community youth worker and developing a social program and informal Jewish education programs for affiliated and non-affiliated teens. The youth worker, supervised by the JCC, will work with teens in synagogues, youth groups, JCC programs and related activities throughout the state. Experts have long articulated the need to address the challenge of Jewish continuity by programming for Jewish youth.

2. Israel Travel/Study - JFD has established a fund of \$10,000 to subsidize Israel experiences for High School aged youth. These new initiative funds are earmarked to underwrite travel and study for Delaware Jewish teens. Studies have indicated that travel by Jewish youth to Israel has correlated highly with their later marrying a Jewish spouse.

3. Teacher Training - JFD has purchased teacher training services and materials for all Delaware synagogue and community Jewish educators from the Auerbach Central Agency for Jewish Education in Philadelphia. This creates the opportunity for in-service training for teachers in all Delaware synagogue Hebrew schools, Gratz Hebrew High School and Albert Einstein Academy Hebrew Day School. Jewish education has a critical role to play in Jewish continuity.

4. Jewish Family Life Educator - JFD has funded a part-time Jewish family educator for outreach services to intermarried couples and their children. This program is being developed with the assistance of the Rabbinical Association of Delaware and will be supervised by Jewish Family Service. This Jewish Family Life Educator will reach out to the already inter-married and to presently unaffiliated families. This decision preceded the recent report by the Council of Jewish Federations (CFJ) which recommended increased service by the American Jewish community to families which are already intermarried.

5. Jewish Pre-School - With the help of the Jewish community endowment fund, a Jewish pre-school program has begun in Newark. The program is being held at Beth El Congregation and is part of the Jewish Community Center's Early Childhood Education Program. It is the first and only Jewish nursery school program in Newark.

Certainly these new programs will not solve all of the challenges facing the Delaware Jewish community. However, they represent a fundamentally important series of steps to begin to address the critical concerns of our community.

Please call 478-6200 to place an ad in our business directory before October 13

LETTERS

The Jewish Voice welcomes signed letters from its readers on subjects of interest to the Jewish Community. For verification purposes, include home address and phone number (day and evening). The more concise a letter is, the more likely it will be selected. A name will be withheld upon request at the discretion of the Editor. Send letters typed and double spaced, to *The Jewish Voice*, 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington, DE 19803 or Fax to (302) 478-5374.

To The Editor:

My cousin and I are trying to obtain some information about our grandfather's brother who was a resident of Wilmington for many years and about any of his descendants.

We know that he was a Rabbi and Hebrew teacher in Wilmington...Rabbi Hymen (?) REZITS. Our grandfather's name was David Rezits. He was married in Elizabeth, New Jersey in the early 1890's and lived most of the remainder of his life in St. Louis, MO.

We would greatly appreciate a notice in your

paper which might bring forth some information and a possible contact with any of the children or grandchildren of "Ruv" Rezit.

My cousin is Joseph Rezits of Bloomington, Indiana. He is going to spend a week in Riga in October and hopes to visit the area where the Rezits family lived.

Thank you and our best wishes to you for a good and healthy New Year.

Lily L. Kaufman
8016 Cornell Ave.
University City, MO 63130.



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THURSDAY NOON DEADLINE

DEADLINE	FOCUS	ISSUE
October 13	Business Directory	October 21
October 27	Election Preview	November 4
November 10	Hanukkah Issue	November 18
December 1	Holiday Guide	December 9

All submissions due 12 noon downstairs at JFD front desk

OPINION

The CJF Report On The Intermarried — Issues And Dissent



By IRV KAUFMAN
Guest Columnist

Few issues in modern American Jewish life have greater capacity to stir the interest of American Jewry and to arouse our anxieties as a people than the issue of intermarriage. That issue poses the most severe threat to the survival of American Judaism, and the tensions that emerge in any discussion of that issue often stimulate open hostility and violent disagreement among those discussing that issue.

In that light, the decision of the Council of Jewish Federations to study the currently intermarried (a somewhat safer issue than intermarriage itself) and to offer a report to the American community was an act of bravery

and responsibility that reflects the council's leadership role with American Jewry.

The task force report was issued in August of 1994 just short of three years after the decision "to develop a plan of action for federations to assume communal leadership in planning services for the intermarried and their families..." Given its nearly three years of gestation, the report is modest in its size, scope and content. Much of what it reports was already known and much of what was recommended was already part of local and national programs being implemented across the country.

This is not to deny the importance of the report nationally as well as to our own community. The report was instrumental in stimulating the Jewish Federation to make a budgetary allocation to Jewish Family Service to undertake services to intermarried families in Delaware, and undoubtedly will foster additional inter-agency and synagogal efforts with intermarrieds. Hopefully, some of those tough issues that could not be part of the design for change in this national report can be discussed and acted upon at our local level.

Urgency and choice are key words in the report. Urgency addresses the seriousness of the problem. While the word is only used once, the report's content stresses, "Unless we proceed with care and deliberate action, we face the possibility of disenfranchising a significant segment of the population, (the intermarried) wittingly or unwittingly, from Jewish life."

A glance at the statistics included in the re-

port, with a 52 percent intermarriage rate, and a 600 percent intermarriage increase in the past four decades, leaves no doubt as to which issue is of greater urgency. The issue begging for our attention is the amount of intermarriage in our national community. Programs for the intermarried are valuable, but to paraphrase the slogan of the past presidential election, "It's the intermarriage rate, stupid!"

But by intent, the report skirts the issue of how the Jewish community can prevent the increasing frequency of intermarriage among its young. It declares that it has a concern about the intermarriage rate and looks for that time when Jews will create a "compelling Jewish community which retains its members and their allegiance and active participation..." However, those concerns, possibly the central issue in Jewish life today, have been directed to another commission. There is no clue as to when that commission will render its report.

The most popular word in the entire report is choice. "Are we not Jewish by choice?" the report asks. Is not "intermarriage a reflection of the character of American society which celebrates autonomy, individualism, and diversity...?", implying that intermarriage is not a rejection of Judaism, but only a function of living in a free society.

What is intriguing about this argument is that it tells us that Judaism has been dramatically altered by the American culture, and therefore can only be understood as a reflection of that culture. We are too complicated a

people for so simplistic an analysis. Autonomy, individualism, diversity are abstractions that cannot explain individual behavior or group behavior, especially of a group as unique and complex on the American scene as Jews. The reductionist argument that all is cultural begs the issue. If we intend to do something about American Judaism's failure to hold its young we need to look elsewhere for where those failings lie.

For all these years in America we constructed a community built on the idea that America was to be an exception to the past. To that idea we applied our courage and our will and fashioned a community unique in the annals of Jewish history. Once again there are those who are telling us that the dream of American exceptionalism was more wish than reality, and that in less than two or three decades only a remnant American Jewish community will remain.

Have we really run our course? Are we really powerless to act? Have we become so dispirited as a people, so distant from our texts, so unbelieving in our God that we have permitted ourselves to become "Jews by choice" rather than remaining the Jews of sacred covenant?

(Irv Kaufman is a member of the Editorial Committee of *The Jewish Voice*. He has been active in Delaware's Jewish community for quite some time. He is a former executive-director of The Jewish Community Center.)

The UJA Answers The Wall Street Journal On American Jews and Israel



By RICHARD PEARLSTONE
UJA National Chairman

Several people have brought to our attention a recent article in *The Wall Street Journal*, "American Jews Grapple with an Identity Crisis." They felt, as we do, that the article contains factual inaccuracies and half-truths, as well as a somewhat myopic view of the relationship between the American Jewish community and the people of Israel.

We have responded with a letter to the editor, which the Journal may or may not print; however we wanted you to have a more fully developed response, for your own information and in case your donors or others want to discuss the article with you. That response is below.

1. The article claims that United Jewish Appeal contributions to Israel are down 25 percent since 1990, to \$782-million, but only part of the total for 1993 is stated (we raised \$821 million) and the paragraph is out of context.

On Jan. 15, 1990, as the gates to freedom were beginning to open for Soviet Jews, UJA announced a campaign called Operation Exodus, to seek \$420-million that year to aid in the immigration to Israel of a projected 210,000 Jews by 1992. However, over 200,000 Soviet Jews went to Israel in 1990 alone, causing us to increase our goal substantially and to continue our fundraising.

Also in 1990, during the Gulf War, Israel's civilian population was attacked repeatedly by Scud missiles from Iraq.

These two events, the potential of Israel as a haven for Jews, and Israel in a one-way war in which she was attacked but had agreed to the U.S. demand that she not respond, dramatically fueled the 1990 Annual and Operation Exodus Campaigns that we conducted, of course, in partnership with Jewish federations, independent community campaigns, and our sister national agencies. Giving the UJA was a way American Jews felt they could participate in a dramatic movement in Jewish history, and in the same year help the Israelis save their country from disaster.

So it is true that together we raised \$1.1 billion in 1990, and we're proud of it. But to say, four years later, after Iraq was defeated, 500,000 Jews from the former Soviet Union emigrated to Israel, 31,000 Ethiopian Jews were saved by a miracle airlift, the entire 300-family Jewish community in Albania which hadn't been known to exist until 1991 was airlifted to Israel, and other extraordinary needs were funded, that our campaigns dropped since 1990 is, to say the least, unfair.

As we see it, together we raised \$3.86 billion in these four years, by far the highest four-year total in our history.

The Journal's article was right in that an increasing percentage of our funds, which are raised to help Jews in over 50 countries, is being retained by Jewish federations, which raise funds in partnership with us, to meet their local needs. And we believe this trend needs to be reversed. However, the decline in allocations to UJA was not as precipitous as indicated and was instead from 50 percent in the mid-1980's to 43.7 percent last year. This occurred as dollar totals increased.

2. The Journal's article states that cash donations to Israel amount to only one percent of Israel's \$65-billion gross domestic product. But that is a substantial amount of philanthropy. Furthermore, the figure in the U.S. is comparable, six percent (\$398.6 billion in 1993 IRS estimates for 501(c) (3) organiza-

tions, not for profits whose donors may receive deductibility, out of a U.S. GDP of \$6.343 trillion).

3. The Journal's statement that officials in the Rabin government "have told American Jewish leaders that Israel no longer needs their charity" fails to mention that this view has been articulated mainly by one official, a deputy minister, and that Prime Minister Rabin, on several occasions in the past year — including in a meeting just last month with members of UJA's Prime Minister's Mission, which raised a record sum — has emphatically repudiated this view. Rabin, instead, has stressed the crucial importance of the UJA campaign. This endorsement was also made by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres in public and in several meetings with UJA leaders in New York and Jerusalem.

4. The article implies that American Jews respond to Israel only when that nation is threatened. This assertion fails to recognize that the American Jewish community strongly supported Operation Exodus which contained no threat to Israel. Operation Exodus generated \$854.4 million as a 1990-93 total, with 89.1 percent earmarked for the emigration of Jews from the former Soviet Union to Israel and the rescue of Ethiopian Jews. In fact, they are still giving: Operation Exodus raised an additional \$27.6 million in 1994.

5. The article suggested that there is an either/or attitude concerning the development of American Jewish life and the upbuilding of the State of Israel. There is now, but there has always been, a creative tension between UJA and overseas needs on the one hand; and federations and local needs on the other. Federations recognize the needs of Israel; and UJA and the Israelis recognize the legitimacy of local needs. The pendulum of needs swings always between local and overseas needs. Even Prime Minister Rabin has stressed the need to meet Jewish needs here in the U.S. Together we try to use maximum dollars for both.

6. The Journal quotes only one young American Jewish teenager on her apparently negative experience in Israel; hardly a reliable

sample. Our experience is that the overwhelming number of American Jewish teenagers who visit Israel on UJA and other trips come away with a renewed sense of Jewish identity, a heightened commitment to Israel, and a desire to strengthen their ties to the Jewish community. Even the youngster it quotes indicates she is in the minority when she says her friends all told her she will "feel an instant connection" with Israel.

This is precisely why UJA's Executive Vice President, Rabbi Brian L. Lurie, recently called for the establishment of a \$30-million fund to send 50,000 American Jewish teenagers to Israel.

We aim in coming years to enable every American Jewish teenager, regardless of his or her family's ability to pay, to have the experience of visiting Israel — and meeting with Israeli teenagers, one-to-one, group-to-group in the Israeli teenagers' home environment. We encourage reciprocal visits as well.

7. The Journal implies that American Jews who visit Israel only wish to tour military installations. This is simply not true. Every UJA mission itinerary includes meetings with new immigrants and visits to UJA-funded facilities such as absorption centers for new immigrants, agricultural settlements and inner-city neighborhood projects; few still include military bases, however worthy of visits.

8. The article addresses what has been, but not what is. UJA, for example, has been changing to keep pace with the changes in the American-Jewish community and Israel.

We long ago abandoned the theme of raising funds for a poor, weak Israel, in favor of the idea of helping build Israel. Since 1990, for example, in the Operation Exodus campaign we have mainly spoken about how the immigrants can help build a strong Israel at peace.

This year we instituted Partnership 2000, a people-to-people program that is pairing American Jewish communities with neighborhoods in Israel. Through Partnership 2000,

(Continued on page 19)

THE HOUSE THAT GEWIRTZ HELPED BUILD

By DAN WEINTRAUB

Editor of The Jewish Voice

During the weekend of October 14, 15 and 16 a great variety of activities will recognize the dedication of a new sanctuary at AKSE synagogue and celebrate the man for whom it has been named. The Rabbi Leonard B. Gewirtz Sanctuary will be dedicated at Shabbat Services, October 14 at 8:00 p.m. Rabbi Emeritus Leonard Benjamin Gewirtz will accept the honor following prayers of dedication and remarks by Arlene and Howard Simon, Chairpersons of the Gewirtz Tribute Committee. Delaware's U.S. Senator Joseph Biden, who has reportedly referred to Rabbi Gewirtz as "his rabbi," is expected to be in attendance.

Cantor Alberto Mizrahi, a world class tenor, will further honor Rabbi Gewirtz with a concert Saturday evening October 15 also at A.K.S.E. Mizrahi, who was a finalist in the first "Luciano Pavorotti Voice Competition" is the chief cantor of Anshe Emet Synagogue in Chicago.

On Sunday at 10:00 a.m. a Minyonaire Reunion will feature services and a breakfast featuring Rabbi Gewirtz conducting his Minyonaire



Rabbi Gewirtz admiring his namesake sanctuary.

Discussion.

Rabbi Leonard B. Gewirtz became the rabbi of what was then the Adas Kodesch Synagogue in 1947 and served for forty years before he was honored as Rabbi Emeritus at Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Synagogue in 1988. Among his many contributions to the community he organized the Rabbinical Association of Delaware; he initiated Delaware's first *bat mitzvah* program; he served as Talmud Torah's first principal; he wrote

The Authentic Jew and His Judaism; and he helped found Albert Einstein Academy. Born in 1918 in Brooklyn, New York, the distinguished Rabbi continues an active schedule which includes topical writing for *The Jewish Voice* several times a year. He is also the author of *Exponents of Authentic Jewish Life and Thought*.

The Building

The scholar, teacher and spiritual leader, spoke to *The Jewish Voice*

recently about the new AKSE sanctuary. Gewirtz described his reaction to the refurbishing as "very, very favorable" as the new sanctuary was completely in harmony with the building itself. He credited Arlene and Howard Simon, Chairpersons of the Gewirtz Tribute Committee who spearheaded the effort to make the new sanctuary a reality. According to Rabbi Gewirtz, the Simons "kept pushing and their leadership made what appeared impossible - possible."

Prior to its construction, Gewirtz said he had recommended Percival Goodman as the architect for the building which was dedicated June 5, 1963. Gewirtz spoke to the architect about the limited budget at the time and Goodman suggested brick and wood construction which will "look new in 100 years, it cannot get old." Years later Wilmington architect George Whiteside added a tall wood surface to the *Ahron Ha Kodesh* or holy ark. Gewirtz says this gave the feeling of the acacia wood of which the biblical ark was constructed. Metalwork of a menorah, ten commandments and a *ner tamid* all by the sculptor Fitzgerald were added later.

Gewirtz says the new sanctuary, completed by Marjorie Fair Designs,

an interior designer and planner, complements the work of Goodman and Whiteside in a manner that might have been realized at an earlier time if resources had been available. The vertical wood theme of the Ark is now echoed on the lectern and table. New carpet and upholstery are in harmony with existing stain glass windows. Hanging metal lamps from the ceiling accent the height of the sanctuary.

His Partner

In 1948 Rabbi Gewirtz married Gladys Kerstein who had experience as a teacher in New York Hebrew schools. She served as a teacher at Delaware's AKSE's Talmud Torah beginning in 1955. Rabbi Gewirtz says she played a key role in the curriculum for many years. After Rabbi Gewirtz served a year as principal of the AKSE's Talmud Torah, several principals followed, notably Fred Nathan for 5 years. In 1968 Mrs. Gordon took over administration of Talmud Torah and Mrs. Gewirtz became advisor for curriculum and faculty. She served in this role for 25 years. Both Rabbi and Mrs. Gewirtz have taught at Delaware's Gratz Hebrew High School.

For more information on the Gewirtz Dedication Weekend call AKSE at 762-2705.

Begin the New Year with YLC at Premiere Night

Sponsored by the Young Leadership Cabinet of the Jewish Federation of Delaware

Thursday, October 13, 1994

7:30 pm, Jewish Community Center

Thursday Evening

	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30
NBC	Hard Copy	Mad About You	Friends	Seinfeld	Madman of the People
ABC	Wheel of Fortune	My So-Called Life		Mckenna	
CBS	Extra	Due South		Connie Chung	
YLC	The Evening Schmooze	Entertainment Tonight -- YLC Style	Coffee (and Cake) Talk		

Close Up: YLC

The Young Leadership Cabinet is a group of Jewish couples and singles who plan and participate in social, community, and leadership activities.

Make plans now to be part of YLC's exciting program on Thursday, October 13.

Reservations are requested.

For more information, call Sharon Mittelman, YLC Chair, or Marla Feldman, YLC Liaison, at the JFD: (302) 478-6200

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Yoseph Begun: A Dissident Comes To Delaware

By HERB LUBITZ

Special To The Jewish Voice

An unusual opportunity occurred the other day while I was visiting Sarra and Gennady Gribov, new Americans who I have been tutoring in English. Their cousin was coming in from Israel. He happened to be Yoseph Begun, one of the first dissidents in the Soviet Union and he was in the U.S. to meet with Jewish leaders in New York City and Philadelphia. Since time was so short meetings with local leaders were not possible but it was suggested that he should be interviewed for *The Jewish Voice*. Hence this article.

Begun's early life was somewhat typical for educated Jews in the Soviet Union. Born in Moscow in 1932 of religious parents, his mother came from a shtetl near Minsk; his father died while Yoseph was young so he did not know his background. But Begun's upbringing was entirely secular as Jewish education was suppressed by the Communists. He received his PhD in Mathematics and Electronics in 1966 and went to work for the Military in radar research.

A desire to investigate his roots led him to a need to study Yiddish but no texts could be located until he checked a card file in the Leningrad library. The only Yiddish educational materials were 1st and 2nd grade elementary texts published in Byelorussia in the 1920's, this obviously before anti-Semitism became official Soviet Policy.

The front page had pictures of Stalin and Lenin emblazoned on them and captioned "Our great teachers and comrades." Not your typical Yiddish teachers. At about this time he met an elderly gentleman, an engineer who was a yeshiva bocher before the revolution who told him that Hebrew should be the



The Gribovs, Gennady and Sarra with Begun in Delaware

language to pursue. Interestingly, there is no term in Russian for the Hebrew language; it is classified as an ancient tongue no longer spoken. Bibles were forbidden and Begun didn't see one until he was in his 40's.

He studied for two years with this man and then applied for an Israeli visa. At this point his life changed radically. He was fired from his job and harassed continuously by the KGB. In order to support himself, he started giving Hebrew lessons to other Russian Jews. Since he received some income from this activity he contacted the Soviet equivalent of our IRS and told them he wanted to pay his income tax. Their response was as follows: (1) You are not a teacher since you have no certificate; (2) Hebrew is not in the curriculum and (3) You must stop at once. Begun countered by stating that the authorities were in violation of the Soviet constitution guaranteeing the rights of minorities to education in their ethical heritage. For example, Georgians, Ukrainians and other nationalities in the Soviet Union were not denied. He wrote Pravda and other publications but to no avail. As always, Jews never seem to fit any classification. Begun was accused of parasitism, i.e., being unemployed, which was a crime in

the Soviet Union, and sentenced two years and sent to Siberia. He was arrested a total of three times, his last sentence of 12 years in a labor camp based on the charge of undermining the Soviet system by engaging in anti-Soviet propaganda. He spent two years of that last sentence before being released during Gorbachev's Glasnost campaign.

Mr. Begun's current mission in life is to inspire Russian Jews, both inside and outside Israel to integrate themselves into Jewish life. He fears that we are losing them because they no longer have any identification. He believes that freedom and lack of discrimination causes assimilation in this country and strict Orthodoxy in Israel turns them away in Israel. He is concerned whether after 70 years of alienation, the Russians are willing to accept the fundamental values of Jewish culture as their own.

Begun has established the AMEINU foundation which is "dedicated to Jewish revival, education and reunification of Russian Jews in the former Soviet Union, Israel and abroad." A Russian language magazine, YERUSHALAIM, published by the foundation is devoted to that task. He is urging those who support this work to purchase subscriptions (\$18 each) which can be sent to families designated by the donor or distributed to Russian families selected by the Ameinu Association.

Readers who would like to do so should make checks payable to: Ameinu Foundation of America, 45 E. 33 St. 3rd Floor, New York, N.Y. 10016.

The Diary of Anne Frank

Moses Goldberg directs the Children's Theatre Stage One in the play "The Diary of Anne Frank" at the Grand Opera House. The Pulitzer Prize-winning play will be performed on Sunday, October 23 at 2 p.m. For tickets or information call (302) 652-5577 or 1 (800) 37-GRAND.

Delaware In Crisis: Teenage Pregnancy

A Dinner Reception to meet the panelists who will discuss Delaware in Crisis: Teenage Pregnancy will be held Tuesday, October 11th at the home of Ethel and Don Parsons. Members of the panel are Katherine R. Gordy, Dr. Cecil C. Gordon, Jr., Loretta E. Taylor and Rachel Yoskowitz.

They will speak at the Public Affairs Luncheon sponsored by the Wilmington Section, National Council of Jewish Women on Wednesday, October 12th at the Hotel du Pont at 11:00 a.m. Yvette Rudnitsky will be the moderator.

Persons who are Silver, Gold and Platinum Donors are invited to the dinner. For further information, call Shirley Rudnick at 594-0740.

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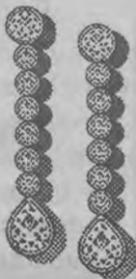
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Koniver And Young Lead Delawareans On Mission To Israel

By DAN WEINTRAUB
Editor of The Jewish Voice
Delaware's Ellen Koniver, Mission Chair of JFD and Toni Young JFD

President are leading a group of fifteen Delaware residents on an Israel Mission November 5th through 14th plus a three day extension into Jor-

dan. The 1994 Mission 1000 is in association with Federation in Philadelphia.

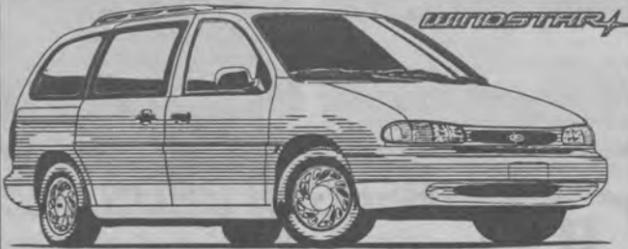
Highlights include Jerusalem, Tiberias, Tel Aviv, Masada, the Negev and Eilat, Israel's Red Sea resort. Delawareans join others from all over the Delaware Valley in building the solidarity of the Jewish people.



Toni Young (at left) and Ellen Koniver.

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Dombchik Honored By BBW Of Delaware

B'nai B'rith Women of Delaware will honor Rhoda S. Dombchik for her service and leadership to the organization, Judaism, and the community. The tribute dinner on October 17, 1994, at 6:45 p.m., will be at the DuPont Country Club. Making a special presentation during the evening will be Irma Gertler, a past international president of B'nai B'rith Women.

Dombchik, named Volunteer of the Year in 1986 by BBW, Keystone Region, was the president of Wilmington's Diamond Chapter and a member of the first Keystone Regional Board. A former JCC board member, she was the president of Congregation Beth Shalom's Sisterhood and currently serves as a Con-

gregational vice president. She and her husband together won the Jewish Federation of Delaware's Braunstein Young Leadership Award. She also participated in their 1984 Israel Mission.

Raised in Alton, Illinois, Dombchik earned a BA in elementary education and an MA in guidance and counseling both from U of Illinois. An educator for 15 years, she is a teacher at the McVey School in Newark. She lives in Brandywine Hundred with her husband, Steven, is the mother of three boys: Jeff, the late Brian, and Greg.

At 6:00 p.m. there will be a Special Gifts reception to meet the guests at the home of Jay and Nancy Blumberg.

All proceeds will go to support B'nai B'rith Women's Residential

Treatment Center in Israel

All are welcome. Reservations should include a check made payable to BBW to 2438 Granby Road, Wilmington, DE 19810. Call (302) 798-4794. Minimum contribution is \$50; \$25 of which is tax deductible.



Rhoda S. Dombchik



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Afternoon Tea Features Music

The Wilmington Chapter of Hadassah is holding an Afternoon Tea to benefit the Maternity Pavilion of the Mother and Child Center on Sunday, October 30, 1994 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Hotel DuPont, Wilmington, Delaware. The guest speaker will be Judy Garner, National Co-Chair Hadassah Nurses Council. Musical entertainment will be provided by Cindy Goldstein and Linda Vodovis.

The minimum contribution to attend is \$250. For first time attendees it is \$125. The covert is \$20 per person (non tax-deductible). Reservations can be made by calling Barbara Reitzes, 762-5421 or Luiza Cohen, 234-2796 by October 16th.

The Maternity Pavilion, now under construction, is part of the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center at Ein Karem, Jerusalem. For over 80 years Hadassah has been providing the most advanced health care for expectant mothers. This includes those classified "at risk" including women with diabetes and cardiac conditions as well as those who have conceived through in vitro fertilization. Hadassah's Maternal and Fetal Medicine Unit annually treats some 1,500 women for whom pregnancy was once considered too risky. Using the latest in diagnostic tools and treatment, the new Maternity Pavilion will provide mothers-to-

be with comprehensive prenatal and delivery facilities in warm, enveloping surroundings.

Medical Center Focuses on Cancer Associated with Tobacco

The Cancer Outreach Program of the Medical Center of Delaware Cancer Center will present "Tobacco-Related Cancers: More than Just Your Lungs," November 7 at Christiana Hospital, and again on November 10 at Wilmington Hospital. The free one-hour programs begin at 7 p.m. at each location. Free parking is available at both hospitals. To register, call (302) 428-4100.

In addition to being responsible for 87% of lung cancers, smoking is also associated with cancers of the mouth, pharynx, larynx, esophagus, pancreas, uterine cervix, kidney and bladder. According to the American Cancer Society, smoking accounts for 30% of all cancer deaths. Each year, about 3,000 non-smoking adults die of lung cancer as a result of breathing the smoke of other's cigarettes.

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WILM Program Manager At Hadassah's October Meeting

Mr. Allan Loudell, Program Manager and morning/midday news co-anchor at 1450 WILM NEWSRADIO, will address the topic of "Media Bias" at the next general meeting at The Wilmington Chapter of Hadassah scheduled for October 24, 7:30 p.m. at the JCC.

Mr. Loudell's responsibilities include everything from evaluating research and mapping programming strategies to hiring on-air personnel.



Mr. Alan Loudell

Toledano Sings



Israeli Avi Toledano will appear with his 3 piece band in a 1 1/2 hour show at the JCC on Monday, October 10 at 7:30 p.m. at the JCC. Tickets are \$15.00 and can be purchased at the JCC front desk.

Information Fair 1994

Shop Rite presents Information Fair '94 with information about your family's health on October 25, 1994 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A drawing for a Ford Taurus will be held that day.

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Shop Rite at First State Plaza, 302-999-1227.

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Holocaust Education Seminar

The Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Center with a grant from the Delaware Humanities Forum is sponsoring a Holocaust Education Seminar for Delaware teachers on Thursday, November 10, 1994, at Caesar Rodney High School in Camden-Wyoming, Delaware.

The Seminar is to enable teachers in public, private and independent schools to incorporate the teachings

of the Holocaust into existing curricula and classroom activities in all grade levels. The program will include workshops on innovative teaching techniques, historical background, survivor testimony and resources available to the classroom teacher.

Registration is at 3:30 p.m. and workshops begin at 4:15 p.m. The program concludes at 7:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

Teachers will receive In-Service and/or PIP credit.

University of Delaware Professor Willard Fletcher will speak on the historical background of the Holocaust and Temple University Professor Laura Levitt will introduce the moral issues. Attendees will be able to select two of the following workshops:

Moral Responsibility: Learning from the Holocaust.

Elementary Classroom: Introducing the Holocaust

Literature: Catalyst for Discussion

Drama: Interpreting the Holocaust

Film: Documentaries as a Springboard of Understanding

New Dimensions Performance

Tasks: Meeting Content Standards through Holocaust Study

To register for the Seminar please call the Delaware Teacher Center (Course #4585) at 1-800-282-8770 (Sussex and New Castle) or 736-6723 (Kent). For more information on the program call Rabbi Marla Feldman at 302-478-6200. The Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Center is a beneficiary of the 'Live Jewish' Community Campaign administered by The Jewish Federation of Delaware.



Delawareans meet Israeli Foreign Minister Peres. From left Mrs. Clara Hollander, Peres, Mrs. Judy Wortman, Executive Vice-President of JFD, Mrs. Ellen Koniver, Mrs. Toni Young, JFD President and Mr. Stuart Young. Photo credit Alan Respler



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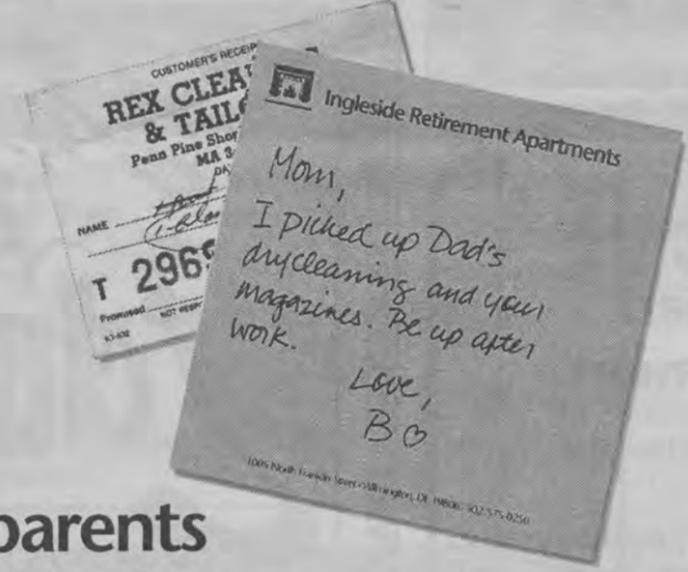
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Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres outlines his vision of middle east peace as a JFD banner provides a backdrop. Photo credit Alan Respler



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FILM - The Magician of Lublin

The Magician of Lublin, by Nobel Prize winner Isaac Bashevis Singer, is the second in the film series by the Jewish Community Center's Cultural Arts Committee.

The film stars Alan Arkin, Louise Fletcher, Valerie Perrine and Shelly Winters.

In turn of the century Poland, traveling magician Yasha Mazur obtains fame and fortune with his astounding illusions and sleight of hand. But Yasha's womanizing and unkept promises soon catch up with him, turning his climb to success into a devastating fall from grace. He finishes up as an eccentric recluse

walled into a living grave. But even here, the indomitable trickster has a final, life-redeeming bit of magic up his sleeve.

Featuring an all star cast. "The Magician of Lublin" is a passionate drama of the power and danger of dreams.

The film will be shown at the JCC on Sunday, October 23 at 3:00 p.m. Tickets can be purchased in advance or at the door. The JCC is a beneficiary of the 'Live Jewish' Community Campaign which is administered by The Jewish Federation of Delaware.

Hillel Student Reacts To Services

Recently, I had one of the best spiritual experiences of my life! As Yom Kippur began on Wednesday evening — as the sun set — it was the beginning of yet another fast. I went to services that evening. The following morning, I again attended services. During the Torah portion of the service, I was called upon to chant a segment. I was nervous, but I went up there...and did it "well", as I was told! That began my 'spiritual experience'. So, I stayed on through the day and prayed until I was called upon to go to another service to help make a Minyon. This helping hand that I lent to complete the Minyon was just another step toward fulfilling the spirituality inside of me. Later the same afternoon/evening, I went back to Hillel's concluding service. And finally during the final hour or so of the fast, when we were all feeling incredibly thirsty and hungry and were all praying and singing... is the completion of the awesome feeling of spirituality, and of success and a "job" well done!

From Nancy Campitiello, owner of Cafe Verdi and former owner of Marina's and Trevi Restaurants



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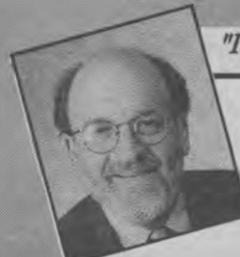
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Schindler Documentary
Screening In Delaware Valley

The British Academy award winner in the category Best Documentary Film, titled "Schindler" will be shown in the area. Producer Jon Blair presents and discusses his film "Schindler" on Tuesday, October 18, 1994 at 7:00 p.m. in the International House of Philadelphia at 3701

Chestnut Street in Philadelphia.

The film is presented by The Philadelphia Center on the Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights; the International House of Philadelphia and The National Museum of American Jewish History.

To R.S.V.P. call (215) 387-5125, Ext. 2283. Free admission to the film. Note that seating is limited.

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By JORDAN SOPINSKY

Jewish Voice Intern

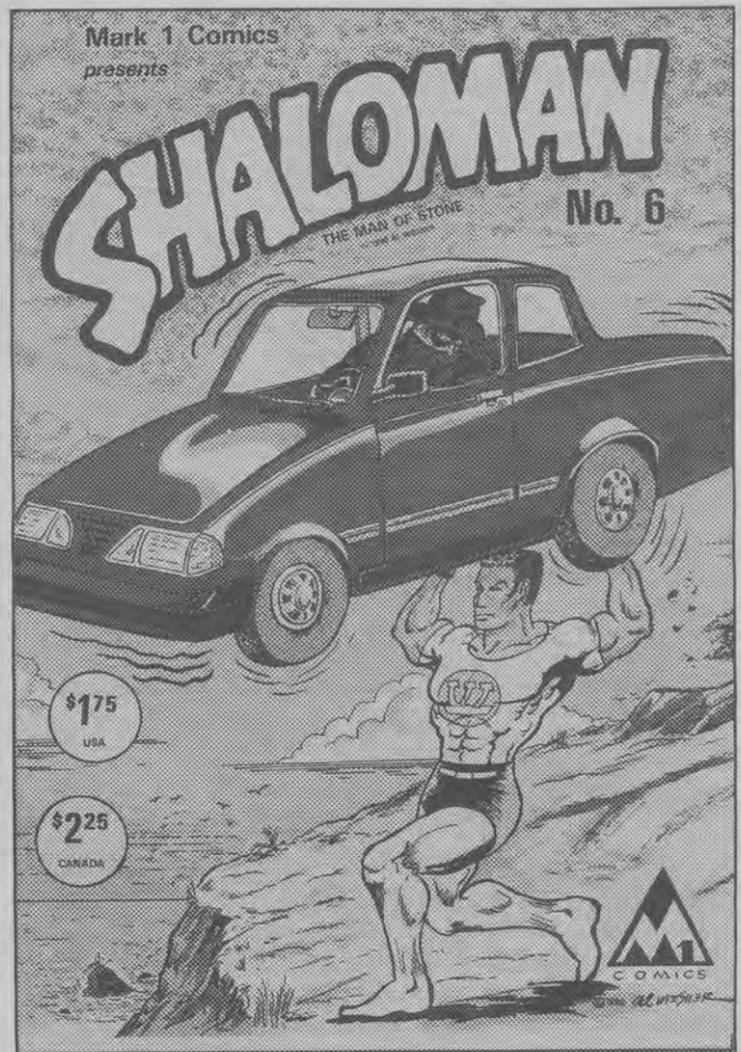
Is it a bird? Is it a plane? It's Shaloman! Shaloman? Yes folks, Shaloman, the caped (as well as yamulka-ed) crusader.

Beginning in November, Mark One Comics will be publishing the new adventures of Shaloman No. 5. In this first issue of the reinstated Talmud-studying superhero, Shaloman finds himself defending justice against the cruelest villains the world has ever seen in full color for the first time. "Speak of the Devil," the title of the first comic book of the new series, promises to deliver an action-packed adventure.

Often, Jewish holidays are used as the backdrop for many of the comic books' stories. For instance, one story had Shaloman traveling back in time in order to stop a crazed lunatic from stealing the precious oil of the Maccabbeans for the miracle of Hanukkah. Hebrew letters are also depicted in the pages of the comic.

Al Weisner, creator of Shaloman, says the idea for a Jewish crime fighter originated when he would read comics as a kid and was looking for a superhero to relate with. The idea stuck in his head as he grew older. He writes and illustrates everything himself.

To order, write to Mark One Comics, P.O. Box 5097, Phila., PA. 19111 or check your local comic book store.



Shaloman, the Jewish superhero, is the creation of Al Weisner. The pose on the cover recalls the first issue of "Action Comics" featuring Superman.



JERUSALEM - - Two orthodox Jewish boys watch as international pop star Sting, wearing a cardboard yamulka, stands in front of the Western Wall Sept. 18. Sting toured the Old City before his concert that evening. In the past, Sting declined to visit Israel due to political tensions. Credit: RNS Photo/Reuters

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The Jewish Voice needs a sharp eye at the Dover, Delaware location of our printer for several hours on Thursdays twice a month. If you would like to be a volunteer proofreader call (302) 478-6200 to speak with Dan Weintraub, Editor of The Jewish Voice.

NMAJH Features Florida Exhibit

The National Museum of American Jewish Heritage has a new exhibit, "Mosaic: Jewish Life in Florida." Now open, the exhibit looks at Jews' diverse and fascinating history in Florida, from the Sephardic merchants who settled in Pensacola in 1763 to the Russian immigrants arriving today. This colorful new exhibition, comprised of over 500 items, has been assembled from the scrapbooks and attics of Florida's living Jews and documents Jewish settlement and acculturation in the Sunshine State.

Also at the NMAJH, Veteran Co-

median Bobby Shields will ask "So, What's So Funny About Florida Anyway" on October 20. Shields has performed extensively in Miami and the Catskills and in Philadelphia's "A Night in the Catskills."

On October 23, at the NMAJH, "Meet the People of Marshall Street" at the museum. Elaine Krasnow Ellison and Elaine Mark Jaffe, authors of the recently published *Voices from Marshall Street*, will introduce four of the people whose stories they present in the book.

Call The NMAJH at (215) 923-5984.



Included in the exhibition MOSAIC: JEWISH LIFE IN FLORIDA, is this produce crate. Polish immigrants Harris and Yetta Wishnatzki came to Plant City, Florida, in 1930. A committed Jew, Wishnatzki designed his label with a Star of David in spite of threats from his competition. The family still uses the label today.

MOSAIC opens at the National Museum of American Jewish History, 55 N. 5th Street, Independence Mall East on October 2 and continues through December 31.

For information contact: Beryl L. Rosenstock (215) 923-5978.

ARTS • ENTERTAINMENT • BOOKS

What's On TV?

Sunday, October 23, 5:30 p.m., WHY TV 12
BREAST CANCER: SPEAKING OUT

In BREAST CANCER: SPEAKING OUT women fighting breast cancer speak frankly about their fears, anger and hopes, and about their efforts to force a reluctant political system to confront what some have called an epidemic.

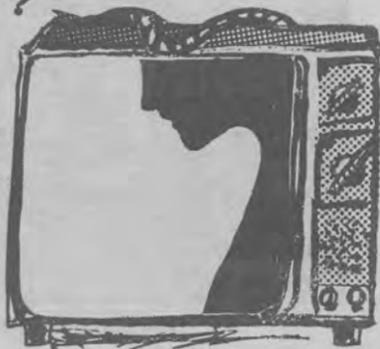
The women in BREAST CANCER: SPEAKING OUT, airing Sunday, October 23 at 5:30 p.m. on TV 12, are at the forefront of a new movement to take breast cancer "out of the closet" and to challenge the complacent attitudes of the general public, the health care system, insurance companies, and the federal government.

Sunday, October 23, 6 p.m., WHY TV 12

THE BREAST CANCER TEST

Breast cancer is every woman's concern. To many women, it is an intimidating, complicated and sometimes embarrassing topic. THE BREAST CANCER TEST, hosted by Jane Pauley, addresses the barriers, questions and startling facts that prevent women from getting early diagnosis and treatment.

During this straightforward, woman-to-woman program about breast cancer, writer Erma Bombeck



and other women who have had breast cancer share their compelling personal stories. Also, Dr. Susan Love, author of *Dr. Susan Love's Breast Book*, answers women's most-asked questions. The program includes step-by-step demonstrations and information about mammography, clinical exams and self-examination.

THE BREAST CANCER TEST airs Sunday, October 23 at 6 p.m. on TV 12.

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Words & Music: Bernarda, Bats, and Baseball

By STEVE COHEN

Imagine it's the 1930's and you are part of an American Jewish family. Hitler is imprisoning the Jews of Germany and threatening to conquer all of Europe. His protégé, Francisco Franco, has come to power in Spain. The only struggle against Hitler or Franco is being waged by the Spanish republican army. It's main sponsor is the Communist Party, and the rest of the world is refusing to get involved.

No wonder that thoughtful anti-fascists in this country, and Jews especially, became emotionally involved on the side of the republican army in the Spanish civil war.

My own father was an armchair sympathizer. He read everything he could about the cause, and he was fond of the writings of Federico Garcia Lorca. The published text of Lorca's play, *The House of Bernarda Alba*, was on our bookshelf.

Lorca was Spain's preeminent writer of poetry and plays, and he was a leader of the anti-fascist cause until he was assassinated at the age of 38 in 1936.

The People's Light and Theatre Company in Malvern is currently performing two plays in repertory that honor the memory of Lorca and of those brave enough to follow his leadership in that early struggle against fascism and Nazism.

Lorca's masterpiece, *The House of Bernarda Alba*, is alternating with a new drama about Lorca's life, *Sign of the Lizard*, written by the company's resident playwright, Louis Lippa. Both are directed by Ken Marini.

Alda Cortese is magnificent as Bernarda, a strong woman who represses her free-spirited daughters in the way that Lorca felt Franco was repressing the Spanish people. The drama of Bernarda's autocratic domination of her house was meant as a metaphor for Franco's rule of Spain. The entire cast is superb in this intense production.

The new play explores the intrigue, political and social repression that led to Lorca's murder. Lorca was a revolutionary and a homosexual. One does not have to share either of those particulars to relate to his works and his life. Those of us with memories of the rise of Hitlerism should identify with Lorca most strongly.

I couldn't escape from this memory of Hitlerism when I attended the opening of Ted Tiller's play, *Count Dracula*, now at the Walnut Street Theatre in Philadelphia until November 6. Tiller's version of Bram Stoker's classic novel has played successfully worldwide since its premiere in 1971. At the Walnut it receives a well-staged production with actors who plunge into their roles with broad enthusiasm.

Some of them, like Victor Raider-Wexler as Professor Van Helsing and Lisa Gunn as Mina, are far superior to their counterparts in the famous 1931 movie. Unfortunately Mark Lamura as Count-Dracula is inferior.

The stage effects are entertaining, such as Dracula's appearances and disappearances, his transformation into a bat and the flight of the bat.

How does it remind me of Nazism? There are numerous references — in the original novel and in this adaptation — to the fact that Dracula is "different," that he is part of an alien breed, and that he defies the sacredness of the Christian cross. The professor tells his comrades, "Any replica of the sacred cross will repel them." Another character proclaims, "I believe in the crucifix."

There are frequent demonstrations of the power of the crossover non-believers, and the final solution, as we know, is to kill Dracula and all other vampires.

Many of the inhabitants of Transylvania in medieval times were Jewish. Their descendants received recognition from the emperor and many of them were knighted, but they remained alien to the dominant Christian culture.

John van Neumann, the famous mathematician, was one of those Jews whose family had been knighted and thus was able to use the "van" in his name. Formally he could be called Count van Neumann. He told his colleagues at Los Alamos, where he helped design the first atomic bomb, that he came from "those little Carpathian communities of small Orthodox villages in Hungary," the same area as Count Dracula.

The play is not in the least bit anti-Semitic. It does transport us back to a time, however, when anti-semitism was the norm.

(Continued on page 16)

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Forty Year Anniversary For Temple Beth El: Looking Back, Looking Forward

By **PRISCILLA W. SIEGEL**
Special To The Jewish Voice
 It's the New Year season — a time for reflection and celebration. For the

Jewish community of Newark, this New Year marks the fortieth anniversary of the founding of Temple Beth El, and the congregation is commemorating the occasion on October 7, 8, and 9 with a mixture of religious services, gala receptions, nostalgic reminiscences, and hopes for the future.

Arlene Eckell, chair of the celebration committee, says her committee has been planning the weekend for fourteen months. "Everything," she says proudly, "from the planning, to the calligraphy on the invitations to the catering was done by Temple members."

During the Shabbat service (Friday, October 7) past congregation presidents will be called upon for special readings, and Steven Osman will talk about Temple Beth El, past and present. The Oneg Shabbat for 200, will be catered by the Sisterhood.

Saturday evening festivities (October 8, 8-12 p.m.), include a Havdallah service, a semi-formal cocktail reception for 200 with the Warren Gardner orchestra providing live dance music, and a continuous showing in the lobby of a ten-minute video scenes from Temple Beth El's photographic archives.

On Sunday morning, the 168 member student body will join the adult congregation for a breakfast and program which features two three-generational Beth El families: Norman and Rhoda Freeman, their daughter Mayda Coombs, and grandchildren Jessica (11) and Aaron (9); Milton and Dorothy Altshuler, their son Steve and daughter Andi Moses, with grandchildren Matthew (10), Kyle (6), Leah (14), and Erica (11). "We want the children to understand what forty means, how the Temple started and what the Hebrew school was like," explained Eckell.

Norman Freeman, who was Temple Beth El's first president, is thrilled with the growth of the synagogue from its modest and struggling beginnings: "It's all so incredible that it has developed like this," he remarked. Early in 1954, Freeman recalled, several Jewish families gathered in a home in Brookside to discuss the need for an organized Jewish community. Having come from a background of affiliation with such a community, Freeman and his wife, who did were not yet parents, felt that the vacuum in Newark must be filled — for families, especially with children, Wilmington was just not convenient.

From a Methodist church survey, a list of thirty-five Jewish families in Newark was contacted and a community was launched. In the autumn of 1954, an election was held in the AEP fraternity house on Main Street with Norman Freeman elected president, and Bob Pilnick and Werner Cohen vice-presidents. The first several years focused primarily on social events. As Freeman says, "we figured we could work better together if we became acquainted ... we eventually all got quite friendly with each other."

Meeting in the Masonic Hall, the



1958 meeting place on Carole Road

New Century Club, private homes, and other makeshift facilities, the new community had potluck dinners, dances, parties, held Friday night services, and in the fall of 1956 celebrated its first Rosh Hashonah in St. Thomas Episcopal Church with Rabbi Scheinfeld from the United Synagogues of America officiating. Dues were assessed at \$10 per family, which gradually rose to \$35.

As membership increased and Sunday and Hebrew school classes grew, the need for a central facility became imperative. A small split-level house on Carole Road in Chestnut Hill Estates was purchased, and in 1959 a first Bar Mitzvah was celebrated by Ira Riddle. In the same year, Adas Kodesh donated the first Torah, which was presented by Rabbi Leonard Gewirtz.

By the early 1960's, the Sunday School student body grew to 46. Internal and external pressures made it necessary for the congregation to consider a more permanent place for a Temple — the local residential community and pressuring the community to move out of Chestnut Hill, while the membership felt it was time to build a more suitable facility.

When the Amstel Avenue site became available, Herman Handloff donated the money to purchase it for the Temple. On April 28, 1963, ground was broken in a ceremony attended by Lieutenant Governor Eugene Lamont, Newark Mayor Carl Rankin and the Newark Jewish Community. In 1964, the Temple received its current name: Temple Beth El.

The Temple's first regular Hebrew School teacher was Rabbi Simon R. Krinsky, who had just retired from Beth Emeth. A warm, gentle man, he is still affectionately remembered by many Newark Jewish families.

In 1971, Temple Beth El hired its first full-time rabbi, Paul Swerdlow, a graduate of Hebrew Union College.

By 1979, the membership outgrew the small Temple building on Amstel Avenue, so again a new site had to be found. Ultimately a nine-acre tract on Possum Park Road in Newark was purchased, and groundbreaking took place on April 24, 1984, attended now by Lieutenant Governor Mike Castle, Rabbis Leonard Gewirtz and Peter Grumbacher, Temple Beth El President Mike Samuels, Rabbi Ira Schiffer, local Newark Clergy, and 150 members of Beth El's congregation. Dedication of the new Temple was on September 9, 1984, in time for High Holy days.

The number of students keeps growing: Already, the Possum Park facility has undergone expansion with the addition, in 1991, of the Joshua and Harriet Kalin Educational Wing.

Today, membership at Temple Beth El consists of 236 families, with a staff which consists of Rabbi David Kaplan, Ann Herman, Hebrew school principal and Temple administrator and Linda Crist, Temple secretary. No wonder Norman Freeman is amazed, as he recalls those early pioneering days forty years ago: "Just think how we started and how it developed!"

Barry Seidel, a long time member of Temple Beth El, thinks that forty is a number worth reflecting about. After all, the Jews wandered for forty years before entering the promised land, and Rabbi Akiva was forty when he started studying Torah.

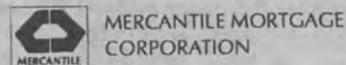
Rabbi Kaplan, a graduate of Hebrew Union College, finds the congregation of Temple Beth El very exciting. "I am impressed by where we have gone so far, and we continue to grow spiritually — we continue to take tradition and as a community try to make it more meaningful to the needs of our congregation. I see us going 'from strength to strength'."



11 year old Beth El Sunday school student Andi Moses Altschuler in 1965.

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SYNAGOGUE LIFE

Beth Emeth New Member Shabbat

At 8 p.m. on Friday, October 21st, there will be a Shabbat Service at Congregation Beth Emeth honoring all of its new members. The service will be followed by an Oneg Shabbat. The new members will participate in a service. Potential members are welcome to attend. For additional information, call Verna Schenker at 478-6673. Verna Schenker and Harry Wolpert are co-chairpersons of the membership committee.

Kol Nidre - Sept. 15, 1994

— Commentary —

By ALAN LEVENSON

Special To The Jewish Voice

Accustomed as I am to a jet stream work schedule, living in Delaware and reporting daily to work in New York City at 7:00 a.m., it has become a challenge to prepare myself as I feel I should for the grave efforts of the Days of Awe. Thus was I gratified to find myself approaching shul Erev Yom Kippur with the requisite dread and trepidation for this period of eviscerating self-examination.

As services commenced, I began to examine the singular nature of the weight of this year's accounting and repentance. My mind immediately fixed on the death of my mother, just three months ago. Surely it is understandable that this loss hangs heavily on me as I turn to assess the quality and meaning of my life, as I plead to be inscribed in the Book of Life. Perhaps I was troubled by the question: What kind of God is it that would not have inscribed my mother — an ethical, fair, and loving woman, for a long life? In the face of her death, what case can I make for myself?

But this did not satisfy: I do not believe that God is in the business of selecting healthy, caring mothers and grandmothers in order to afflict them with horrible diseases, like the inflammatory breast cancer that overwhelmed my mother.

Rather, I searched further, and found myself cowering before the realization that my supplication, and the fearless baring of my soul to which I was on this day committed, would this year be directly in my mother's presence, his soul having returned to God. From this moment, God no longer seemed to be an undefinable and overwhelming force, whose unknown ability at times inhibited my pleas for mercy, and gave me a rationalization for a feeling of distance.

This year, my spiritual prostration would develop also before the soul of she who knew me best, now returned to her Creator. Freed of the limits of her bodily senses and united with God, my mother would hear fully my sins and confession. I already freely, even eagerly, accepted that God knew all of my thoughts and failings. But I know so little about God, and intimate encounters with God are at once so rare and fleeting. This seeming near impossibility

Zelda Leah Gatuskin Lecture At The JCC

The opening author/lecture of the 1994-95 JCC's Cultural Arts Festival will be Zelda Leah Gatuskin, whose roots are in the Delaware Jewish Community.

Her book *Ancestral Notes: A Family Dream Journal* is a collec-

tion of journal studies, poems, essays, short stories and a drama — all based on the author's investigation into and feelings about her family history and cultural identity.

She explores the themes of Jewish spirituality and mysticism, shtetl life in Europe, immigration to the United States, men's and women's traditional roles, motherhood and the legacy of antisemitism. Dream journal entries and repeated references to spirits convey the sense that this inquiry is not only guided, but de-

manded by ancestral souls.

This journey blurs the lines between mystical and mundane, personal and political, tragic and comic, and culminates in a Yiddish-style parable about fear and intolerance. The book includes nine original collages by the author.

Gatuskin's family, Helen and Mendel Gordon, still reside in Delaware. Gatuskin will be at the JCC discussing her publication on Sunday, October 30 at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are \$2.00 and can be purchased at the JCC Front Desk. For more information, call Nathan Barnett at (302) 478-5660.

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of a "relationship" with God leaves a rational skeptic the opportunity to retreat from an encounter with the divine that becomes too intense. One can delude one's self into thinking that one can hide from God, if one does not feel constant Presence.

This year, however, I was now forced to grapple with the realization that, after 36 years in which dissembling, concealment and evasion were made possible by various physical separations and limits of the senses, my own mother, now reunited with the Judge of judges, would preside unimpeded over the judgment of my life and soul.

I thought next about the deceased friends and family whose names join hers in the book of Remembrance that I would be consulting during the next day's Yizkor service. Those whom I most loved, admired, emulated, would be all examining my darkness.

My maternal grandparents: He, mythologized in my childhood as the spark for an immigrant family's transition from struggling laborers to successful professionals, mysteriously quiet but presumed to be unbending in his love for his family. From a bit of emotional distance, I remember feeling that he watched me grow with quiet pleasure. She, as warm and involved as he was distant. There were few greater comforts than her toweled embrace after a day of swimming in her pool during winter break in Florida.

Jonnie, the brother-in-law who died 13 years before I fell in love with his little sister. I will always feel cheated that I did not get to know him. Richard Wells, the high school teacher who taught me to nurture and respect my passion, and to write. And, most shockingly joining a list that I had complacently assumed would remain a static document, my mother. I trembled, naked and ashamed that these people, bound up in the Everlasting, would see so deeply into me, and that I must answer to them for my transgressions on this day.

Yet there was a profoundly powerful positive aspects as well. While accepting the prospect of a more piercing judgment, I made the corollary discovery that I knew more about

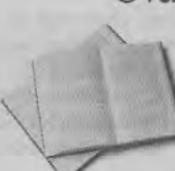


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(Continued on page 18)





GAZA STRIP - PLO leader Yasser Arafat unwraps a Torah scroll before presenting it to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin Sept. 25. The 100-year-old scroll, from Yemen, is made of animal skin and written in Hebrew. Arafat and Rabin met for two hours and emerged from their meeting in exceptionally good humor, described by both sides as uncharacteristic of previous summit meetings. **CREDIT: RNS Photo/Reuters**

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Words & Music

(Continued from page 13)

Ken Burns' television documentary and his book, *Baseball*, are works of art. The length of the telecasts has scared off many potential viewers but I'd suggest that you make a special effort to see it during reruns on TV12. The telecast is even more valuable than the book (published by Knopf) because of the moving images and the sound of the voices.

The most affecting moments come when non-athletes talk about the effect of baseball on their personal lives, and especially about their relationships with their fathers. Bob Costas's comment broke my heart: "My father and I had nothing in common, sad to say, except baseball."

Billy Crystal talks with intense emotionalism about the sport. At one point he realizes that he's going into excruciating detail and he pauses to say, "I'm sorry — but it's baseball."

There are some flaws and more editing and shortening would have helped. The segment on Jackie Robinson just went on and on to excess. But Burns dealt very effec-

tively with the careers of Hank Greenberg, whom he identifies as "the first Jewish baseball star," and Sandy Koufax, "perhaps the best pitcher of all time."

Baseball reminded me how many emotional moments in our lives are inextricably entwined with that game.

JCC Children's Center Library

(Continued from page 2)

Judaic resources, including audio recordings or music and folk tales, and books about holidays, Jewish culture, heritage and values.

Fundraising is being spearheaded by Amy Leviton, who co-chaired the Playground project last year. A Children's Center Library fund has already been created with an anonymous contribution which will be enhanced by community contributions. A "Plant-a-Book" program will also be initiated in the fall as a way for parents and friends to commemorate a special occasion by donating a book. Specially designed plates will be included in each book for the permanent collection. Throughout the fall, special events will be planned

including "celebrity story tellers," visits by "real" book characters, book fair, and more.

In a very unusual venture, Zany Brainy is working with the Jewish Community Center on the children's library promotion. Members of the Wilmington JCC who purchase a book or video at Zany Brainy in Wilmington from October 8 through October 16 will receive 25% off their purchase. In addition, a 50 cent coupon will be issued with each book or video purchase. These coupons can be deposited in a special box in the JCC lobby and will enable the Children's Center to receive greater discounts on their future purchases. The store also plans to have several exciting events for our JCC members during the promotion period. JCC members must show a membership card in order to receive the discount and coupon, and the Offer is valid only at the Zany Brainy in Wilmington.

To sponsor a particular piece of equipment, or section of the library, please contact Amy Leviton. To find out how to become part of this exciting project, contact Elly Alexander or Carrie Jo Reed.

The JCC is a beneficiary of the 'Live Jewish' Community Campaign which is administered by The Jewish Federation of Delaware.

Free Export Zone Will Boost Israeli Economy, Say Supporters

(Continued from page 3)

The group expects to start building by March of next year, after a few legal and technical hurdles are overcome. David Yerushalmi, IEDC's chairman and chief executive officer, expects the first tenants to start moving in at the end of the following year.

IEDC's board of directors reads like a who's-who of American Jewish business executives, real estate developers and philanthropists.

Larry Silverstein, IEDC's president, was just named chairman of the board of directors of the United Jewish Appeal-Federation of New York. His company owns and operates over 10 million square feet of office space.

Among IEDC's shareholders are Laurence Tisch, chairman of CBS, and Morton Mandel, billionaire Cleveland industrialist and past president of the Council of Jewish Federations.

Sy Syms, chairman of the New York-based clothing retailer that bears his name and a vice president of the IEDC, said the project had two goals: to create jobs for Russian immigrants and to make money for the investors.

"We said, somewhat jokingly, that this is not charity. We're ugly Americans who happen to be Jewish and like excessive profit. We can give to UJA" if charity were the goal, he said.

Looking back on the efforts to approve the zone, which culminated this summer, Yerushalmi said that "two years is a long time to fight a government bureaucracy."

"But two years to go from an idea thought up by a think tank, to a policy, to a draft bill, to approval by the finance minister and prime minister, to Cabinet approval and passage by the Knesset — two years for

this is revolutionary," he said.

The think tank Yerushalmi referred to is the Institute for Advanced Strategic and Political Studies, a Jerusalem-based group headed by Alvin Babushka, a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution of Stanford University.

Wielding a scalpel of free-market economics, the think tank has explained how Israel's milk cartel results in prices for Israeli cheese being lower in New York than in Tel Aviv, and denounced American loan guarantees as propping up Israeli bureaucracy.

For Babushka, much of the appeal of the Free Export Processing Zone lay in its elimination of Israeli bureaucracy, if only from 700 acres in the northern Negev.

If, as Yerushalmi insists, the project succeeds, it could put Israeli bureaucrats on the run.

As now enshrined in Israeli law, companies doing business within the export zone will be exempt from customs, tariffs, foreign currency restrictions and a wide-ranging gamut of economic regulations.

Companies will pay no taxes, except for a flat 15 percent on profits repatriated out of the zone.

How much will this cost Israel? Yerushalmi insists that it will cost little more than most foreign investments in the country, which are heavily subsidized by the government.

Where the Israeli tax collector will benefit is from the payroll taxes, because workers in the zone will be taxed just as any other Israelis.

And employment is what the zone is about.

For the Israeli legislators who signed on to the idea, Yerushalmi talks of 15,000 people being employed when the zone completes its first stage of development, in about

two-and-a-half years.

And he predicts an additional three jobs created outside the zone for each job created inside it.

"That's an enormous benefit" in a country where double-digit unemployment translates to around 150,000 people looking for work, said Yerushalmi.

Already, he said, the company has begun seeking potential construction workers among Russian Jews who have not yet made aliyah to Israel.

And an employment firm, which has been signed up to make available hiring and payroll services to zone tenants, has begun retraining Russian engineers and software developers to meet Western standards.

Yerushalmi believes the quality of Israeli labor force is a major selling point for the zone.

"It's a work force that is as sharp and as good as in Silicon Valley," said Yerushalmi, referring to the high-tech zone in Northern California, "but much less expensive and less mobile."

For Yerushalmi, the project has ramifications not only for the well-being of Israel, but for that of the American Jewish community as well.

"We've been able to pull a group of men together who have always found it in their hearts and time and pocketbooks to support Israel as a charity case," Yerushalmi said.

"We've been able to turn their perspective, to say: 'Israel does have an enormous potential; it's another one of those incredible emerging markets, that if it's just dealt with properly, could become an absolute gold mine.'"

"I would venture to say, investing in the free export zone will be the next major mode to relate to Israel," he said.

OBITUARIES

BENJAMIN GAUZ

Benjamin Gauz, 90, of 7807 Governor Printz Blvd., Claymont, died September 24 at The Kutz Home.

Mr. Gauz owned Ben Gauz Men's Shop in Hazelton, Pa., for 35 years. He retired in 1972.

He was former vice president of Hazelton Chamber of Commerce; captain of Gauz Brothers' Basketball Team — winner of the 1927 Eastern Pennsylvania Amateur Basketball Championships; founder of Ben Gauz Golf Tournament in Greensboro, N.C.; and a member of Temple Beth El, Newark, and Temple Emanuel, Greensboro.

He is survived by his wife, Mildred E. Gauz; a daughter, Karen Venezky of Newark; a sister, Dora Karp of Florida; and two grandchildren.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Newark Chapter of Hadassah, in care of Molly Ganz at the Jewish Community Center, Wilmington 19803.

BETTY A. SCHOENBERG

Betty A. Schoenberg, 65, of Newport, died September 21 of cancer at home.

Mrs. Schoenberg was a library aide for the Red Clay School District for 20 years.

She was a member of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation, Hadassah, the Order of the Golden Chain and the Delaware Education Association.

She is survived by her husband, Itzie Schoenberg; a son, Mark S. of San Francisco; a daughter, Susan S. Hogan of Staten Island, N.Y.; a brother, Arthur I. Guessford of Odessa; two sisters, Marie Dickey of Burnham, Pa., and Ruth Guessford of Newport; and three grandchildren.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Delaware Hospice, Wilmington.

NETTIE G. YANOSS

Nettie G. Yanoss, 92, of Philadelphia, died at Central Park Lodge nursing home, Philadelphia.

Mrs. Yanoff is survived by two daughters, Lois Shapiro of Wyndmoor and Barbara Tomases of Wilmington; a sister, Rose Schwartz of Pennsylvania; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

The family suggests contributions to the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Delaware, 2 Mill Road, Suite 106, Wilm., De. 19806.

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Hadassah Garage Sale

The Wilmington Chapter of Hadassah will have its annual garage sale at the home of Carrie Littman, 3210 Drexel Drive (across from the Brandywine Country Club), on Friday, October 21, 1994. The sale will run from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Information about either the sale or to donate items for the sale can be obtained by calling Carrie at 478-8330.

Needlework

The Delaware Valley chapter of the Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Needlework will have an exhibition at the Jewish Community Center from Sunday, November 6, 1994 through Tuesday, December 6, 1994.

The Guild's purpose is to study and provide information on Judaic art, to conduct workshops, conferences and exhibits, to create courses of study and to compile written materials and photographic records of the finished needlework.

The guild in addition to the exhibit will have two workshops, depending on the number of participants. The workshops will take place during a three hour session each at a cost of \$12.00 plus materials. The workshop will take place on Wednesday, November 30. The first will be from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and the second from 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

The two workshops will be Afikoman Bag - Shadow Applique Techniques and Illuminated Decorated Name Metallic Gouaches.

Classes will have a maximum of 12 per class. If you are interested in the workshop contact Nathan Barnett at 478-5660.

The JCC is a beneficiary of the 'Live Jewish' Community Campaign administered by The Jewish Federation of Delaware.

Kol Nidre September 1994

(Continued from page 15)

God than I had previously thought. Striving and rising to be like God, and to perfect in myself the qualities that God desires, had sometimes seemed to be almost an intellectual exercise, following rules whose divine authorship I accepted, but which at times seemed impersonal. Now, however, recognizing within God the souls of my mother and so many others whom I respected and from whom I learned how to live, I saw that pursuing God's way consisted, at least in part, of trying to be like the best part, that which God instilled, in these loved ones lost.

A final facet gave me assurance of the nature and strength of God's love for me, and of God's desire to see me atone and improve during this period of introspection. As the source of spiritual energy in the living and the repository for the souls of the dead, God's love is not merely an abstraction described by Jewish sages and scholars, but is also that of my best teachers, of my grandparents, of my mother. As warm and as constant, always expecting more,

but always caring, always supporting and encouraging.

As a boy I became too tall to sit in my mother's lap long before I lost the desire to return to its solace. In my times of need, Mom would — less than half-jokingly — lead me to the steps in our houses' entry hall, climb two, and turn from this higher station to hold my head to her abdomen for comfort.

On this Kol Nidre night, as I beg my leaden legs to heave toward the brilliance of the stairway landing's open window, my mother descends past that turn in the stairs to offer her hand, that I might approach, through my contrition, the heights of purity that she now inhabits.

(Alan Levenson is a Delaware resident.)



Beth Weintraub

LUCILLE GOLDINGER

On September 21, 1994, Lucille (nee Levin), beloved wife of the late Louis Goldinger, beloved mother of Lynn Curry of Ellicott City, MD, and the late Joan Goldinger passed away. She was sister of Doris Lotz of New York, grandmother of Leslie Bauer & Jeffrey Clary, Loving great-grandmother of Danielle Bauer, Scott and Suzanne Clary. Please omit flowers.

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UJA Answer

(Continued from page 5)

businesspeople and others will exchange information and ideas with their counterparts in Israel. This builds on the inherent characteristic of all our relationships with Israel: direct contacts between Israelis and American Jews. Of course, Partnership 2000 is based on Project Renewal's successful model of bringing Israeli and American Jews into direct, ongoing contact.

We at UJA, and those at other American Jewish organizations, are aware of the different experiences of American Jews and Israeli Jews and how both American Jewry and Israel are rapidly changing. The fact is that UJA, in partnership with you, has completely restructured its approach to fundraising to address this new reality.

It is important to know that bringing teenagers to Israel, building personal relationships between Israelis and American Jews, and aiding immigration to an Israel in a dramatic quest for peace are not only long-term plans, but are the basis for our current fundraising. At UJA, we believe we know the problems, and are trying to respond with viable solutions.

(Richard Pearlstone of Baltimore and Aspen is the UJA National Chairman.)



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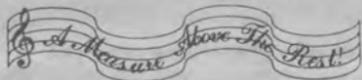


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