

The JEWISH VOICE

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COMMUNITY TRIBUTE

Rabbi Leonard B. Gewirtz, ZT"L

Much beloved and deeply respected throughout Delaware's Jewish community, Rabbi Leonard Benjamin Gewirtz passed away Thursday night, May 22, 2003, at age 85. His death concluded over 55 years of service, including more than 40 years as Rabbi, then Rabbi Emeritus, to Congregation Adas Kodesch / Shel Emeth in Wilmington, Delaware. Beginning in 1947, his tenure spanned almost one-half the lifetime of Delaware's first and oldest continuous Jewish congregation, which was established in 1885. He was buried in

Israel during the Memorial Day weekend after Shabbat. A memorial service for the Delaware community will be held at a later date.

Growing up in New York City where he attained his undergraduate degree from C.C.N.Y., Rabbi Gewirtz received semicha from Hebrew Theological College in Chicago, Illinois. Coming to his position in Delaware after World War II, he helped his "Traditional" congregation accept Modern Orthodoxy as a viable inheritance to the Jewish tradition. To match the needs and mood of his grow-

ing group of American-born congregants shortly upon his arrival, he introduced Hebrew-English siddurim and Chumashim into regular usage, while beginning operation of the Va'ad HaKashruth of Delaware in 1948.

In the mid-1950's, he helped develop AKSE's Talmud Torah, which has retained respect through the years for its comprehensive instruction, including its Hebrew learning curriculum. For over 40 years, he led The Minyonnaires, which weekly brought youth and elders together

for Jewish learning across generational boundaries.

His outreach to modernity included bringing under the framework of the Orthodox tradition Delaware's first bat mitzvah observance in 1956. Rabbi Gewirtz oversaw the friendly merger of Adas Kodesch with Wilmington's other Orthodox synagogue, Chesed Shel Emeth, during that era, and encouraged the movement of AKSE to the Brandywine Hundred suburbs the following decade.

Later he provided tutelage and



Rabbi Leonard B. Gewirtz

support for a Women's Tefillah group, originating from separate Simchat Torah services through which traditionally-committed females learn to read from the Torah and conduct their own religious worship activities in accord with normative Judaism.

As Judaism's representative to the community, he originated the commentary, "The Rabbi Speaks" for the Sunday morning religious radio hour in Wilmington. Adas Kodesch granted their rabbi - whom even Delaware's U.S. Senator Joe Biden, a Roman Catholic, regularly acknowledged as "My Rabbi" - life tenure in 1970, and designated its "Rabbi Leonard B. Gewirtz Sanctuary" in his honor in 1994.

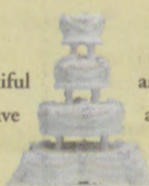
The rabbi is survived by Gladys, his beloved wife of 55 years; sons, Isaac Meyer Gewirtz of New York City and Joseph Gevir of Jerusalem; brothers, Rabbi Norman Gewirtz and Rabbi Aaron Gewirtz; sister Penina Schachter; and grandchildren.

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EDITORIAL

Sharon talks the talk

"To keep 3.5 million people under occupation is bad for us and them. I want to say clearly that I have come to the conclusion that we have to reach a peace agreement."—Ariel Sharon—May 26, 2003

This statement, uttered by an Israeli Prime Minister known for his hard-line hawkish views, has shocked his constituents, pleased the Bush administration and rendered his Palestinian peace partners mute.

With these courageous words, Mr. Sharon appears poised to enter into serious negotiations with his counterpart, Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen). He has faced bitter opposition from right wing elements in his own political party in an attempt to stem the bloodshed that has destroyed thousands of Palestinian and Israeli lives.

The world is still waiting for a similar statement of good faith on the part of the Palestinian leadership. How wonderful it

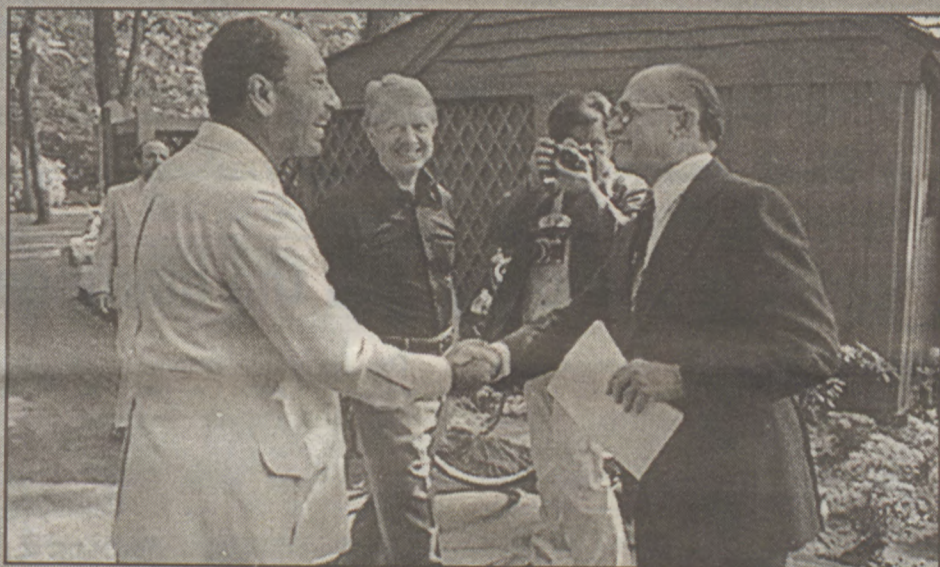
would be for PM Abu Mazen to call for an unequivocal and permanent end to the terrorism which has sabotaged the many attempts at meaningful dialogues between the two nations. It would boost his credibility as a serious peace partner committed to making difficult decisions and meaningful concessions to advance the status of his people.

A lot can happen between now and next Wednesday when President Bush is slated to meet with the two Mid-East leaders in Jordan. Let us hope that violence does not derail these negotiations and pray that both nations find the road map a helpful tool to navigate peace between these neighboring nations.

Lynn B. Edelman

Lynn B. Edelman
Editor

Photo Of The Week



CAN HISTORY REPEAT ITSELF? President Bush is expected to step into the role of peace mediator by meeting next week with Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and newly appointed Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen). Mr. Bush will follow in the footsteps of President Jimmy Carter pictured here with wife, Rosalynn at Camp David watching Anwar Sadat and Menachem Begin shake hands. September 7, 1978-Jimmy Carter Library

CREDIT: BP Images/JTA

The JEWISH VOICE

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Myths and Facts about Israel

MYTH #100

"Ariel Sharon has made clear that he does not want peace and no deal is possible as long as he is Prime Minister."

FACT

Ariel Sharon has been demonized by the Arabs and caricatured by the media, which often insists on referring to him as the "right-wing" or "hard-line" Prime Minister, appellations rarely affixed to any other foreign leaders. Sharon has spent most of his life as a soldier and public servant trying to bring peace to his nation.

It was Ariel Sharon who gave then Prime Minister Menachem Begin the critical backing that made the Israel-Egypt Peace Treaty possible. At a crucial moment at Camp David, the negotiations were on the verge of collapse over Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's insistence that all Israeli settlements in the Sinai be dismantled. Begin called Sharon and asked if he should give up the settlements; Sharon not only advised him to do so, but ultimately was the one who implemented the decision to remove the settlers, some by force (Steven Spiegel, *The Other Arab-Israeli Conflict: Making America's Middle East Policy from Truman to Reagan*).

Sharon's views have also evolved over time. While he was once fiercely opposed to the creation of a Palestinian state, as Prime Minister he has endorsed the idea, in opposition to members of his own party. Since taking office, Sharon has repeatedly offered to negotiate with the Palestinians on condition only that they end the violence. He asked for only seven days of peace — a demand some found onerous despite the fact that the Palestinians had promised at Oslo eight years of peace — and later even dropped that demand. When he did, the Palestinians answered his gesture with the Passover massacre, the suicide bombing of a religious observance in a Netanya hotel in which 29 people were killed.

Sharon subsequently proposed a peace conference, an idea the Bush Administration endorsed. Even when Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah proposed a peace initiative that was filled with provisions the Saudi knew Israel could never accept, Sharon did not reject the plan, and called for direct negotiations to discuss it. Now, Sharon has agreed to negotiate with the Palestinians according to the road map formula devised by the United States, Russia, the European Union, and the United Nations, despite serious reservations about many elements of the plan.

If the Arabs doubt Sharon's commitment to peace, all they need do is put him to the test — end the violence and begin negotiations. So long as the Palestinians keep up their terrorist attacks, no Israeli Prime Minister can offer them concessions.

PARSHA PLACE

Week of May 31

Bamidbar

Numbers 1:1-4:20

"WHAT'S IN A NAME?"

George Gittleman

What's in a name? Rabbi Alan Henkin suggests that this week's portion's name, *B'midbar*, alludes to a deep and important layer of meaning in the Torah: The desert is not just a place but a spiritual state, a place in which an openness to God and God's message can be attained. What makes the desert so different? Its austerity: There are no distractions in the desert. Life and death, beauty and desolation—the ultimate foils for God are ever present.

But what about us? What can we learn from *B'midbar*? How can we gain the acute awareness of God that the desert fosters? Perhaps another name, Numbers, the English title for the book that this Torah portion introduces, offers a clue. Why is this book called Numbers? It is because the focus of the portion is numbers or, more accurately, a census ordered by God in the opening verses, the result of which fills the next four chapters. Why all these numbers? Why does the Torah, which is often so terse, spend so much time on the details of a census? Rashi, the great rabbi and medieval commentator, suggests that the accounting is an act of love: "Because they [the Israelites] are dear to God, *Adonai* counts them every now and again." (Rashi on Numbers 1:2, Silverman translation) Thus, according to Rashi, this census is about appreciation, a sort of divine caress, expressing God's love for us and renewing a sense of who we are in God's eyes. Counting is a metaphor for paying attention. It is not about the numbers but about the awareness that paying close attention generates.

Rashi provides us with a bridge back to the desert, helping us apprehend how we can replicate the austere pallet of the desert so that we may see the vibrant colors of life, always there but too often obscured by the distractions of the every day.

Questions for Discussion: What prevents us from seeing the truths in our lives?

What kind of accounting must we make in order to be reminded of God in ourselves and our surroundings? For Further Reading: *A Torah Commentary for Our Time*, Harvey J. Fields, UAH Press, New York, NY; George Gittleman is the rabbi of Congregation Shomrei Torah in Santa Rosa, CA.

THURSDAY NOON DEADLINE

for all articles, advertisements and news for The Jewish Voice

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All submissions in person for The Jewish Voice due at JFD offices or mail: The Jewish Voice, 100 W. 10th St., Suite 301 Wilmington, DE 19801-1628 e-mail: lynn.edelman@shalomdel.org

The Executive Committee, Board of Directors and staff of the Jewish Federation of Delaware mourn the loss of Rabbi Leonard Gewirtz, one of our community's most beloved spiritual leaders. Our sincere condolences to his wife, Gladys and his beloved children and grandchildren. May his memory be a blessing to them during this time of profound sorrow.

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NEW BOARD MEMBERS

3-Year Term Ending 2006

Allison Amorison, Warren Butt, Robin Saran

The officers and board members will be installed during the Federation Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 19th, 7 p.m. at the Delaware JCC, 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington.

Lion of Judah event a roaring success!

The Jewish Federation of Delaware's Women's Philanthropy initiative Lion of Judah 2003 brunch featured syndicated columnist, Jewish educator, and national speaker Amy Hirshberg Lederman. The event was held on May 8 at Andrea and Richard Levine's home. Brunch committee members include: Wendy Berger, Miriam Edell, Muriel Gilman, Suzanne Grant, Amy Leviton, Leslie Newman, Barbara Schoenberg, and Toni Young.

The Lion of Judah is a nationally recognized level of commitment that was founded in 1972 by a cadre of dedicated women who made leadership gifts to the Federation annual campaign. Today, the Lion of Judah has become one of the most recognized and distinguished symbols of shared commitment to the strength and vitality of the Jewish people. For more information about Lion of Judah, please contact Jennifer Young (302) 427-2100 ext. 19.



Enjoying the Lion of Judah event are, from left, Iris Tocker, brunch co-chair; Amy Hirshberg Lederman, guest speaker; Andrea Levine, brunch co-chair; Carol Rothschild, Women's Philanthropy chair; Jennifer Young, Women's Philanthropy and Endowment director.



2003 new Lions of Judah, Ruth Ann Ger, Joy Honig, Andrea Levine, Iris Tocker. New Lions (not pictured) Allison Amorison, Michele Asher, Julie Friedlander, Kathryn Pincus, Joan Rosenthal, and Susan Sandler.

Snapshot of the Community Capital Campaign

The Jewish Community Center (JCC), a non-sectarian United Way agency, will enjoy extensive renovations on its Garden of Eden Road Campus in North Wilmington to support its preschool, fitness center, teen and senior programming and create much needed meeting space for the community. This Campaign has also allowed the community to establish a physical presence in Newark, Delaware with the purchase of the former YMCA building. This young, burgeoning community is now benefiting from outstanding programming which serves young children through adults, including an indoor pool, fitness center, summer camp and more.

Jewish Family Service (JFS), also a non-sectarian licensed and accredited United Way agency, will move to a new building addition on the Garden of Eden Road Campus which will provide much needed space to conduct counseling, family life education, and services to émigrés and the elderly. This new space will be fully accessible and allow for discreet and safe entry/exit.

Milton & Hattie Kutz Home is a certified Medicare provider offering non-sectarian, licensed, skilled nursing care. This United Way agency will renovate its 40 year old kitchen and laundry facilities, add a much needed service elevator and expand their loading dock.

Albert Einstein Academy, the only Jewish day school in the Brandywine Valley, offers exceptional pre-kindergarten through sixth grade instruction in secular and Judaic studies. Additional classrooms and resource spaces will allow the school to meet the needs of its growing enrollment.

Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School provides supplemental Jewish education to students in grades 7 through 12. At present, students must share the classrooms of the elementary age students of Albert Einstein Academy. With the renovations, Gratz students will have classroom space of their own with age appropriate furnishings. When Gratz is not in session, these rooms will also provide spaces for adult education, after school care and additional meeting rooms so desperately sought out by the community.

Hillel at the University of Delaware provides for the social, religious, cultural and public service needs of the approximately 2000 Jewish students on the Newark campus. Renovations will expand their kosher kitchen to allow for additional meal and holiday offerings.

Maintenance Endowment Fund has been established to address future maintenance needs, keeping our newly renovated buildings fully functional and in good condition.

Retirement of Community Debt has made additional funds available for agency operating budgets rather than debt repayment.

Plan for the wedding and the marriage



Todd Polikoff
Campaign Director

There are a few constants in the universe. Waves will continue to rush to the shore, the sun will rise in the east and set in the west and the Jewish Federation of Delaware will always need the community's support to maintain a growing and prospering Jewish Community in Delaware. These things will never change. Yet, the number of donors to the Jewish Federation of Delaware's Annual and Community Capital Campaigns is minute when compared to the number of people using our services.

Everyone, Jewish or not, who uses the services of the Jewish Federation through its six constituent agencies (The Jewish Community Center, Jewish Family Service, The Milton and Hattie Kutz Home, The Albert Einstein Academy, Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School and Hillel at the University of Delaware) should feel compelled to support both the Annual and Capital campaigns. Just as money does not grow on trees, buildings and programs do not magically appear when the need arises; it takes all of us to make these things happen.

The Jewish Federation of Delaware's Community Capital Campaign has reached far beyond most of our expectations and we will continue to reach more people in an effort to raise more dollars. Capital Campaign gifts will pay for buildings and renovations; the annual campaign will fill those buildings with people engaged in meaningful programs and ensure that the renovations will be maintained.

Giving a capital gift and either cutting or not giving an annual gift is like planning for a wedding without thinking about the marriage. The Community Capital Campaign and the Annual Campaign should not be placed in an "either/or" scenario.

We will be building renovating the Garden of Eden campus in Wilmington, we have purchased a new campus in Newark and we will make renovations to all of our agencies through the success of the Capital Campaign. All of these accomplishments will provide for the community for future generations, but they should not come at the expense of the current generation.

The goal of the Jewish Federation Annual Campaign remains the same: assess and address the needs of the Jewish Community in Delaware...Today! I urge everyone who plays volleyball at the JCC, visits a parent at the Kutz Home or has a child enrolled in the Einstein Academy to join the Annual AND the Community Capital Campaigns in servicing our community today and in the future.

Save the Date...

A Woman's Gift Makes a Difference...

Women's Philanthropy inaugural event with guest speaker, September 14, 2003. All women that give to the annual campaign are invited! There is no substitute for standing up as an individual to be counted. A woman's gift serves as an example of Jewish traditions of caring and action. Women can impact Jewish political power: U.S. government leaders count the number of givers when they measure support for Israel and local communities.

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5. "Myths and Facts", a feature by Mitchell Bard, helps prepare readers to intelligently advocate for Israel.
4. Our Matter of Opinion page is a forum for Jewish commentary.
3. Jewish Telegraphic Agency stories provide insight and analysis of key national and global Jewish news events.
2. Readers learn about the programs and activities offered by Federation's beneficiary agencies-Albert Einstein Academy, Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School, the Jewish Community Center, Jewish Family Service, Hillel at the University of Delaware and the Milton and Hattie Kutz Home.
1. It forges an important connection between Jews in Wilmington, in Newark, Dover and the Delaware beaches.

The Jewish Voice is the First State's only Jewish newspaper. Throughout these pages you will find in-depth local news coverage, opinion pieces and special features that inform, enlighten and entertain. This unique publication is proud to run, free of charge, obituaries as well as items which celebrate such milestone events as births, engagements, marriages and award presentations. All this and much, much more delivered 22 times a year directly to your homes.

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While all gifts are appreciated, we offer special incentives to those readers who are able to contribute to this **VOLUNTARY SUBSCRIPTION DRIVE** on a Benefactor or Sponsor level.

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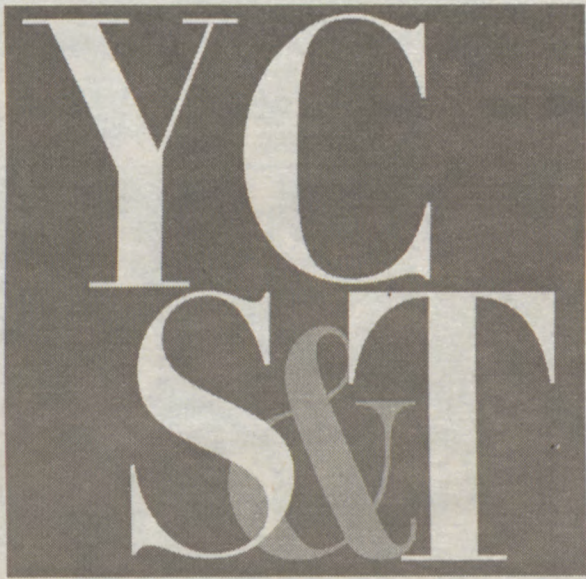
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strives in his or her practice.

The award will be presented to Sheldon Weinstein at the DSBA's annual Bench and
Bar Conference on June 5.

INSIDE DELAWARE

Kutz Home breaks ground at annual meeting

By Sheila Mensch
Special to the Jewish Voice

Sunday April 27th was a fine, sunny day for the friends, residents, family members, staff, board members, and community supporters, decked out in yellow hard hats, who gathered at the Milton & Hattie Kutz Home for the Annual Meeting and Groundbreaking Ceremony. The Groundbreaking Ceremony marked the beginning of the renovations of the Home's kitchen and laundry. These very vital renovations are part of the Community Capital Campaign. The addition of an elevator and the enlargement of the loading dock are also included in this project. Barry S. Kayne, President of the Jewish Federation of Delaware spoke of the importance of the Capital Campaign to the Kutz

home and the Community. Yetta Chaiken, Community Capital Campaign Co-Chair praised the women of the Bichor Cholem for their compassion and wisdom in setting such high goals for the Community's care of its elderly.

Miriam Edell, Board President for the past two years was elected for a third year. She expressed her gratitude to the Community for the renovations that will complete the creation of the state-of-the-art facility undertaken in 1995. She extended a very special thank you to the members of the Kutz Home Auxiliary for their very generous contribution of \$250,000 to the renovation project. She also thanked them for their tireless efforts on behalf of the Kutz Home residents.

Deidre Vecchione, Kutz Home Auxiliary President, reported on the many fund-raising activities of the Auxiliary and how these funds enhance the lives of the residents. She and Executive Director, Karen Friedman, presented staff anniversary awards to the Home's many long-time employees and thanked the individuals and organizations who have helped to enhance the Kutz Home. Marcia Brainard R.N. was selected as Employee of the Year. Mrs. Brainard has been a vital and compassionate mainstay at the Home for almost 18 years.

Activities Director Bernice Edwards, presented Volunteer Recognition Awards to many of the residents in appreciation of their efforts in assisting with the Home's



Pictured from left to right are: Mrs. Vivian Dresin, Kutz Home resident, Karen Friedman, Kutz Home Executive Director, Yetta Chaiken, Capital Campaign Co-Chair, Bernie Siegel, Capital Campaign Co-Chair, Sam Asher, JFD Executive Vice President, Miriam Edell, Kutz Home President, Barry Kayne, JFD President, Richard Stat, Capital Campaign Building Committee Chair, John Elzufon, JFD Immediate Past President

activities programs.

Rabbi Sanford Dresin of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth gave the D'var Torah. Susan Sandler gave the Nominating Committee Report.

Participants in the Groundbreaking ceremony enjoyed a festive reception featuring piano accompaniment by Jennifer Rosenberg. A brief video of images taken at the Kutz Home was screened throughout the afternoon.



Residents Ann Reitzes and Rose Lord display their Certificates of Recognition given in appreciation of their assistance with the Home's activities programs. They were only two of many residents honored at the Annual Meeting.



Board President Miriam Edell and Community Capital Campaign Co-Chair Yetta Chaiken share a happy moment.

AEA salutes graduates

The board of trustees, administration, faculty, staff and parents of Albert Einstein Academy invite the community to participate in graduation ceremonies for the school's 2003 sixth grade students. The program will be held on Tuesday, June 10th, 7:00 p.m. at Congregation Beth Emeth in Wilmington.

Mazel Tov to the following young men and women:

Adam Evan Bloom son of Kathy and Seth Bloom

Mary Ciporah Blumenfeld daughter of Jean and Jack Blumenfeld

Rachel Amanda Bobman daughter of Dorothy and David Bobman

Brett Aaron Carroll son of Brooke and Chuck Carroll

Ben Lee Goodman son of Jan and Robert Goodman

Nicole Jaclyn Grant daughter of Suzanne and Stuart Grant

Joshua Jacob Isaacs son of Mary Jane and David Isaacs

Arielle Lauren Kahn daughter of Deborah and Leonard Kahn

Aryeh Joseph Kuller son of Lori Barbanel and Mark Kuller

Daniel Joshua Metz son of Cindi and Jeff Metz

Kenneth Michael Rosenberg son of Ruth and Matt Rosenberg

Allison Elaine Saran daughter of Robin and Bruce Saran

Talia Yudkin Tiffany daughter of Rabbi Marjorie Yudkin and Randy Tiffany

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JEWISH LIFE

What to Expect at an Orthodox Jewish Wedding

by Soriya Daniels

Special to the Jewish Voice

As someone who became religious at twenty, most of my relatives and a good deal of my friends and co-workers did not know what to expect at my traditional wedding. Being a writer, I composed an elaborate "Wedding Guide" to be distributed to our guests. Clutching this last minute guide, our bewildered relatives proceeded from room to room, utterly perplexed, wondering why there were two separate celebrations on two separate floors, all for one wedding, going on all at once. "Where is my granddaughter?" my accented grandmother could be heard looking about the Chatan's Tisch.

What is the Chatan's Tisch, you may wonder. Let's start with the Aufruf...

An orthodox wedding is really a series of celebrations, ushering the Chatan (Groom in English parlance) and Kallah (Bride) into marriage. The festivities begin the Shabbat before the wedding, when the Groom is called up to the Torah at his Aufruf (literally, "calling up.")

Almost three years ago, my husband, Brad, was called up for this aliyah, as the congregation tossed bags filled with candy, raisins, and nuts at him. One even hit his head! The candy signified the wish that Brad have a sweet life with me, raisins represented the hope that we would be fruitful, and nuts reminded us that before a bride and groom can know each other intimately, they must break away the shells that surround them.

The following morning, our wedding began. Alas, enter the Chatan's Tisch. A great deal of business is transacted in between sequentially toasting "L'Chaim!" The marriage license is signed and witnessed. The Tnaim, the legal terms of the engagement, were agreed upon, read aloud, and signed by witnesses. The Ketubah, the marriage contract was completed and signed

by two witnesses. Next, our mothers broke a china dish, indicating that even in this moment of utter joy, we mourn for Jerusalem and for fellow Jews who have been martyred. And then, the afternoon Mincha prayers were recited before guests accompanied Brad upstairs for the Bedekung (veiling of the bride.)

While business was being conducted at Brad's Tisch, I entered my festive buffet reception, Hakhnassat Kallah (literally, attending the bride.) Escorted by both my mother and Brad's mother and accompanied by festive music, I was led to a grand seat resembling a throne. There, people lined up to wish me a Mazel Tov and chat, as my family and bridesmaids rallied around me.

Suddenly, the moment I dreamed of! Accompanied by spirited music, Brad arrived for the Bedekung. This was no ordinary arrival. It was more like a parade of cheering fans extending far behind him, singing jubilant wedding melodies and clapping. The excitement was palpable, as Brad approached my throne, whispered in my ear, blessed me in the verses of the Kohanim, and draped my veil over my head. With that, he was gone.

Before my wedding, I learned that the veiling symbolizes that the groom is attached to his bride's inner and spiritual qualities as well as her physical beauty. And, by placing the veil over his bride's face, the groom is symbolically clothing his bride, one of the obligations of a husband to his wife, as specified in the Ketubah. Luckily, the veil also provided a measure of privacy, to gather my thoughts and feelings and pray at this highly emotional and spiritual moment.

After the Bedekung, guests proceeded to the marriage ceremony. On our wedding day, a bride and groom experience a Yom Kippur of a lifetime, whereby both seek forgiveness for any past wrongdoing, and as a sign of spiritual purity, wear white. We pray that the Almighty "open a

new gate for us as the old gate is closed" so that our new life together evolves from a pure and fresh beginning. The spiritual ascendance that accompanied our wedding provided a tremendous opportunity to pray for people who were ill or were in need of divine assistance in any regard. Needless to say, under the Chupah, I had a lengthy list of friends, and friends of friends, all seeking their Bashert (soul mate.)

One of the most memorable moments at an Orthodox wedding is when the Bride encircles her husband seven times under the Chupah, as the canter chants. To be precise, my mother and mother-in-law were circling as well, holding up the back of my gown. There are a couple of reasons for the circuits: first, they represent the spiritual protective wall that a wife accords her husband. Secondly, marriage is a reenactment of the act of creation and the seven circuits represent the revolutions the earth made on its axis during the seven days of creation.

Meanwhile, Brad, donned in the kittel (pocketless white robe worn by grooms since Talmudic times) I bought him, spent these precious moments deep in prayer.

The Jewish marriage ceremony has two basic parts: Kiddushin and Nissuin. Both parts are introduced with a blessing over wine, the symbol of life's joy and bounty, and continue with the Birkat Kiddushin, thanking G-d for the sanctity of marriage. Kiddushin is completed when the bride accepts the wedding ring. Only a simple band without engravings, stones or other adornments is used, the perfect roundness of the ring symbolizing an unspoken prayer - just as a ring must be without blemishes or obstructions, so we pray that our marriage will be one of simple beauty, free from conflict.

As Brad placed the ring on my finger, he said the traditional binding verse: "Harei At Mekudeshet Li

B'tabat'at Zo Kedat Moshe V'Yisrael" - "Behold, you are consecrated to me with this ring according to the laws of Moses and Israel." These words are used to show that just as the laws of Moses and Israel are forever consecrated unto all those who entered the covenant, so shall we be consecrated together.

To separate the betrothal blessings from the Sheva Brachot (marriage blessings), the Ketubah is read aloud in Aramaic. The Ketubah is a binding document, which detail the groom's obligations to his bride. Therein, he pledges to "work for, honor, provide and support" her in accordance with the practices of Jewish husbands. The Ketubah also confers a number of special privileges upon the bride for the duration of the marriage.

Nissuin, the second part of the ceremony, includes the recitation of the Sheva Brachot. A different person is called up to recite each of the seven blessings. The sixth, my personal favorite, is a prayer that a bride and groom experience the same joy that Adam and Eve had in the Garden of Eden. It confers a special blessing that just as Adam and Eve, when there was no one else in the world, were certain that they were destined for each other, that likewise, we always know that there is no other person in the world that is our other half.

At last, the groom breaks a glass with his right foot, indicating that even in times of ecstatic joy, we remember the less joyous events of our collective history. Upon breaking the glass, shouts of "Mazel Tov!" permeate the room, and the congregation dances in front of the new couple as they walk back down the aisle, headed to the Yichud (Union) Room.

After the ceremony, don't expect to see the bride and groom for a while. They are secluded, under two witnesses assigned as guards, where they can be alone together for the very first time. This is their first inti-

mate encounter. In the Yichud Room, the bride and groom also break their fast with delicacies from the Shmorgasboard.

Concurrently, the Seudat Mitzvah (Wedding Feast) begins. When the Chatan and Kallah happily emerge, the mitzvah of "Lesameach Chatan Ve Kallah," to celebrate in joy with the groom and bride, goes into full swing. Literally, as you will see. The newly weds, once lowered from chairs carried through the air, are seated together in the center of the ballroom, as guests perform to their delight with wedding "sh'tick," accoutrements to enhance their performance. I have seen this range from costumes to flaming batons. Typically, a Yeshiva Bachur is spun by his arms as another jumps over his legs which serve as a jump rope.

In accordance with Jewish law, men and women dance separately, divided by a mechitzah (divider) for reasons of modesty. At some ultra-Orthodox weddings, they even sit on separate sides of the ballroom. At the end of the festive meal, the Sheva Brachot are repeated again during the Birkat HaMazon (Grace after meals.)

While in secular marriages, the newly weds fly off on their honeymoon, the Orthodox couples keep the parties going nearby for a full week. During this bridal week, special meals known as Sheva Brachot, are arranged by relatives and friends. The seven blessings are recited again after the Grace, just as they were under the Chupah. These marital blessings may only be recited if a minyan is present, and if it includes at least one new person who has not attended the earlier festivities.

This is where my Wedding Guide ends. And every ending marks a new beginning. For us, it is parenthood.

There must be something to those Sheva Brachot!

Soriya Daniels is a freelance writer based in Philadelphia.

Café Tamar celebrates Israel at 55

"On the Road to Peace" is the theme of this year's Café Tamar program. This annual evening of music and dance in celebration of Israeli independence will be held on Sunday, June 8th, 7:30 p.m. at Adas Kodesh Shel Emeth in Wilmington. The program will feature performances by AKSE choral and dance groups.

The Choral Group, directed by Cantor Joel Kessler, will include soloists Cantor Joel, David Driwos, Cindy Goldstein, Evan Finkelstein, Beth Lattin, Benjamin Russell, Hailey Weiner, Irene Plotzker and a duet by mother and daughter Sharon and Jennifer Berry.

New additions to the program this year include a men's choir performing a medley of songs by Shlomo Carlebach and a children's choir, Shir Chadash.

Accompanists will be David Gesterak on the keyboard and Ben Zussman on the drums.

Harokdim, the synagogue's teenage dancers, and Lanetzach Tz'irim, AKSE's adult troupe, will present new dances from Israel.

Purchase adult tickets for \$10 and children's (under 13) for \$5 from performers or from the synagogue office at Washington Blvd. and Torah Drive, Wilmington. Refreshments are included in the price of admission.



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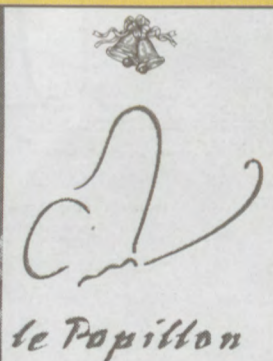
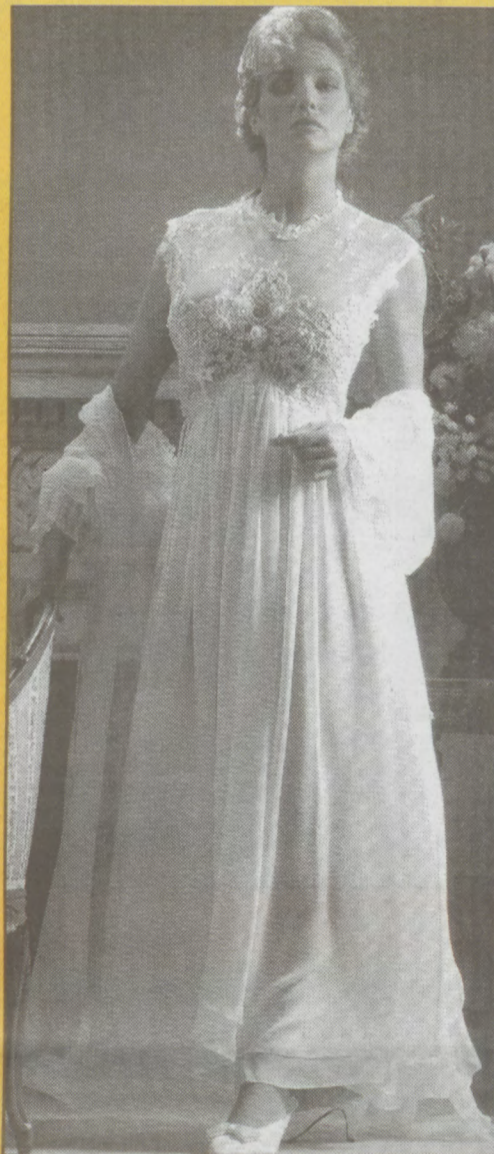
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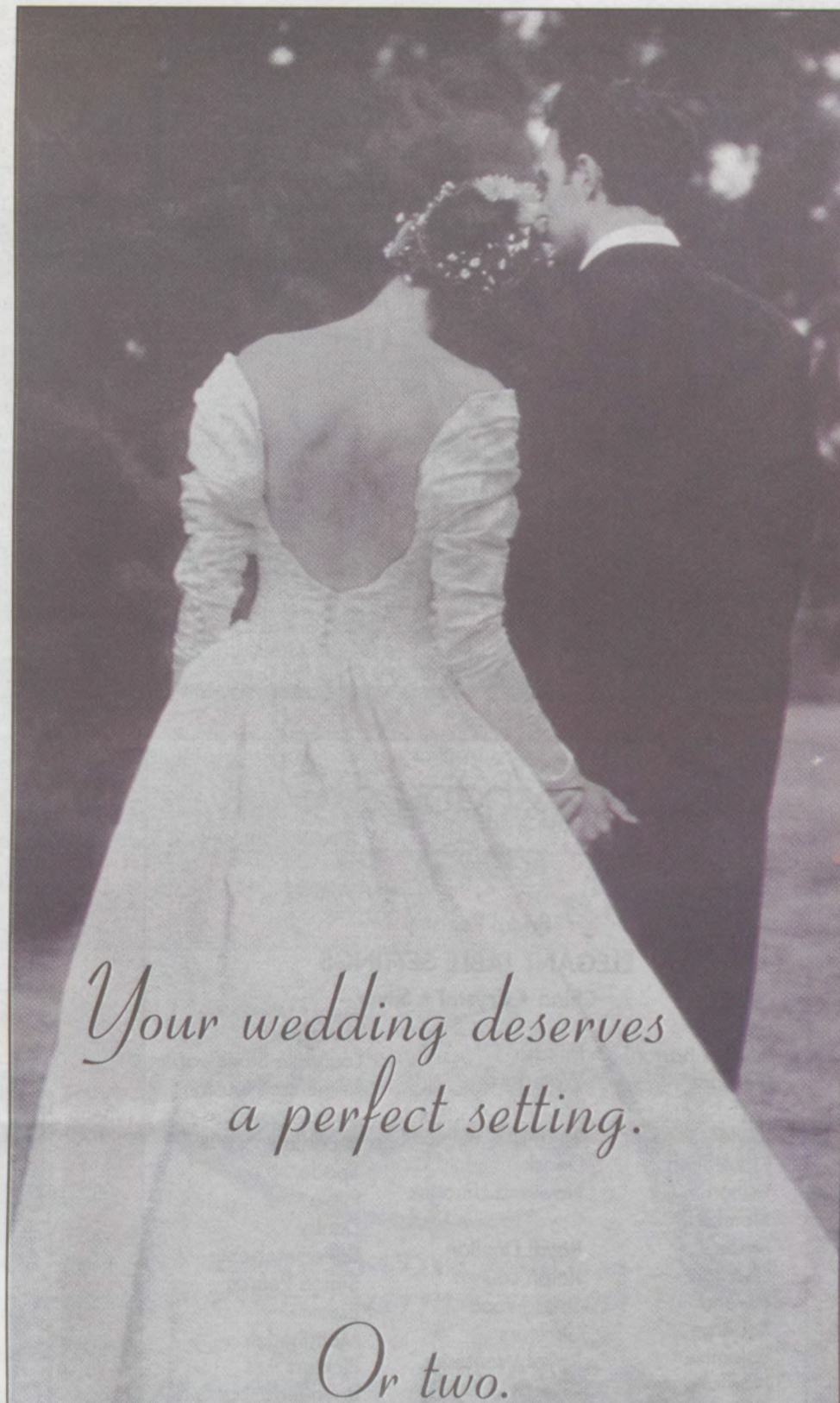
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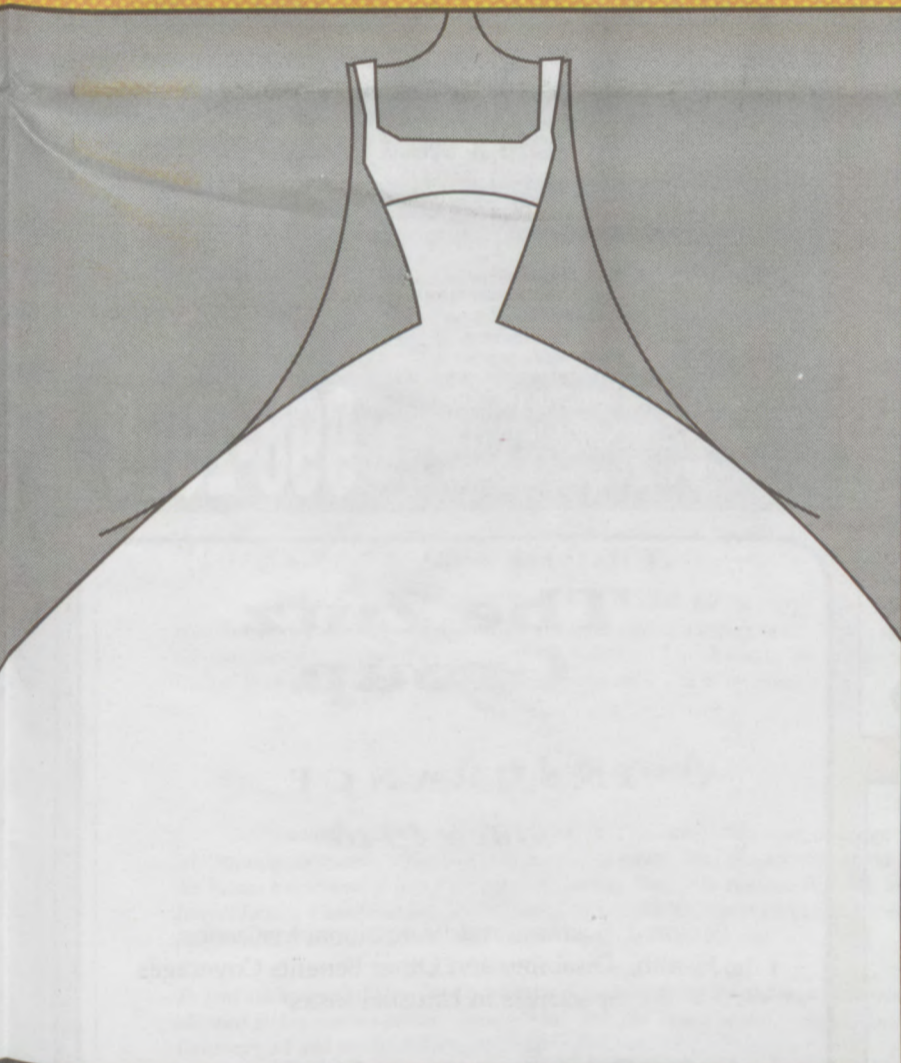
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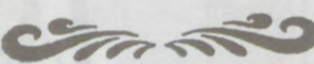


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COMMUNITY PAYS TRIBUTE TO ESTEEMED RABBI

A tribute to "My Rabbi"

By John A. Elzufon

Delaware's Jewish community lost a giant this month with the death of Rabbi Leonard B. Gewirtz. It is hard to conceive of any aspect of our community that he did not positively influence during his many decades of devoted service.

I did not come to Wilmington until I was an adult and was not privileged to really get to know him until I was almost 40. When I think of him one event comes first to mind. It was at the time that my wife, Lena, and her mother were sitting shiva for her brother Jack, of blessed memory. As our house filled with our friends and acquaintances our daughters Rachel (then 5) and Aviva (then 3) were both very hesitant to leave either me, Lena or her mother. Then Rabbi Gewirtz arrived. They did not know him but ran to him and hugged him. Children are intuitive and they "knew" that this man would comfort them and they could trust him. They embraced his warmth and he gave them the full measure of his attention. Shiva services and the adults waited. Children came first.

His ties with my wife, Lena's

family, mirror those who grow up in Wilmington and worshipped at Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation. Lena's father, Albert Jacobs, of blessed memory, knew Rabbi Gewirtz when both of them were bachelor buddies. Later, he would officiate at all of our family's lifecycle events. Rabbi Gewirtz presided at Lena's naming and Bat Mitzvah, and at her brother Jack's bris and Bar Mitzvah. He married Lena and I, participated in the joy of our daughters' namings and comforted us during the funerals of Albert and Jack. Whenever we needed a Rabbi or a friend, he was there. I suggest that our family's story is far from unique.

Our people tell the tale of the young child listening to his Rabbi relate the story of the binding of Isaac. When the Rabbi read the part when Abraham raised his knife the child's heart froze with fright. The child broke down in sobs as the Rabbi continued and read the voice of the angel: "Abraham, lay not thine hand upon the lad, for now I know that thou fearest G-d." The Rabbi asked why the child wept and she answered: "Rabbi, suppose the angel had been late and was not there when Abraham

needed help?"

Rabbi Gewirtz was never late when we needed him. He was always there when help was needed—congregant and non-congregant, Jew and Gentile, friend or stranger. Whether directly involved in life-cycle events, counseling, visiting the sick, teaching or behind the scenes making sure his synagogue and the Delaware's Jewish community flourished judaically, Rabbi Gewirtz was there. To those who worshipped at AKSE, he made us proud to be "our Rabbi". By his example and his teachings he made all of us, regardless of affiliation, proud to be Jews.

This is why not only Lena and me but countless others who knew and loved this man called him "my Rabbi". He was the standard by which we measured Judaism and the living embodiment of the Jewish soul.

So how is he best remembered? What legacy can we perpetuate that best honors his name and memory? Plaques and written memorials are wonderful but our tradition demands more.

As a people we have always honored less the architects of buildings

than we have the architects of character. The forger of steel does not raise our admiration as much as the forger of Jewish souls. The great works of art that emerges from our history are not paintings, statues and marble columns but the laws, teachings and leadership of Judaism's greatest people.

And if the greatest Jew of all, Moses, is remembered as Moshe Rabbenu, Moses our teacher, is it not our greatest honor to Rabbi Gewirtz to remember him as "our teacher"? A number of years ago I asked Rabbi Gewirtz what he thought his greatest accomplishment had been he replied that it was his constant devotion to Torah and the teaching of its ideals.

Rabbi Leonard B. Gewirtz—"our teacher."

It is now up to each one of us to be faithful to those ideals—each in our own way. It is up to each of us to continue to be proud Jews, authentic Jews. Rabbi Gewirtz defined an authentic Jew in his book, authored in 1961, *The Authentic Jew and his Judaism*.

"The authentic Jew is Jewish on every level. On the biological level, he states simply: Because I was born a Jew and remain a Jew, there-

fore I am a Jew. On the sociological level: Because I live with Jews, mix and fraternize with Jews, help needy Jews, feel united with Jews, therefore I am a Jew. On the cultural-spiritual level: Because I read Jewish literature, pray to G-d in a Synagogue, live according to Jewish ideals at home and in the market place, therefore I am a Jew."

Rabbi Gewirtz could have been described himself for no Jew more "authentic" comes to mind as I read his passage.

Judaism was his life. Being a Rabbi was a "calling" not a job. Indeed he was more than an "authentic Jew" he was an authentically devoted Jew: devoted to his family, to his country, to his congregation, to his community, to Israel, to his religion, to his people and to his G-d.

Each of us who knew him will remember him in one or more many ways: husband, father, grandfather, teacher, community leader, Rabbi. The list goes on.

To me he was all those and more.

He was my hero.

The author is past president of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation and of the Jewish Federation of Delaware.

Torah Im Derech Eretz



Rabbi Gewirtz during his early days in Delaware.

Rabbi Gewirtz was most concerned about the future of the Jewish people, about the State of Israel and about *k'lal Yisrael*, the community of Jews regardless of their religious orientation. He was steeped in text and tradition, a exemplar representative of modern Orthodox Judaism whose motto is *Torah Im Derech Eretz*, best understood (although not translated) as tradition within modernity. He was as comfortable discussing economics and philosophy as he was Talmud.

Upon his retirement I casually mentioned to the then president of Adas Kodesch shel Emeth how difficult it would be to replace a rabbi as liberal as Rabbi Gewirtz. He looked at me as if I had lost my mind. A number of months later he actually telephoned me. "Rabbi," he said, "you were absolutely right and I can't believe I'm saying it!" I replied, "Of course I'm right. Anyone who graduated from the

City College of New York has to be liberal even if he's Orthodox." Rabbi Gewirtz had a mind that was always working. Even if he disagreed with certain perspectives, he was more than familiar with them and could easily discuss them...and did so with respect.

The warmest sanctuary I've ever worshipped in was named in honor of Leonard and Gladys Gewirtz a number of years ago. It was most appropriate. Rabbi Gewirtz built up his congregation in the years they were in downtown Wilmington. He brought Adas Kodesch shel Emeth into a place of great respect and dignity. When AKSE moved to its present location its architecture reflected Rabbi Gewirtz's influence. This is especially true of its sanctuary, warm and welcoming, enveloping in fact.

Rabbi Gewirtz was the founder of WDEL's weekly radio program "The Rabbi Speaks." He was very

proud of this achievement and for over fifty years participated actively. Those who regularly tuned into "The Rabbi Speaks" and heard Rabbi Gewirtz always were treated to a clear and coherent message. I was one of those who looked forward to hearing him on those few occasions when I wasn't teaching a religious school class. One always learned something new. Jew and Gentile heard a true pedagogue; he was a wonderful teacher.

Rabbi Gewirtz has been buried in *Eretz Yisrael*. How appropriate! When he spoke about the land and people of the State of Israel he did so with passion and love. I know how much he looked forward to his visits, especially to see his family.

Zichrono l'vracha. May the memory of Rabbi Leonard B. Gewirtz serve as a blessing. We were all touched by his presence and influence in our community.

Peter H. Grumbacher, Rabbi
Congregation Beth Emeth

I was saddened to hear about the death of my senior colleague in Delaware's rabbinate. Rabbi Gewirtz was one of the first people I met when we came to Wilmington in 1972. For these past thirty-one years Rabbi Gewirtz and I had a most cordial relationship. It was always a pleasure for Suzy and me to join him and Mrs. Gewirtz at simchas; he had numerous honors bestowed upon him by his congregation and community across the years and he deserved them all. My con-

lences to Gladys and their family.

About a year after arriving I decided to grow a beard. Rabbi Wayne Dosick who served at Congregation Beth Shalom as their Assistant Rabbi despite his ordination from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, the Reform seminary, also had a beard. Rabbi Gewirtz walked into a meeting of the Rabbinical Association of Delaware, looked at Rabbi Dosick and me, and asked, "Wait a minute, who's the Orthodox rabbi in this town???" He had a wonderful sense of humor.

An Expression of Condolence

On behalf of the Board, members and staff of Congregation Beth Shalom, I extend our condolences on the passing of Rabbi Emeritus Leonard Gewirtz.

Wilmington has lost a great spiritual leader and a man who inspired many people to strengthen their Jewish beliefs and practice. He touched the lives of many of us in other congregations with his warmth, compassion, scholarly teachings, essays, and listening to him on the radio.

May all find comfort among the mourners of Zion.

Steven Klein, President
Congregation Beth Shalom

CELEBRATING ISRAEL'S 55TH BIRTHDAY

The Delaware Jewish Community celebrated Israel's 55th birthday with a big bash at the Delaware Jewish Community Center in Wilmington.

The sun miraculously shone on the May 20th Yom

Ha'Atzmaut festivities, bringing hundreds of people out to meet and buy from Israeli artists, learn what its like to serve in the Israeli Defense Forces, greet Yoel Mester, vice-consul of the Consulate General of Israel for the Mid-Atlantic

Region, enjoy Israeli dancing, native foods and much, much more. The Jewish Federation of Delaware and the Delaware JCC thank the many Jewish agencies and organizations that helped make the event a success.



Annette Aerenson and Caryl Marcus-Stape build a bridge for young dance enthusiasts.



Israeli Defense Force Lieutenants Yair Zalmanovich and Ariela Angel chat with Helen Schutzman, Bernie and Ruth Siegel at the event.



Lillian Balick and Rabbi Peter Grumbacher, spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Emeth, help serve Israeli delicacies at Golda's Kitchen.



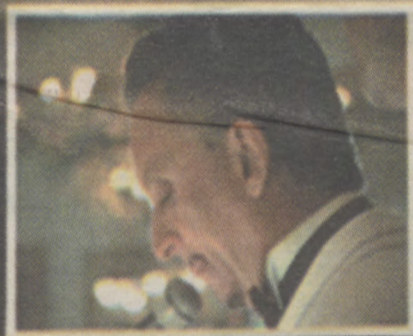
Albert Einstein Academy students sang a moving rendition of "Hatikvah", articulating the collective hope that peace can be celebrated during next year's Yom Ha'Atzmaut commemoration.



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The theatre owner and co-sponsor, the Buccini/Pollin Group, renovated the theatre last year. Theatre N seats 221 people and features a 35-mm projector, a perforated movie screen, and state-of-the-art Dolby surround sound system. Theatre N is the only movie theatre in New Castle County showing independent films.

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GLOBAL JEWISH NEWS

Hezbollah keeps border volatile

By Michael J. Jordan, JTA

Three years ago this week, Israel fulfilled a key U.N. resolution by withdrawing its last troops from southern Lebanon, bringing an end to a costly 22-year occupation.

But Security Council Resolution 425 didn't stop there.

It also required the Lebanese government to re-establish its authority in the south and have its forces take control from Hezbollah, the Syrian- and Iranian-backed militia that made Israel's occupation so costly.

Three years later, Lebanon has yet to fulfill its end of the bargain: Hezbollah, which has fortified its position with thousands of missiles trained on Israeli cities, continues to strike at Israel's northern border.

It also claims that parts of Lebanon remain occupied, a charge the United Nations has investigated and rejected.

Israel says it has recorded 100 "terrorist attacks" by Hezbollah through December 2002 — reportedly killing eight soldiers and five civilians and injuring 50 people — with "dozens of incidents since then," according to Arye Mekel, Israel's deputy permanent representative to the U.N.

Yet in contrast to the period when Israel's violations of Resolution 425 brought repeated censure, the international community has little to say about Lebanon's flouting of its obligations.

Mekel says he plans to send a letter to U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan to mark the three-year anniversary of Israel's withdrawal and complain that the world body must put more pressure on the Lebanese and their political masters in Damascus.

"You know our situation at the U.N. is not always fair and balanced," Mekel said in an interview with JTA, referring to the large bloc of Arab and Muslim states that often dictates the U.N.'s agenda. "And because so much else is going on in the Middle East, this situation pales by comparison."

Hezbollah and Lebanon may soon be back in the spotlight as the Bush administration refocuses attention on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. In the wake of its war against Iraq, Washington has warned Syria and Iran to curb support for Hezbollah, which last week was caught sending a boat to the Palestinian territories with weapons and instructions for making suicide bombings more deadly.

As Richard Armitage, U.S. deputy secretary of state recently put it, Hezbollah is on the "A team" of terror groups.

It was believed to be a Hezbollah suicide bomber who struck the U.S. barracks in Beirut in 1983, killing 241 Marines in the worst anti-American attack prior to Sept. 11.

In a May 3 visit to Beirut, Secretary of State Colin Powell urged officials to crack down on Islamic radicals with alleged ties to Al-Qaida and rein in Hezbollah

forces in the south.

Days after Powell's visit, Lebanon began rounding up alleged Islamic extremists. Some four dozen are now detained, though critics deride it as a trumped-up move to appease the United States.

As for Hezbollah, some media had speculated that Lebanon might send 2,000 more troops to bolster the 1,000 stationed in the south since Israel's withdrawal.

Instead, Lebanese President Emile Lahoud praised Hezbollah as a legitimate political party and resistance movement against Israel — and said Lebanon would not take responsibility for the border region.

"We are not concerned in securing any interests for Israel as long as it rejects such a peace that guarantees the liberation of occupied territories and the return of Palestinian refugees to their country," Lahoud reportedly said on a visit to southern Lebanon to mark the three-year anniversary.

For its part, Hezbollah said it would not lay down its arms and urged other Arabs to emulate its fight against Israel.

On this issue, all roads seem to pass through Damascus. Syria has up to 25,000 troops in Lebanon, and U.S. analysts say little of significance is decided there without Syrian approval.

Since a 1974 cease-fire, Syria has kept its own border with Israel quiet, perhaps out of fear of Israeli reprisals. Instead, observers say Syria uses Hezbollah as a proxy to apply pressure on Israel to return the Golan Heights, which it captured from Syria in the 1967 Six-Day War. Hezbollah, the "Party of God," was formed soon after Israel's 1978 invasion of Lebanon, ostensibly to liberate Lebanese soil.

Analysts say that its weaponry, much of it reportedly financed by Tehran, could only have made its way to Lebanon through Syria.

The U.N. Security Council passed Resolution 425 days after the Israeli invasion, which was designed

to stop the frequent cross-border terrorist attacks the PLO was carrying out from southern Lebanon.

The resolution, which carries the weight of international law, demanded that Israel cease military action and withdraw from Lebanon immediately.

The Security Council also created a small peacekeeping contingent, the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon, or UNIFIL. Its mission included assisting "the Government of Lebanon in ensuring the return of its effective authority in the area."

Tired of the slow bloodletting in its security zone and under intense international pressure, Israel completed its withdrawal from southern Lebanon on May 25, 2000.

U.N. surveyors painstakingly checked the Israeli withdrawal against the 1949 armistice "Blue Line" between Israel and Lebanon and the 1924 border the French and British drew between Le Grand Liban and Mandatory Palestine. In some cases, the United Nations ordered Israel to correct its positions by a matter of several feet to correspond to the line exactly.

Within weeks, the United Nations certified Israel's withdrawal as complete — but declined to recognize the border as permanent, leaving that for a final peace agreement between Israel and its neighbors.

Critics say that allowed Hezbollah a small opening.

The movement quickly protested what it said was Israel's ongoing occupation of Shebaa Farms, a 9-square-mile tract of land now located at the confluence of Israel, Lebanon and Syria. Israel seized the land from Syria during the 1967 Six Day War.

The U.N. investigated the claim and rejected it, saying the area is part of Syria and must be addressed in peace talks between Israel and Syria.

But Hezbollah insists it won't give up the fight until Israel hands over Shebaa Farms, plus another seven villages it claims as Lebanese.

Some observers suggest Hezbollah will continue to find pretexts to wage an eternal jihad, or holy war, against Israel.

"Those who thought that after Israel's withdrawal Hezbollah would simply fold its guerrilla factions misunderstood the nature of Hezbollah and its Syrian and Iranian sponsorship," says Matthew Levitt, a senior fellow in terrorism studies at the

throughout the south."

"It's a case of seeing the glass half-full or half-empty," Mekel says. "The U.N. sees a quiet situation with some violations. We believe it's a very volatile situation with some periods of quiet."

"The U.N. believes in the 'carrot approach,' that if they once in a while say a few good things about Lebanon, it will encourage them to



An Israeli soldier watches Lebanese citizens at the Lebanese border near Metulla in northern Israel, one day after Israel completed its troop withdrawal from southern Lebanon in May 2000. CREDIT: Brian Hendler/JTA

Washington Institute for Near East Policy. "Even if Israel were destroyed, I don't think they would give up their larger jihadist agenda. Jihad is central to their agenda, their world view."

Meanwhile, Israel criticizes the U.N. role.

First came Hezbollah's October 2000 cross-border kidnapping — while UNIFIL soldiers reportedly watched — of three Israeli soldiers on patrol. The trio is believed to have been killed.

Then there are the U.N.'s assessments of Lebanon's efforts to reassert control.

In January, when UNIFIL's mandate was extended to July 31, the Security Council commended Lebanon "for taking steps to ensure the return of its effective authority

do more," Mekel says. "We disagree. If they are not fulfilling their obligations, the referee should call it as it is. If Lebanon has done anything, it's unnoticeable."

A U.N. spokesman could not be reached for comment.

Meanwhile, Hezbollah and its supporters are fighting back.

Over the weekend, Hezbollah's secretary-general, Sheik Hassan Nasrallah, commemorated the Israeli withdrawal by vowing to fight on.

"They want to disarm us, but we refuse to do so," Nasrallah reportedly said. "What we want to confirm is that what happened May 25 is not an exception" but "can happen in any country whose land is occupied and whose people have chosen to resist."

Security boosted for Moroccan Jews

by Peter Ephross, JTA

When Moroccan Jewish leaders were contacted after the recent deadly terror attacks in Casablanca that targeted Jewish institutions, they were asked if they wanted to leave for Israel.

"Is Tel Aviv safer?" they reportedly responded.

On Sunday, King Mohammed VI reassured Moroccan Jews that he would protect them.

Joined by Jewish and Muslim leaders, he toured the Casablanca sites hit by suicide bombers. He told the Jewish community that the state would repair the damage quickly and would guarantee the community's safety.

Security at Jewish sites, which is provided by the state, was doubled or tripled after the attacks,

sources in the community told American Jewish groups.

U.S.-based Jewish groups contacted the Moroccan community, asking if they needed help.

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, which helps Moroccan Jewish institutions such as schools, medical services and old-age homes, "will consult closely with the leaders of the Jewish community to assess what should be further steps to maintain the rich fabric of Jewish communal life in Morocco," said JDC's executive vice president, Steven Schwager.

But the community assured JDC officials that it feels safe and doesn't need immediate financial assistance.

Of the five sites hit by bombers, four were Jewish or had

strong Jewish connections: a Jewish club known as Cirque L'Alliance; a Jewish cemetery; the Jewish-owned Positano restaurant; and the Hotel Safir, a hotel popular with Israeli tourists.

Initial reports cited two Jewish sites as having been attacked. One source said "it took a while until people connected the dots and realized that the common denominator was that all the targets are across from Jewish locations" — with the exception of the Casa de Espana restaurant, the fifth site bombed.

These "were classic terrorist targets: Jews" and "tourists and foreigners," Serge Berdugo, president of the Council of the Jewish Community in Morocco, told the Moroccan news agency MAP. "The goal is put us in the spiral of

international terrorism."

The attacks killed 28 bystanders and wounded 100 people. Thirteen suicide bombers died in the attacks, which are believed to be the work of Al-Qaida or a Moroccan group linked to Osama bin Laden's terrorist network.

If the idea was to kill Jews, the bombers seem to have miscalculated: After attending Friday night synagogue services, most members of Morocco's Jewish community spend Shabbat at home. No Jews were killed or injured in the attack.

The bombings as being seen as an attack on a pro-Western, moderate Arab regime — albeit one that is a police state — that has relatively decent relations with Israel and has declared its commitment to protecting its Jewish citizens.

DELAWARE SPOTLIGHT

Weinstein to receive Bar Association award

Sheldon A. Weinstein, former Managing Partner of the Wilmington-based law firm of Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, will be honored by the Delaware State Bar Association with its coveted Daniel L. Herrmann Professional Conduct Award. The Award, which is made annually to a member of the Delaware Bar who demonstrates the qualities of courtesy and civility combined with "high ability and distinguished service" to the legal profession, will be presented on June 5th during the

2003 Annual Bench and Bar Conference of the State of Delaware at Wilmington's Wyndham Hotel.

During Weinstein's 30-year tenure as Managing Partner, this Wilmington native helped orchestrate the firm's growth from 11 to 85 attorneys. During that time, Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor became a full-service firm with 10 inter-disciplinary operating groups with headquarters in Wilmington and a branch office in Georgetown, DE.

A graduate of the University of

Delaware, Dickinson School of Law and New York University School of Law, he is a member of the Delaware State Bar Association and the American Bar Association. He serves as a member of the Delaware Bar Association Ethics Committee, Professional Guidance Committee, Alternative Dispute Resolution Section and the Fee Dispute Conciliation and Mediation Committee.

Weinstein co-authored a book on Delaware real estate law and has taught the subject at a local college.

He enjoys speaking on the subject of law firm management issues at Widener University School of Law and other venues. He currently serves on the Grants Committee of the Delaware Community Foundation.

His Jewish community involvement includes service as a past President of The Milton & Hattie Kutz Home; as a member of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Delaware; as a Treasurer and Board member of the Jewish Community Center of

Wilmington; as Past President of Congregation Beth Shalom, as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Rabbi Jacob Kraft Educational Foundation and as the 1990 Recipient of the Jewish National Fund Tree of Life Award.

Weinstein and his wife, the former Ruth Eisenstat of Wilmington, are the proud parents of three children; daughter, Lynne and son, Michael who live in Jerusalem, and daughter Debra, who lives in San Francisco.

FIRST STATE SPOTLIGHT

Seaside Honors First President

By Drue Chichi

Laurel and Hardy. Peanut butter and jelly. Bogart and Bacall. Jews and Sussex County. Whoa, now wait just a minute... Jews? Sussex County Delaware?

You bet, and judging by the crowd attending the reception in honor of retiring Seaside Jewish Community President Lynne Chichi, they're enthusiastic, fun-loving, and they're here to stay. On May 17, members of the seven year old community organization gathered at the Purple Parrot restaurant in Rehoboth Beach for an evening of toasts, laughter, and trips down memory lane as they celebrated the accomplishments of the woman who has been the President and public face of the community since its inception.

"Growing up here, there was no active Jewish community presence to speak of," Chichi said of her childhood summers at the Delaware beaches. "When I moved to Lewes after years in Wilmington, a connection to a Jewish community was something I really missed." Truly working from the principle that "if you build it, they will come," Chichi and a small group of dedicated volunteers founded the Seaside Jewish Community in 1996. From meetings with handfuls of interested par-

ticipants in restaurants and libraries, to Seders with more than a hundred people attending, Chichi has seen the community grow by leaps and bounds. "I can't believe how far we've come in just a few short years. It's wonderful that this group now has a real presence as a part of the community in southern Delaware."

Those gathered at the reception were effusive in their praise and gratitude for the many hours Chichi devoted to helping the community grow. Speaking to the crowd, founding Seaside member and President Elect Cheryl Fruchtmann praised her predecessor's seemingly boundless energy, enthusiasm and tenacity. "Lynne has worked tirelessly from the very beginning to help make this community what it is today. She's organized events, helped attract new members and additional support. She's fielded tons of questions, comments and even plenty of criticism, and never lost her enthusiasm or her sense of humor." Her predecessor's perfectionism, however, is a quality Fruchtmann says she'll be unlikely to be able to match during her tenure. "Lynne would make me crazy with a million phone calls before an event, going over every phase of the planning. All those hours paid off, though, because we always knew the event would go

smoothly since all the details had long since been worked out." When asked if she would maintain Chichi's hectic pace, Fruchtmann replied, "No, I don't think so. We're up and running well now. We've got a great community, and a lot of volunteers who pitch in and help keep us going strong. Hopefully, I'll be able to be more laid back."

Sylvia Diehl, another founding member, values the personal support and friendships the community has provided. "Working with Lynne and Cheryl has been so great, not just to build the community, but for the friendships we've all developed. There have been so many times when we've been frustrated, tired and overworked, but we're always able to call each other for a good scream, a good cry, and then a really good laugh."

Congratulations and recognitions for Chichi poured in from the community at large as well. Delaware Attorney General M. Jane Brady attended the reception to offer her congratulations and best wishes for the future. Along with the many cards, letters and gifts from well-wishers, a tribute from the Legislature congratulating Chichi on her many years of outstanding service to Seaside was read.

After an enthusiastic champagne



Seaside Jewish Community members (l to r) Jackie Hein, outgoing President Lynne Chichi, Sylvia Diehl, and President Elect Cheryl Fruchtmann at the reception honoring Lynne Chichi for her service to Seaside.

toast to their outgoing leader, the crowd encouraged Chichi to take the stage one last time as the community's President. "I am so touched by all this support. It's absolutely amazing. I never dreamed when I was a little girl playing on Rehoboth Avenue in front of my parents, Herbie and Sylvia Johnston's, clothing store, that so many years later I would be once again standing here on Rehoboth Avenue, ending a seven year tenure as the President of a wildly successful Jewish community organization

in Southern Delaware."

"We've all worked hard to make Seaside Jewish Community a success, and all the time, effort, and even the few gray hairs have been worth it. I look forward to supporting the community as an active member, and I'm excited for its future. I know my father and mother are looking down from heaven on me right now, and I hope they're proud."

Jews in Sussex County, Delaware? Whether it's peanut butter and jelly, or butter on matzah... it's a perfect fit.

Profile - Lynne Chichi

By Susan L. Towers

Lynne Chichi, a Wilmington, Delaware, native, dresses sharply, talks quickly in a raspy, friendly voice, and seems to know just about everybody in the quaint old town of Lewes. If she finds out that they're Jewish, she'll get them involved in the tiny Jewish community.

Her classic purple Victorian guest house on Savannah Road, complete with its ornate, colorful exterior and its interior of its pink, yellow and lime green coordinated walls and furnishings, as well as its antiques and collectables, reflects a woman who is creative, warm, welcoming and simply unique.

"She's an inspiration to all of us," says Doug O'Dwyer, a mortgage manager at MBNA, and Lynne's

boss in Wilmington.

Doug was referring to Lynne's dedication and work ethic she puts into Seaside Jewish Community and MBNA.

"One of our core values here at MBNA is community involvement," O'Dwyer says. "Lynne not only has committed herself to the community, but she works hard at MBNA and can teach us all something about salesmanship and bringing the right attitude to work."

Lynne, who recently was honored for her dedication to Seaside, splits her time between her job as a mortgage loan officer in Wilmington, her grown daughters Amanda Coye and Cara Drue Chichi, a deputy attorney general with Delaware's Justice Department,

and her home and community involvement in the Lewes area. While she retired last fall from her seven-year stint as president of the Jewish group, she continues to work on several group efforts, including advertising, fundraising, event planning, and reaching out to people in need.

"People tell me I have krypton in my veins," she said the other day as she sat during the interview, painting small metal buckets with flowers so she could put her homemade shortbread cookies in them as gifts.

While Lynne absolutely refuses to discuss her age, and conveniently can't remember the ages of her grown daughters, she will share details about her life - and will hap-

pily pull out the many articles that have been written about her and her businesses.

Lynne grew up in Wilmington where her parents headquartered their string of retail stores, West's Children's shops.

In the '60s she owned a clothing business in Wilmington called East Lynne and her husband owned one called North Paul. In the '80s, when they "went our separate ways," Lynne began Chichi's Cheesecake & Dessert Company. While it did have a retail component, its real strength was the business it did with East Coast restaurants.

Over the years she has designed clothing and sold them to New York retailers, served as the national sales manager for a German flavor com-

pany, and even sold hand painted terra cotta pots over QVC.

She describes her move to Lewes seven years ago as "running away from home." Her daughters were grown and she didn't need the house in Wilmington anymore.

Longing for a Jewish community, she answered an ad placed by Jennifer August and a former local restaurant owner Peter Wise. The ad forlornly asked if there were any Jews in the area to share a Passover celebration. Lynne answered the ad; there started her Seaside career.

"Lynne has been the driving force of our organization," Seaside President Cheryl Fruchtmann said. "If it weren't for Lynne, I don't think we'd be here today. She has been an inspiration to all of us."

MILESTONES

In Memoriam

GOLDBERG

David E. Goldberg, 73, Wilmington, died May 10th. He was a member of Congregation Beth Emeth and a senior vice commander of the Arthur Blatman Post #767 of the Jewish War Veterans. An avid golfer, he also was a member of Rock Manor Golf.

Mr. Goldberg was predeceased by his son, Allan. He is survived by his wife, Joan; daughter, Hara Blum; sister, Bea Drucker; brother, Melvin; and granddaughters, Teddi and Kelli.

Funeral services were held at Congregation Beth Emeth with interment in the Jewish Community Cemetery on Foulk Road.

Contributions in his memory would be appreciated to Congregation Beth Emeth, 300

West Lea Blvd., Wilmington, DE 19802.

GOLDSTEIN

Henry Goldstein, 85, a native of Media, PA, died May 10th. A star high school football player, he won a football scholarship to Rutgers University. Although the Depression sidelined his college career, Mr. Goldstein went on to play football in several semi-pro leagues.

His passion for sports was evidenced by his leadership of the Chester Pros of the Eastern League. As owner and coach, he led the team to win four championships. Among his finest achievements was his team's defeat of the Harlem Globetrotters-breaking a 857 game winning streak.

Professionally, he owned and operated Filter Queen Corpora-

tion of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey and Pennsylvania for 39 years.

Upon retirement, Mr. Goldstein moved to Boca Raton, FL where he served on the board of the Boca Teeca Country Club. He was a golf enthusiast.

He was predeceased by his beloved first wife, Mildred, who died in 1987. Survivors include his second wife, Pauline Schreiber and his four sons, Carl, of Hockessin, DE; Larry and Robert of Boca Raton, FL; and Richard, of Medford Lakes, NJ. Private graveside services were held in Mt. Sharon Cemetery in Springfield, PA.

Contributions in his memory would be appreciated to the American Cancer Society, 92 Reads Way, New Castle, DE 19720.

LIPNICK

Barbara Tavel-Lipnick, died peacefully on May 8, 2003 at the age of 64. She was born February 10, 1939, and was the daughter of the late Rabbi Henry Tavel and Charlotte Tavel. She was a loving mother and a devoted friend, and will be dearly missed. She is survived by her children, David Lipnick and Amy Kelman.

Funeral services were held on Sunday, May 11th at Chandler Funeral Home, 2506 Concord Pike, Sharples, followed by burial at Beth Emeth Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to The Caring Committee at Temple Beth Emeth, 300 West Lea Ave., Wilm., DE 19806

MANDEL

Zoltan Mandel, 78, of

Wilmington, died May 6th. He is survived by his wife, Stella; son, Steven and his wife, Betsy; grandchildren, Michael and Sarah; brother, Bela and his wife, Francis; a niece and two nephews.

A funeral service was held May 8th at Schoenberg Memorial Chapel with interment in Beth Emeth Memorial Park.

Contributions in his memory may be made to either Congregation Beth Emeth, 300 West Lea Blvd., Wilmington, DE 19802 or Hadassah, c/o Eva Weissman, 9 Devon Court, Wilmington, DE 19810.

SLOAN

Steven Michael Sloan, 50, of Wilmington, died on April 17th. The service, arranged by Schoenberg Memorial Chapel, was private.

AJ Congress leader dies

By Peter Ephross, JTA

Rabbi David Clayman, one of the leading American Jewish advocates in Israel, died last Thursday from cancer at the age of 69. He was buried in Beit Shemesh.

As the longtime director of the American Jewish Congress' Israel office, Clayman walked a tightrope, prodding Israeli leaders

on civil liberties and gender issues more popular in the United States than in Israel.

"He had the ability to engage Israelis on controversial issues without turning them off," said Henry Siegman, who worked with Clayman for 16 years as president of the American Jewish Congress.

Mr. Clayman "worked tirelessly for Middle East peace, for inter-faith understanding and toward improving the communication between the secular and religious communities," the U.S. ambassador to Israel, Daniel Kurtzer, said at the funeral.

One of Clayman's lasting achievements was helping to

establish the Jerusalem Conference of Mayors, an annual meeting that has attracted mayors from around the world to meet with their counterparts in Israel.

Born in Boston, he graduated from Harvard and earned his rabbinical ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary. He later served as a U.S. Navy chaplain and

a congregational rabbi in Philadelphia until 1970, when he made aliyah.

Mr. Clayman also was a fellow of the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs and a frequent lecturer on Israeli and Jewish affairs.

He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Roz, and children Tamar, Daniel and Jonathan.

NACHAS NOOK

Panella and Ashman families are united in marriage



Mr. and Mrs. Stephen and Ethna Ashman

Stephen Harold Ashman and Ethna Lucy Panella were married on April 27, 2003 at the Waterworks Café. The bride's parents, Ruth and Sam Panella, hosted an intimate wedding dinner. The ceremony was officiated by Rabbi Claire Green. The bride used her mother-in-law's earrings, which she wore in her own wedding, and wore the gold wedding band and pearl necklace of her maternal grandmother, Sara Goldman, during the ceremony.

Both the bride and groom drank from the kiddush cup which belongs to the groom's maternal grandfather, James Strauss. This cup was also used during the groom's own bar mitzvah.

Stephen is a Senior Sales Manager for ING Direct in their Pennsylvania office. Ethna is a Registered Nurse with Hospice of Delaware.

Jesse Ashman of Spring Valley, New York, was best man for his brother, Claire Panella, the bride's

sister, served as maid of honor. The chuppah was held by Sharee Ashman and Shelby Strauss, the groom's sister and cousin, and the bride's sisters, Molly and Leah Panella.

Upon the newlywed's return from their Caribbean honeymoon, they were honored during a reception hosted by the groom's parents, Carole and Jerry Ashman of Parkridge.

The couple resides in North Wilmington with their dog, Cecil.

A New Son Of Israel Is Born

Dr. Eliene Augenbraun-Yatsko and Sergey Yatsko announce the birth of their son Alexander Jehoshua Dov. He was born on April 29, 2003-27 Nissan 5763 in New York. The

proud grandparents are Ahron and Loretta Augenbraun of Wilmington, Valentina Yatsko of Marivpol, Ukraine and Joseph Yatsko of Donetsk, Ukraine.



Schoenberg Memorial Chapels



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And the winner is...

Lori I. Krinsky, daughter of Sheila and Burt Krinsky of New Castle, has been named a United States National Collegiate Award winner in the field of Drug and Alcohol Counseling. Lori graduated from Delaware Technical and

Community College with a degree in Human Services/Drug and Alcohol Counseling. She will continue her education at Wilmington College in the fall.

Naomi Hamermesh,

daughter of Marion and Larry Hamermesh of Wilmington, has been named a United States National Award Winner in Foreign Language. Naomi attends high school at Wilmington Friends School.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SPEND SHABBAT UNDER THE STARS AT AKSE

On Friday, June 13th, 5:45 p.m., Congregation Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth and the Young Jewish Adults of Delaware will sponsor Shabbat Under the Stars. The event, on the green at AKSE will begin with music, singing and dancing and leads into a Shabbat featuring the music of Shlomo Carlebach led by AKSE Cantor Joel Green. Following services will be Shabbat dinner al fresco, z'mirot and more dancing under the stars.

Dress is casual and participants should bring blankets and/or folding chairs. The cost is \$10 for adults, (\$8 if reserved by June 6) and \$5 for children, ages 4-13 (\$4 if reserved by June 6th). Children

ages 3 and younger are free! Deadline for reservations is Monday, June 9th. Please send checks to Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth, Washington Blvd and Torah Way, Wilmington, DE 19802. For additional information, please call (302) 762-2705.

SUPPORT JEWISH WAR VETERANS

Remember World War II Jewish service persons in Delaware who lost their lives. A memorial section in the Jewish Community Cemetery was erected and dedicated to honor them more than 50 years ago by the Jewish War Veterans of Delaware. Many of these dead heroes are buried there.

Over the years, the area, the markers and the memorials have greatly deteriorated. The Jewish

War Veterans of Delaware have undertaken a restoration project and need community support.

Please send all donations to: JWV, c/o Milton Slovin, 15 Stable Lane, Wilmington, DE 19803

FLEA MARKETS AT THE JCC NEWARK

The Jewish Community Center in Newark will hold a Flea Market on the fourth Sunday of each month from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Dealers are wanted for outdoor spaces. The cost to rent tables and spaces are just \$15 per space and \$5 per table. In case of rain, the Market will be closed and will re-open on the fourth Sunday of the following month. Contact Lynda Bell at 302-368-9173 to reserve a space or to receive more information.

The JCC Newark is located off I-95 on Route 896 going north, at the intersection of West Park Place and South College Avenue.

REGISTER FOR DELAWARE GRATZ

Course registration for Delaware Gratz Hebrew High

School should be sent in by mail due to modified summer office hours. Register by June 30th to take advantage of the reduced registration fee. Call Marlene Milunsky, principal, for questions or more information, (302) 478-8100.

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Do you like Theater!

If so then join the Possum Point Players in June for their presentation of "Brighton Beach Memoirs." The show is a classic from Neil Simon. It is a comedy about a Brooklyn, NY Jewish family. The play will be at Possum Hall in Georgetown and Seaside's own Nina Galerstein is the director! Let's support Nina and enjoy some culture. Call 856-4560 to reserve seats or questions. If you are interested in getting a table of Seaside together then e-mail Cheryl at cfruct@msn.com or call and leave a message at 226-8977 mailbox 1.

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and
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With our Special Guest
Avraham Infeld
Interim President of Hillel International

Thursday, June 19, 2003
7:00 P.M.

At the Wilmington JCC

RSVP to Amalia Snyderman at
302-427-2100 ext. 30 or
amalia.snyderman@shalomdel.org

A dessert reception will follow the meeting
All dietary laws will be observed
There will be no solicitation at this event

The Jewish Federation of Delaware welcomes those who would like to connect with the Jewish community and encourages the participation of interfaith families, couples and significant others in all of its activities.



From generation to generation...
for generations to come

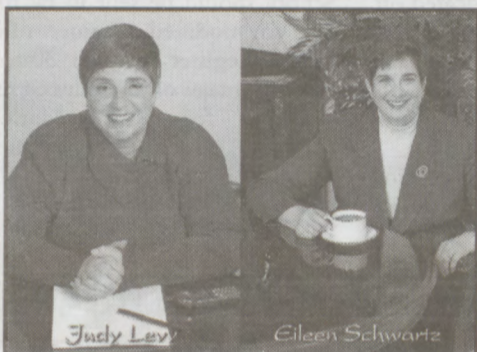
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FOR DELAWARE'S JEWISH COMMUNITY

Be there as our community gathers to break ground on the Garden of Eden Road Campus renovation and expansion. This project has been made possible by the generous donors to the Jewish Federation of Delaware Community Capital Campaign.

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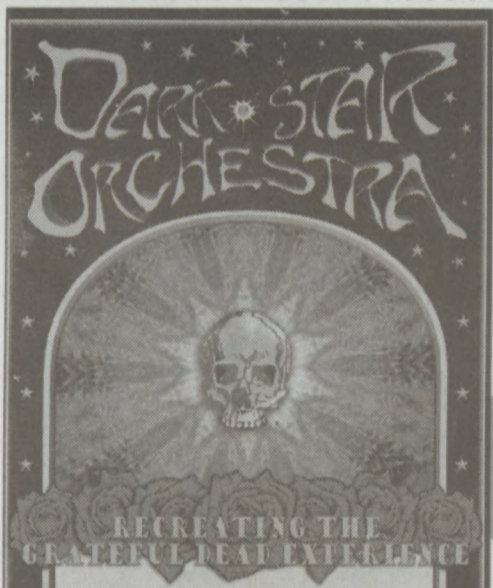
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