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JFD BUYS NEWARK YWCA

The Jewish Federation of Delaware (JFD) has entered into a contract with the YWCA of Newark. Under the terms of the agreement, the YWCA will sell its facility on Route 896 in Newark to JFD for use as a Jewish community services center. Both Jewish and non-Jewish Newark area residents will benefit from a full range of recreational and educational programs.

"We are thrilled to expand our presence in the Newark community and look forward to providing a broad spectrum of programs," said Judy

Wortman, JFD Executive Vice President. The Jewish Federation of Delaware is the umbrella organization for the Delaware Jewish Community. JFD constituent agencies include the Delaware Jewish Community Center (JCC), Jewish Family Service, Albert Einstein Academy, Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School, The Kutz Home and Hillel at the University of Delaware.

Wortman indicated that the refurbishment and renovation of the facility's fitness center and swimming pool is an immediate priority. Delaware

JCC Executive Director Jeff Metz said that the agency will move its full-day preschool program, which is currently housed at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship on Willa Road, to the new site beginning in September, 2002.

The Newark Jewish community campus also will house the Jewish Family Service Relationship Center and a satellite office of Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School. Wortman commented that "Once renovation and expansion plans are completed, other Federation agencies will have a presence at this new site."

The need for a Newark Jewish community services center was first documented in the 1996 Jewish Population Study that was commissioned by JFD and conducted by Dr. Jacob (Jack) Ukeles, a strategic planning consultant. The Study determined that the Newark area experienced a 55% increase in Jewish residents between 1985 and 1995. Many of these residents are working parents of children under the age of four, with an expressed desire for a full-day Jewish pre-school program.

As a result of this Study, the

Delaware JCC opened its full-day Jewish pre-school program in September, 2000 which augments the half-day pre-school program currently offered at Newark's Temple Beth El. Study results also led to the creation of a JCC Without Walls program and the JFS Relationship Center in shared space on Newark's Main Street near the University of Delaware Campus.

During this transition period, all YWCA programs and services will continue to run uninterrupted.

SURVIVOR AND LIBERATOR KEYNOTES HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY EVENT

...Delaware's Yom HaShoah Program observed on April 9th!

Willy Herbst, guest speaker at the April 9th Yom HaShoah Interfaith Service, noon, at the Louis Redding City/County Building in Wilmington, survived the Holocaust and returned to his native Germany after the war as an American soldier on assignment to liberate the concentration camp at Dachau.

Herbst, was the eldest son of large Orthodox farming family. He left home at the age of 14 after his father's death to apprentice at a bakery. When the bakery was destroyed during

Kristallnacht, he was transported to a German work camp. He provided slave labor on farms and quarries until he ruptured a hernia. While receiving medical treatment, he escaped and hid out with his family until their immigration papers arrived.

Herbst, his mother and twelve siblings arrived in Philadelphia in 1940. He helped to support his family as a baker until he and his brother were drafted. He saw action during the Battle of the Bulge and other military events. However, his participation in the liberation of Dachau residents was the consummate experience of his

military service. He shares the photographs he took that day with students and teachers during Holocaust education programs.

He and his wife, Ruth-his bride of 59 years, live in Northeast Philadelphia.

Herbst will be joined during the noontime program in Council Chambers by such dignitaries as United States Congressman Mike Castle, State Governor Ruth Ann Minner, State Treasurer Jack Markell, Wilmington Mayor James Baker and New Castle County Executive Thomas Gordon. Clergy from a number of Delaware

churches and synagogues will offer prayers. Students from the Cab Calloway School of the Arts in Wilmington will perform inspirational songs.

This hour-long program is co-sponsored by the Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Committee, a committee of the Jewish Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Delaware, the Rabbinical Association of Delaware and the Delaware Region of the National Conference for Community and Justice.

Also on April 9th, the entire

community is invited to participate in a Yom HaShoah service coordinated by the Rabbinical Association of Delaware. Temple Beth El, 301 Possum Park Road in Newark, will host the event, which begins at 7:30 p.m. The program celebrates the creative talents of men and women who despite the suffering imposed on them by the Nazis left a legacy for future generations through their artistry.

Both programs are free and open to the public. For additional information, please call Amalia Snyderman at 427-2100, ext. 30.

ISRAEL COUNTS LARGEST DEATH TOLL

By Jessica Steinberg, JTA

It was a day of funerals, as Israel buried 14 victims from Sunday's suicide bombing attack in a Haifa restaurant.

Three of Monday's funerals were from one family, the Rons, who were out having lunch at Matza, their favorite restaurant and a popular Haifa hangout.

Carmit Ron lost her husband, Aviel, her son Ofer, 17, and daughter Anat, 21, in the tremendous blast.

Anat had recently completed her army duty and had just returned from an extended trip to the United States, where she had worked with special needs children.

Ofer was a senior in high school, and would have entered the army during the summer.

"I knew they liked to eat at the Matza restaurant," said Eldar Imnov, a friend of Ofer's. "When I heard there had been an attack, I called. They didn't answer their cellular and then I realized that they were there."

A third of the Israeli victims in the 18-month intifada were killed in March: 125 Israelis, including civilians and

security personnel. It is the largest number of Israelis ever killed in one month, not including wars.

Carlos Wegman, 50, another Matza regular, was also a victim of the deadly suicide bombing in Haifa.

A native Argentine who immigrated to Israel in 1973, Wegman had two daughters, Dana, 23, and Maya, 21. Maya said she knew her father was there when she watched the report on television and saw her father's car with a sticker that she had once placed on the vehicle.

Wegman had planned to marry his girlfriend this summer, a "wonderful partner for him," said a friend.

More than one set of dreams was dashed by the bombing that took place on Sunday afternoon, during the Passover holiday.

Danielle Mantzal, 22, had planned to study in Rome, where she lived until the age of 10 with her parents, Nurit and Doron. She was at the restaurant for a quick lunch after studying for her university entrance exams.

"She worked, she studied and she was in love," her mother told Yediot

Achronot. "She was planning on studying in Rome, like her father."

Orly Ophir, 15, a rising soccer star, was eating at the restaurant with her mother and two sisters. She was severely wounded during the bombing and died later at the hospital.

When her father, Yossi, first heard about a bombing, he didn't think it could be at Matza because it is owned by Israeli Arabs from the Haifa area.

But as unlikely as it seemed, a Hamas bomber, Shaadi Tubasi, 22, from a Jenin refugee camp, blew himself up in the restaurant owned by a family of Israeli Arabs.

Tubasi was also an Israeli Arab, on his mother's side. He held an Israeli identity card, according to the police, although he lived in a Palestinian refugee camp.

The Adawi brothers, from Turan, a village in the western Galilee, have owned and operated Matza for the last 17 years. All three brothers were injured in the bombing.

They hadn't hired a security guard for the restaurant because they didn't believe the terror could reach them,

Abdullah Adawi said in a newspaper interview.

"Maybe a security guard would have lessened the disaster," Adawi said. "That question will bother me for the rest of my life."

From now on, every place of entertainment must have a security guard, according to an order released Sunday by Israel's police force.

Until a month ago, only large businesses had to hire security guards. But the Sunday bombing in Haifa convinced the police to expand the order to include smaller places of

business as well.

The entire restaurant was destroyed by the blast, ripping apart the ceiling, windows and floor.

One of the restaurant's waiters, Suhil Adawi, 30, was killed in the attack, and left behind a pregnant wife and 3-year-old son.

"I still can't believe this actually happened," Rabia Adawi, a nephew of the owners, said in an interview with Israel Radio. "This hurts me like it hurts every Jew who has had a relative die in one of these terrible attacks. It has to stop."



(L to R): Aviel Ron, Anat Ron, Ofer Ron. Killed in suicide bombing at Matza restaurant in Haifa on Sunday (Israel Foreign Ministry)

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Message From The Jewish Agency

Dear Friends,

Terror struck once again on the night when Jewish people throughout the world celebrate the Festival of Freedom. Twenty-one Israelis and tourists were killed and nearly 140 wounded when a Palestinian suicide bomber blew himself up in the dining room of Netanya's Park Hotel last Wednesday night. The blast went off as the approximately 250 guests were sitting down to the Seder.

Among those killed was 48 year old Irit Rashel (an acronym for Rabbi Shimon Luria), 45, from Moshav Herev La'et near Hadera. Irit, whose husband Yisrael, head of the Jewish Agency delegation in Odessa, was preparing the Seder for the Jews of Odessa, decided to attend the Seder in the hotel as a sign of solidarity with the people of Netanya. Their two daughters, Einat and Adi, were vacationing in Budapest.

After the tragedy, he told Amos Lahat,

head of the Jewish Agency's Former Soviet Union Department, that he needed to return to Odessa to help the Jews make Aliyah. Many years ago he composed and conducted "Kachol V'Lavan zeh Hetzeva Sheli" (My Color is Blue and White)-a song that has become a modern Israeli classic.

The wounded in the blast include six new immigrants. Two, who are seriously injured, are hospitalized in Tel Hashomer Hospital.

During these trying times, the support of world Jewry gives the people of Israel strength and comfort.

We extend our sincerest wishes for a speedy recovery to the injured, and our deepest sympathies to the families of those killed. May they be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

Yours sincerely,

Giora Romm
Director General
The Jewish Agency for Israel

Seaside Looks To The Future

Seaside Jewish Community Officers Lynne Chichi and Cheryl Fruchtmann proudly display new mezuzah at the congregation's home at the Odd Fellows Lodge Building in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. Three doorways now have mezuzahs and on April 27, their new home at the Ocean Wave Lodge on Holland Glade Road will be dedicated.

"And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."

Deuteronomy 6:9.



Photo by Joel Glazier

EDITORIAL

Israel - Our Past, Present And Future

As this edition goes to press, our beloved Israel is at war with terrorists. It is a war that Israel must win-but she can't do it without the full support of the Jews of the Diaspora. In the wake of a week marked by synagogue bombings in France and Belgium and attacks on visiting American rabbis on the streets of Berlin, we must shake off a false sense of security and stem the rising tide of anti-Israel, anti-Semitic sentiment that effect all members of our global Jewish community.

To paraphrase the famed poet John Donne, "no Jew is an island, no Jew stands alone". We have learned through many devastating historical experiences the horrible cost of complacency. The world stood silent during the Holocaust as solid Jewish citizens of Germany, France and other Eastern European nations were annihilated at the hands of Nazi despots. All but a few nations closed their gates to these men, women and children, leaving them helpless prey to Hitler's final solution.

How many Jewish lives could have been saved if aliyah was an option? It is awesome to imagine how powerful a nation Israel would be

if the six million victims of the Shoah had escaped the atrocities and began new lives in the Jewish homeland.

While we can't bring back those precious Jewish souls, we can honor their memories by ensuring that Israel remains a shining symbol of hope to Jews who must flee their native lands. Exercise your political clout by emailing President Bush at president@whitehouse.gov and urging him to continue to support the State of Israel. Demonstrate your financial commitment to the safety and security of our Israeli brothers and sisters by contributing to the United Jewish Communities emergency initiative-ISRAEL NOW AND FOREVER. Call Todd Polikoff at 427-2100, ext. 16 to find out how you can participate. Show the world that we stand beside Israel by joining the Delaware Jewish Community delegation on May 19th as they travel to Philadelphia's Fairmount Park for a major solidarity rally. Details will follow in upcoming editions of this newspaper.

B'Shalom,

Lynn Edelman
X Lynn Edelman

PARSHA PLACE

Week of April 6

Sh'mini

Leviticus 9:1-11:47

KNOWING YOUR LIMITATIONS

On what was to be the happiest day of his life-the consecration of his sons and himself to God's service-Aaron experiences the deepest tragedy of his life: the deaths of two of his sons, Nadab and Abihu. Moses immediately offers Aaron a reason for this most unexpected occurrence, to which Aaron responds with silence.

Both the tragedy and Aaron's response raise many questions. What exactly was the "sin" of the two men? Was it the act per se, or was it their attitude? Was it arrogance, as many Sages believe, or was it an overabundance of religious passion, as others maintain? Furthermore, how could God allow this life-cycle event, which was both religiously and personally significant, to be marred?

Any parent who has lost a child-whether a young child or an adult child-certainly knows the feelings we would have expected of Aaron. Entrusted with power, authority, and influence, he is suddenly powerless, even impotent. And certainly his sense of confusion is heightened by the paradoxical words "Through those near to Me I show Myself holy": That is, through those who know Me most intimately I will maintain my "Otherness."

Perhaps one of the hard lessons to be learned here is that affirming sanctity is ultimately about maintaining limits and boundaries. If Nadab and Abihu were indeed too zealous in their devotion by bringing to the altar that which God had not commanded, perhaps their sin was that they "broke through" those boundaries and thus compromised the sanctity of the moment and the Sanctuary itself. Compare this with God's warning to Moses (in Exodus 19:12-13 and 21) that the people should not approach the mountain. Evidently, passion, even when it is religiously motivated, will ultimately compromise sanctity. Perhaps this is one reason why religious fanaticism is almost always held suspect.

At the same time, the suddenness of the men's deaths and the vagueness about why they died painfully remind us that when it comes to "the idea of the holy": (1) Not every question of "why?" has a satisfactory answer; (2) Because we are not God, there are limits to what we as human beings can understand and thus control; (3) In the presence of One who is supreme above all creatures, we feel our limitations and powerlessness most keenly.

Indeed, there are times when awareness of the "awe-ful" can only be experienced in the midst of the dreadful.

Rabbi Cary Kozberg is the director of spiritual care at Wexner Heritage Village in Ohio.

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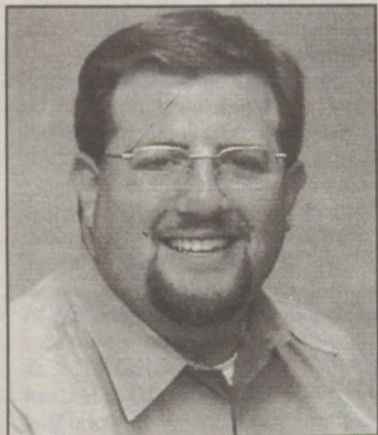
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Dry Bones



CAMPAIGN SPOTLIGHT

Talk The Talk? You Better Walk The Walk



Todd Polikoff

By Todd Polikoff
Asst. Director, Financial
Resource Development

Throughout high school I was very active in BBYO (B'nai B'rith Youth Organization). At the core of BBYO's leadership development structure was the primacy of the chapter members. The individual members were the foundation from which all other work could be accomplished. Diaspora Jews have a similar foundation that is at the core of our identity...Israel. It is now that we must re-commit ourselves to that foundation and ensure its stability.

Israel is at the center of everything that we do as Diaspora Jews. The presence of the State of Israel has made us very comfortable as Jews in our community. We take comfort in living free of widespread anti-Semitism. We take comfort in knowing that there will never again be a homeless Jew. We take comfort in vowing, "Never Again", on Yom HaShoah. These are comforts afforded to us by those who maintain the safety and security of Israel.

Yet, at a time when Israel is at war, many have turned their backs. The severity of the situation has not hit home for many Diaspora Jews. ISRAEL IS AT WAR is not a loud

enough message. For some reason this WAR has not had enough of an appeal to rally our community. Yet, we will say "Never Again" on Yom HaShoah.

True this is not 1967 or 1973, this is worse. Instead of five Syrian divisions looking down on Israel, there are 15,000 rockets in Southern Lebanon. Instead of armies fighting a war of attrition at the Suez Canal there are Jewish women and children being gunned down on their way to Synagogue or when eating lunch. Yet, we will say "Never Again" on Yom HaShoah.

Since her creation in 1948, Israel has had to fight both physical

and political opponents in an effort to legitimize its existence. We have been there through every battle with all of our available resources. It is now time for us once again to bolster the foundation of who we are...Israel. We, Jews, must show the world that when we vow, "Never Again" at Yom HaShoah that those are not just words. We have been talking the talk for many years; it is now time to walk the walk. Stand with Israel NOW and FOREVER!

For more information on the Israel NOW Campaign please call me at 302-427-2100 ext. 16 or www.shalomdelaware.org.

ENDOWMENT FOR THE FUTURE



By Rachel A. Gross, Esq.,
Director,
Financial
Resource
Development

As many of us prepared to sit down for the Seder and welcome our guests, we learned of the devastation caused by a suicide bomber in Netanya who walked into a hotel filled with guests beginning their Passover Seder. As Passover continued the news got worse - more suicide bombings and military actions.

Regardless of one's political stance or feeling about the current government in Israel, most people with whom I have spoken stand with the people of Israel. They are sympathetic to the dilemmas of individuals, not so different from

ISRAEL - Now And Forever

themselves, who each day must decide whether or not to shop at a grocery store, to eat in a restaurant or cafe, which place is safe for children to play and where one might go on a date that is least likely to be targeted by terrorists.

Many of you have a lifelong commitment to Israel and/or Israeli institutions that you intend to honor or provide for in your Will or by other means.

If you have planned to do this, I encourage you to take action on your intentions and let the eventual recipient know about the gift. Not only will you have peace of mind that comes from finalizing something that is meaningful to you, but in these difficult times

Israelis and Israeli institutions need the support that comes from knowing that you care about them, the important work that they do and that you expect them to be there in the future.

For those of you who have already made such a commitment, I encourage you to review the documents to ensure that your wishes will be fulfilled. What provisions have you made? Does the document do exactly what you intended? Does the organization you wish to benefit still exist and have you inquired about the work it is currently doing?

One of the services that the Jewish Fund for the Future provides is to help you identify and

research institutions, agencies and programs that fulfill missions with which you identify and wish to support - whether they are in Israel, Delaware or elsewhere in the world. We have resources available to answer your questions and to help you make suitable decisions.

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Please call me at 427-2100 ext. 19 for a confidential consultation. I will be pleased to discuss with you your goals and help you turn your dreams and wishes into a reality.



Rachel Gross

As we all say at the conclusion of the Seder, B'shana Habaah b'Yrushalayim - Next Year in Jerusalem.

ISRAEL FOCUS

Sharon To Diaspora Jews: "We Need You"

By Rachel Pomerance
JTA

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon is calling for Jewish unity in Israel's struggle against terror.

In a conference call with Diaspora leaders on Monday, Sharon said the "unity of the Jewish people" is Israel's "primary strategic asset."

"Each and every Jew" is "now required to make a supreme effort to contradict the claims made by those who question our right to the land of Israel," he said.

"In these times, we need you more than ever. We need you to express your public support for Israel," he said.

"Join us here, demonstrate your love and support," he told those on the call, which was sponsored by the United Jewish Communities, the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, the Jewish Agency for Israel and Keren Hayesod.

Sharon began his briefing by recounting the latest terror incidents over the Passover holiday.

Israel made a "real effort" to achieve a cease-fire, he said, including rescinding his demand of

seven days of quiet before negotiations and a withdrawal of forces from Palestinian cities.

But this, he said, was "all for terror, terror and more terror."

Now, after Israel has "exhausted every effort to achieve a cease-fire" with the Palestinian Authority, the Jewish state "had no choice but to combat terrorism by ourselves in order to restore security to our citizens," the prime minister said.

The main purpose of the operation, he said, is to "uproot" terrorism in a "battle for our homes, values and way of life."

"This struggle is going to be long, difficult and complex," he said. "It requires unity, determination and faith in the justice of our cause."

"It will be carried on until we triumph."

"Only by overcoming terrorism and winning this battle can we achieve a cessation of hostilities," negotiations and the "much sought-after peace and security for generations, which we all want."

Sharon also addressed what he said was an imbalance in world opinion on the conflict.

"It seems today that everyone is

concerned about Arafat, whether he will have two or three rooms, with or without electricity. I do not detect the same degree of concern in the world about the two little children" whose mother, pregnant with twins, and father were murdered by a Palestinian terrorist outside the entrance to a toy store.

And while terrorism shakes Israel, Sharon noted the anti-Semitism directed against Jews in the Diaspora.

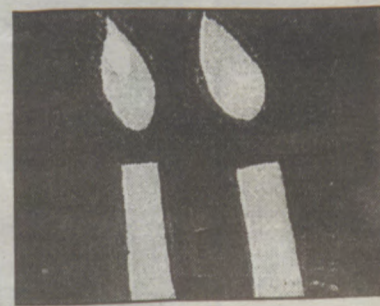
Israel stands "behind you in the struggle," he said. Just as Israel is a "Jewish worldwide project," the Jewish state feels a "responsibility to Jewish communities around the world."

Finally, Sharon offered hope with his faith in the Jewish people.

"On Wednesday, we read in the Haggadah that in every generation, some have arisen against us to annihilate us but the most holy, blessed be He, always delivered us

out of their hands. I believe that just as we overcame our past enemies, we will overcome all the obstacles facing us today."

"The Jewish people have seen harder times than the one that we are facing," he said. "When you consider all the hardships, persecutions and Holocaust that our people have undergone, you reach one conclusion: the Jewish people are indestructible, and I'm sure that we are indestructible."



Never Again!

We will remember the 6,000,000 Jewish victims of the Shoah on April 9th during the noontime Yom Ha'Shoah interfaith service at the Lewis Redding City/County Building in Wilmington

Correction

In the March 15th edition of the Jewish Voice, the chairperson of the Hillel Kitchen Committee was incorrectly identified. She is Stacy Shertock, a resident of Newark, DE. We apologize for the error.

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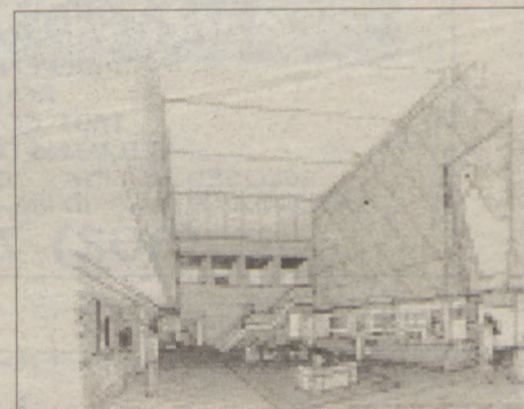
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RABBI WRITES

We Were Wise Not To Separate Things: It's A Shame Some Still Do!

by Steven M. Leapman
Associate Rabbi
Congregation Beth Emeth

I'm somebody who has always minded talk of the "body" vs. the "mind." This entire matter resurrects an episode or two I'd hoped memory long since interred. I still

hear the little ditty my Marine Corps Staff Sergeant sang during P.T. There would naturally be grumbling about this hurting, that aching, or just wishing the whole bloody thing would be over. After all, we chaplains joined the Navy to be ministers, priests, and rabbis,

not athletes. Nonetheless, diligently pursuant to his objective, our Staff Sergeant merrily belted out the following to the beat of all those pounding Navy chaplains' feet: *Mind over matter, if you don't mind, it doesn't matter.*

Chaverim, I cannot for the life of me divide the soul from the flesh wherein I reside and I mean that literally, just as did the ancient rabbis who were the architects of this great moral and spiritual entity and civilization we know and revere as Judaism. You'll know this too when you take the siddur you hold each week to heart and mind and analyze its teachings:

How about *asher yatzar*, those insights amidst the early morning blessings where we pronounce our bodies as a delicately balanced, interdependent system, which if not maintained and sustained disallows us from standing before God? That is what the Hebrew says. Or why bother with Shabbat if we

don't have bodies that need a recess? God hardly needs rest, but Shabbat acknowledges a Divine Love and Respect for the created by giving us the day off. Check the Hebrew of the song *v'shamru*. Consider the words *u'v'yom ha'sh'vi' shavat va'yinafash*. Since God rests on Shabbat who are we to do less, or more? All aspects of the human person are revealed in our bodies and spirits. On Shabbat these all merit down-

time. Isn't it wonderful to belong to a religion that sanctifies that soul's recess?

The mark of the covenant, though definitely a spiritual matter, is made in flesh. Recall the joy surrounding a brit milah. Don't forget the dietary laws. Jewish law has taught consuming and not consuming certain foods affects the soul. What of the verse dealing with Yom Kippur? *You shall*

Continued on page 7)

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THE RABBI WRITES Continued from page 6

afflict yourselves. The rabbis take this verse as sanction for a fast. What we do with our bodies bears fruit in the welfare of the soul; how we tend the orchard of our material being foreshadows the blessedness of our spirits. Hence, the Jewish view of sex and sexuality: whereas some expressions of Christian piety support abstinence from romantic physicality, we Jews use the term *kiddushin* or "holiness" as the term for marriage. In fact, on Shabbat, the time God takes a break, is an especially

appropriate time for conjugal union and relatedness.

Ten people (and that means their physical presence) are required for prayer. The monthly cycle and related personal manifestations of being corporeal affect one's inclusion and participation in rites and rituals. We may or may not adhere to such guidance, but even this Reform rabbi recognizes how adamantly the sages fuse spiritual vitality with the physical presence and readiness of others.

Ten people are needed for a

Minyan, for Torah reading and to recite Mourners' Kaddish. Please don't overlook the name of the group that cleanses and prepares the dead for burial: *chevrah k'deesha* means "sanctified fellowship." Though the work is not pleasant, the degree of piety involved in such arduous labor is a great blessing. Chevrah K'deesha provides yet another commentary-in-action on the fusion between mind and body. I'd argue there is a less of split on mind / body in Judaism than there is a sense being on a

continuum or spectrum between the corporeal and incorporeal. Two final examples: Every spring we deny ourselves bread and similar products to invoke the Remembrance of Liberation. Traditional prayerbooks read of God as The One Who Brings That Which Has Died Back To Life: *M'hayeh ha'mayteem*. Indeed, our sages were wise not to divide flesh from soul as both share a common bond and destiny. Both make up a person.

I share all this to help us reclaim our dignity as Jews in an era when over six million of our bodies were taken away. The brutalities of the previous secular century will not be healed by hiding out in an outdated and unJewish Victorian sensibility of the body. Indeed, the more that all people can see and sanctify the sacred within the physical being, the greater welfare will be known and shared by each human being. May this be God's will.



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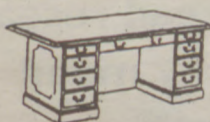
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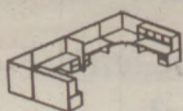
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CAPITAL CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHT

Kutz Home Prepares For Present And Future

By Joel F. Glazier

For over 40 years, the Kutz Home has been providing nursing and health care in a residential setting at the facility on River Road. If one had not visited The Kutz Home since its first years, some startling changes would be evident. Its original capacity of 40 residents is now 90; some of the staff members have worked diligently there for over 20 years; now the facility complies with Disabled Access Laws with different room configurations and heavier hospital quality furniture and equipment. The average age of its current residents is about 87.

However, some things are startling for their 40 year use. The fully Kosher kitchen equipment and the laundry facility in the basement of the expanded Home are still the originals. These items, while in use for 40 years, have not changed substantially. "Some of our dedicated staff who have been here for over 25 years have seen a change in population, but not a change in the behind the scenes facilities," explained Karen Friedman, director of The Kutz Home. "A look at older photographs shows many residents then were ambulatory - today there is a whole host of equipment, like wheel chairs and hospital beds, which have put great stress on the building and our storage," added Friedman.

With funding from The Jewish Federation's Community Capital Campaign, an expanded and upgraded kitchen and laundry area along with a new service elevator will make The Kutz Home better suited for the growing needs of its residents. "Now without a service elevator, large beds cannot be moved into basement storage and the larger laundry bundles have outgrown the old dumb-waiter service lift," said Friedman. The last expansion completed in 1997 helped increase the Home's capacity to 90. The comfort level of the patients' daily life and activities have been addressed nicely, but food and cleanliness (laundry) are important, too.

Vivian Dresin, Residents Council vice-president commented, "These improvements are needed to remove excess from the hallways," referring to the large equipment not currently in use but nevertheless cannot be taken into basement storage. "The improvements may not be visible to the visitor but it will make our home better," she added. The Kutz Home has a reputation for excellent care and Karen Friedman points out, "Today people are living longer and we have three alert folks here hitting 100 this year." Along with taking care of more people for a lot longer, the basic facilities have been taxed well beyond their intended use after 40 years. The patient rooms, public areas and dining room have kept up with renovations and modernity. The Capital Campaign will focus on the areas that have been virtually untouched.

Karen Friedman and Kutz Home President Miriam Edell both are "excited about being part of the Capital Campaign. We feel the

Continued on page 17



Kutz Home director Karen Friedman discusses renovation plans with (left to right) Vivian Dresin, Sonny Aguilar and Jack Goldstein. A successful Community Capital Campaign will make these future endeavors possible.

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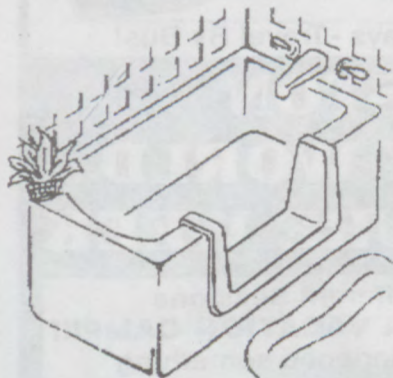
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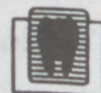
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
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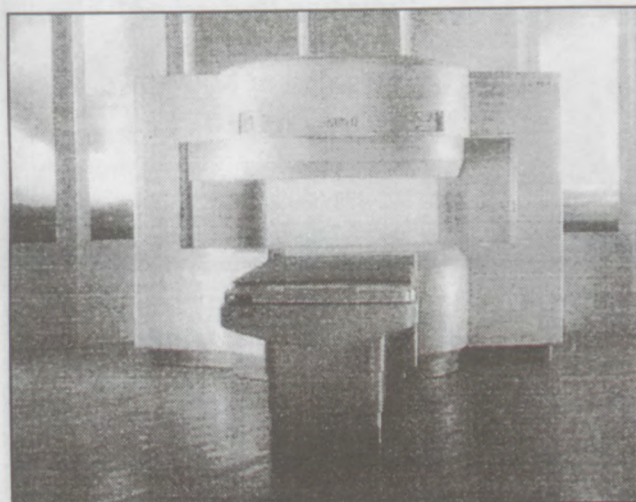
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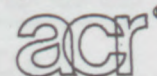
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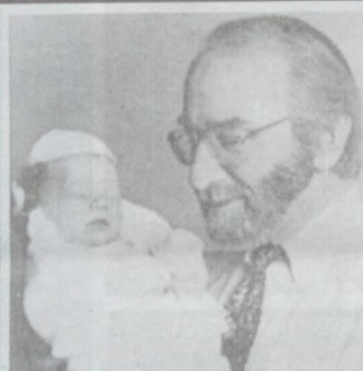
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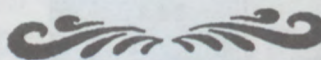
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WE WILL NEVER FORGET

Tanya

By Peter Medvinsky

To the sacred memory of Tanya Marcus and all other known and unknown martyrs and heroes of the Holocaust.

The man who entered my compartment on that train

Crossing the winter-gripped Ukraine
Looked twice my age, but strong and tough;

The kind who's war-time youth was rough;

He said "Hello," then paused a bit
And took his seat.

The train was crawling; we were looking outside;

Another town was in sight;
A park, a church, a monument
To a Resistance fighter hanged...
"They honor heroes," I said,
And turned my head.

The man looked grim, a muscle was twitching on his face;

"Young man, I fought in those days;
Was shot at; killed men with a knife;
Have seen brave people in my life;
The most courageous of them all
Was a young girl.

I first met Tanya in the fall of 41;
Kiev had just been overrun;
I was a soldier, had to hide;
The partisans were hard to find;
Tanya and her Resistance friends
Saved me from death.

I wish I had," the man continued, "the words

To tell you what a girl she was;
Her gentle beauty to describe;
Her magnetism; her love of life...
And no photos of her
Survived the war.

Then came the day all Jews were ordered to report;

Most obeyed, Tanya did not;
I saw that eerie march of death:
Graybeards, cripples, women, babies...
The laughing Nazis machine-gunned
Then everyone.

I did not see Tanya smile ever since that day;

"For us is left only one way,"
She said; and soon began the hunt;
Forged documents; a small handgun...
A one girl army she became

After that day.

When Tanya struck, her blows stunned
the Nazi gang;

The ones she killed were of high rank;
Gestapo dogs were running wild;
They searched for many days and nights;
Even SS-men from Berlin
Were flown in.

She was betrayed. We tried to save her,
but we failed.

We later learned that in the jail
They tortured her beyond belief;
Death came to her as a relief.
She was just twenty. Not a word
They got from her.

After the war I met some high-ups and, in vain,

Urged them to honor Tanya's name;
They made it as plain as they could:
"Jewish last names don't sound good;"
This is the world that we live in -
Cruel and mean."

The man got off the train and vanished in the night;

But not before leaving behind,

With me: his last look, long and hard;
The memories that I must guard;
The fire that has not ceased burning
In my heart.

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From the Author: Tanya Marcus, to whom my poem was dedicated, was born in 1921, in Kiev/Ukraine, only a few short blocks from my homeland. She joined the Anti-Nazi resistance after Hitler invaded the Soviet Union and occupied Kiev. At the end of September, 1941, the Nazis ordered the entire community to report for "relocation". This "relocation" was completed on September 29, 1941-the day of Yom Kippur-when over 30,000 Kiev Jews were killed at Babi Yar. Tanya's father and many of her relatives and friends perished. Tanya herself left home and forged a new identity of a young Georgian princess, supposedly loyal to her new rulers. Her sharp mind and breathtaking beauty enabled her to wage a one-year war against Hitler's regime. She successfully shot and killed one of the top Nazis in Kiev before being captured and tortured to death in 1942.

One Man's Story Of Survival During World War II

Translation by E.E. Jaffe

Three years ago I found and established a connection with a cousin of mine who lives in Kaliningrad, Russia. I had not seen him for 63 years. Yakov Sukhovolski's mother and mine were sisters. Among his immediate family members, Yakov is the only one to survive the Holocaust, having lost his parents and both his brother and sister. His heartbreaking survival story is both heroic and tragic. Recently, Yakov and 23 other Holocaust survivors who reside in Kaliningrad published a book in Russian about their individual experiences during World War II.

Below is a translation of my cousin's contribution to the book. The Jewish Voice will excerpt Mr. Sukhovolski's story over the next several editions.

There Was No Defense, No Release, No Cover, No Rescue, By Yakov Sukhovolski

One cannot stop time; it simply moves us away from the past. But I cannot forget the catastrophe that befell the Jewish people. I cannot forget. It is simply part of me, part of my being.

It left within me a heavy burden of memories that do not diminish as time passes. Indeed, the memories intensify with time not only as I recall my own survival story, but also as I reflect on the tragic, unredeemed loss of my family, friends, and members of the community where I grew up and enjoyed life before the war.

Gluboke is a small town located not far from Vilnius. Its roots go back to the 17th century. Jews settled there at the beginning of the 18th century creating their own community.

Before World War II the town had several established organizations with a variety of activities. There were ten synagogues, two Jewish schools, one Hebrew high school, a Yeshiva, a bank, a clinic, an extensive library, a newspaper, a series of "Macabi" kinder gardens, a sports club, and an orchestra.

When the summer of 1939 arrived, I was carefree. The town and its surroundings were covered with lush flora. I was 12 years old, not far from my Bar Mitzvah, and unaware that the just-finished academic year would be my last at the Polish school.

The storm clouds of war soon began to gather over Europe. Hitler's speeches grew

increasingly hysterical. He stated the imperative of obtaining a corridor through Poland to East Prussia. Germany invaded Poland on September 1st. The school year did not begin as scheduled.

Unexpectedly on the 17th of September the Soviet Red Army occupied Gluboke without firing a single shot. At the time nobody knew about the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact that partitioned Poland between Germany and the Soviet Union; the eastern part was ceded to the Soviets.

The newly established order had a significant effect on the community because all Jewish communal organizations were liquidated. People adapted as best they could to the "new life". But despite an initial sense of well being, the situation quickly grew tense. In the spring of 1941, military units began moving westward. And on June 22, 1941 the announcement came that Germany had attacked the Soviet Union, shocking everyone. Panic ensued in town; in that instant, everything changed.

I remember the furious rate of mobilization, the conscription into the Russian army of relatives and neighbors, the panicked and chaotic withdrawal of Soviet military units, the looting of our town, and finally the entry of the Germans on July 2.

As many Jews frantically began hiding, a small subdivision of the Vermakht* took over the town. In the first days of occupation, Germans hunted Jews, catching them in the streets, fields, and homes, often beating and humiliating them, then sending them on compulsory work assignments. Jewish belongings were confiscated.

The community sought amelioration of the difficult situation by requesting that German orders for compulsory work, confiscation of belonging, etc. be carried out less cruelly. They selected a committee of 12 persons designated to act as intermediaries with the Vermakht. The town's military commander approved the committee, and called the organization a Judenrat**. The situation improved briefly, but the beatings quickly resumed, as did the humiliations during work assignments.

Some time later a civil authority took over, and the town became a district capital. The arrival of an area commissar with a large staff of civil servants led to further narrowing of Jewish rights, worsening the situation for us in every aspect of life.

The program of National Socialism was being strictly implemented. Nobody knew what it all meant, and even the greatest pessimists did not imagine that this program was a forerunner to the total extermination of the Jews.

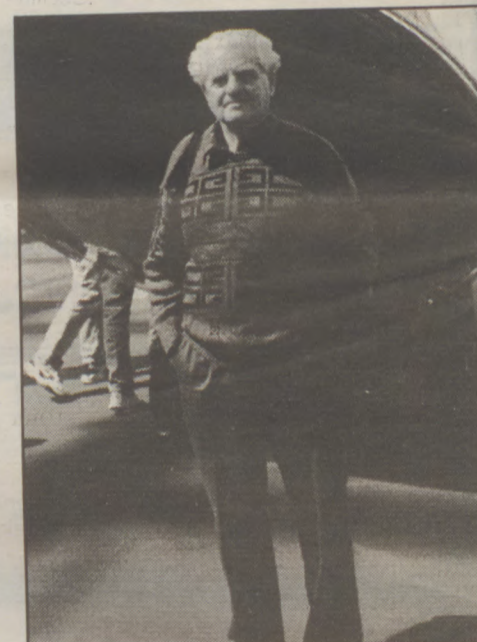
The authorities announced many prohibitions. Jews were not allowed to leave town or buy products from local merchants. Jews could not associate with non-Jews, nor could Jews walk with them on sidewalks. Jews were forced to wear the identifying yellow star.

Until the establishment of civil order, Jews were plundered by the Germans "unofficially". They simply came into Jewish homes and took whatever they liked, or ordered the Judenrat to deliver expensive articles, clothing, footwear, etc.

With the arrival of the civil authority the Gebitscommissar* sent an official letter to the Judenrat about the confiscation of all Jewish property. It was stated that according to German law Jews were not permitted to own property. Jews were ordered to deliver all valuable items such as gold, silver, rings, diamonds, and cash within one day. The following day hundreds of people stood in long lines near the Gebitscommissariat with various cherished articles inherited from their parents and grandparents, in many instances precious family relics handed down for many generations. They patiently waited as the enemy took everything. They gave away beautiful Passover wine glasses, dining room services, and wedding rings. By cooperating with the authorities, they expected to be spared from a terrible fate.

The following day brought new orders for Jews to deliver furs, coats, suits and fabrics. The previous day's scene repeated itself. Once again long lines of people waited, this time to hand over their cold-weather clothing. Some began to cry, others to faint, as they imagined daily life during the coming winter freeze.

Many terrorized and frightened Jews brought more than was asked of them, including children's clothing, without thinking of the implications, only hoping to placate the regime. Some Jewish former manufacturers who previously hid their merchandise brought the goods out in wagons for delivery to the authorities. Others gave their property directly to Christian acquaintances, perhaps in an attempt to gain favor in



Yakov Sukhovolski

exchange for future assistance or even with the hope of eventual return of the goods to their rightful owners. But there were quite a few local residents whose aim it was to become the permanent owners of Jewish property, and fearing that in the future such property might be reacquired, they devoted themselves to accelerate the Jew's demise.

The Germans also confiscated all provisions, including food. At the end of September the Judenrat received an order from the Gebitscommissar about payment to the authorities of large sums of money — noncompliance threatened the Jews with executions.

The most important demand on the Jews was the absolute participation of the entire ghetto population in work for the Reich. At the beginning of 1942, with the organizational help of the Judenrat, Gluboke rapidly became an industrial town. Factories and workshops functioned to produce vegetable oil, leather, furniture, wagons, sleds, yarn, footwear, clothing and other items.

In August 1941 the Gestapo appeared in town for the first time. Its appearance was immediately followed by the arrest and execution of 42 people. Among them were

Continued on page 15

WE WILL NEVER FORGET

A Hero To Uzbek Jews

By Bryan Schwartz

Joseph Khodos does not know his official job title, but his co-workers call him the "Main Man of Jewish Uzbekistan."

Khodos organizes food, clothing and other necessities for more than 2,700 indigent Jews in Uzbekistan at the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee's office here, in Uzbekistan's capital city. His efforts make him a pillar of this former Soviet republic's embattled 15,000-member Jewish community.

Odds are that Khodos, the son of two Holocaust survivors, never should have been born.

"My father survived the Nazis because he doesn't look like me," Khodos says, matter-of-factly. Then, laughing at himself, he adds, "Nobody could mistake me for a non-Jew — isn't it true?"

It is true. Khodos looks like just another aging, nice Jewish boy.

With his coke-bottle glasses, bushy gray-brown beard and moustache, fading corduroy shirt, ill-fitting charcoal gray slacks and beaten black loafers, Khodos' appearance personifies a high school physics teacher — which he was. But today, Khodos, 41, is a hero to many in his rapidly diminishing Jewish community.

During World War II, more than 1 million European Jews fled through Uzbekistan, thousands of miles from Hitler's armies. Some 200,000 remained after the Holocaust, joining tens of thousands of native Bukharan Jews, who had dwelled here since antiquity.

Today, the 10,000 Ashkenazi Jews still in Uzbekistan and thousands of Bukharans who protected them during World War II maintain a special appreciation for Yom Hashoah, or Holocaust Remembrance Day, which begins this year on the evening of April 8.

The Khodos' family history reads like an action movie script.

Khodos' father, Betsalel, was

born in Pogor, Russia, in 1920. From 1941 to 1945, he survived in Nazi labor camps in Germany. When the Russians liberated the Nazi camps at the war's end, they shipped Betsalel Khodos to Siberia because they thought he must have been a German spy. Otherwise, they reasoned, why hadn't he been killed?

From 1945 to 1951, Betsalel Khodos languished in Siberia. When he was finally released from Soviet prison, Khodos immediately went searching for remnants of his family.

Betsalel Khodos found his father and siblings thousands of miles from Pogor and Siberia, at the famous, Central Asian crossroads of the ancient Silk Road: Samarkand, in Uzbekistan. Betsalel's family, who had not seen him in nearly 12 years, could not believe their eyes.

The story of Joseph Khodos' mother, Cecilia, is no less dramatic. Her family lived in Gadyatch, Ukraine. In 1937, Stalin's henchmen kidnapped her father, sending him to prison. Her mother died in 1941, after contracting pneumonia while fleeing. The Nazis murdered Cecilia's grandparents. Relatives adopted Cecilia, then 12 years old, and they hid from the Nazis in a Ukrainian village until the war ended.

In 1945, Cecilia Khodos heard that her father had survived Hitler in Stalin's gulags. Finally released from the Russian prison, her penniless father was exiled to the edge of the Soviet empire: Uzbekistan. He worked in Uzbekistan until he could send for her, and brought her to Samarkand in 1946.

The two young survivors, Betsalel and Cecilia, were married in 1954. Joseph was born in 1961.

Though the Khodos' and other Ashkenazi Jews were grateful to have survived the Holocaust and be in Uzbekistan, life was hardly easy for Jews in the Soviet Union after the war.

Because of the Soviet prohibition on Jewish study and practice, Betsalel Khodos could scarcely gather an illegal minyan of 10 Jewish men for prayers.

"One very old man had a Sefer Torah in his house where the secret minyan was meeting," Joseph Khodos remembers. "Once the KGB came and they registered all the Jews in the minyan and took all of the prayer books. They told us it was illegal and we must close. Afterward, the KGB ordered all the old men to come in for questioning."

Such brushes with the law terrified Joseph's parents' generation, who were weaned running from Hitler and Stalin.

None of the other Ashkenazi survivors was willing to risk holding the minyan in his home when the very old man who had hosted the minyan died. So Joseph Khodos' father began to meet for prayers with the Bukharan Jews.

Even today, many Bukharan Jews remember fondly the families they saved and comforted during the Holocaust and subsequently — though they are too modest to think of themselves as rescuers. Luba Davidov, wife of Raphael Davidov, the president of Bukhara's Jewish community, says, "We had Polish Jewish guests during World War II," giving no indication that her "guests" were in fact refugees.

All humility aside, the Davidovs and other Bukharans are acutely aware of the Holocaust and grateful for Jewish survival. On Yom Hashoah, hundreds of Ashkenazi and Bukharan Jews join together commemorating the tragedy in a corner of the ancient Bukharan Jewish neighborhood, the mahalla. They light candles, sing songs, and wear yellow Stars of David marked with the word "Jude," reminiscent of Hitler's discriminatory requirement that Jews always prominently display identity badges.

As for Joseph Khodos, he spends all of his time contributing



Joseph Khodos

life's essentials to the Uzbek communities that gave him a chance at life. When he resigned his physics teaching job in 1990 to help organize food parcels and other welfare programs for needy Jews around Uzbekistan, Khodos' salary was \$50 a month. He still sleeps in a small room at the back of the JDC's office and keeps kosher in the office's small kitchen. Khodos volunteers as a prayer leader regularly in Tashkent, and in Samarkand,

where he goes most weekends to take care of two remarkable survivors — his elderly parents.

On Yom Hashoah, Uzbekistan's Jewish community remembers how close it came to never knowing Joseph Khodos.

Bryan Schwartz, an Easton, Pa.-based lawyer, is completing his first book, "Scattered Among the Nations: Photographs and Stories of the World's Most Isolated Jewish Communities."

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For more information, please contact: Randy Rosenthal, (302) 478-5660, ext. 231

One Man's Story Continued from page 14

many Jews who did not hold any government positions during the Soviet rule. They arrested Joshua Geller—a doctor's assistant, Shimon Budova, Meyer Bandta, Levi Dreisenshtok and others. For a long time nobody knew anything about their fate. Later it became known that the day they were arrested without a court proceeding or investigation, they were simply executed. Two months later, in exchange for a significant payment by the families, their bodies were interred at the Jewish cemetery. Many people attended the funerals at the cemetery. The attendees did not realize that those buried according to Jewish tradition that day were luckier than they themselves would be. They could not imagine the grim fate that lay ahead for most of them.

On October 22, 1941 the Jews of Gluboke were ordered to abandon their homes (in many cases homes in which their families had lived for generations). Within a few hours, we were all "relocated" to a ghetto in another part of town.

The living conditions in the ghetto were difficult, mostly due to congestion. A major problem was the supply of food because contact with farmers was extremely limited. Prisoners returning from work were thoroughly searched by the police. If food was discovered, it was confiscated and the "criminals" received a beating. Some Jews accused of such "transgressions" were taken to the police and never returned. But even under these difficult conditions in the ghetto there was organized distribution of limited available food. The same was true of limited medical services.

By the beginning of 1942, the Germans began liquidating the Jewish communities around Gluboke via mass executions. This included the region in Lithuania around Vilnius as well as towns in nearby Belorussia. Many escapees from these massacres turned up in our ghetto.

One early morning in March, 110 Jews from the Gluboke ghetto were taken from their homes,

brought to the Barok forest and executed. Among the dead were my grandmother, grandfather, and many friends. Those of us who were spared were living witnesses to this horrible crime.

The Fascists utilized the tactic of deceit, creating an illusion about future sacrifices. They tried to convince us that the remaining Jews should not feel threatened. On July 12, 1942 the Fascists used this method in Gluboke, luring us to the soccer field, supposedly to verify our work passports, stating that they were due to expire that day.

All who had such work passports together with their families went to the point of assembly. Many took not only their immediate families but also relatives and friends in order to register them as family members and bring them into the "protected category". My entire family was there.

* German armed force

** Jewish board

*** Area commissioner

Next Edition: the German deceit continues

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INSIDE DELAWARE

West Chester University Hosts Yom Hashoah Program

On April 8, 2002 Charles Weiss, born and raised in West Chester, will return to the region to share his 55 years of experience as a sailor, soldier, and newspaper and radio reporter who lived and fought in Israel. An internationally recognized radio broadcaster for the Voice of America (VOA) in Jerusalem, Washington and New York, he also wrote for the Jerusalem Post.

Weiss' work led him to the Middle East where, as chief of the VOA Bureau in Jerusalem, he was responsible for reports on Israel and the occupied territories as well Jordan, Greece, Turkey, Cyprus, Egypt, Lebanon, and Iran. In Israel's wars of 1956, 1967, and 1973 he served as a battlefield photographer and reporter. Currently, Weiss lives in New York and serves as resident editor for his wife's media consulting company.

The program, which will begin at 7:00 PM, will be held at the Newman Student Center on the campus of West Chester University of Pennsylvania. A service commemorating the Yom Hashoah observance will introduce the evening's program and musical renditions will conclude it. A reception will follow.

For further information please call Dr. Irene Shur, Director of Holocaust and genocide Education, at 610-436-2789.

Bioethicists Featured at Event on Religion & Science

On Wednesday, April 24, Jewish Family Service will host an event that addresses what happens when medical advances like stem cell research and cloning call into question our religious beliefs and personal ethics.

"We are proud to have prominent names in the field of bioethics with us to explore the many challenges and opportunities that are the consequence of rapid advances in medical science," said Dory Zatuschni, JFS executive director. "There are a multitude of questions regarding the relationship between science and religion, and the answers we find will affect decisions we make about ourselves and our loved ones now and in the future," Zatuschni said.

The keynote speaker is bio-medical ethicist Rabbi Gerald I. Wolpe, Director, Louis Finkelstein Institute for Religious and Social Studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary, and former chair of the advisory committee of the Bioethics Center at the University of Pennsylvania.

Also on the program are internationally renowned medical ethicist and author Dr. Arthur L. Caplan, Trustee Professor of Bioethics & Professor of Molecular and Cellular Engineering, University of Pennsylvania Medical Center, and Delaware's distinguished neurosurgeon, Dr. Michael G. Sugarman, Director of Neurosurgery, St Francis Hospital, and expert instructor in advanced trauma life support, with specialization in head trauma, spine and spinal cord trauma.

The April 24 event, *What Happens When Religion and Science Meet*, is free and open to the public. It will be held from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., at the Delaware Museum of Natural History in Greenville, Del.

This event is partially funded by a grant from the Delaware Humanities Forum, a state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Organizational sponsors as of April 1, 2002 include the Jacob Kraft Educational Foundation, Temple Brith Achim, Beth Emeth Congregation, Beth Shalom Congregation, and Adas Kodesh Shel Emeth Congregation.

For more information, please call JFS at (302) 478-9411.

Eisenberg To Keynote AKSE Brunch

Steve Eisenberg, a Wall Street executive who has developed successful Jewish outreach and education programs, will speak on Sunday morning, April 21st at Adas Kodesh Shel Emeth. Eisenberg is a participant in the synagogue's New York Scholars Lecture Series. He will address the theme of "Shavuot: The Celebration of Torah as a Guide for Living." Eisenberg is a weekly lecturer at Aish Hatorah in New York.

His appearance is sponsored by the AKSE Men's Club. Breakfast will be served beginning at 9:30 a.m. The speaker will follow at 10:00 a.m. The cost for the program is \$4. All are welcome.

Gratz Ambassador to HOBY 2002

Marlene C. Milunsky
Principal

The prestigious Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Program (HOBY) prepares future leaders for positions in their schools and helps them to expand the talents that will serve them as well as their communities in the future.

The mission of HOBY, inspired by Dr. Albert Schweitzer, is to seek out, recognize and develop leadership potential commencing with high school sophomores. **Jennifer Kaplan**, a sophomore attending Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School, has been selected as the Gratz Ambassador to this year's HOBY Leadership Seminar, April 12-14, 2002, in Rehoboth Beach.

HOBY Leadership Seminars are designed by each state in the Union to create an experience which will teach students to think critically, enhance their leadership skills and begin to identify their own particular leadership strengths. They learn more about "America's Incentive System", including democracy, free enterprise, volunteerism and service to community. They discover that they are not alone in their desire to lead and make their schools and communities better places. Meeting students from their own communities and their entire state who feel the same way is a powerful and reaffirming experience.

Students are motivated to accept the challenge of leadership as a life-long goal. At the conclusion of the Seminar, students are asked to undertake 100 hours of community service during the next 12 months, and report back to HOBY, their classmates, and their sponsors on their achievements.

Funding for HOBY is through contributions from corporations, service organizations, foundations and individuals.



Jennifer Kaplan

JNF Honors Sen. Biden at 100th Anniversary Tree of Life® Dinner

Dinner raises over \$400,000 for JNF's Work in Israel

Jewish National Fund (JNF) presented Senator Joseph R. Biden, Jr. with the Tree of Life Award at its 100th Anniversary Tree of Life Dinner, held Monday, March 11 at MBNA International Headquarters in Wilmington, Delaware. The gala, which was attended by Israeli Ambassador David Ivry, Governor Ruth Ann Minner, Lieutenant Governor John Carney, Jr. and his wife Tracey Quillen Carney, State Treasurer Jack Markell, and Senator John McCain, honored Senator Biden for his longstanding support of Israel. JNF President Ronald S. Lauder and his wife, Jo Carole, who served as Honorary Chairs of the dinner, were also in attendance. The event was chaired by John M. Burris and Howard H. Simon, and raised over \$400,000 for JNF's vital work on the water crisis in Israel.



Sen. Joseph R. Biden, Jr.

Mr. Lauder served as keynote speaker and award presenter, and praised the Senator for his unwavering support of Israel, saying, "During difficult times, the people of Israel look to the U.S. for support and a friend to turn to. If you ask an Israeli to name a friend in the U.S., invariably the name of Senator Joseph Biden comes up. His constant, unwavering support of Israel gives us pride and continued hope for the future of our homeland."

Former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu delivered a moving speech via live satellite, "For 100 years, JNF has had a significant role in the development of Israel. While some might get tired after a century of work, JNF never rests. This organization took upon themselves the issue of water, and through their leadership, drive and perseverance, is succeeding in bringing worldwide attention to the drought." "In the future," he added, "wars will be fought over water, and as such JNF is playing a vital role in the peace process itself."

Accepting his award, Senator Biden reminisced about being brought to his first JNF dinner in 1974 by Senator Hubert Humphrey. He spoke about the situation in the Middle East, stating, "We have to believe that there is hope. Israel will remain an independent locale, with borders that it determines, and no one, no one, will be able to destroy its nationhood."

Proceeds from the dinner will go towards JNF's efforts to alleviate the water crisis in Israel, which is currently suffering through its worst drought in recorded history. JNF has been actively involved in combating the crisis by building dams and reservoirs, rehabilitating Israel's polluted waterways, implementing new water recycling techniques and funding crucial research that will enable Israel to make the most of its limited water supply until permanent solutions can be reached. Water is crucial for Israel - not only to maintain its economic stability by preserving agriculture, but as a vital part of the peace process itself.

For more information on JNF or to plant trees in Israel, call 1-800-542-TREE (8733) or visit www.jnf.org.

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Scholar-In Residence Weekend at Congregation Beth Shalom

By Marvin Cytron

Dr. Neil Gillman, the Aaron Rabinowitz and Simon H. Rifkind Professor of Jewish Philosophy of the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) will serve as Scholar-In Residence at Congregation Beth Shalom, Wilmington. The April 26-28, 2002 weekend is sponsored by the Rabbi Jacob Kraft Educational Foundation.

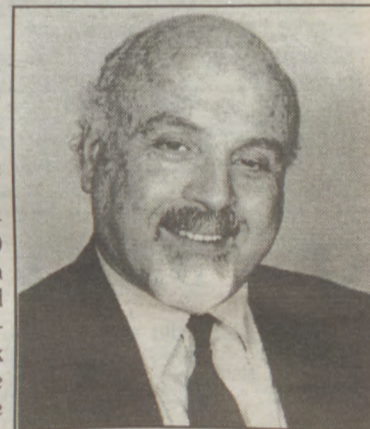
Dr. Gillman, a native of Quebec City, is a 1954 graduate of McGill University, was ordained by JTS in 1960 and received his Ph.D. in philosophy from Columbia University in 1975. The author of numerous articles and books on Jewish thought, Dr. Gillman is the 1991 recipient of the National Jewish Book Award for his book *Sacred Fragments: Recovering Theology for the Modern Jew*. He is a regular contributor to the "Sabbath Week" column in the *Jewish Week*, New York's Anglo-Jewish newspaper and a contributing editor to *Sh'ma*.

Dr. Gillman is a popular speaker and teacher. He has served as scholar-in-residence in many Conservative and Reform congregations. "Dr. Gillman deals with important topics with absolute candor and provocative honesty. He is always stimulating and unafraid to deal with challenging issues" said Rabbi Daniel Satlow, spiritual leader of Beth Shalom.

"*Finding God in This World and the Next*" has been selected as the theme for the weekend. On Friday evening, April 26, at the 8:00 p.m. Shabbat eve service Dr. Gillman will speak on the topic "*What Happens When We Die?*". An Oneg Shabbat will follow the service. At the Saturday morning 9:30 a.m. service Dr. Gillman will speak on "*Seeing The Invisible God*". A kiddush/luncheon and congregational dialogue on Dr. Gillman's topic will follow the service. The Friday evening and Saturday morning services and social events will be held at the synagogue, 1801 Baynard Blvd. and the community is cordially invited to meet and learn with Dr. Gillman.

On Sunday morning, April 28, Dr. Gillman will discuss with teens, their parents and interested community members "*Where Was God on 9/11?*". This 11:00 a.m. discussion will take place at the Gratz Hebrew High School, Jewish Community Center, Garden of Eden Rd.

The Rabbi Jacob Kraft Educational Foundation was established in 1988 in memory of Rabbi Kraft who served as spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Shalom for over 40 years. The Foundation furthers Rabbi Kraft's lifelong devotion to learning by funding educational programs to enrich the congregation and community. Please call the synagogue office, (302) 654-4462 for additional information.



Dr. Neil Gillman

Continued on page 17

INSIDE DELAWARE

Delaware Gratz Slates Open House

Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School invites the community to attend its annual Open House on Tuesday, April 23rd. Parents and students meet at Gratz in the Delaware Jewish Community Center, 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington at 7 p.m. for a question and answer period then have the opportunity to attend classes. For additional information about Delaware Gratz, please contact Marlene Milunsky, principal. Or visit the school's website, <<http://www.delawaregratz.org/>>www.delawaregratz.org.

To RSVP for the Open House, call Amanda or Cathy at Delaware Gratz, 478-8100.

Free Trip During Break!

Looking for an incredible trip at the beginning of the summer? Check out Hillel's birthright israel adventures at <http://israel.hillel.org>

BIRTHRIGHT ISRAEL provides a free, ten-day trip to Israel for people ages 18-26 who have not been there on an organized peer-group trip.

Hillel's program is fun and safe - the journey of a lifetime! And we have just the right trip for you:

- Our **Explore Israel National Campus** Trip shows you all that Israel has to offer, as you travel with others from your campus and community and meet people from across the country.

- The new **Outdoor Adventure Challenge** lets you experience the exhilarating countryside of Israel on this rugged itinerary with a "Road Rules" type theme.

- **A Gift for Graduating Seniors.** Treat yourself after graduation and celebrate with other recent graduates, while getting to know others from your future community.

- A **Millennial trip** for grad students and 22-26 year-olds.

- And an array of other exciting special interest trips.

Don't miss out on this great opportunity. Go to the web site and apply today!

For more information or questions, please contact Hillel at 302-453-0479.

Traditional Women To Be Honored At Special AKSE Service

The entire community is invited to attend services at Adas Kodesh Shel Emeth on Saturday, April 20th as AKSE joins with synagogues around the world in celebration of Shabbat T'lameini. Sponsored by the Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance, this special Shabbat honors the contributions of traditional women to their faith and to their communities.

At approximately 10 a.m., Gerald August will present a D'var Torah entitled "Kidoshim Tihyu" (You Will Be Holy). In the afternoon at the Se'udah Sh'lishit, Dr. Irene Plotzker will present the Shiur on the theme of "Listening to Women." Minha begins at 7:20 p.m. in the Berlin Chapel, to be followed by the Se'udah Sh'lishit sponsored by the Women's Tefillah Group and Ma'ariv at 8:30 p.m.

ORT Presents Share Your Wares

Women's American ORT will present Share-Your-Wares 2002 on Thursday, May 2nd, 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Delaware Jewish Community Center, 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington. Proceeds from this event will assist with the technical and vocational education of over 262,000 children and young adults here in the United States and abroad. For more information, please call 610-388-8515.

Café Tamar Is Coming!

On Sunday evening, May 19th, the AKSE Choral and Dance Groups will present a new program entitled "Sing Out for Peace!" in celebration of Israel's 54th birthday. This year, the Choral Group welcomes Cantor Joel Kessler to Café Tamar. Cantor Joel will present several solos during the program which also will include a solo debut by nine-year-old Evan Finkelstein. Other soloists in the program are Sam Romirowsky, Sharon Berry, Helen Winslow, Cindy Goldstein, David Zussman and Beth Lattin. The Choral Group will be accompanied by the Tamar Musicians. Narrator for this year's program is Ursula Barton.

Two dance groups will perform in the program this year. Harokdim, AKSE's teenaged dancers, and the Adult Dancers who performed in New York City on March 17th at the Annual invitation only Israel Dance Festival. The Adult Dancers recently performed at the Grand Opera House for - Raices - a program of Latin-American dances and will be featured at the Candlelite Dinner for the JCC Senior Center on April 17th. Their dance card also includes a late-April performance in Middletown, Delaware for the State of Delaware.

Café Tamar will be held in the AKSE Social Hall at 7:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 13. Don't be left out. Order early because the event is always a sell-out. Tickets are available from the performers and at the Synagogue office, 762-2705.

Hoffman Speaks At Kutz Home Luncheon

The Kutz Home Auxiliary is pleased to welcome home David E. Hoffman, distinguished journalist and recent author, to speak at its annual Donor Luncheon on Tuesday, April 30th at 11:30 a.m. at Brandywine Country Club. Hoffman currently serves as Foreign Editor for The Washington Post. He will speak on the new Russia and his many other journalistic experiences.

Hoffman's journalistic career includes positions with the News Journal, the San Jose Mercury-News and the Knight-Ridder Newspapers. He joined The Post in 1982. He covered the White House during the Reagan and Bush presidencies and served as diplomatic correspondent from 1990-1992. He then became the newspaper's Jerusalem correspondent. From 1995-2001, David was Moscow Bureau Chief. His stay in Russia allowed him to do extensive research for his recently published book "The Oligarchs: Wealth and Power in the New Russia." The book has been described as "a brilliant investigative narrative on how six average Soviet men rose to the pinnacle of Russia's battered economy." Hoffman has received numerous awards for his international journalism and for his coverage of the presidency. Hoffman moved to Delaware as a two-year old, graduated from Concord High School and attended the University of Delaware where he edited the school's newspaper. He attended religious school at Congregation Beth Emeth, was confirmed there, and served as President of BESTY in Wilmington. His parents, Beverly and Howard Hoffman, still reside in our community. David now lives in Potomac, Maryland with his wife, Carol Fleming Hoffman, also a former Wilmingtonian, and his two sons, Daniel and Benjamin.

Levels of support for the luncheon include Diamond—\$180; Gold—\$100, and Donor—\$55.00. If you have not received an invitation and would like to hear Hoffman speak and support the Home's many programs for its Residents, please call Susan Sandler at (302) 655-9343.



David E. Hoffman

Arts In The Offing

by Paula Shulak

There are several exciting events planned in the Philadelphia area which may be of interest to Jewish citizens of Delaware. On Sunday April 14, at 7 PM Chava Alberstein, Israel's "First Lady of Song" will appear at the Irvine Auditorium of the University of Pennsylvania, 3401 Spruce St.. Known for many years as the most accomplished singer in Israeli history, Alberstein transcends the boundary of mere artist. Her music voices the soul of Israel.

Her repertoire includes traditional Yiddish songs as well as the most up to date popular Hebrew music coming from Israeli night clubs. She has been described as someone who "mixes chanson with Jewish soul music. A quality singer, a gifted story teller, a fasci-

nating interpreter, a nonstop developer. From tender love songs to defiant songs about peace and oppression, or prayerful songs celebrating the beauty of the human form and more melancholy songs about loss, poverty and solitude." I have been listening to Chava Alberstein's recordings since I was a teenager and perhaps some of you had the same experience. The same age as the state of Israel, she is still going strong on the entertainment circuit. Tickets to the concert are \$35, \$30, and \$25 with discounts for seniors, students and groups. Call 215-898-3900 or order through www.PENNpresents.org.

On Sunday, April 21, a very different kind of program will be held at the National Museum of Jewish History on Independence

Mall. At that time a lecture on the Life and Times of David Seixas will be given, sponsored by Congregation Mikveh Israel (one of the oldest in the US) and the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf. Seixas, whose family was very instrumental in the Revolutionary War, was the founder of the School and a member of a family which went to extraordinary lengths to insure the strength and survival of Judaism in the new land of America. Abigail Kursheedt Hoffman and Dr. Kenneth Libo, coauthors of THE SEIXAS-KURSHEEDTS AND THE RISE OF EARLY AMERICAN JEWRY are the featured speakers. The program is free of charge.

Finally, On Sunday, April 28, Akiba Hebrew Academy is staging a film event at

their "A Sunday Cinema" program and will show the Academy Award nominated film PROMISES. This program takes place at 3 PM At Akiba located at 223 N. Highland Ave. in Merion Station. This film gives viewers a chance to see what living in Jerusalem is like for children on both sides of the terrible conflict which now rages in the Holy Land. The documentary follows the journey of filmmakers B.Z. Goldberg and Justine Shapiro over the course of 4 years as they are welcomed into the lives of 7 Palestinian and Israeli families. Through the eyes of children we see the dramatic and emotional effect of life as it is now being lived in the battle torn city of Jerusalem. Tickets for the event are \$10 or \$5 for students. Call 610-667-4070 for more info.

Kutz Home Prepares For Present And Future

Continued from page 9

changes are absolutely necessary for the present and future. We urge all to participate in the Capital Campaign which has already done phenomenally well." Kutz Home Resident Council President, Sonny Aguilar added, "Money is the root of all goodness," after he looked over blueprints for the expanded Kosher kitchen.

All residents and their families were invited to a "Chai Tea" to hear about the planned improvements to The Home. The excitement level was high and many discussed the plans for Kutz that provides such excellent care for this phase of their lives. New resident, Jack Goldstein commented,

"I'll be glad to see all of this—it's about time." Over 130,000 Kosher meals are served a year and over 435,000 pounds of laundry (both facility and residents') are handled each year, all on site. The new equipment will enable more efficient use of staff and equipment. The improvements from The Capital Campaign will continue to transform a large modern facility into a place comfortable enough to be called home.

The Milton and Hattie Kutz Home, located at 704 River Road in Bellefonte, is a constituent agency of the Jewish Federation of Delaware and will benefit greatly from the success of The Capital Campaign.

JCC Hosts Cuban-Sephardic Filmmaker

Ruth Behar, University of Michigan filmmaker and anthropology professor, will show her film, "Adio Kerida/Goodbye Dear Love: A Cuban Sephardic Journey" on Sunday, April 21st, 1 p.m. at the Delaware JCC. Behar will discuss her own life and research as a Cuban-born Sephardic Jew during the program, which is co-sponsored by Las Raices and the Latin American Community Center. For further information, call the JCC at 478-5660.



Still photo from "Adio Kerida/Goodbye Dear Love: A Cuban Sephardic Journey"

MILESTONES

In Memoriam

BLUMBERG

Reba Blumberg, 97, of Wilmington, died April 1st. She was preceded in death by her husband, Jacob and is survived by loving nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. Graveside services were held on April 2nd. Contributions in Mrs. Blumberg's memory may be made to The Kutz Home, 704 River Road, Wilmington, DE 19809.

BROWN

Leonard M. Brown, 78, of Plymouth Meeting, PA died March 10th. For more than 20 years, he served as manager of men's suits for Wilmington Dry Goods. He was a veteran. Survivors include his wife, Paula; his son and daughter-in-law, Robert and Susan Brown and daughter, Ellen Brown; his brother and sister-in-law, Willard and Illean Brown and his brother-in-law, Albert Weinstein. He was predeceased by his sister, Sarah Brown Weinstein. He also is survived by his grandchildren, Benjamin and Hannah and his nephew and niece, Sheldon and Ruth Weinstein of Wilmington. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Jewish Federation of Delaware, 100 West 10th Street, Suite 301, Wilmington, DE 19801.

FINKLE

Irvin R. Finkle, 84, of Radnor Woods, died on March 27th. He was the owner of Murphy and Finkle, Inc. until his retirement in 1990. Survivors include his wife, Nannette; daughter, Susan Strauss; son, Edward Finkle; and his seven beloved grandchildren, Larry, Brad, Randy, Heather, Gregory, Michael and Jeffrey. Graveside services were held on April 1st in the Jewish Community Cemetery on Foulk Road. Donations in Mr. Finkle's memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

KESSLER

Beatrice I. Kessler, a resident of the Kutz Home who was recently

honored by family and friends on the occasion of her 100th birthday, passed away on March 23rd. She was a long-time member of Congregation Beth Shalom. She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Alfred and Josephine Kessler; grandchildren, Gail, Alan, Barbara and Steven; great grandchildren, Stacey, Mark, Brian and Daniel. Graveside services were held on March 25th in Beth Kehillah Cemetery, Pleasantville, NJ. The family requests that contributions in her memory be made to either The Kutz Home, 704 River Road, Wilmington, DE 19809 or to Congregation Beth Shalom, 18th and Baynard Blvd., Wilmington, DE 19802.

MAY

Arthur I. May, II, age 83, a resident of Newark, died March 16th. He is survived by his son, Gary; his daughter-in-law, Gail; and grandchildren, Joanna and Jeffrey. Service and interment were private. Contributions in his memory may be made to The Arthur-May fund, c/o John R. Downes School, 220 Casho Mill Road, Newark, DE 19711. Mr. May served the school as a volunteer mentor.

REBER

Rose Reber, (nee Weinstein) 88, a long-time resident of Wilmington before moving to Philadelphia in 1940, died March 16th. She was predeceased by her husband, Benjamin; her brothers Harry and Philip Weinstein-both long-time Wilmingtonians-and is survived by another brother, Albert, a resident of The Kutz Home and a nephew and niece, Sheldon and Ruth Weinstein. Contributions in her memory may be made to The Kutz Home, 704 River Road, Wilmington, DE 19809.

SILVER

Anna R. Silver died March 14th at the age of 86. She was a member of Congregation Beth Emeth and its Sisterhood. She was the widow of Robert T. Silver and is

survived by her daughter, Susan; her brother, Sidney Rothman; her sister, Vivian Rothman; two grandchildren; a foster granddaughter and two great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held on March 18th at Congregation Beth Emeth with interment in the Jewish Community Cemetery on Foulk Road. Contributions in her memory may be made to Comprehensive Care of Washington, 4973 Butterworth Place, NW, Washington, DC 20016.

SPILLER

Mildred Berman Spiller, 85, formerly of Wilmington, died March 30th. A lifetime member of Congregation Beth Shalom, she served as president of the congregation's Sisterhood. She also was a lifetime member of Hadassah and was a long-time member of Brandywine Country Club.

After her retirement from the News Journal, where she worked as a supervisor in the Classified Department, she lived in West Palm Beach, Florida, Calvert Manor and Rising Sun, Maryland. She was predeceased by her parents, Jacob and Mary Schlein Berman, her husband of 58 years, George and her daughter, Susan Spiller Moien. Survivors include her sons, Stephen R. Spiller of Pacific Palisades, CA and J. Bruce Spiller of Birmingham, AL; a sister, Pauline Shapiro of Merritt Island, FL; grandchildren, Melissa Moien, Annie Moien Fitzgerald, Ericka, Regan, Jason, and Sonja Spiller;

and great-grandchildren, Garrett and Ryan Fitzgerald.

Graveside services were held on Friday, April 5th in the Jewish Community Cemetery on Foulk Road. The family requests that contributions in her memory be made to either Congregation Beth Shalom, 18th Street and Baynard Boulevard, Wilmington, DE 19802; Jewish Federation of Delaware, 100 West 10th Street, Suite 301, Wilmington, DE 19801-1628 or to Hadassah, c/o Eva Weissman, 9 Devon Court, Wilmington, DE 19810.

WOLF

Harry Wolf, formerly of Brandywine Hills, died Friday, March 15th at the age of 98 in Forwood Manor. A native of Philadelphia, he was a long-time Wilmington resident and was extremely active in the Delaware Jewish Community. A member of Congregation Beth Emeth since 1939, he was the founding chairman of the synagogue's Brotherhood and Religious School. He also founded the first Jewish Boy Scout Troop in Delaware, which met at Beth Emeth during the 1940s. During his presidency of the congregation, he led the initiative to build the synagogue at its current site on Lea Blvd.

Mr. Wolf, who served as chairman and president of Wolf Liquor Company in Wilmington from 1949 to 1975, also played a leadership role with the Jewish Federation of Delaware and the

YMHA, where he served on the Board of Directors. He also was a member of the Board of Directors of Hebrew Union College in Ohio and was a founding member of the Brandywine Country Club.

Mr. Wolf was predeceased by his first wife, Etta Galler Wolf and his second wife, Millye Belfint Wolfe. Survivors include his daughter, Geri E. Singer of Sicklerville, NJ and sons, S. Allen Wolf of Claymont, DE and Barry B. Wolf of Hockessin; as well as seven grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

He is interred in Beth Emeth Cemetery. The family requests that contributions in his memory be made to the American Cancer Society, 92 Reads Way, Suite 205, New Castle, DE 19720.

WOLOSHIN

Evelyn L. Woloshin, 82, a former resident of Wilmington who retired to Florida, died March 30th. Survivors include sons, Melvin A. of Wilmington, Michael A. of Medford, N.J.; daughter, Lisette W. Kedan of Trumble, CT; brother and sister, Saul Sitzer of Baltimore, MD and Ruth Balick of Twin Oaks, DE; and grandchildren, Dr. Neil, Natalie, Eric and Katie Woloshin, Daniel Kedan and Heather Ansley.

Graveside services were held on April 1st in the Jewish Community Cemetery on Foulk Road. The family requests that contributions in her memory be made to The Kutz Home, 704 River Road, Wilmington, DE 19809.

NACHAS NOOK

A New Daughter Of Israel Is Born

Bess and Larry Lobel are proud to announce the birth of their newest granddaughter, Maya Isolde Pena-Lobel, on January 1st. Maya's middle name (Isolde) and Hebrew name, Yisraela, are in memory of her great uncle, the late Israel Weiner. Maya, her seven-year old brother, Carlos Andreas Pena-Lobel and her parents, Marci Lobel and Louis Pena, live in New York, where Dr. Lobel is on the faculty of the State University of New York at Stony Brook and Dr. Pena is a scientist at Brookhaven National Laboratory.



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Gilman Receives Prestigious Award



Muriel E. Gilman

Children & Families First honored Muriel E. Gilman with its 2002 J. Thompson Brown Award during the organization's CHILD S PLAY gala at the Wilmington Country Club. Dr. Gilman, whose professional career has focused on public service, was recognized for her efforts to strengthen family life in Delaware.

The Brooklyn, NY native began her career with the New York Housing Authority and moved on to become the first Personnel professional for the South Huntington Public School System. Her reputation as a trailblazer was cemented when she assumed the role of the first woman professional at the United Way of Delaware. During her tenure there, she rose through the ranks and became Executive Vice President. Under her leadership, she established Leadership Delaware and an intensive volunteer-based Government Relations Program. Since retirement, she has worked as a consultant to the University of Delaware College of Health and Nursing Sciences.

Dr. Gilman serves on the Board of Children & Families First, co-chairing its Advocacy Committee. She also serves on the boards of the Delaware Community Foundation, United Way of Delaware, American Lung Association and Girls Inc, where she served as President for two years and now remains active as an honorary board member.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

BE A MACCABI

The JCC of Delaware's delegation is looking for a few fun people! Are you between the ages of 13 and 16 (by August 1st) and enjoy basketball (boys and girls), volleyball (girls), tennis, swimming, golf, bowling and more? Would you like to meet other teens with similar interests? If you answered yes, you might be perfect for the JCC Maccabi Games. The games are Olympic style sporting events with participation by Jewish teens across the country and around the world.

If you are interested, please call Randy Rosenthal (302) 478-5660, ext. 231, rosenthal@jccdelaware.org or Donna Schwartz, (302) 478-5660, ext. 228, dschwartz@jccdelaware.org.

SUPPORT GROUP: "HEALING HEARTS"

Jewish Family Service sponsors this Co-Parenting Group for Separated or Divorced Parents & Children. Two 3-hour sessions focus on skills that better enable separated or divorced parents to co-parent their children, and to help their children

understand and manage the change. This course is certified by Family Court. \$100 fee.

Scholarships available

Sessions can be taken in either Wilmington or Newark from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Call JFS at 478-9411 to register.

JFS Main, 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington, Meet Wednesday evenings, April 10 and April 17 and May 1 and 8; JFS Relationship Center, 288 E. Main Street, Newark, at this location, programs meet Wed. eves. May 15 & 22 (Wednesdays)

JOIN NEWARK JCC ON NEW YORK THEATRE TRIP

Sunday, May 19th. NY Theatre trip to see "The Graduate" starring Kathleen Turner, Jason Biggs and Alicia Silverstone. Departure is from the Newark JCC at 288 East Main Street in Newark. Seating is limited. Call now to purchase your tickets. Cost - \$127. For additional information contact Lynda Bell at 302-286-1401.

SPECIAL EXHIBIT AT US HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington will present The Art and Politics of Arthur Szyk during the month of April. The Polish-born Jewish artist became one of the most influential World War II propagandists in the nation. The exhibit, which consists of 145 original pieces of Szyk's work, opens April

10th in the Museums Kimmel-Rowan gallery. Entry into the Museum and the exhibition is free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.ushmn.org or call 202-488-0400.

CELEBRATE ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY

Delaware's Israel Independence Day celebration will be staged on Tuesday, April 16th at the Delaware JCC. This festive event will feature a performance by the Arad Wind Band, an authentic Israeli dinner, a bazaar with unique gift items, youth activities, Israeli dancing and much more. This community event is sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Delaware. For more information, please call Randy Rosenthal at 302-478-5660, ext. 231.

SOLIDARITY SEMESTER SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THE FALL

Ben Gurion University of the Negev is offering up to ten Solidarity Semester Scholarships for the Fall, 2003. Visit Israel, learn about the country, meet the people, experience the culture and show your solidarity. Included in the seminar will be dialogue on conflict resolution, security issues, media coverage, diplomacy and more... For an application and more information, please email us at: osp@aabgu.org or phone us at: (800) 962-2248 or check us out on the web: www.bgu.ac.il/osp.

Israel Business Briefs

From the America-Israel Chamber of Commerce

Competition Halves Bus Fares

Metropolin, the private bus company that won the tender to operate lines between Tel Aviv and Be'er Sheva, will inaugurate its service shortly. The fares charged are roughly half the current rate charged by Egged, the dominant bus cooperative. Approximately 15,000 people travel between the two cities daily; some 45% of the travelers are soldiers, due to the numerous army bases in the Be'er Sheva region.

Coca Cola Israel Builds New Factory

The management of Coca Cola Israel presented Minister of Industry and Trade, Dalia Itzik, with a plan to build a new factory in Kiryat Gat. The initial investment is expected to be \$70 million. The company is planning to move from its factory in Bnei Barak. Itzik said that the new factory will provide jobs for about 700 people directly, and thousands more indirectly. The factory will be completed in two years.

Israel and Donald Trump

Israeli company Jet Air signed a \$20 million contract to supply bathroom and kitchen products for a project being undertaken by New York developer Donald Trump. In another deal, Trump recently announced a \$600 million contract for the construction of residential towers in Miami Beach. That deal is with real estate company Sunny Isles Beach, owned by Israeli Michael Dezer.

Johnson & Johnson and Israel's Teva Form Partnership

Pharmaceutical companies Johnson & Johnson, based in New Jersey and Teva Pharmaceuticals, with US headquarters outside Philadelphia, have formed a consortium, along with several Israeli venture capital funds, to bid in the tender for setting up a biotechnology incubator in Jerusalem. Two consortia will be selected to run future incubators, one of which will be located in Jerusalem.

This week, Israeli Shekel conversion done at a rate of NIS 4.60 = \$1.00. For more information, contact Paula Joffe at the America-Israel Chamber of Commerce, Central Atlantic Region at 215 790 3722.

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