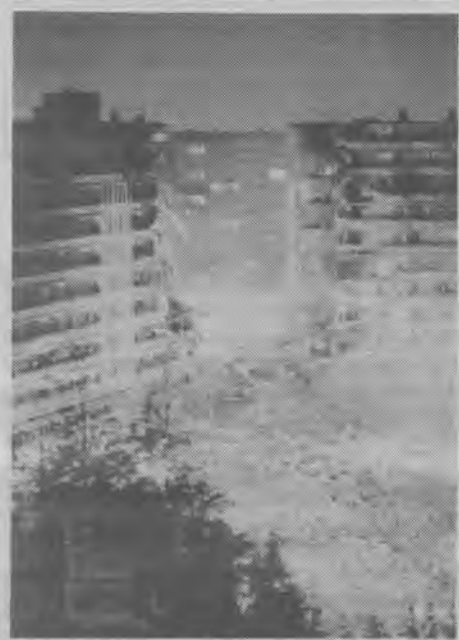


El Al crashes in Amsterdam

By HENRIETTE BOAS

AMSTERDAM (JTA) — The body of an Israeli woman killed in the crash of an El Al cargo jet last week was being flown home for burial this week as the number of victims was again revised downward, to 67.



Amsterdam, Netherlands—An aerial view over the scene where an El Al 747 cargo jumbo jet ploughed into two apartment blocks shortly after takeoff from Amsterdam's Schiphol airport October 4.

Anat Levy Salomon, wife of an El Al security officer in Amsterdam, had been flying home October 4 for a wedding when the Boeing 707 smashed into two Amsterdam apartment buildings. The remains of the three crew members have not yet been recovered, contrary to previous reports.

Close to 13,000 people attended a memorial service here Sunday for the victims of the crash, who were mostly immigrants from Ghana and the Netherlands Antilles.

Authorities were unable to identify 31 bodies, which will be buried in a mass grave.

Israeli Transportation Minister Yisrael Kessar spoke at the service, which was attended by former Queen Juliana, Crown Prince Willem Alexander, Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers and most members of the Dutch Cabinet.

Amsterdam Mayor Ed van Thijn and representatives of the countries of origin of the victims also attended.

Dutch cantor Hans Bloemendal read Psalm 23 and Rabbi Lodi van den Kamp recited the Yizkor and Kaddish memorial prayers during the service.

The cause of the crash is still unclear. But the flight-data recorder is yielding more data than expected at the American National Transportation Safety Board, according to news reports.

Trouble that began in a right-wing engine apparently set off a chain reaction that caused the crash of the jumbo jet, causing a death toll originally estimated as high as 250. One of the two starboard engines that fell off the plane has been recovered.

Bush signs loan guarantee law

By JOSEPH POLAKOFF

WASHINGTON — The \$10 billions in loan guarantees to Israel has become U.S. law as a humanitarian measure for Israel to borrow funds without cost to America for use in absorbing refugees mainly from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia.

Nineteen months after the government in Jerusalem had formally requested the assistance, President Bush on October 6 signed the Foreign Operations Appropriations Act that includes the guarantees and numerous other foreign aid measures, saying he was "pleased" that it provides "high priority" bilateral and multilateral programs. He listed the guarantees first.

Besides the guarantees, the Act provides Israel with the usual annual grants of \$1.8 billion in military and \$1.2 billion in economic assistance along with \$80 million for refugee resettlement in Israel and \$10 million for cooperative development. Egypt also received the usual grants of \$2.1 billion but with the cold war over Congress substituted loans for grants to Turkey, Greece and Portugal. The total actual funding in foreign aid is \$13.9 billion. Explicitly omitted is funding for Jordan unless the President declares it is essential. Major assistance is provided for former Soviet entities and the International Monetary Fund.

On the day of its adjournment October 5, the House approved the act by 312 to 105 with 15 not voting. All Jewish members voted for it except Rep. Bernard Sanders, the Ver-

mont independent. Late that night the Senate approved it by voice vote. The Senate's position had been indicated earlier when its Appropriations Committee approved the Act by 26 to one, South Carolina Democrat Ernest Hollings alone dissenting but not because of provisions affecting Israel.

Congressional adoption was not without misgivings over the wide latitude of discretion given to the President to determine whether to continue, reduce or terminate the guarantees designated at the rate of \$2 billion each year for five years. The Act specifically limits use of Israel's loans derived from the guarantees to within Israel's pre-Six Day War borders of 1967.

In addition, Israel must pay the U.S. Treasury \$90 million each year or \$450 million over five years in "scoring" costs, in effect, insurance. This is to protect the U.S. should Israel default on a loan. The "scoring" money must be paid each year whether Israel gets all \$2 billion each year or not, Congressional experts said. None of the \$450 million will be returned to Israel unless in future years the law is changed. In addition, Israel must pay all administrative costs which remain to be determined.

With discretion given the President including U.S. consultations on Israel's budget policies, privatization, trade liberalization, financial and capital markets, labor markets, competition policy and deregulation, concern has

been expressed in both houses of Congress. Senator Dennis DeConcini (D-Arizona) reiterated, "I am concerned that this legislation provides the President with total discretion on the disbursement of these guarantees. President Bush has not been favorably disposed toward Israel and I fear that he may use this leverage to gain other concessions from Israel or to force it into positions on issues such as the peace talks."

DeConcini added he has "put the administration on notice that if any political games are played with the extension of the loan guarantees, I will amend the first available legislative vehicle to ensure that the disbursement of the guarantees is made mandatory, not discretionary. I will maintain that position even under a Clinton administration."

At the office of Rep. Bill Green (R-New York), a member of the House Foreign Operations Appropriations subcommittee, it was pointed out that the government-to-government terms of the guarantees that Congress could not alter "are loose" and "there is a lot of latitude to stop the guarantees." It was also noted that the 4 1/2 per cent in "scoring" costs to Israel is a high figure since previous guarantees to Israel have been much lower, even down to one per cent.

Jewish coalition forms for tent city for Somalians

A coalition of leading national Jewish organizations has joined with Abie Nathan, the Israeli humanitarian, in a dramatic effort to help build a tent city in northeast Kenya to house and feed 20,000 starving refugees from drought-ridden Somalia across the border.

The project will seek financial support from the American Jewish community and the people of Israel. It has received the endorsement of the United Nations and the Kenya government. The cost of the project is estimated at \$1 million.

The sponsoring American Jewish groups, calling themselves the Jewish Coalition for Somali Refugee Relief, are: the American Jewish Committee, American Jewish Congress, Anti-Defamation League, B'nai B'rith International, Central Conference of American Rabbis, Federation of Reconstructionist Congregations and Havurot, National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods-Women of Reform Judaism.

Also, National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council, Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association, UJA-Federation of New York, Union of American Hebrew Congregations, United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, Women's League for Conservative Judaism and the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Congregations.

The tent city, said coalition leaders, will be completed and capable of caring for refugees within six weeks after construction begins. The numbing difficulties of delivering and distributing supplies that have stalled relief efforts in

strife-torn Somalia will not be a problem across the border in Kenya, they noted.

The government of Somalia, which does not have diplomatic relations with Israel and has refused Israeli or Jewish aid of any kind, will not be involved with the project. The government of Kenya, which has close diplomatic ties with Israel, has agreed to provide a site for the tent city, which will be built by American Jewish and Israeli volunteers and Kenyan workers.

Once the tent city is completed and fully operational, it will be turned over to the United Nations High Commission on Refugees, which will be responsible for its operation and administration.

Contributions should be sent to the Joint Distribution Committee Somali Relief Fund, 711 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017.

Cantor Markowitz of Adas Kodesch dies

Cantor Morris Markowitz, Cantor of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation of Wilmington, for the past eleven years, died September 25 at home of heart failure.

Cantor Markowitz, 67, was a member and honorary Fellow of the Cantors' Assembly, which in 1983, appointed him to Chazan Ministry as one of the fifteen most distinguished Cantors in the United States. Cantor Markowitz served with great distinction as the Cantor of Ahavas Achim Lubavitz Synagogue in Buffalo from 1949 to 1974.

Ethel Barros, synagogue cofounder, also dies

— page 14

He was a member of the Cantorial Council of Yeshiva University, New York City, and a graduate of Yeshiva and Mesiftha Torah Vadas, New York City, and an active member of its alumni association. He was born in Romania in 1924 and emigrated to the United States as a teenager in 1938.

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Stanislawski at Beth Shalom
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Opinion

Local Jewish education already a top priority

By Rebecca Falkowski
Jewish Voice editor

Wherever anyone goes these days, communal leaders are deeply concerned about the future of the American-Jewish community and Judaism.

Jewish education, not surprisingly, is at the top of the list of antidotes for Jewish survival during a time of increasing intermarriage and assimilation.

But Jewish education is a commitment that has to come from not only communal leaders but also from the community's members.

This community and its communal leaders are both to be commended for their responses to the call.

The Vision Committee of the Jewish Federation of Delaware in an extensive three year study recently outlined a community approach to the problems.

Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School has opened its school year with the largest number of students in its 27 year history. Of the 75 students currently enrolled, 32 are new.

The Adult Institute of Jewish Studies, in its second year at the Jewish Community Center, opens October 21 with a number of classes booked to capacity weeks ago. This year's program is sponsored not only by Delaware's synagogues and the Jewish Community Center, but by several nearby Pennsylvania synagogues.

One local leader said at a recent national Jewish conference that participants were told "being Jewish won't sell."

Delaware is responding otherwise.

DEADLINE

The next issue of The Jewish Voice will be published FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30. The deadline for stories and photos is noon, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23. Material should be sent or brought to The Jewish Voice office at the Jewish Federation of Delaware, 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington, DE 19803. (302) 478-6200 or faxed, (302) 478-5374. All articles must be typed, double spaced.

The **JEWISH VOICE**

Published semimonthly, and monthly in July and August, by the Jewish Federation of Delaware.

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Member of the American Jewish Press Association and Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Second class postage paid for The Jewish Voice (USPS-704160) at Wilmington, Delaware. Subscription price: \$10.00. Circulation: 3,200. Mailed to subscribers and contributors to the Jewish Federation of Delaware. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Jewish Voice, 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington, DE 19803. (302) 478-6200.



Below the firing line

Letters to the Editor

Focus on citizenry, not taxation

EDITOR:

Is anyone else fed up with the "Read my lips" debate? It seriously discourages me that President Bush and the Republicans in this and previous campaigns have succeeded in focusing the media and Americans on the narrow and self-interested issue of taxation (i.e., asset protection).

It's as if during the last 12 years we have

come to a new self-definition as a people, regarding ourselves exclusively as taxpayers rather than as citizens of America and the world. That does not bode well for the future of the American people as a cohesive community at home and with contributions to make to communities beyond our borders.

Ann Neale
Wilmington

Seeking Purim Torah for book

EDITOR:

I have just undertaken a wonderful project. You can all be a part of it. Do you have any really good Purim Torah that you would like to see published in THE GANTSE MEGILLAH? The collection will be published by the Jewish Publication Society (JPS) next year. This unique Purim companion will include a Hebrew and English version of Megillat Esther, a light-hearted commentary and loads of Purim parodies, jokes, cartoons, and much more.

You may know my work as the co-editor of THE BIG BOOK OF JEWISH HUMOR and THE BIG BOOK OF NEW AMERICAN HUMOR. Some of you may have seen me on the PBS documentary, "THE WORLD OF JEWISH HUMOR". My conviction is that Jewish humor is an important aspect of Jewish consciousness. THE GANTSE MEGILLAH will prove an opportunity to include not only comic ideas about the Purim story, but will also introduce many to the fantasy and imagination

that is part of our midrashic tradition. Materials concerning other parts of the Tanach and Rabbinic literature will also be considered.

It is my hope that THE GANTSE MEGILLAH will include a wide spectrum of Jewish humor. Because of its intended audience this book will have the ability to cross denominational lines and make a lasting impression on all who come in contact with it. This will be the kind of book you will look forward to every year as you use it in home and synagogue.

I am particularly interested in materials that can withstand time and place. But there is always a way to use any really good and funny pieces. Items in Hebrew and Yiddish are also welcome.

I will be glad to return materials after consideration if you enclose a SASE.

With wishes for a shana tovah umetukah.
Dr. Moshe Waldoks
12 Lombard Street
Newton, MA 02158

Concerned about charitable contributions

EDITOR:

I am concerned about the government trying to tax our donations to synagogues and other houses of worship.

One of the greatest Jewish experiences has been the art of justice or as said in other languages, culture. There is no other culture in the world that identifies charity with justice as we do in our language. "TZEDEKA" meaning justice, justness, fairness, rightness, good deed and truth. In the eye of the ancient Hebrew they were identified concepts.

Senator Daniel P. Moynihan of New York, the author of the Charitable Contributions Tax Act of 1992, has overlooked this basic Judeo-Christian tenet. This tax act cuts across the very lifeline of religious practice in that it cuts across the establishment and support of religious institutions and activities.

According to this act, the receiver of a donation will have to "provide the donor with a good faith estimate of the value of such goods

or services." This says nothing to exclude religious services from such estimation. How can one put a value on spiritual betterment?!

To explain how this might work, imagine the rabbi at the High Holy Day service thinking in the back of his mind, "What is the value of allowing someone to sit in the synagogue and repent before God and his fellow Jews for his sins or commissions or omissions so that he/she can start off the new year with a clean slate? What is the value of allowing someone to shed tears of sorrow for their dead loved ones during the YISKOR memorial service? Or tears of joy for their bar mitzvah boy? I'd better have this right so I don't cheat them — or the government!"

It is because of the inestimable value of religious and charitable activities that synagogues and churches and similar organizations have traditionally been tax exempt in all soci-

Continued on page 2

Opinion

Geography before autonomy: A different peace plan

By CHARLES JACOBS
and AVRAHAM WACHMAN

BOSTON (JTA) — A fundamental flaw in the peace proceedings may soon send the Israelis and the Palestinians back to the drawing boards.

The flaw? Though the Israelis may be fond of the theory that the autonomy being negotiated does not extend over a geographical area but is conferred only to "people," there can be no doubt that the Arabs will act as though they have been allotted an "autonomous region," a way-station to a Palestinian state covering all of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Much of the rest of the world will concur. On the opening day of the Madrid Conference, Arthur Hertzberg wrote that "the physical boundaries of Palestinian autonomy will almost inevitably become a map of a future Palestine." (New York Times, 10/30/91)

Israelis must decide on granting autonomy of any sort by first distinguishing between lands which may never be yielded, and territory which may one day become part of a Palestinian policy in a comprehensive settlement. Otherwise, they may be unable to retrieve the lands they need without a political explosion.

It is not hard to imagine how the Arabs and the media will paint a Jewish state which seeks to "take back land from this newly liberated people."

This "autonomy-before-geography trap" is embedded in the very rationale of the peace conference: Without putting the agonizing issue of territorial compromise "on hold," it

Charles Jacobs is a management consultant who writes on the Middle East. Avraham Wachman, professor of architecture and town planning at the Technion - Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa, is on the board of the Israeli Double Column Plan Association.

was thought, no one would have come to the table.

The parties, therefore, were encouraged to take a first step by agreeing on an interim period of Palestinian autonomy. A comprehensive settlement, which may or may not include territorial compromise, would follow.

The autonomy agreement would not prejudice either the "if" or the "where" of territorial compromise.

This sort of "interim-ism" clearly cannot work. Negotiations on Palestinian self-rule cannot but color the future map of Israel.

By granting a geographically undefined autonomy, Israel, to use a chess metaphor, takes her hand off pieces of the land that most of its citizens do not mean to yield.

Responding to what it sees as an imminent danger, the Israeli Double Column Association, a non-party group of scholars, kibbutz leaders, former military men, and others, is carrying on a campaign in Israel to insist that separation be a precondition for autonomy.

The separation is based on the Double Column Plan, originally submitted in 1976 by one of the authors of this piece to then-Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. The plan calls for Israel to extend her sovereignty over 25 percent of the disputed territories, and simultaneously recognize Palestinian independence in the rest.

According to the association, Israel, sitting in the unstable Middle East, cannot concede territories essential to her security and her future. Nor can it rely on the possibility that the other side may be willing to give up territory through negotiations.

Therefore, Israel has the right and the obligation, after decades of Arab enmity and several defensive wars, to annex unilaterally parts of the territories that are vital to its security.

The areas to be annexed are sparsely populated, containing approximately 50,000 Arabs.

The Israeli annexation will enable the creation of the "eastern column" from the Golan Heights down through the Jordan Valley. This column parallels Israel's heavily populated "western column" (the coastal plain strip) and forms a sizable and secure "double column" structure.

The annexation also creates a buffer zone against the Arab "eastern front," preventing an Arab continuum from Baghdad to the gates of Tel Aviv.

It prevents Israel from shrinking back into a narrow coastal-strip state — a "Jewish Hong Kong," — and is a pre-condition to any Israeli consent to a Palestinian entity.

Israel has no desire to rule over another people, and so must seek to create conditions for a cooperative, common fabric of life with the Palestinians now under its rule.

Israel has rejected "transfer" on the one hand, and a "bi-national star" on the other — both lethal to a viable life for two peoples sharing the same land. Simultaneously with its annexation, Israel should recognize the right of the Palestinians to self-determination, and to an independent, demilitarized polity on the remaining lands in Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

As a pathway for cooperation and peaceful coexistence between these two peoples, Israel should propose an Israeli-Palestinian confederation, with a demilitarized Palestinian polity. That would create a political separation of the two entities, while maintaining the functional integrity of western Israel.

Certain conditions, imperative for the success of the solution, must be imposed at the outset:

- The Palestinian polity will be demilitarized.
- The borders between the two entities will be open for free movement of citizens without special transit corridors.

•No expulsion of individuals, nor uprooting of settlements from either side.

There will be free choice of citizenship or permanent residency in both entities: Jewish residents in the Palestinian entity may choose Israel citizenship and Palestinian residents in the areas to be annexed by Israel can hold Palestinian citizenship.

•The Israel Defense Force will be responsible for the security of Jewish settlers in Judea, Samaria and Gaza until mutually acceptable, alternative arrangements are made.

Other conditions will be negotiated.

The Double Column group argues that unless Israel takes the initiative now, there is imminent danger that others will try to impose a total retreat from all of the territories.

As Israel cannot tolerate dragging the eastern front (Iran, Iraq, Syria, Jordan, or any combination) into its heart, such an attempt will cause the collapse of the peace process.

The Jewish state faces a moment of truth. Since it defeated Arab armies in 1967, Israel has ruled over the land and the people its victory conferred.

For 24 years Israel has agonized over what to do with the Palestinians in its grasp. And for 24 years it has decided not to decide. Instead it called on the Arabs to come to "unconditional talks," as though the talks would decide what the Israelis could not. The Israelis must act. They must show the way to a viable permanent settlement. Seriousness about peace requires more than vague talk of "flexibility." It means creating a national Israeli consensus on a concrete plan of action.

If the results of Israel's election offer hope it is that this centrist government can forge such a consensus — the sine qua non of any viable peace arrangement — and pursue a comprehensive plan that makes sense both to the Israelis and to the Palestinians. The Double Column Plan can be both the rallying point and the blueprint.

Nazism in Germany is no surprise

By ALAN M. DERSHOWITZ

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (JTA) — Why does the civilized world seem so shocked at the resurgence of Nazism in Germany?

It would be surprising if bad economic times did not result in right wing thugs scapegoating non-Aryans for their woes. After all, the people of Germany — especially the young — have never been taught about the true evils of Nazism and the widespread complicity of the German people in Hitler's genocidal programs.

At the end of World War II, there were some show trials at Nuremberg, at which a few handfuls of the surviving leaders were convicted. The message of those trials was that the blame for the excesses of Nazism was specifically directed only at the leaders.

The followers — the tens of millions of Germans who avidly supported Hitler and the tens of thousands who actively implemented his genocidal programs — were let off the hook. Even some of the most complicitous — for example, the Krupps — were pardoned and eventually restored to positions of honor and wealth.

German "denazification" was largely cosmetic. For example, in the late 1950s, a book was published in Germany which documented nearly 1,000 Nazi judges who "today occupy positions of responsibility in the West German judicial system."

These judges had been instrumental in filling the concentration camps and death camps with Jews, Gypsies, homosexuals, political dissidents and other enemies of the Aryan

Alan M. Dershowitz is a professor at Harvard Law School.

people.

As a West German federal prosecutor put it in 1958: "The mass of today's judges and public prosecutors were (the) tools of illegality, the instruments of terror" between 1933 and 1945. Little was done about these disclosures, and the vast majority of Nazi functionaries lived honored lives in both West and East Germany.

I recall a discussion I had several years ago with a group of German graduate students at the Kennedy School of Government. I put the following question to them:

"Would a calculating and amoral potential Nazi, knowing everything we now know about his rewards and punishments for joining or not joining the Nazi party back in the 1930s, be inclined to join or not join?"

Several of the German students agreed that the German response to Nazism has been so inadequate that even today a calculating potential Nazi would again choose to participate in the genocide on the basis of a simple cost-benefit analysis.

Even German president Richard von Weizsacker, who has asked Germans to accept responsibility for the Holocaust, has denied the responsibility of his own father, who had been Hitler's state secretary and an important member of Himmler's personal staff.

Despite massive evidence to the contrary, the German president has declared: "I really believe that (my father) did not know about the existence of the gas chambers and the systematic mass killing."

This attitude is all too typical of the Germans I have met, even those who are willing to see the German people as a whole assume respon-

sibility for the horrors of Nazism. Their own families, they claim, "did not know."

Even the German motion picture industry is affected with this kind of historical amnesia. Last year, it refused to allow "The Nasty Girl" — a brilliant film about a young woman's discovery of her own town's complicity with Nazism — to be nominated for an Academy Award. And Leni Riefenstahl, one of Hitler's chief propagandists, is now honored within the German film industry.

In light of this history, it was entirely predictable that a new generation of racists and bigots would turn to Nazism as soon as they felt threatened by the economic competition of non-Aryans. As the philosopher George Santayana once put it: "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

The young people of Eisenhuettenstadt, Guben, Bretten, Rostock and even Berlin do not remember the Nazi past, because they never learned of its true horrors and of their own parents' and grandparents' complicity in it.

Contributions

Continued from page 2

eties throughout history

Chief Justice John Marshall said, "The power to tax involves the power to destroy." I'm not sure that Senator Moynihan, nor anyone else, wishes to destroy religion by forcing religious organizations to demand donations greater than the bare minimum needed to survive on, thus barring vast multitudes from benefitting.

That is why they are attacking foreigners, desecrating Jewish gravestones, defacing Holocaust memorials and proudly shouting "Seig Heil." Nor will they learn the lessons of the past if the politicians give into their demands to "throw the foreigners out."

To blame the recent revival of Nazism on the foreigners would be for the German people — once again — to blame the victims and scapegoats for a problem that is squarely the fault of the German political, educational, religious and cultural leaders.

Nazism will recur in Germany every time there is a crisis, unless the German leaders begin to speak the painful truth to their people from the earliest grades in elementary school, from the first church services and from every bully pulpit of high political office.

Thus far, there has been a nearly total failure of German leadership, and the chickens have quite predictably come home to roost.

Now that Germany is reunited and powerful, this is no longer a local German problem. The civilized world must remind the German people of their ignoble past, lest we all be condemned to repeat it.

This bill goes into effect in 1994. I don't know about you, but I am going to write to my congressman and make sure that by that time, this idea becomes a fading place of history.

Ya'agov Halevi Haramgaal
Veteran Religious Freedom Fighter
Hebrew Scholar,
Professor of Judaic Studies
Los Angeles, California

LOCAL

Record enrollment at Gratz

Classes for the 5753 year began at Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School with the largest number of students in its 27 year history. Of the 75 stu-

dents currently enrolled, 32 are new. From Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth, Gratz welcomes Eric Brown, Elizabeth Cohen, Brian Gottesman, Yoni

Hormadaly, Michelle Lazarus, David Leitch, Jennifer Marzouk, Noah Pevar, Adam Seidel, Katie Tanser and Sara Weiss.

New students from Beth Emeth include David Ames, Brian Eng, Julia Gayduk, Alexander Grumbacher, Jacob LaPorte, Amanda Lukoff, Jessica Lukoff, Samantha Lukoff, Daniel Medwin, Anne Parsons, Matthew Pritzkur, Adam Ruben, and Joshua Wilges.

Irene Karel, Ashley Lange, Idit Romirowsky and Jason Steinberg are from Beth Shalom. Matthew Dickson, Jesse Fox and Rachel Grundfast are new students from Ohev Shalom in Wallingford and Benjamin Copeland is from Keshet Israel in West Chester.

These new students join with the 43 returning students who choose from a variety of Judaic and Hebraic

courses which include Contemporary Jewish Issues, History, Bible, Jewish Beliefs, Life, Literature, Ethics, Law and the Hebrew Language.

They also are entitled to participate in overnight retreats, educational forums, social gatherings and 6 week summer trips to Israel sponsored by the Jewish Community High School of Philadelphia.

Many Gratz courses can be added to local high school transcripts and advanced placement college credit is granted for selected senior level courses.

Delaware Gratz is a beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation of Delaware.

Chaplaincy fund established

The family of the late Chaplain Rheva Cook has initiated the Rheva H. Cook Memorial Chaplaincy Fund at the Medical Center of Delaware. The fund will provide scholarship support for pastoral care training of persons of the Jewish faith at the Medical Center.

Chaplain Cook was the country's first recognized lay chaplain of the Jewish faith in hospital pastoral care. She educated the hospital community on the rituals and principles of the Jewish faith which enlightened others to the needs of Jewish patients and their families.

The Memorial Fund includes support of a lecture grant which provides speakers to discuss with hospital staff topics relevant to the Jewish patient and family during their hospital stay. Topics include Judaism, its view of illness and death, spirituality, rituals and holidays.

Financial contributions to support and expand these special efforts should be sent to the Rheva H. Cook Memorial Chaplaincy Fund, in care of and payable to the MCD Foundation, 501 W. 14th St., P.O. Box 1668, Wilmington, DE 19899. All

contributions are tax deductible.

Jewish candidates, including both lay persons and clergy, who are accepted into the Clinical Pastoral Education Program at the Medical Center may apply for this scholarship support. Applicants for the Clinical Pastoral Education Program may apply to the Department of Pastoral Care, Medical Center of Delaware, 501 W. 14th St., P.O. Box 1668, Wilmington, DE 19899.

For more information, call the Rev. John B. Pumphrey, associate director, Department of Pastoral Care, 302-428-2780.

The Medical Center of Delaware, a private, not-for-profit organization, is a provider of both inpatient and outpatient health care services. It serves as the principal trauma and referral center for all of Delaware and nearby areas of New Jersey, Maryland and Pennsylvania.

With nearly 1,000 beds, the Medical Center ranks among the 10th largest health facilities in the country. Included in the organization are two acute care hospitals — Wilmington Hospital and Christiana Hospital.

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LOCAL

Community Profile: Karen Venezky

Meeting adversity with an indomitable spirit

By E. FINE

In January, Karen Venezky experienced the thrill of being appointed to the New Castle County Council. Venezky replaced Mike Purzycki, who had held the seat since 1983.

For the 48-year-old Newark resident, the appointment by County Executive Dennis Greenhouse had been the culmination of nearly 30 years of volunteer work. She is on the National Board of Hadassah in New York City, the largest volunteer women's organization in the country, and also is on the board of directors at the Grand Opera House in Wilmington.

Though surprised, she was prepared to serve. Her mother had been a social worker in Venezky's hometown of Hazleton, Pa.

But in April, Venezky experienced something that she wasn't prepared for. During a routine self-examination, she discovered a lump in one of her breasts. A biopsy showed that the lump was malignant.

"I was never in any of the high risk categories for cancer," she said. There was no history of cancer in her family. "A lot of women think that because they're not high risk, they don't need to pay attention," she said.

She had just introduced legislation requiring lobbyists to register with a newly created county ethics commission. The county had been under investigation by the FBI for possible corruption.

State Secretary of Transportation Kermit Justice had resigned his post after being accused of accepting bribe money from Southern Ventures, a phony company set up by the FBI.

The press clippings detailing the scandal hadn't yet had time to yellow. County officials were still on edge, waiting for something to happen.

But Venezky was in the clear; she had voted against the bogus rezoning application submitted by Southern Ventures.

In wake of all the controversy, her goal was to lead the charge to restore the public's faith in county government following the scandal. "I thought I was busier than I ever had been in my life. And then all of sudden here's another issue."

What she discovered, though, was that she could go on with her life. And that she did. She scheduled herself for surgery only after her lobbyist legislation had been examined by the public during a work session.

The surgical procedure Venezky underwent is called a lumpectomy. Because detection was early, only the lump was removed, rather than the entire breast as in a mastectomy.

During the summer, she continued taking the train into New York two days a week to fulfill her duties with Hadassah. The only difference was that she had to stop in Philadelphia on the way for radiation treatments.

The importance of everything in her life has grown. Speaking of her work, Venezky said, "When you go through something like this, you re-

ally get a perspective. You become even more of a fighter. You realize you have to deal with something major."

"There is no way to prevent breast cancer," a sign in her surgeon's office states. Venezky wants all women to look after themselves by:

- Having regular mammograms
- Having regular checkups.
- Performing self-examinations.

All of these steps must be taken, Venezky said. If one is left out, it's possible that detection will be delayed.

"What if I had said to myself that I was too busy. A year from now it would be a totally different story," she said. "I caught it before it had spread and while the prognosis was still excellent. So I consider myself very fortunate."

If other women must suffer cancer, Venezky wants them to hear that they, too, caught it early. "Most women are terribly frightened. And that is the very thing that contributes to the high mortality rate," she said.

Especially here, where, according to the Medical Center of Delaware, the state's breast cancer rate is 17th highest in the country and its death rate from that disease is the highest.

Cancer "doesn't have to turn your life upside down," she said. The disease has not interfered with her responsibilities as a public servant.

"Attitude is extremely important. My attitude is that I'm going to keep going and going and going. It's only through fear and ignorance that women are drying of breast cancer."

Politically, Venezky's plans have not changed. She has never had second thoughts about running for her county council seat. "This is a very good time to do things. The public is watching."

Her doctors have assured her that her health is good. Neither eight weeks of radiation treatments nor the chemotherapy, which she will undergo until December, has caused her any fatigue or nausea.

She has yet to miss a council meeting. In public, she smiles often and is still animated in the way she was before the crisis.

And whenever women ask what they can do for her, her reply is the same: You can look after yourself and your daughter, she'll say.

"The human spirit is indomitable," Venezky said.

Doubting her is all but impossible.



Karen Venezky

Maccabiah swimmers wanted

The United States Maccabiah Team is seeking swimmers 35-and-over, to compete in the Masters Division of the 14th World Maccabiah Games, to be held July 5-15, 1993 in Israel.

The quadrennial Maccabiah Games brings Jewish athletes from around the world together in Israel for the Olympic-sanctioned and -style competition. Athletes such as Milwaukee Bucks Dan Schayes, Ernie Grunfield,

Dolph Schayes, Brad Gilbert, Mark Spitz and Mitch Gaylord have competed in previous games.

There are six age classifications from 35 and older. Competition will be held for men and women in 17 events in freestyle, butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke, intermediate medley, and medley relay. Interested swimmers should contact Jimmy Goldman, U.S. Masters Maccabiah Swimming Chairman, 5281 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15217.

E. Fine is a freelance writer residing in Newark.

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News Briefs

Chicago lawyer to succeed Cardin

WASHINGTON — Richard Wexler, the Chicago lawyer who is national vice chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, will become chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry in succession to Shoshana Cardin at the organization's annual leadership assembly November 9-11 in New York, the NCSJ has announced at its headquarters in New York. Mark Levin, who led the NSJC's office in Washington and has been associate director of the NCSJ, has been appointed executive director in succession to Martin Wenick who is now executive vice president of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS). Organized in 1964 as the coordinating agency for action on behalf of Soviet Jewry, the NCSJ at present includes 48 national organizations and more than 300 local community councils and federations. *From Joseph Polakoff*

Israel offers Egypt quake aid

JERUSALEM — Israel has offered Egypt assistance in the wake of an earthquake near Cairo on Monday that left over 400 dead and thousands more camped along the highway in fear of further tremors. The offer of "any assistance which the Egyptian government deems necessary" was conveyed publicly by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres in a message of sympathy to the Egyptian people, and through diplomatic channels in Cairo and Tel Aviv. Many Israelis, especially in the south of the country, felt the tremor that shook Cairo. *From Jewish Telegraphic Agency.*

Rabin may shift outspoken Aloni

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Faced by angry complaints from Israel's religious parties, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin may try to shift Shulamit Aloni from the Education Ministry to a less controversial Cabinet slot. The Labor-affiliated newspaper *Davar* reported Tuesday that Rabin was considering the change in an attempt to stave off further tensions with one of his two coalition partners, the Sephardic Orthodox Shas party, and with possible Orthodox Cabinet allies in the future. Aloni, whose recent remarks on religion from a secularist perspective, stirred the ire of Shas, heads the left-wing Meretz block. *From Jewish Telegraphic Agency.*

Pamyat draws crowd in Moscow

MOSCOW — "Down with the Jews" and "Russian Unite" were blazoned across banners hanging at the Central House of Actors here October 6, Yom Kippur, as the far-right, anti-Semitic Pamyat movement held a conference to define its political agenda for the difficult winter ahead. Pamyat's aim is to "help the Russian people find their way and make the lives of the Zionists as hard as possible," declared Dimitry Vasiliev, the movement's best-known figure and leader of its National Patriotic Front faction. *From Jewish Telegraphic Agency.*

Noah Bee dies, JNF Blue Box designer

LOS ANGELES — Noah Bee, longtime cartoonist for the Jewish Telegraphic Agency and designer of the Jewish National Fund blue box and Israel's first currency, died October 4 in Bethesda, Md. He was 76 years old and had been hospitalized with cancer. Bee lived in Encino, Calif. *From Jewish Telegraphic Agency.*

Israelis seek compensation from Iraq

JERUSALEM — Residents of Israel who were injured or whose property was damaged in Scud missile attacks during the Persian Gulf War can now demand compensation from Iraq. The claims will be submitted to the United Nations. On October 5, Israel's Ministry of Justice published notices about the procedure. The ministry has set up a special unit to handle the claims, to be submitted within the next two months. Meanwhile, with an eye toward future precautions, the Israel Defense Force's Home Front Command is to begin a trial distribution of new gas masks among some 800 families in various parts of the country on October 21. *From Jewish Telegraphic Agency.*

Jewish vegetarian group opens center

NEW YORK — The International Jewish Vegetarian Society has opened a center in Jerusalem. At opening ceremonies, the president of the Israel Jewish Vegetarian Society and former Chief Rabbi of Ireland, David Rosen, said: "The sublimest of our Jewish teachings are expressed through authentic Jewish vegetarianism and will be a source of redemptive light in keeping with prophetic vision that will shine forth from Jerusalem." Philip Pick, founder and president emeritus of the international group said he hoped the opening would be "the forerunner of the days when the movement shall encompass all the people of Israel in their adherence to the divine will of compassion for all creation, when the war against nature will cease." *From Jewish Telegraphic Agency.*

Sales in Nazism up in Rome

ROME (JTA) — The Italian capital is experiencing a boom in sales of books dealing with Nazism, according to a report in a leading Rome newspaper. "Fatherland," a recently published novel imagining a world in which the Nazis won World War II. Many of the people buying these books are Skinheads, *Il Messaggero* reports.

We Have Good References...

Lexus highest in survey of satisfaction

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A survey of new car buyers released Tuesday shows Lexus owners were the most satisfied with their dealers, salespeople and the condition of their cars.

It's the second year in a row that Lexus, the luxury division of Toyota Motor Corp., topped the J.D. Power and Associates Sales Satisfaction Index.

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NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL

Consulate in Philadelphia may close

By LISA HOSTEIN

Jewish Exponent

PHILADELPHIA (JTA)—Reports that the Israeli Foreign Ministry is considering closing its consulate in Philadelphia have prompted dismay and concern in the local Jewish community.

Foreign Ministry officials say that no final decision on the fate of the consulate has been made yet, but they have confirmed Hebrew newspaper reports that such an action is being considered.

"The decision has not been taken yet, but to say that it is being considered is true," said Shlomo Gur, adviser to Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin, in a telephone interview from Jerusalem.

Israel Peleg, who earlier this summer completed a four-year term as consul general here, said, when reached in Tel Aviv, that he had heard the rumors about the closing.

Peleg, who was recently appointed director-general of the Ministry of the Environment, implied that he believed such a move would be taken.

The Israeli Cabinet has not appointed a replacement for Peleg, fueling further speculation that the office might be closed.

Observers believe that if the consulate is shut down, the Philadelphia region would fall under the purview of the Israeli Consulate in New York.

Amira Arnon, the consul in Philadelphia who is serving as acting consul general, said a decision will likely be made after the Jewish holidays.

Gur said it is not uncommon for the Foreign Ministry to re-evaluate periodically the "span of consulates" around the country and the world.

"We have to take into account the strain of budgets and developments around the world," Gur said.

Israel's diplomatic responsibilities have surged over the past year, as countries from Africa to Eastern Europe have established new ties or revived old ones.

The jurisdiction of the Philadelphia consulate extends to Delaware, southern New Jersey, West Virginia, Ohio and Kentucky.

In addition to serving as Israel's liaison with the Jewish and non-Jewish communities, helping to enhance Israel's image, and developing business and cultural ties, the office serves the consular needs of the more than 10,000 Israelis estimated to be living in the area.

Women erect peace tent

By MICHELE CHABIN

MOSHAV ELI AL, Israel (JTA)—Over the years, thousands of Israeli soldiers have pitched their tents on the barren hills of the Golan Heights, ready to deflect an attack by Syria.

Now a group of Jewish women from the area have set up a "peace tent" to demonstrate their desire for peaceful relations with their Arab neighbors.

Overlooking the Syrian village of Ibanid, the tent was the brainchild of the Women's Forum, a non-partisan group of local residents, both religious and secular.

Two weeks ago, 75 women and their children gathered at Moshav Eli Al, near the Syrian border, to pitch the tent. One of the participants, megaphone in hand, addressed the crowd in Hebrew and Arabic, as brightly colored balloons and a flock of doves were sent over the border.

Since then, the women have been posted at the tent on a rotating basis.



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CJF Assembly in New York
Local delegation to attend

The 61st annual General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations — the largest annual gathering of Jewish lay leaders and professionals in the world — will be held in New York City from November 10-15. It is the first time the GA will be held in New York.

At least 3,500 participants from the United States, Canada, Israel and international Jewish communities are expected to attend this year's event.

Local delegates representing the Jewish Federation of Delaware at the General Assembly include Steven A. Dombchik, President, Debra Kattler, immediate past Chairperson of the JFD Young Leadership Cabinet, and Richard Venezky who serves on the CJF Board of Directors. Kattler was the recipient of the Gilbert J. Spiegel Young Leadership Award which sponsors outstanding young leaders to attend the GA.

Also attending the conference will be Seth Bloom, JFD Acting Executive Director, Connie Kreshtool, JFD Endowment Director, and Lelaine Nemser, JFD Staff Associate.

A GA highlight will be a tribute to Israel's retiring President, Chaim Herzog, which will be held on Thursday night, November 12 at the International Plenary in Radio City Music Hall. The President's address will be preceded by a video on his career prepared for the occasion by CJF.

The extensive GA program always includes sessions on all significant issues confronting the Jewish community. This year, however, special attention will be paid to one area of concern, the need to strengthen Jewish identity and continuity.

For registration information, please contact the Jewish Federation of Delaware at 478-6200.

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NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL

Violence in the territories

By GIL SEDAN

JERUSALEM (JTA)—Despite the end of a two-week hunger strike by jailed Palestinians, riots continued in the administered territories over the Sukkot festival, leaving three Arab youths dead.

Israeli forces responded with tear gas, rubber bullets and live fire as hundreds of Palestinians took to the streets in violent demonstrations that spread from the Gaza Strip to the West Bank.

Political analysts believe the unrest will subside only after peace talks resume in Washington on October 21, when new openings for progress may restore the relative calm prevailing in the territories until a couple of weeks ago.

Two 15-year-old youths were killed and dozens of others wounded after the Israel Defense Force opened fire Monday to disperse a violent demonstration at the Nuseirat refugee camp in the Gaza Strip. Another 15-year-old was killed in a similar confrontation in the West Bank town of Salfit.

The wave of demonstrations followed the brutal murder Sunday of a Jewish computer technician on a working visit to the Gaza Strip settlement of Ganei Tal.

Security forces detained a resident of Khan Yunis who works at the moshav as a suspect in the murder of Amatzia Ben-Haim, 45, of Kibbutz Yad Mordechai. The victim had been bludgeoned to death with a hoe.

Analysts said the sudden upsurge in the intifada differed from its spon-

aneous outbreak five years ago in that it is now being carefully orchestrated from the top.

Palestinian leaders visited sit-down strikers before the eyes of television cameras at International Red Cross headquarters in the territories and East Jerusalem over the holiday. Foreign consuls and other media also visited the strikers, mostly women relatives of prisoners.

An end to the strike came Sunday night following negotiations with representatives of the jailed Palestinians. But news reports said some prisoners were still on strike at the

Napha prison in the Negev. And Palestinian leaders claimed it was continuing in other prisons as well.

Defense authorities have deployed reinforced troops in the territories as Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin announced Israel would use "every legally available means" to quell the disturbances.

At the same time, Police Minister Moshe Shahal said he will investigate prisoners' complaints about conditions in the prisons. He has appointed Levy Shaul, former commissioner of the Prisons Service, to carry out an inquiry promised in negotiations with strike leaders.

Request for Pollard denied

By KIMBERLY C. MOORE

State News Service

WASHINGTON—An attorney for Jonathan Jay Pollard urged President Bush this week to commute his client's life imprisonment sentence following a decision by the U.S. Supreme Court not to hear an appeal of the convicted spy's sentence. The nation's highest court, without comment, said Tuesday it would not review a ruling handed down in March by the U.S. Court of Appeals here, which rejected Pollard's claim that the government had violated the terms of a 1986 agreement, in which he pleaded guilty to spying for Israel in exchange for a reduced sentence.

Pollard, a Navy intelligence analyst, admits to passing thousands of classified documents to Israel, saying the United States was not living up to agreements made with the Jewish state to share sensitive information.

He claims that some of the infor-

mation he gave to Israelis included the location of Iraqi chemical weapons factories.

Theodore Olson, Pollard's attorney said he will now file a written request with the administration before the November 3 election. "It is important that whoever is in office commute his sentence," he said.

Olson cited the cases of several convicted spies who received "comparatively lenient" sentences. One such spy, Albert Sombolsy, was convicted of selling to Iraq and Jordan information on U.S. troop deployment during Operation Desert Shield. He received a 19-year sentence.

Seymour Reich, immediate past president of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations and B'nai B'rith International, said this week that Pollard's sentence is "cruel" when compared to other espionage sentences.

German officials split on how to end attacks

BONN (JTA) — German federal and state officials have failed to agree on a common approach to curbing the recent upsurge in neo-Nazi violence against foreigners.

Interior Minister Rudolf Seiters said he was disappointed that the interior and justice ministers of the 16 German states and their federal counterparts in Bonn could not come up with specific proposals at a meeting last week.

Seiters and some of his colleagues from the Christian Democratic Union favored granting police more powers to apprehend suspects and bring them to trial swiftly.

But most ministers from the Social Democratic Party-ruled states said the problem was not legislation but rather lack of resolve.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl, meanwhile, has angrily rejected criticism by the head of Germany's Jewish community that the government had encouraged outbreaks of nationalist violence against refugees seeking asylum here.

Ignatz Bubis, chairman of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, had accused the government of failing to head off violence from the right-wingers as efficiently as it had when the danger came from the far left.

Bubis termed it scandalous that neo-Nazi activists were routinely released shortly after being arrested, and showed up hours later in new scenes of violence.

Government spokesman Dieter Vogel said Bubis had "a rather unusual idea" about what the government was able to do. "The federal government has from the very beginning condemned these acts by right-wing extremists with the greatest sharpness and clarity," he said.

In a Bundestag debate on the situation last week, many lawmakers warned of parallels between the current neo-Nazi attacks and the Nazi mob that helped pave the way for Adolf Hitler's ascension to power in 1933.

Hans-Jochen Vogel, a Social Democratic leader and a former candidate for chancellor, pointed out that the Weimar Republic did not fail because of lack of laws against violence, but rather because too few politicians were ready to stand up and fight for democracy.

Germany's internal security service, meanwhile, reported that assaults on foreigners have become more frequent and more brutal over the past nine months.

Ten foreigners were killed so far this year by neo-Nazis, compared with three in all of 1991.

A total of 405 arson and bomb attacks on foreign refugees were registered in the past nine months, compared to 383 in 1991.

Violent incidents against foreigners have totaled 1,483 this year — roughly the same for the whole of 1991.

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Unusual guests in our Sukkah

By CARL ALPERT

HAIFA — We are fortunate that there is ample space for a sukkah on our large open-air terrace which is perched over the edge of Mt. Carmel and overlooks the classical panorama of Haifa and the Galilee hills beyond. The prefabricated sukkah walls are easily assembled, and thanks to our neighbors, the Levys, we have an ample supply of broad palm fronds to create the roof which not only meets all requirements, but also adds the necessary aesthetic touch.

In recent years we have broadened that part of the sukkah ritual which calls for extending an invitation to Biblical characters to join us in the gaily decorated booth. "Enter, exalted guests," the prayer begins, and in turn a cast of personalities ranging from Abraham, Isaac and Jacob to Moses, Aaron and David are invited to share our hospitality. The procedure is known as *Ushpizin*.

But we take liberties with the formula and dispatch our invitations to other personalities as well — people we have often wished to meet. What better opportunity than this to have them seated around our table, affording an opportunity to engage them in conversation.

Our list this year is varied. It begins with one of the philosophers of the Labor Zionist movement, A.D. Gordon, who early at the turn of the century established the principle that the Jewish homeland should be built with the brawn and the sweat of Jewish workmen. He spoke of the "dignity of labor."

We would have liked to hear his comments on today's reality — in which much of the physical work involved in building a state, from construction of homes to paving of roads to garbage collection, is being performed not by Jews, but by Arabs. What would A.D. Gordon have to say?

"Enter, exalted guest," we proclaim, and summon up the spirit of Max Nordau, one of the true visionaries of the early Zionist movement.

It was Nordau who, in the years immediately following World War I, issued his challenging call to the Jews of Europe, warning them that political and social conditions on the continent presaged an enormous catastrophe for them. Three million of them should move at once to Palestine. "No houses for them? Let them live in tents. Nothing to eat? World Jewry must feed them. The alternative is to have their throats cut..."

There is room in the sukkah for non Jews as well, and we should like to think that Feisal, King of Iraq, might enjoy the view from our terrace. It was Feisal who, in 1919, as numerous Arab states were being freed from Ottoman sovereignty, wrote to Felix Frankfurter: "We feel that Arabs and Jews are cousins in race... and by a happy coincidence have been able to take the first steps toward the attainment of their national ideals together. We Arabs, especially the educated among us, look with the deepest sympathy on the Zionist movement... We will wish the Jews a most hearty welcome home..."

There is much more along the same lines. We would reread his letter together, and ponder how things might have been so different. Another night we would have an interesting guest of a different kind.

Rachel Werbermacher died in Palestine in 1892, but she achieved notoriety of a sort in her home town of Ludmir, Poland, where she engaged in religious studies and immersed herself in the life of the Hassidim. Why cannot a woman also be a Hassidah? she asked. She prayed with great fervor and emotion, emulating the ways of the ecstatic Hassidim. She wore a *tallit* and put on *tafillin* each morning. When her father died she said Kaddish for him. She had her own synagogue, where she delivered learned discourses, though not without considerable opposition from many elements of the male-oriented Orthodoxy. "They Called Her Rebbe" is the title of a recently published book on her life, by Gershon Winkler.

How interesting it would be to hear observations on the religious feminist movement of today from the lips of Rachel, who was also known as the Maid of Ludmir.

One can meet the most interesting people in a Sukkah. We can hardly wait to begin preparing next year's list of guests.



Monument nears completion

JERUSALEM — Arab workers take a break for a snack from construction on the Valley of the Destroyed Communities monument at the Yad Vashem Holocaust complex. The monument is a huge labyrinth of stone blocks shaped like a map of Europe with the names of some 5,000 Jewish communities in Europe and North Africa which were destroyed by the Nazis in World War II. The monument was officially dedicated October 15. RNS Photo/Reuters

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Sh'mini Atzeret	23RD — 4:53 PM
18TH — 6:19 PM	30TH — 4:43 PM

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Jewish experience in Eastern Europe

Beth Shalom kicks off series

The Adult Education Committee of Congregation Beth Shalom of Wilmington announces the first lecture in its 1992-93 guest lecture series, "ASHKENAZ: The World of Our Ancestors".

Dr. Michael F. Stanislawski, Professor of Jewish History at Columbia University, will speak on Sunday, October 25, at 7 p.m. His lecture is entitled, "The Jewish Experience in Eastern Europe." Professor Stanislawski will survey the important themes of Jewish society in Poland, Lithuania, and the Russian Pale of Settlement.

Dr. Stanislawski holds the prestigious Nathan Miller Professorship in Jewish History at Columbia University, the oldest endowed chair in Jewish History at an American university, first held by Salo W. Baron.

He is also Associate Director of the Center for Israel and Jewish Studies at Columbia. Dr. Stanislawski has received B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees in History from Harvard University.

Dr. Stanislawski's areas of expertise are the history and culture of Eastern European Jewry and Modern Jewish History. He has written three books on the history of the Jews in Tsarist Russia, the first of which, *Tsar Nicholas I and the Jews: The Transformation of Jewish Society in Russia, 1825-1855*, won the National Jewish Book Award in 1984. Another book which he co-authored and edited, *Heritage: Civilization and the Jews*, was published in conjunction with the popular PBS television series of that name. He is currently at work on a biogra-

phy of Vladimir Jabotinsky, the founder of Revisionist Zionism, for which he has received a Guggenheim Fellowship.

At Columbia, Professor Stanislawski is also Chair of the Interdepartmental Committee on Yiddish Studies. He is an Associate of the Harriman Institute for Advanced Study of the Soviet Union and of Project Judaica at the Russian State University of the Humanities in Moscow. He is on the editorial boards of YIVO Annual and the Library of Yiddish Classics.

This lecture will take place at Congregation Beth Shalom, 18th and Baynard Blvd., Wilmington, on Sunday, October 25, at 7 p.m. Admission price is \$15 for the entire series of four lectures or \$5 per lecture at the door.

Simchat Torah:

In the wrong season?

By IRVING GREENBERG

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Question: Is the holiday of Simchat Torah (Rejoicing with the Torah) observed in the wrong season?

The holy day, which came into being as a holiday in the 11th-12th century C.E., celebrates the Torah (Five Books of Moses) and, by implication, the broader Torah (the total body of instruction which makes up the Jewish tradition).

When the Jews brought together practices glorifying the Torah — taking out the scrolls, parading them, dancing with them — to make a new holiday, why did they not connect it to Shavuot which is the birthday of the covenant, the day on which the Jews bound themselves to the Torah forever?

Answer: In contrast to the ancient Israeli triennial cycle, Babylonian Jewry divided the Torah (Five Books of Moses) into 54 portions and read them over the course of one year. When Babylonian Jews finished reading the Torah, they wanted to mark the occasion with rejoicing and celebration.

Logically, the conclusion and the celebration would come at the end of the year, just before Rosh Hashanah. But there was not much room for adding a major celebration then — and maybe the mood of awe and fear of judgment did not go well with delirious dancing and singing.

Also, a tradition developed to read the Torah portion containing the covenant blessings and curses (Ki Tavo, Deuteronomy 26: 1-29) just before the New Year-Ten Days of Penitence period. Correspondingly, the weekly readings were so apportioned that the covenant blessings and curses found in Leviticus (26: 3-46) would be read annually just before Shavuot.

The Torah reading, in effect, was giving advance notice of the rewards and punishments for being Jewish

Irving Greenberg is president of CLAL — the National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership and author of "The Jewish Way" (New York: Summit Books).

and warning that life and death lay in the choice. This portion evoked solemnity; it set the proper mood for being on trial for one's life between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. However, the reading of the last portions of Deuteronomy took two or three weeks more — which made Sukkot the natural holiday to be associated with the completion celebration.

Still, a deeper symbolic language may account for the connection of Simchat Torah to the eighth day holiday (Shemini Atzeret) that follows Sukkot. The numbers seven and eight appear widely in Jewish tradition and they have a distinct symbolic meaning.

Seven represents completion — and perfection. When the Torah describes God's flawless creation, it signals that excellence literarily by dividing creation into seven stages (days). The seventh day, Shabbat, crowns the process and completes it as God savors the fullness of perfection.

Passover, the celebration of the Exodus liberation event which is the core of the Torah, is a seven-day holiday; the first and seventh day are especially sanctified (no work is performed). Similarly, the Hebrew slave worked six days only. On the seventh day his freedom was restored; like his masters, he was set free from work. The Hebrew slave would be indentured for six years. In the seventh year, he went free. Thus the world was restored to its social perfection, which equals freedom.

Eight is also a highly positive symbolic number. Eight represents seven plus one; if you will, perfection plus. For seven days, the newborn male child lives separately from his mother's body and establishes the vitality and durability of his individual life. Then on the eighth day he enters the transgenerational covenant of Abraham — i.e., into the community of the Jewish people.

For seven days, a newly born goat or sheep nurses and grows with its mother. Only "from the eighth day on (after completing its cycle of a week) will it be accepted as an offering before the Lord" (Leviticus 23:19).

What is the difference between seven and eight? Both mark perfection — the completion of a whole cycle. But eight represents seven plus one, which means that one cycle has been completed and a new cycle has begun. The newborn male has begun the cycle of his own life on the eighth day. Therefore, he can enter into the community of the Jewish people.

Seven times seven years, the Jewish people lived with flawed, compromised social realities through a cycle of poverty, indentured servitude, borrowing and selling off family lands (see Leviticus, chapter 25 and Deuteronomy, chapter 15). But in the 50th year (seven times seven, plus one), i.e., the Jubilee year — a new cycle was begun. Primordial perfection was restored. Slaves went free. Every family received back its ancestral land. All Jews started over again independent, equal and free.

Passover also inaugurates a series of seven times seven steps (seven weeks or 49 days) which complete a cycle from exodus/political liberation to covenant/spiritual liberation. Shavuot occurs on the 50th day (seven times seven, plus one). The Sinai covenant is the beginning of the cycle of Jewish existence as a free people with a constitution and a mission — tiklun olam.

The Sukkot holiday contains seven days plus one. The eighth day (Shemini Atzeret) is considered a distinctive holiday in its own right but it also crowns and completes the Sukkot holiday — much as Shavuot (although removed seven times seven days) crowns and completes Passover. This parallel suggests that Shemini Atzeret can be compared to Shavuot and is an appropriate day to rejoice with the Torah.

On Simchat Torah, the people of Israel celebrate the completion of the annual Torah reading cycle. They immediately bring out another Torah and start reading the book of Genesis. Thus begins a new cycle of studying, living — and rejoicing — with the Torah. What day could be more appropriate for celebrating the Torah than the day of seven plus one — Shemini Atzeret?

Announcements/Events

Mission to Israel planned by JFD

The Jewish Federation of Delaware announces its first-time ever mega-mission to Israel from April 25-May 5, 1993.

Highlights of the mission include a visit with Soviet and Ethiopian olim, a camel ride in the desert with Bedouins, an archaeological visit, Kabbalat Shabbat at the Western Wall and meeting Israel families.

The cost for this 10-day trip is \$1299 per person, double occupancy. Single supplements are available, or if requested, you will be matched with a roommate. The trip includes airfare, five star hotels, taxes, transfers, guides, most meals, programs and touring.

This is the first time the Delaware community is sponsoring a mission of this size to Israel. The community has reserved 45 spaces-in honor of Israel's 45th anniversary of Independence. As this is limited, registration is on a first-come, first served basis.

Participants will have the opportunity to make a gift to the Community Campaign. Minimum contribution is \$1000 per person.

Watch for further details in future editions of *The Voice* and throughout the community. For information, and to request an application, contact Rhonda Cohen at JFD (302) 478-6200.

Beth El Men's Club meets

The Men's Club at Temple Beth El in Newark will feature Douglas McLeod, Professor of Communications at University of Delaware as the speaker on Sunday, October 18.

His topic is "Teledemocracy 92: For Better or Worse?" Since its introduction in the late 1940's, television has continued to shape the course of American politics. Recently, its role in presidential election campaigns has grown to the point where televi-

sion has replaced the political party as the center of campaign activity. This presentation examines how television has affected the current presidential campaign in order to stimulate discussion on the pros and cons of our "teledemocratic" political system.

The breakfast begins at 9:30 a.m. Call the Temple office at 366-8330 for more information.

Beth Emeth Sisterhood breakfast

The Sisterhood of Congregation Beth Emeth of Wilmington will hold a Breakfast & Annual Uniongram Program featuring Janice Selekmán, D.N.Sc.RN on "Talking to your children about sex and AIDS: Communication that could save their lives," on Sunday, October 25.

The breakfast will begin at 9:30 a.m. A donation of \$5 is requested per person. Each donation will go to the NFTS Yes (Youth, Education and Social Projects) Fund, and each donor will receive a packet of Uniongrams. Call Lisa Alpert (477-0321) by October 20 to make a reservation for this meeting.

Shomrei speaker October 30

Susan Mack, associate director of Shomrei Adamah and editor of its newsletter, *Voice of the Trees*, will be the guest speaker at Friday night services on October 30 at 8 p.m. at Temple Beth El, 301 Possum Park Road, Newark.

Mack's visit was arranged by the Ecology Committee of Temple Beth El, and anyone interested in attending is welcome.

Shomrei Adamah is a national, Jewish environmental organization associated with the Reconstructionist

movement. The mission of Shomrei Adamah is to inspire environmental awareness and practice among Jews by unlocking the treasure of ancient Jewish ecological wisdom. Shomrei Adamah serves its members — rabbis, educators, students, environmentalists, youth, seminaries, and a network of affiliate groups across America — with authentic traditional sources, curricula, publications, speakers, the newsletter, and "green synagogue" suggestions. Temple Beth El is an affiliate member of Shomrei Adamah.

Barbara Cohen to speak

Barbara Cohen, famous author and lecturer will be the featured speaker at a program on Sunday, November 1 at Congregation Beth Shalom, Wilmington.

A family spaghetti dinner will be held at 5:30 p.m. at the very modest cost of \$2.00 per adult and \$1.00 per child.

Cohen has written such well-known books for children and young adults

as "The Carp in the Bathtub", "Moll's Pilgrim", "King of the Seventh Grade" and "People Like US". She has extensive experience as a teacher and lecturer to both children and adults.

Mark your calendars and plan on bringing your family to this most exciting dinner and program, which is being sponsored by Kraft Educational Foundation.

Theatre group to make debut

Spotlight On Ability, a unique theater group in Delaware which provides performing arts opportunities for people with disabilities, will have its Inauguration on Thursday, November 12, at 7:00 p.m. at Beth Emeth Synagogue, 300 W. Lea Boulevard in Wilmington.

Featured speaker will be Brother Rick Curry, founder of the National Theater Workshop of the Handicapped, located in New York. *Spotlight On Ability* is a project of Very Special Arts - Delaware. For more information, call 475-6859.

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Calendar of Events

OCTOBER

Friday _____ 16

Family Shabbat Dinner in the Sukkah, 6 p.m., sponsored by the Youth and Family Department of the Jewish Community Center of Wilmington. A Kosher catered Shabbat Dinner under the stars in the JCC Courtyard. Entertainment provided by four members of Shir Ami of the Wilmington JCC. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children ages 3 to 14. No charge for children ages 2 and under. Pre-paid registration required by October 9. Event will be held rain or shine. For more information call 478-5660.

Monday _____ 19

Young Jewish Adults of Dela-

ware Simchat Torah celebration at 7 p.m. at Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Synagogue followed by dinner at Imperial Inn Chinese Restaurant, Talleyville. Call Keri Helfand at 302-475-3547 by October 18 to RSVP for dinner. YJAD donation \$1.

Wednesday _____ 21

Jewish Community Center New York Cultural Caravan Trip, 'Conversations with My Father,' but departs from the Wilmington JCC at 8 a.m. Cost is \$77 for JCC members; \$89 for non-members which includes transportation, orchestra seating and snacks. Pre-registration is required. For more information call 478-5660.

Senior Center of the Jewish Community Center, Wilmington, Candlelight Dinner, 5:30 p.m. Monthly Birthday Party Celebration. Holiday

donation requested. For more information call Ray Freschman at 478-5600.

Adult Institute of Jewish Studies classes begin, 8 p.m. and 9 p.m. Pre-registration required. Jewish Community Center, Wilmington. For more information call 478-5660.

Young Jewish Adults of Delaware coed volleyball (and October 28), Wilmington Jewish Community Center gym, 6 p.m. Admission \$1 for JCC members, \$2 for non-members. Call Mike Schenk for more information, 215-558-3781.

Thursday _____ 22

United Nations Week in Delaware features U.S. Sen. Joseph R. Biden Jr. in an address, "On the Threshold of the New World Order: A Rebirth for the United Nations," at 7:30 p.m. in Room 128 of Clayton Hall on the University of Delaware's Laird Campus in Newark. The lecture is co-sponsored by the Delaware Chapter of the United Nations Association/USA, the World Affairs Council of Wilmington and the Department of Political Science and International Relations, the International Relations Club and the Cosmopolitan Club of the University.

The Children's Center of the Jewish Community Center, Wilmington, Parent's Night - Information about pre-school and day care programs. Prospective parents are also welcome to attend. For more information call Jane Hermadaly at 478-5660.

ORT program presented by Jewish Family Services on "Love & Sex in the 90's" at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Rhonda Shulman, 715 Bristol Road, Wilmington.

Jewish Community Centers of Greater Philadelphia presents former hostage Terry Waite speaking on "Test of Humanity: Resolving Conflict," 8 p.m., Charles and Elizabeth Gershman YM & YWHA Branch, Broad and Pine Streets. Special event of the Arts Council. Tickets \$30 for orchestra seating, \$15 for balcony seats. For further information or tickets, call 215-545-4400, ext. 243.

Safam is coming to Delaware, sponsored by Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth of Wilmington, for a one evening engagement on Saturday, October 24, at the Mt. Pleasant High School Auditorium, Marsh Road and Washington Street Extension at 8 p.m. The Boston group will be introducing for the first time, new songs from their latest album being released in February. Tickets are on sale for: \$36 preferred seating (includes champagne reception with group members) and \$18 general admission. To purchase tickets or more information contact AKSE office at 392-762-2705.

Sunday _____ 25

Gratz College Film Series presents award winning film, "Kapo," 1960 film directed by Italian film-

maker Gilo Pontecorvo dealing with the controversial role of Jewish collaborators in a concentration camp. Screening followed by a guest speaker. Admission \$6. Old York Road and Melrose Avenue, Melrose Park, Pennsylvania. For more information call 215-635-7300.

Reservations due for December 13 Congregation Beth Shalom, Wilmington, bus trip to the Philadelphia Jewish Film Festival to see classic Yiddish film, Uncle Moses, starring Maurice Schwartz, and directed by Sidney Goldin. Ticket price \$10, includes round trip bus fare and movie. Dutch treat supper planned at Maccabeam Kosher Middle Eastern Restaurant in Philadelphia. Call 302-764-4360 or 302-426-0206.

Young Jewish Adults of Delaware Fall Foliage Nature Trail, Carpenter State Park, Newark, 2-4 p.m. Donation \$1. Contact Gary Trencher, 302-453-8767.

Monday _____ 26

Gratz College speaker Dr. Jerry Kutnick on "Are American Jews Still Liberal? The Political Behavior of American Jewry", 6 p.m., Old York Road and Melrose Avenue, Melrose Park, Pennsylvania. Admission, including kosher dinner, \$11. For more information call 215-635-7300.

Tuesday _____ 27

Fitness Center of the Jewish Community Center, Wilmington. Think Light Open House, 7 to 8 p.m. Ask questions and receive information about the Think Light Low-Fat living plan. Pre-registration is required. For more information call Eileen Wallach at 478-5660.

Jewish Great Books Discussion Group, 7:30 p.m., free of charge. Jewish Community Center, Wilmington. "Eulogy on Abraham," In S. Klerkegaard, "Fear and Trembling." For more information call Rona Finkelstein at 478-7598.

NOVEMBER

Monday _____ 2

Recreational Services Depart-

Naches

Nabutovsky

Boris Nabutovsky of Wilmington has enrolled as a freshman at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute majoring in computer science. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute is the oldest technological university in America. According to Rensselaer's admissions office, about 57 percent of this year's freshmen were in the top 10 percent of their high school classes.

Chernekoff

Jill Chernekoff, co-anchor of Channel 29's Ten O'Clock News, received the La Salle University Communica-

tion Award for Excellence in Broadcast Journalism and Distinguished Service to the Delaware Valley Community on Saturday, October 3.

Jill is the daughter of Honey and Irv Chernekoff of Claymont.

Klein

Lynn and Philip Klein of Wilmington announce the birth of their daughter, Sarah Victoria, September 19. Grandparents are Dr. and Mrs. Gershon Klein of Wilmington and Mrs. Dora Rubin of Wilmington and the late Saul Victor Rubin.

Tuesday _____ 3

Youth and Family Department of the Jewish Community Center of Wilmington, School's Out Day offers full day programs, 7:15 a.m. to 5:45 p.m., when schools are not in session. Varied activities include indoor swimming, gym sports and day trips. Children need to bring a Kosher lunch; snack provided. Cost is \$20 for JCC members which includes early morning and late day care, if necessary. Pre-register by October 26. For more information call 478-5660.

Thursday _____ 5

Senior Center of the Jewish Community Center of Wilmington, 17th Anniversary Party, 5:30 p.m. Dinner and an evening of music and entertainment. Pre-registration is required. For more information call Ray Freschman at 478-5660.

Joseph and Marion Greenbaum Scholarships for undergraduate study in Israel

Applications are now being accepted for students wishing to study in Israel for one semester or more. Scholarships are available to Jewish students who are residents of Delaware, Jewish students who attend the University of Delaware and Jewish students from surrounding communities whose parents are contributors to the Jewish Federation of Delaware. Call the Federation office, 478-6200, for information and an application.

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From Kwara to Okafim. Zena Kvaru and her family were stranded in Kwara, an isolated Ethiopian village, as thousands of their fellow Jews were airlifted to Israel. Now, safely in Okafim, Kvaru says, "We always knew that we would make it to Israel."

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Leonid Dolinsky greets his sister at Ben Gurion Airport as she starts her new life in Israel. Dolinsky has lived in Haifa since 1990.

Synagogue Members for Their Participation and Support of Continuing Operation Exodus The Campaign to Rescue and Resettle Soviet and Ethiopian Jews in Israel. We Particularly Wish to Thank the Following Synagogue Liaisons for Their Hard Work and Effort:

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Obituaries

Ethel Barros dies at 87

Ethel Barros, a longtime Dover resident and founding member of Congregation Beth Shalom, died October 6 on Yom Kippur in Courtland Manor Nursing Home, her residence for less than a year. She was 87.

Mrs. Barros and her husband, Emanuel, who died in 1987, helped found Congregation Beth Shalom about 40 years ago. Born in Kiev, Russia, she was raised in Philadelphia and moved to Dover in 1931. She and her husband operated Emanuel's department store on Looekerman Street for 49 years.

She held several fund-raising fashion shows for community projects.

She was a past president of Dover Century Club and Sisterhood of Congregation Beth Shalom.

Mrs. Barros hosted visitors annually at her former home on Kings Highway as part of Dover Days celebrations. She grew flowers in her garden and donated them to Woodburn, the governor's home.

She was an avid historian, a member of Jewish Historical Society and helped record the history of Congregation Beth Shalom. She was a member of Friends of Old Dover and lower Delaware Chapter of Hadassah.

Mrs. Barros and her husband played the roles of the grandparents for many years in Delaware Regional Ballet's performances of the "Nutcracker Suite" in Dover. She also enjoyed painting.

She is survived by a daughter, Joyce Roth of Larchmont, N.Y.; two sons, Maurice and A. Richard, both of Dover; two brothers, Max Shuman of Miami and Herman of Philadelphia; eight grandchildren and two great-grandsons.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Congregation Beth Shalom, Dover.

From the News Journal.

Keil Unveiling

A memorial stone will be unveiled on Sunday, October 25, at 3:30 p.m. in Beth Emeth Memorial Park in memory of Mrs. Anne K. Keil, wife of the late David S. Keil and mother of Ralph F. Keil.

Sadie Herr

Sadie Herr, 78, of B'nai B'rith House, Claymont, died October 3, of cancer in Christiana Hospital, where she was a patient.

Miss Herr was a rope maker for a Claymont company. She retired in 1974. She was a member of Michzikey Hadas Congregation and a member of the B'nai B'rith House Tenants Association.

There is no immediately family surviving.

Instead of flowers, contributions may be made to a favorite charity.

sion in New York City and Buffalo, presenting Cantorial, Yiddish and secular selections. At the age of thirteen, Cantor Markowitz was recognized as a childhood musical prodigy and he pursued his professional calling with a true sense of devotion, humility and love. For over fifty years, he inspired his congregants with the sweetness and purity of his voice as he led them in prayer.

He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Faye, of Wilmington; six sons: Rabbi Harvey (Graciela) of Fort Wayne, Indiana, Bruce (Margot) of Potomac, Maryland, Stuart (Beverly) of Olney, Maryland, Joel of Gaithersburg, Maryland, David (Stephanie) of Owings Mills, Maryland, and Saul (Bonnie) of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; a brother, Rabbi Eugene Markowitz of Clifton, New Jersey; two sisters, Breindi Hiller of Flushing, New York and Magda Winter of Maplewood, New Jersey; and six grandchildren - Nina Yael, Sarah Rivka, Brian Lawrence, Joshua Jacob, Tova Adina, and Eric Robert Markowitz.

Services were held on Sunday, September 27 at New Montefiors Cemetery, Pinelawn, Long Island, New York.

The family suggests that contributions be made to the Cantors' Music Fund, Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation, Washington Boulevard and Torah Drive, Wilmington, Delaware 19802.

Furnished to The Jewish Voice by Cantor Markowitz's son, Bruce Markowitz.

Markowitz

Continued from page 1

Cantor Markowitz was known as an outstanding lyric tenor and was admired for his extensive knowledge and appreciation of Cantorial music and Nusach. He instructed thousands of Bar and Bat Mitzvah students during the course of his lifetime and was deeply loved and admired by his students and countless others for his dedication to Judaism, boundless love and genuine kindness to others.

He participated in numerous Cantorial concerts throughout the United States and was widely praised for his improvisational abilities. He also appeared in concert on televi-

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The Arts

Delaware Symphony — a gem

By STEVE COHEN

There's a gem of an orchestra in Delaware, and it gleams in a jewelbox of a theater in downtown Wilmington.

The Delaware Symphony started its twelfth season under Music Director Stephen Gunzenhauser last weekend with an interesting concert at the Wilmington Opera House.

This Victorian structure is a colorful example of cast-iron architecture. It was built in 1871, modeled after the Paris Opera House, with tall columns, fresco ceiling and filigree chairs. Not only is it fun to see this fanciful theater, it's comfortable too, with modern conveniences such as dining areas, a record shop and two bars.

The Delaware Symphony gives seven sets of concerts this season at the Opera House. As for next year... well, more of that later. This first program featured violin soloist Mark Kaplan, an unusual modern composition, and old favorites by Rossini, Paganini and Tchaikovsky.

Gunzenhauser resembles a young Andre Kostelanetz and conducts with brisk and vigorous technique. The orchestra's attacks are crisp. The balances between sections are pre-

cise and the sound of the band is warm and rich. The ensemble has precision and polish that one would not expect from a group that does not perform together full-time every week.

While each concert stands on its own, Gunzenhauser also has given the season a theme. Noting that Columbus Quincentennial, the conductor has programmed a lot of Italian compositions. One of them started the concert: Rossini's Overture to "L'italiana in Algeri," played with nicely sustained, exciting crescendi.

Then came the local premiere of a 1991 composition by young Ohio composer Steven Winteregg. Its title, "TGV," comes from the name of the French super-fast electric train. The piece contains sound effects of train whistles, air horns and clickety-clacking wheels. The music is Bernsteinish, with derivations from George Gershwin and Arthur Honegger. In sum, it was great fun, and over too quickly. When was the last time you heard that said about a modern symphonic composition?

Kaplan has played with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and New York Philharmonic, under conductors such as Maazel, Mazur and Tennstedt. He's known as a Bach specialist, so it was a pleasant surprise to hear him do such a nice job with the fiendishly intricate Concerto No. 1 by Niccola Paganini. This virtuoso showpiece is the instrumental equivalent of operas by Rossini

and Donizetti: full of rapid runs and trills, catchy tunes and accelerating climaxes.

Slender and intense in appearance, like Paganini, Kaplan showed off his technique with all these effervescent effects. He did it with a warm, rich tone that we don't hear often enough in this generation. I particularly liked Kaplan's use of rubati and portamenti, those expressive variations of rhythm and sliding tones that are part of the vocabulary of Paganini's time.

Kaplan gave us a brief encore of the Largo from Bach's Third Sonata for Violin.

The entire second half of the concert was Gunzenhauser's interpretation of Tchaikovsky's Second Symphony. It was a totally satisfying performance, played with rhythmic security, color and excitement. I was especially impressed with the playing of the second movement's somber, autumnal Ukrainian march.

I'm glad that Gunzenhauser has returned to the old-fashioned custom of allowing encores by his soloist, and especially glad that he also conducted an orchestral encore. He introduced it by telling the audience: "As Leopold Stokowski used to say, we are now going to play you-know-what, by you-know-who."

Gunzenhauser later explained that he was in Carnegie Hall the night it happened, when he was assistant conductor to Stokowski with the

Continued on page 16

Steve Cohen, an experienced journalist and former broadcaster for National Public Radio, is a freelance writer for The Jewish Voice. He and his wife, Rhonda Feldman Cohen, reside in King of Prussia.

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Arts and Entertainment

My acting debut with Billy Crystal

By RHONDA FELDMAN COHEN

I couldn't wait until September — so I could attend the premiere of my first motion picture: Mr. Saturday Night. I'm in it (along with Billy Crystal).

They found me while I was working for the Jewish Federation in Los Angeles when a casting company phoned, looking for extras — "ethnic-looking types." Specifically, they wanted people who looked like they might have been at Grossingers or Concord in the Catskills in the 1950's. I sent my photo to them and was chosen, along with what appeared to be a cast of thousands. My first feature film; maybe I would be discovered!

My first stop along the path of stardom was to go to a warehouse to receive my wardrobe. I was fitted with outfits from the '50s: dresses, shoes and accessories. I stared in the mirror. This is exactly the way my mother looked then. The hairdresser was also on site and gave me bobby pins and at-home instructions for making pincurls. I remembered why I hated those hairstyles when I was young.

I was one of the 'lucky' ones who had a 5 a.m. casting call. My scenes were filmed at the old Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles — where the Academy Awards originated — in the Coconut Grove Lounge which was meant to look like a Catskill

showroom. We stood in long lines at trailers so the professionals could comb out our pincurls, apply our make-up and hand us our wardrobe. That began the long process of waiting...and waiting...and waiting. The hairstylists and make-up artists took considerable time with each person, making certain that hairstyles, lipstick colors and eyebrow arches were reflective of the 1950's.

Professional actors and experienced celebrity wannabees were prepared for all the waiting. They brought lawn chairs, plenty of reading material, snacks, board games and mini tv's. They seemed to know each other and swapped stories of their recent extra jobs and newest acting classes. I spoke with a man in his 80's who had been an extra in a few films and hoped that soon he would be "discovered." It seems that everyone in Los Angeles wants to be in "the business."

Hundreds of us sat in one large room waiting to be called. First, production assistants came in asking for those who spoke Yiddish. The older Jews who came in buses from the Senior Center were excited to make it to the set first. Another few hours passed. Then the assistants came back and asked for those who could dance. While many of us rushed to the front, only a few were chosen. Another few hours passed. Then they broke for lunch and herded us into long lines in the parking lot on our way to catering trucks. After lunch, we stood in lines again outside the trailers to get our hair and make-up redone.

A few hours later, they called back the same people who were on the set before. The rest of us still waited. In the meantime, the professional stylists and make-up artists roamed around, periodically re-doing everyone. I never could figure out why they bothered.

It wasn't until the very end of the day that they asked for a few more of

us to be on the set. I was very excited to finally see action.

We were escorted to our tables and instructed what to do. Men and women with eyeglasses had to put them away during filming and exchange them for frame styles of the '50s. They actually encouraged smoking and gave out free, non-filtered cigarettes. Smoke machines were located around the set to augment the real cigarette smoke. Our glasses were filled with gingerale and water, but we were not allowed to drink. My make-up was re-touched and my pincurls fluffed.

I was placed so far from the action and wondered who would even recognize me. The same scene was

tired and my high-heeled '50s shoes were killing me. Forget it if you had to go to the bathroom. My mother hated the cigarettes they gave her and was bored. She took out her knitting. Somehow I don't think they did a lot of knitting in a Catskills nightclub.

We knew we got overtime pay if we ran over the 12 hours we were hired to work. But even so, we were tired and anxious to go home. They shot the same scene over and over again. It's the scene where Billy Crystal's (Buddy Young, Jr.) brother, Stan is dancing with a pretty girl who later would be Buddy's wife. They played the Glenn Miller arrangement of "Moonlight Serenade" at least a



Buddy Young, Jr. (Crystal, right) and his manager/brother Stan (David Paymer, left) share a poignant moment in Central Park.

done several times and we were instructed to look enthusiastic each time. Around nightfall they wrapped for day, collected my wardrobe, and told me what time to report the following day. Normally there is attrition the second day and more extras are needed, so they asked if I could bring my friends or relatives.

The next morning, my mother, my sister and I arrived early. The lines were so long that they brought some of us over to the trailer of the stars for our makeup. While waiting, Billy Crystal came by and said hello. He was very serious. We were hoping to hear a joke or two, but the film was his directing debut and I guess he was concentrating.

Another day of waiting, but this time I brought enough to read, plus I had company. By this point I was

million times. That song will never be the same to me.

Finally, after 15 hours, we were excused for the day. There were other scenes still to be filmed; were we available? "Not on your life," I said. I suppose that moment ended my professional acting career. Nonetheless, I couldn't wait until the movie came out. Plus I got a lot of mileage telling all my friends that I was in a feature film, with Billy Crystal!

Well, I suppose you want to know if I was actually in the film or did I wind up on the cutting room floor. One of the scenes is being used in the "coming attractions" trailer for the movie. The other scene flashed by so quickly that I'll have to wait until the movie comes out on video so I can freeze-frame the tape to see if that blur is me...and my mother knitting.

Symphony

Continued from page 15

American Symphony Orchestra in 1970. Stokowski had planned an

encore and the sheet music was on his podium stand, but he was facing the audience when he forgot what piece he had selected, and he was too proud to turn around and look at his music stand. So he ad-libbed the "you-know-what" introduction.

Stokowski was a showman, and I heard him repeat that little speech on other occasions. Gunzenhauser is a good showman too, and he added a touch of his own by offering a prize to the first listener who identified the encore and mailed in a postcard. What he played was the March of the Sardar by Ippolitov-Ivonov, a rousing piece that many of us remember from Stokowski's performances with the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Now back to the subject of the future of this orchestra. The players are professional musicians, playing this season without a contract. They are paid per concert, and receive no health benefits, sick days or unemployment insurance. They also claim to be receiving less-than-competitive fees for their work. They are continuing to play because of the artistic satisfaction and the potential for growth. The orchestra management is undertaking a fund-raising effort.

In other words, we cannot take the future of these concerts for granted.

Rhonda Feldman Cohen is a consultant to the Jewish Federation of Delaware 1993 campaign. She occasionally donates articles to The Jewish Voice.

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