

The JEWISH VOICE

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NEWARK COUPLE BECOME BENEFACTORS OF THE COMMUNITY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Milton & Mary Wolf join four other Delaware families with seven figure donation

By Lynn B. Edelman, Editor

Milton and Mary Wolf are unassuming people who prefer to stay out of the limelight. Those who have worked closely with the couple on various committees at Temple Beth El in Newark are not surprised that they initially resisted going public with their gift to the Jewish Federation of Delaware's Community Capital Campaign and only agreed to an interview with *The Jewish Voice* after Campaign leadership explained that sharing their story might inspire others to contribute.

Temple Beth El Executive Director Ann Herman has known the Wolfs since they moved to the area some 43 years ago. "To me, Milt & Mary Wolf exemplify one of the highest levels of Tzedakah—giving without thought of honor or recognition," she said. Herman recalls that in the early 1980's, "Temple Beth El leaders realized

that we needed to move into a larger space. It was a huge undertaking for a small synagogue to buy land and build. The Wolfs were so supportive and generous, emotionally and financially." She added that: "For the first five years we sat on uncomfortable chairs in the sanctuary. Milt saw the need and donated our beautiful padded pews."

The Wolfs were happy that Milt's successful ownership of the Kiddie World toy store on Kirkwood Highway placed them in a financial position to help and shied away from public recognition. Herman explained that "We had put up plaques all over our new building to recognize donors, but Milt and Mary did not want a plaque for the new seats. We finally convinced them to agree to one over the sanctuary doors, but 'it had to be small'."

Milt Wolf remembers Beth El's roots as a "small shul" on the University of Delaware campus with some 60 families. Today, more than 300 families make their spiritual home at the Possum Park Road facility and additional growth is anticipated as the greater

Newark Jewish Community continues to expand.

Mary studied with Beth El's former spiritual leader, the late Rabbi Simon Krinsky and became a Jew by choice. Rabbi Krinsky gave her the Hebrew name of Miriam, presided under the chuppah at the couple's marriage and officiated at the naming of their daughter, Karen and the brit milah of their son, David. "He took a liking to us and we to him," said Mary, adding that the family's warm relationship with Rabbi Krinsky strengthened their commitment to the Newark Jewish community.

The couple are still struggling with the fact that the new Newark Jewish Community Campus which celebrates its official grand opening this Sunday (September 15) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., will ultimately be dedicated in their honor. However they are excited that their gift has helped make the dream of a full-service center with a broad range of education, recreation and socialization programs, a reality. "I can't wait to walk inside and see the children having fun in this marvelous new facility," said Mary, the proud

grandmother of six.

"We are grateful to the Wolfs for their generosity and are so pleased they have joined the other benefactors of this historic effort including our co-chairs the Aerson Families, Yetta Chaiken, the Morris and Morris/Levenson Families, and Ruth and Bernard Siegel", commented Barry Kayne, JFD President. "This is truly a community-wide effort and we hope all members of the Delaware Jewish community will contribute to the best of their abilities just as the Wolfs have done."

The leadership of the Community Capital Campaign invite the entire community to a **celebration** on Sunday, October 27th, 3 p.m. featuring Jewish recording artist Debbie Friedman. This concert will be staged at Congregation Beth Emeth, 300 Lea Boulevard in Wilmington. Guests who have not yet made their five-year pledge to the campaign will have the opportunity to do so at the event and Major Donors of \$10,000 or more are invited to *The Celebration Continues* reception following the performance at the Milton and Hattie Kutz Home.



Milton and Mary Wolf

For additional information about becoming a part of the Jewish Federation of Delaware's Community Capital Campaign, which has raised more than \$17,750.00 to date for the growth and development of Federation's six beneficiary agencies, please contact Seth Bloom, Community Capital Campaign Director at 798-9366 or capitalcampaign@shalomdel.org.

PALESTINIAN CALLS FOR NONVIOLENCE GROW

By Gil Sedan, JTA

When Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat condemned Palestinian attacks inside Israel this week, he wasn't only trying to please Israeli moderates.

He also was responding to calls from a growing number of Palestinian figures who believe that the two-year-old intifada has reached a dead end, and that the Palestinian struggle against Israel must take a more moderate turn.

The two most prominent voices in this context are Nabil Amer, the P.A.'s former minister for parliamentary affairs, and the new interior minister, Abdel Razak Yehiyeh.

In an article this week in *Al-Hayat Al-Jadida*, the P.A.'s house organ, former editor Amer urged Arafat to admit that he had erred when he turned to violence two years ago, and that the Palestinians were unlikely to receive now what they had been offered by President Clinton and former Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak at the Camp

David summit in July 2000.

"We failed in the management of the historical process that we faced," Amer wrote.

This week, there was another call for an end to violence — although it appeared to justify some acts of terror.

On Tuesday, Arafat's Fatah movement released a letter saying it will prevent attacks on civilians in Israel, but suggested it will continue to target Israelis in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

There was some confusion, however, surrounding the letter. A Fatah leader in the West Bank said it was not the final version and that the Fatah leadership still had some reservations about the text, *The Associated Press* reported.

Amer, 53, resigned four months ago from the P.A. Cabinet, demanding general reform. He spearheaded the demand for the establishment of a Cabinet of technocrats who would help unify all security bodies, ensure judicial independence and call for early elections.

Palestinian legislators meeting this week in Ramallah echoed those demands — and their demands resulted in a dramatic confrontation with Arafat.

On Wednesday, Arafat's 21-member Cabinet was forced to resign to avoid being ousted by legislators in a no-confidence vote.

Just moments before lawmakers were to hold the vote Wednesday, Cabinet ministers submitted their resignations to Arafat.

Protesting corruption and incompetence among Cabinet members, a majority of lawmakers speaking at Wednesday's session of the Palestinian legislative council in Ramallah said they would vote against Arafat's Cabinet.

Also on Wednesday, Arafat set Jan. 20 as the date for Palestinian presidential and legislative elections. The United States had sought to delay presidential elections in hopes of having the Palestinians create the office of prime minister, a move aimed at turning Arafat into a figurehead president.

The Palestinian legislative council

convened a week after Yehiyeh's dramatic appeal in a Reuters interview for an end to violence against Israel. He repeated those comments in other interviews over the weekend, including interviews to the Palestinian press.

Instead of violence, Yehiyeh suggested, Palestinians should resort to nonviolent resistance.

"Let's admit it — we have lost a lot," Yehiyeh said of suicide attacks in the Reuters interview. "I am not saying this side is to blame, or that. I'm saying there is occupation and dealing with occupation in this manner has harmed us. Therefore we have to find other ways to deal with it. The Palestinian leadership condemns every suicide attack. Shall we stop at condemnation? Is condemnation our only job? I say the whole concept has to change."

The encouragement of suicide bombing has been destructive not just to the Palestinians' international image but to the younger generation of Palestinians, Yehiyeh said.

Arafat recently appointed

Yehiyeh, 63, in an effort to show the Bush administration that indeed he was interested in reform. Thus, some analysts said, Yehiyeh's moderate statements reflect Arafat's new line.

In fact, the analysts said, Yehiyeh can express views that Arafat himself is reluctant to express for fear of antagonizing militants in Hamas, the Islamic Jihad and the Al-Aksa Brigade of Arafat's own Fatah movement.

Others speculated that Yehiyeh is part of a good cop/bad cop routine in which moderate statements are made to please the international community while, on the ground, P.A. forces do little against terrorist groups.

A senior Israeli official told Reuters that he welcomed Yehiyeh's remarks, but said Israel wanted action, not words.

"There is a need to assume authority, to take full control the situation," the official said. "If they don't control the streets, the terrorists will control" them.

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SPOTLIGHT DELAWARE

The Jewish Federation of Delaware proudly presents COMMUNITY APPRECIATION EVENT

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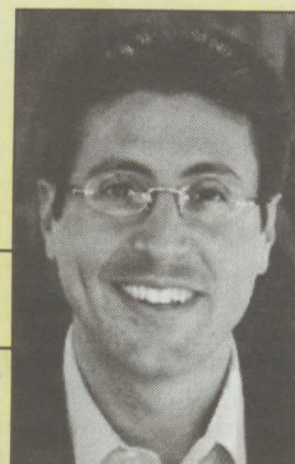
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2002

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Jewish Community Center (101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington)

How Your Children Can Make Your Marriage Great: Balancing Marriage and Kids by Rabbi M. Gary Neuman
"My most meaningful show of the year!" by Oprah Winfrey, regarding Rabbi Neuman's appearance on her show.

M. Gary Neuman is a family mediator, Florida state-licensed mental health counselor, and author of "Helping Your Kids Cope with Divorce the Sandcastle Way", and "Emotional Infidelity: How to avoid it and 10 other secrets to a great marriage". He maintains a private practice in Miami, Florida, where he sees adults, children, and families. He also tours the country, speaking about marital and family issues. He and his work have been featured on The Oprah Show, Today, The View, and National Public Radio, in People, Time Magazine, and elsewhere. Oprah Winfrey declared Rabbi Neuman's appearance on her show her "most meaningful show of the year."



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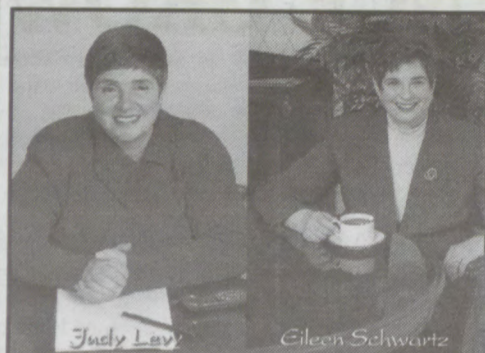
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EDITORIAL

Sukkot: A Community Celebration

The Days of Awe are coming to a close. G-d is ready to make his final judgment on the fate to befall us in the year to come. In these early days of 5763, we prepare for the divine decree by putting our spiritual houses in order and repairing relationships with family and friends. While we draw strength and comfort from praying collectively in the company of our congregational families, Yom Kippur is a decidedly personal holy day. Each individual, through reflection and atonement, helps shape his or her own destiny.

Sukkot, however, is a community celebration. We are encouraged to live outdoors for seven days in tents open to the beauty of sun, stars and sky and decorated with flowers, gourds and other fruits of the harvest. It is a mitzvah to invite guests to dine with us in these temporary dwellings and give thanks to G-d for the blessings of our bounty.

Indeed, we learn through the Sukkot ritual of smelling the *etrog* and shaking the *lulav*

north, south, east and west that the spirit of G-d is everywhere. By celebrating these traditions with friends and loved ones, we recreate the spirit of Jewish peoplehood forged by our ancestors who lived in tents during their long desert journey out of Egypt.

Observance of these two very different *yom tov*s which occur so close to one another on the Jewish calendar, demonstrate the need for balance in our lives. There's a time for both solemn reflection and joyous jubilation, a time to mourn our losses and celebrate our *simchas*. All these experiences both bitter and sweet define us as Jews.

May we all be inscribed in the Book of Life for a happy, healthy and peaceful 5763.

Chag Samaech,

Lynn B. Edelman
Lynn Edelman

PARSHA PLACE

Week of September 14, 2002 7 Tishrei 5763 Deuteronomy 32:1-52-Ha'azinu
By Rabbi Lauren Eichler Berkun

This special Shabbat during the *Aseret Y'mei T'shuvah*, the Ten Days of Repentance, is known as *Shabbat Shuvah* after the first words of the Haftarah reading: "*Shuvah! Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God.*" (Hosea 14:2). As we strive to prepare ourselves for the transformative power of Yom Kippur, this Haftarah portion provides a simple suggestion for the daunting task of return to God: "*Take with you words, and return to the Lord*" (Hosea 14:3).

What can we take with us to the synagogue on Yom Kippur? What tools do we have for turning back to the path of God? We have our words. In fact, Maimonides argues that we must use our words in order to achieve true repentance. In his "Laws of Repentance," Maimonides explains that verbal confession is a positive commandment of the Torah and the essential final step on the road to atonement.

In fact, Maimonides argues that we must confess our specific sins individually and in public! He teaches, "It is very praiseworthy for a person who repents to confess in public and to make his sins known to others, revealing the transgressions he committed against his colleagues" (*Hilchot Teshuvah* 2:5).

Let us think for a moment about what our Yom Kippur experience would be like if we followed Maimonides' ruling. Each member of the congregation would stand up in synagogue and confess his or her personal failings from the previous year. I imagine that this idea would engender a good deal of anxiety and apprehension. However, I also imagine that this discipline of individual verbal confession would stimulate new heights of personal transformation.

Rabbi Lauren Eichler Berkun is a Rabbinic Fellow at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Greetings From President Bush

I send greetings to the Jewish community in the United States and around the world as you begin 5763.

As you mark the High Holy Days, take time to reflect on the past year. In seeking forgiveness and renewal, may you again appreciate the love and mercy of the Almighty, and look to the year ahead with hope and faith. I encourage you to draw strength from the many examples of courage, sacrifice, and compassion we have

witnessed during the last year.

As we face the challenges of a new era, America remains committed to freedom, justice, and opportunity for all people. During this time of examination and remembrance, I join you in looking forward to a future of tolerance and peace.

Laura joins me in sending our best wishes for a blessed holiday spent with family and friends.

GEORGE W. BUSH

Why Buy Israel Bonds?

Of course you contribute to Israel through your support of the Jewish Federation of Delaware's Annual Campaign. However, another important way to strengthen our Jewish homeland is by purchasing Israel Bonds.

Both vehicles are important, yet serve different functions.

What does Israel Bonds do? As a matter of fact, there is hardly an area of daily life in Israel that is not impacted by Bonds—from the simple act of turning on a light or drinking a glass of water to the construction of the homes they live in or the roads they travel on to get to work.

Water is indeed precious to Israelis and Bonds revenues help support desalination plants and a water carrier that brings water from the north to the Negev-making it possible to irrigate the land.

By lending your money through the purchase of Israel Bonds, you provide financing for such projects as electrical power plants, light train rail systems, expanded port facilities and employment opportunities for new immigrants who, undeterred by Palestinian violence, continue to make new lives in the Jewish state.

Many of you have traveled to Israel and have seen first-hand the miracles that Israel Bonds

have achieved. But I have a personal yardstick to measure the growth secured by these investments.

My wife and I went to Israel for the first time in 1955-47 years ago. While we were there, we flew to Elat on a patched up single engine plane. The trip took almost two hours, so you can imagine what kind of plane it was. However, we had no choice since there was no road at all that far South. Today, thanks to Bonds, we can make this trip by car on modern roadways.

The economic results of the nearly two years of Mideast violence coupled with the global recession and imploding high tech sector have had a devastating effect on Israel's economy. Many have called it the worst fiscal crisis in Israel's history.

During this year's High Holyday appeal in your synagogue, I urge you to reflect on what a free and independent State of Israel has meant to you and your family. Then fold down your tab card and please purchase an Israel Bond.

La Shana Tovah,
Bernard L. Siegel
Former Chairman
State of Israel Bonds

REFLECTIONS ON 9-11

On the way to work today, I stopped at the Vietnam Memorial across the street from Beth Shalom to pay tribute to my comrades who fell in "my war." Not surprisingly, the Memorial had an increased amount of red, white and blue bunting and there were numerous flags.

My house has a flag flying today. Indeed, there are a lot of American flags flying today. We pause to remember what the design and colors mean as decided by Congress when our flag was first flown over 220 years ago.

The stars represent each of the United States.

The blue field behind the stars stands for vigilance, perseverance and justice.

The white stripes reflect purity and innocence.

The red stripes symbolize valor and courage.

Never let us forget that when the last tide of history laps against the shore of time we, as an American people, will be remembered best for

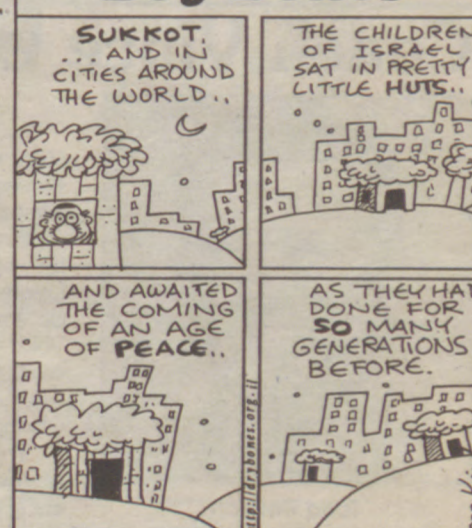
the ideas we cherish and the torch we lit for all to see. These ideas are based on the belief that each person has dignity and each life has value—thoughts first introduced to a violent pagan world thousands of years ago by the Jews.

Since the dawn of recorded history, there have been forces arrayed to destroy those who value life and cherish freedom. On September 11, 2001, these forces struck our country and we forever changed. As we contemplate this day let us also remember that these forces strike daily in Israel—not always in a spectacular headline producing fashion—but daily nonetheless.

As Americans we are all resolved today to stand tall and defiant to those who would destroy our freedoms. As Jews we must be equally resolved to stand tall in our support of Israel.

John A. Elzufon, Esq.
Wilmington

Dry Bones



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FEDERATION FOCUS

JCRC/Hadassah 2002 Candidates Forum

Two days after Rosh Hashanah, over 350 people jammed into the JCC Auditorium to hear presentations and short debate from 10 statewide candidates in Delaware's General election. It was also two days after Delaware became the only state in the USA to hold a Primary Election on Rosh Hashanah and that "dubious distinction" was on the minds of many in the standing room crowd that evening.

JCRC Chair Mark Wagman welcomed the crowd and the candidates

by expressing that "Delaware officials had just snubbed their noses at a constituency" by having the only election in America on Rosh Hashanah, despite having a bill introduced in the state legislature months earlier, which would have changed the date. "This dubious distinction of Delaware garnered national attention," Wagman mentioned but added, "This is the season of repentance and a time to turn what's bad to what is good." He offered a solution.

To loud applause, Wagman pro-

posed that "the injustice of Saturday elections in Delaware should be changed by the General Assembly." That issue was addressed by all candidates during the later question/answer part of the program.

Expected focus on Israel from the Senate and Congressional Candidates was brief and supportive. Senator Biden did recall that his first trip to Israel was hosted by Hadassah, whose Wilmington chapter co-hosted the Candidate's Forum with the Jewish Community

Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Delaware. All candidates were grateful for Hadassah's regular Candidate Forums, which President Bettina Heiman mentioned have been held since 1954. Candidates present represented contests for U.S. Senate, U.S. House; State Attorney General, State Treasurer and State Auditor.

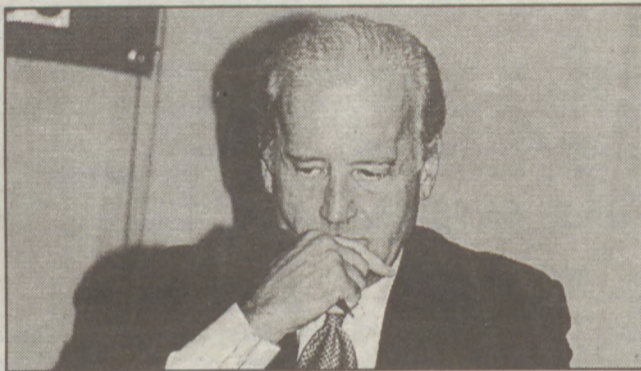
A submitted audience question required the panel of candidates (Rep. Mike Castle was at a Congressional Session and could not

attend the Forum) to bluntly answer Yes or No (or pass) to the 3 parts: Should Delaware ever hold an election on a holy day? (all said No); Should the primary be moved to Spring from September? (Most said yes, some passed) and should the Primary Election be moved from Saturdays to a Tuesday? (Most said yes, some passed.)

FYI, the General "off year" Election will be held Tuesday, November 5, 2002.

Photos and Story by Joel Glazier

Green Party Candidate for Attorney General Vivian Houghton.



Senator Joe Biden ponders a point.



Ray Clatworthy, candidate for U.S. Senate (left) and Jeff Dayton (representing Congressman Mike Castle)



Hadassah's Co-Presidents Cheryl Kamm and Tina Heiman; Moderator Harvey Rubenstein; JCRC Chair Mark Wagman; Jewish Federation Campaign Associate Amalia Snyderman.



Carl Schnee candidate for Attorney General with Martin Mand.



State Treasurer Jack Markell answers a question.



Bob Wasserbach (center), candidate for State Auditor and Michael Miller, candidate for U.S. Congress.

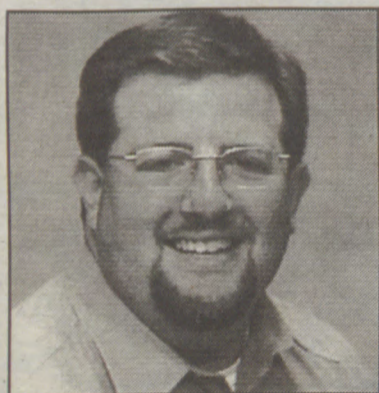


Attorney General Jane Brady (right) with Nedda Barth.



Ron Poliquin (right), candidate for State Treasurer with Philip Yates.

Coach Vince Lombardi's Message To The Jewish Community



Todd Polikoff
Assistant Director, FRD

By Todd Polikoff

As a rabid football fan I follow every nuance of the game. I am a sponge for anything that is football related. There was one man who captured the true essence of football for me. That man was Vince Lombardi. When thinking of an article for this edition of the Jewish Voice I thought of something that coach Lombardi once said, "It's not whether you get knocked down, it's whether you get back up."

The same words that Vince Lombardi used to motivate his players apply to us as a Jewish community during the High Holiday season.

The past year proved to us how swiftly life can be altered. In just twelve short months we have seen destruction and devastation that will mark a generation of Americans. We have seen the status of Jews in Europe questioned for the first time in over 50 years and we have seen a monumental challenge placed before the Jews of Israel. This has been a year that has certainly tested our ability to "get back up."

Despite the physical, emotional and spiritual trauma of the past year, we must move forward. We are commanded to move forward, *Kadima*, and to strive to make our world a bet-

ter place. Just like other Jewish communities throughout our history, we must prove to the world that despite the greatest efforts of evil people, we will "get back up."

The North American Jewish Community is the largest Jewish population in the world outside of Israel. The world is watching us to see what we will do on behalf of Global Jewry. It is our time now to show the world that we will get back up, we will make the world a better place and we will take responsibility for our fellow Jews.

Now is the time to stand and go forward with the Jewish Federation

of Delaware and the Jewish Community of Delaware through the JFD Annual Campaign. The JFD annual campaign is your connection to Jewish people across the street and Jewish people around the world. It's meaningful philanthropy, hands-on voluntarism and shared commitment from childhood to old age. Please give generously of your time and resources.

For more information about the JFD Annual Campaign please feel free to contact me at 302-427-2100 ext. 16 or mail to: todd@shalomdel.org. Also please log on to our website at www.shalomdelaware.org.

ENDOWING THE FUTURE

McDonald Funds Provide Summer Fun (and safety) for Ethiopian Israelis

By Rachel A. Gross, Esq.

Esther Sherman McDonald, z"l, was devoted to Israel. A champion of Israel and the causes that benefited the State of Israel, she worked tirelessly on behalf of the Jewish state through Pioneer Women, Israel Bonds and by educating her fellow Beth Emeth congregants and others on the importance of Israel. According to Rabbi Grumbacher, "she poured her heart, her soul and her material strength" into these causes and "she took every burden of the Jewish people on her shoulders." She came to the United States in 1939 from Latvia to study pharmacy. Her entire family was wiped out during the Holocaust.

Mrs. McDonald translated her lifetime commitment to the State of Israel into permanent gifts that will continue in perpetuity. During her lifetime she established a fund for Israel programming at Beth Emeth. In her estate plan she arranged for perpetual annual distributions to be made to the Jewish Federation of Delaware to direct toward social and educational services for immigrant and needy children in Israel and to the Yemin Orde Youth Village, Chof HaCarmel, Israel and Na'amat, Pioneer Women.

This summer, in a truly *bashert* moment, as the Jewish Fund for the Future was looking for appropriate uses for the McDonald Fund dollars, we learned of a summer camp program for Ethiopian chil-

dren that had no source of funding. A \$5,000 contribution from the McDonald Fund allowed us to fund a full-day three-week summer program for sixty children between the ages of 6 and 13. The program included social and educational programs, nature tours, and visits to the zoo and other field trips. An integral part of the camp program was the volunteering in which the children engaged and which allowed them to feel the pride associated with giving, an important part of their overall integration into the larger community.

The camp staff were all *Shanat Sherut* volunteers, young people who have delayed their army service for one year in order to spend a year volunteering. All of the children who participated in the camp are from first generation Ethiopian immigrant families who live in Bet Shemesh, Israel. Parents are typically either unemployed or working in jobs that pay minimum wage. These families face huge language, cultural and educational barriers which have seriously hampered their ability to integrate into the larger Israeli society and the local community. Due to a lack of resources, few if any of these families are able to offer their children the opportunities to attend day camps during the summer months or to participate in the other holiday activities that most children take for granted.

Thanks to the caring, generosity



Left to Right: Doris Morris, Dora Eisenstat, Esther Sherman McDonald, Goldie Katz, Ruth Siegel, Speaker, circa early 1960s State of Israel Bonds Women's Division lunch.

and foresight of Esther Sherman McDonald our community was able to make this summer safe, fun and

rewarding for these children.

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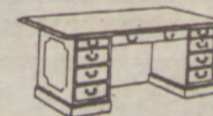
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Chumashim Begin A Journey Of 10,000 Miles

By Marvin S. Cytron

A few weeks before Rosh Hashana, Congregation Beth Shalom members along with synagogue staff packed and shipped over 100 copies of The Soncino Press *Pentateuch & Haftorahs*. Affectionately known as the "Hertz Chumash" the book was published in 1936, and was edited by the then Chief Rabbi Of The British Empire, Dr. J. H. Hertz. This was the first major translation and commentary of the Hebrew Bible since the turn of the 20th century and served the English speaking community and particularly Conservative Synagogues in the United States as the "gold standard" reference and study bible for over 60 years. Following the publication of *Etz Hayim- Torah and Commentary* in 2001, Beth Shalom joined with the majority of Conservative synagogues throughout the U.S. and has placed this new publication as their standard study and reference bible. The *Etz Hayim* Chumash, published under the guidance and auspices of The Rabbinical Assembly and The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism,

has received critical and scholarly acclaim in both the secular and religious press.

Under the guidance of Rabbi Dan Satlow, spiritual leader of Beth Shalom, the decision was made to further the life of the retired and much respected Hertz Chumashim by offering these to a diversity of organizations and individuals. Synagogue members, who had donated these chumashim over the years, were given the opportunity to obtain copies for their personal library. Albert Einstein Academy received a quantity for their library and classes, neighboring churches and clergy received copies, as well as Bnei-Israel Congregation in San Jose Costa Rica. This congregation with a membership of 75 families serves a Jewish community of over 200. Leonard and Esther Entel, synagogue members, arranged for shipment of these chumashim to Costa Rica, where Esther's brother, Marty Feigen, was a member during his years in that country.

The biggest shipment, arranged by Ellen Meyer, was to the Abayudaya Congregation in Mbale,

Uganda. Beth Shalom has a long and close relationship with the community of 500 black Ugandans who practice Judaism, observe Jewish holidays, dine under the laws of kashruth and keep the Shabbat holy. It was Matt Meyer son of Ellen and Robert Meyer that discovered this community in 1992. While attending High Holiday services at a Nairobi synagogue he sat next to the only black attending services and struck up a conversation. He was Gershom Sizomi and was visiting Nairobi. He belonged to a congregation in Uganda that was unknown to world Jewry and invited Matthew to come for a visit. "Matthew was so impressed by their devotion to Judaism that when he returned to the US, he put them in touch with *Kulanu*, a group of Jews who try to establish connections with obscure, isolated Jewish communities," recalled Ellen. While the Abayudaya Community dates back to 1917, they never had a Kosher Torah. In 1995 Ellen proposed to the Beth Shalom leadership that they contribute one Torah. Beth Shalom agreed and later that same year Matthew, brought the Abayudaya their Torah, amid a great celebration. Recently leaders of the Abayudaya visited Beth Shalom, participated in Shabbat services and shared music, song and stories about their community with the congregation. Beth Shalom has *kippahs* made by this Ugandan community as well a CD of their songs and liturgy for sale. Contact Cantor G. Michael Horwitz or the gift shop for details.

The Abayudaya has had their own Rabbi since 1995, one from Virginia and another from Australia. This past year a member of the Abayudaya was ordained and the community now has a Rabbi of their own. This community, located in an

economically challenged area, depends upon the through support of congregations such as Beth Shalom and the organization *Kulanu*. The Abayudaya observe Judaism as prescribed by the Chumash.

Brit Milah is conducted on the eighth day after birth. The community has two Mohels, Gershom and Uri.

Shabbat is observed from 6:45 p.m. until 7:15 p.m. the following day. No work or cooking allowed, Shabbat meals include rice, posho (corn meal mush), fish and boiled bananas.

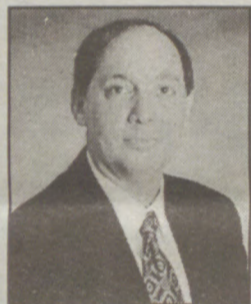
Pesach, Shavuot, Sukkot are major festivals. Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur, Purim, Hannukah, are inte-

gral parts of community life.

They keep kosher, eat proper meats, soak and salt their meat, most often chicken and turkey. They consider ducks unkosher since they resemble swans. Bat Mitzvah is celebrated at age 13 for boys, 12 for girls.

Rules of separation during *niddah* are observed and men are supposed to take up household work including cooking. **Perhaps the start of a new tradition for the men of the Delaware Jewish Community???**

A more detailed history, political environment, customs, traditions and photos of the Abayudaya can be obtained at www.us-israel.org or www.kulanu.ubalt.edu.



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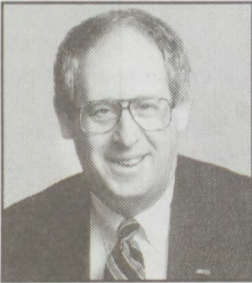
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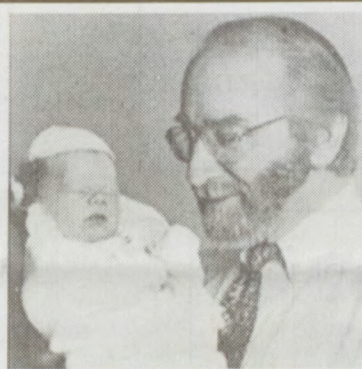
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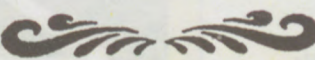
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Prof. Khalid Blankinship

This fall the Adult Institute of Jewish Studies is expanding beyond Jewish culture and religion

in its course offerings. As part of its efforts to educate the community on important issues, the Jewish Community Relations Committee (JCRC) of the Jewish Federation of Delaware is sponsoring a course on Islam at the Institute.

The course is being taught by Prof. Khalid Blankinship, Chair of the Department of Religion at Temple University. He is a prominent scholar of Islam, who has lectured extensively to Muslim and non-Muslim audiences. He frequently participates in inter-religious panel discussions and dialogue on Islam, the Middle East, and the relationship between Islam and the West. He has also conducted seminars on Islam for schoolteachers and consults on the portrayal of Islam in school textbooks. Besides making Islam accessible to non-Muslims, Prof. Blankinship has participated in

video and broadcast programs on Islam in America for distribution in the Muslim world.

Prof. Blankinship earned a BA and PhD in History from the University of Washington and an MA in Islamic History from Cairo University. In 1990 he became a Professor of Religion at Temple University and in 1998 assumed the departmental chairmanship. Besides courses in Islamic history and religion, Prof. Blankinship has also taught courses in Western and world religions, religion in America, and religion and science.

The upcoming course, entitled An Introduction to Islam, will be taught in five Wednesday evening sessions, October 9th to November 6th, between 8:30 and 9:30pm at the JCC. Topics for the five sessions are:

- 1) Muhammad, the Qur'an, and basic teachings
- 2) Sunnah, Hadith, and Islamic Law
- 3) Culture and Art
- 4) Women in Islam
- 5) Islam in America

Prof. Blankinship will present several of the lectures himself, but he also intends to bring in guest lecturers. Tentative plans are for his wife, who is from Egypt, to present the session on Women in Islam and for a local Imam to present the session on Islam in America. Each lecture will be fol-

lowed by ample time for questions and answers.

To register for the course, complete the Adult Institute of Jewish Studies class registration form, which is available at the JCC and area synagogues, as well as in the last issue of the Voice. There is a nominal registration fee of \$20 for

two courses. Send check and form to the JCC of Delaware, 101 Garden of Eden Rd., Wilmington, DE 19803, Attention Adult Institute.

For registration information, call the JCC at 478-5660. For course information, call Mark Wagman at 475-8351.

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GLOBAL JEWISH NEWS

Would Iraq Attack Be Good For Israel?

By Matthew E. Berger, JTA

Israel is trying to keep a low profile in the American debate over whether to attack Iraq, but the Jewish state figures prominently in both sides' arguments.

Those in favor of action say Iraqi President Saddam Hussein may have weapons of mass destruction and might be willing to use them to exert power in the Middle East. Those arguing against an attack say it would be too costly and is tangential to the U.S. war on

"people on both sides" are using "the implications for Israel to support their arguments," said David Makovsky, senior fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy.

Those who favor an attack highlight the threat Hussein poses to the Middle East.

"Armed with an arsenal of these weapons of terror and" sitting atop "10 percent of the world's oil reserves, Saddam Hussein could then be expected to seek domina-

throughout the region and subject the United States or any other nation to nuclear blackmail," Vice President Dick Cheney said in an Aug. 26 speech.

Many see the speech as the beginning of a concerted White House campaign to make the case for attacking Iraq.

Cheney also suggested that after Hussein was defeated, the "Israeli-Palestinian peace process would be enhanced, just as it was following the liberation of Kuwait

tration to boil over onto Israel.

Those opposed to action note that, if attacked, Hussein is likely to attack Israel; the United States in effect would be sacrificing Israel's welfare by attacking Iraq, some say.

"Israel would have to expect to be the first casualty, as in 1991 when Saddam sought to bring Israel into the Gulf conflict," former National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft wrote in the Wall Street Journal on Aug. 15. "This time, using weapons of mass destruction, he might succeed, provoking Israel to respond, perhaps with nuclear weapons, unleashing an Armageddon in the Middle East."

Some even warn that U.S. support for Israel could be viewed as the catalyst for an attack against Iraq.

"Sadly, in international politics, as in domestic politics, perception is sometimes more important than reality," former Secretary of State James Baker wrote in The Washington Post on Aug. 25. "We cannot allow our policy toward Iraq to be linked to the Arab-Israeli dispute, as Saddam Hussein will cynically demand, just as he did in 1990 and 1991."

However, Baker then suggested that the United States indeed should push Israel to withdraw to its positions before the Palestinian intifada began in September 2000 and to end settlement activity in an effort to dampen anticipated Arab anger over an attack on Iraq.

Analysts say both sides have a point: Israel most likely will be profoundly affected by U.S. action against Iraq; it's just not clear exactly how.

"I don't think there is really one point of view," said Judith Kipper, director of the Middle East Forum at the Council on Foreign Relations. "A change in regime in Iraq will have vast consequences in the region, and there is no sense that the consequences will be positive."

Michael Rubin, a visiting scholar with the American Enterprise Institute, says the threat Hussein poses to Israel will only increase if

the United States does not act.

"Many people say 'Don't put Hussein's back against the wall, he might lash out,'" Rubin said. "But if Saddam Hussein feels there is no consequence for consistent flouting of cease-fire resolutions, it can get much more dangerous for Israel."

Iraq poses an imminent threat to Israel because of Hussein's financial support for terrorist organizations that target Israel and the growing concern that he could give groups chemical or biological weapons to one of the those, Rubin said.

In addition, Rubin said, backing out of an attack because of its impact on Israel would have negative consequences.

"It would set a very dangerous precedent to not address any threat in the Middle East because the object of the rogue behavior says, 'If you touch me, I will attack Israel,'" he said.

For now, Israel and Jewish groups have largely remained on the sidelines of the American debate, even when it relates to the effect an attack would have on Israel.

Aware of the likelihood that it could come under attack, Israel has asked the United States to give it advance warning before moving against Iraq. Prime Minister Ariel Sharon also has made clear that — unlike the Gulf War, when Israel heeded American pleas not to respond to Iraqi missiles — Israel will retaliate this time.

"In all likelihood, Israel will want to view this conflict from the bleachers and will not seek to get on the playing field for its own reasons," Makovsky said. "But if Israel gets hit by Iraqi Scuds, all bets are off."

While Israel certainly would prefer that Hussein pass from power, the consensus is that Israel is wiser to stay on the sidelines of the debate — at least publicly.

"It seems to me that Israel is more sympathetic to the hawkish side of the debate," Makovsky said, "but since it plans not to be involved in the conflict, there is no need to make its views publicly known."



Israelis gear up for a possible Iraqi missile attack by ordering gas masks and other emergency supplies.

terrorism —and that, in any case, there is little evidence that Hussein is an imminent threat.

On each side, there is debate about the effect an attack on Iraq would have on U.S. "allies in the region," an implicit reference to Israel.

It's unclear what weapons of mass destruction Hussein may hold and whether he has the technical capacity to unleash them at Israel.

But Israel is taking no chances. Fearing that Iraq will again lash out at Israel if attacked — as it did in the 1991 Gulf War — Israel already is purchasing gas masks and has considered inoculating its entire population against smallpox.

Israel also asked its security and emergency services to complete preparations by Nov. 1 for a possible Iraqi retaliatory strike to a U.S. attack.

The United States has not told Israel if or when it will attack Iraq, but Nov. 1 seemed a "reasonable" deadline for preparations, a senior government official told The Associated Press.

While neither side in the American debate is publicly discussing the Israeli angle at length,

tion of the entire Middle East, take control of a great portion of the world's energy supplies, directly threaten America's friends

in 1991."

Yet those opposed to an attack say it would destabilize the Middle East and cause increased Arab frus-



An Israeli military early warning radar, newly-deployed and designed for ground-based missile-to-missile defense, sits inside a cordoned-off area in rural northern Israel, near Ein Shemer, Aug. 11.

Credit: Brian Hendler/JTA



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MILESTONES

In Memoriam

ARLICKS

Anna Arlicks, 91, died September 5. She is survived by her daughter, Florence Mason; two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Graveside services were held in the Jewish Community Cemetery on Foulk Road. Contributions in her memory may be directed to the Kutz Home, 704 River Road, Wilmington, DE 19809.

COHEN

Stuart Cohen, 52, formerly of Wilmington, died July 31st in Florida

after a prolonged illness. He was the owner and operator of several Delaware restaurants before his move South in 1988. He is survived by his daughter, Jodi Cohen Meklinsky; and his son, Stephen Cohen; both of New York City, NY; his mother, Shirley Martin; his sister, Charlene Cohen of Wilmington and his father, Gerald Cohen of Miami, FL.

A private memorial service was held in Delray Beach, FL. Contributions in his memory may be

made to the American Chronic Pain Association, PO Box 850, Rocklin, CA 95677.

FISHMAN

Marissa R. Fishman, age 20 months, died tragically on August 30th. She is survived by her adoring family. Private graveside services were held in the Jewish Community Cemetery on Foulk Road. The family would appreciate that contributions in her memory be directed to the Marissa R. Fishman Art Fund, c/o Albert Einstein Academy, 101

Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington, DE 19803.

KLEIN

Lillie Klein, 92, died September 4th. She is survived by her son, Arnold; a sister, four grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Graveside services were held on September 5th at Roosevelt Memorial Park in Trevoise, PA.

RUBINSTEIN

Edward Rubinstein, 72, died July 20th at Rockland Place in Wilmington. He lived in New York

City for most of his life where he was a partner in the accountancy firm of Jerome I. Golinko and Company. Upon retiring, Mr. Rubinstein spent several years living in Vence, France before moving to Wilmington in July, 2001. He was a graduate of Syracuse University and served in the U.S. Army in Korea.

Mr. Rubinstein is survived by his sister, Shirley Engelmann of Media, PA; his nephew, Glenn Engelmann of West Chester, PA; and his niece, Patricia Engelmann of Villa Park, IL.

HOLIDAY PERSPECTIVES

Unusual Guests In Our Sukkah

By Carl Alpert

Haifa - Many Israeli families look forward to the holiday when they can erect a sukkah, as a reminder of the humble and temporary dwellings in which our ancestors lived in days of yore. Some of the shacks, with palm fronds overhead, are built on flat rooftops, some in narrow yards, and some even encroach on public sidewalks. Where neighbors may complain about the latter, the authorities sternly give the offenders up to ten days in which to remove the offending structures.

We are fortunate to possess a large outdoor terrace, overlooking Haifa Bay and with a view of the mountains of Galilee beyond. As the time approaches we unpack our folding sukkah. Planning for the week's program requires thought. By tradition we are to invite as guests a fixed list of distinguished personalities from ancient Jewish history - Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Aaron, Joseph and David. The procedure is known as "Ushpizin".

But realizing that these interesting characters will be very much in demand in countless sukkahs all over

the world, we have made it a practice to invite other unusual and important figures who may be able to spend more time with us in discussion of matters of interest.

"Enter, exalted, holy guest," we proclaim, using the standard invitation. And on our first night we hope to play host, even if only spiritually, to Natan Sharansky's wife, Avital. For a long time she travelled the world, knocked on the doors of political leaders and sought out journalists in her efforts to bring about the release of her husband from Soviet prisons. Once her mission achieved success, she withdrew completely from public life and has all but disappeared. We want to ask her about this radical change in her life style. Does she miss the spotlight? How closely does she follow her husband's political career? Does he consult with her? What an interesting story she could tell, if only she would break her self-imposed silence.

For the next night we shall have a character of a different sort - Bar Kochba. Sixty-five years after the fall of Jerusalem he organized and led a revolt against the Romans. We want to ask him: Did he really believe that

he could defeat the mighty Roman empire? Had he ever considered, in view of the odds against the Jews, the possibility of adjusting to Roman rule and continuing Jewish life in peace in the land of Israel? His uprising lasted for three years, but in the end the Jews were crushed and Bar Kochba was killed at the last stronghold, Betar. The result was utter catastrophe. Did he ever have regrets? We shall urge him to speak frankly.

A change of pace. The Bible tells us the story of Noah in some detail, and reports on the birth of his three sons, but Noah's wife merits only brief mention, and without her name, though the Midrash tells us her name was Na'ama. We should like to pluck her out of that obscurity and have her spend some time with us. As Noah's wife she was obviously the hostess aboard that congested craft. What was it like? Was she in charge of the kitchen? All those animals had to be fed. Was it possible to do any housecleaning? What about sanitary facilities? How did she get along with the wives of her three sons? Did they help? And did old man Noah assume any responsibilities, or did he leave it all to God? We shall have an opportunity to get details of a story that has never been told in full.

Our next guest will be Cyrus L.

Sulzberger (1858-1932) a prominent merchant and philanthropist in New York. His son, Arthur Hays Sulzberger, was publisher of the N.Y. Times and was responsible for setting that paper on its continuing anti-Zionist policy. Sulzberger senior, however, was a warm supporter of Zionism, a close friend of Theodor Herzl and a Vice President of the Federation of American Zionists. Back in 1904 he wrote "we are justified in sympathizing with Zionism in behalf of Israel. Long enough, aye, for too long has continued the wandering of the homeless nation." And he went on to describe the needs and benefits of establishing a Jewish national homeland. We shall reread his own words to him, and then sit back to hear what he thinks of the N.Y. Times today.

We must have an Arab guest, and he will be Prof. Sari Nusseibeh, president of Al-Quds University in Jerusalem. There are some who hail him as a moderate and a possible successor to Arafat. Others cite anti-Israel statements which he has made. What does he really believe? Not long ago he was one of the signers on an Arab petition calling upon their brethren to stop military action against civilians in Israel. On the other hand, he has been quoted as expressing admiration for terrorists. Perhaps in our sukkah he will give unambiguous expression to his basic views on the possibility of peace with Israel. If we hear anything startling, we shall let you know.

Enough! We have sufficient material to think about for the remainder of the week.

The Sukkah: A Link To Craft And Creation

By Rabbi Daniel S. Brenner

There are two ritual acts at the end of Yom Kippur that transform feelings of guilt, loss and despair into hope.

The first requires a ram's horn. The final blast of the shofar, declaring the unity and transcendent power of God, is a moment of heavenly and earthly elation. The second ritual act requires a hammer.

Hammering the first nail into the frame of the sukkah, according to the Kitzur Shulchan Aruch, is a spiritual path to fulfill the psalmist's words, "They go from strength to strength" (Psalm 84:4).

In this act we are reminded that as deep in thought and repentance as we were during Yom Kippur, we should be in rejoicing and celebrating on Sukkot. As the full moon comes around, our weeping turns to laughter.

But there is more than an emotive shift between Yom Kippur and Sukkot — there is a shift of focus from the mind to the body as well. This shift can be seen most directly in the way that we take hold of the lulav and etrog and shake, but I would like to suggest that it is in taking hold of the hammer that the true spiritual work is completed.

I was raised, as many other Jewish men, to think of my mind as the body part that would propel me to success in this world.

While other kids on my quiet block in Charlotte, N.C., were busy helping Dad build shelves or do an oil change, my Dad and I played chess, debated philosophy and had an occasional game of ping pong.

We were not good with our hands, or so said the neighbors. One of the great tales that the authentic southerners told on my block was the day my grandfather came to visit from Brooklyn. My father, eager to show off how he had acclimated to country life, brought out the family lawnmower and cranked it up. My grandfather was so amazed that he insisted on having a turn with this wonder machine. In a three-piece suit and hat he marched across the lawn.

I recall this tale to pose a question: Can you imagine the shock when our neighbors watched us intellectual Jewish folk each fall, as my father and I would drag plywood, two by fours, old doors and burlap out of the basement to build a sukkah in our backyard?

My father's secret was nailing one side of the sukkah to the porch. He'd drive nice four inch nails into the porch posts each year to support the frame, then we'd hammer on the sides, throw some pine branches on top, hang gourds from the roof and carry down the kitchen table.

Continued on page 15

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JFS HELPS SEPARATED AND DIVORCING FAMILIES

Jewish Family Service will offer Healing Hearts, a Family Court mandated program for parents and children engaged in separation or divorce. The program will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in JFS' Wilmington Office, 101 Garden of Eden Road on the following dates:

October 2 & 9; November 6 & 13; December 4 & 11. For additional information, please call Lynn Brown at 478-9411#10

MAJ JONGG MADNESS IN NEWARK

Come to Midnight Mah Jongg Madness at the new Newark Jewish Community Center, 318 South College Avenue in Newark on October 19, 8 p.m. until midnight. Tickets are \$13 per person and reservations are required. Please call 368-9173 to reserve your slot. Door prizes will be awarded and refreshments will be served.

MACHZIKEY HADAS SLATES MEETING

The Machzikey Hadas Congregation will hold a general congregational meeting on Wednesday, September 18, 8:00 p.m. in the Potter Auditorium of the B'nai B'rith House, 8000 Society Drive in Claymont. All Congregation members and anyone else interested in the services provided by the Congregation are invited to attend.

SPECIAL SIMCHAT TORAH SERVICE AT AKSE

Adas Kodesh Shel Emeth Congregation will hold its 21st annual Simchat Torah Women's Service on Sunday morning, September 29th. The reading will begin in the Berlin Chapel at approximately 10 a.m. after the sixth *hakafah* in the main sanctuary. All women and girls are invited to attend and participate. Everyone who so chooses will be

honored with an *aliyah*. For further information, please call Anne Breikss, 762-9728.

JEWISH WAR VETERANS TO MEET

The Jewish War Veterans of Delaware will meet on October 20, 10:30 a.m. at the B'nai B'rith Building in Claymont. For further information about the group, please call Arthur Samuelson at 762-4704.

NCJW PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM

Dating Violence and Acquaintance Rape: Protecting Our Families will be presented on Tuesday, October 15th, 7:00 p.m. at the Brandywine Country Club. For more information, phone call Gail Ball at (302) 652-8346 or Eileen Sarter at (610) 268-3280.

YOGA IN NEWARK NEXT MONTH

Come to an introductory Yoga workshop at the Newark JCC on Tuesday, October 1, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and learn how this ancient mental and physical exercise regime helps enhance balance, concentration, stamina, flexibility, strength, relaxation, weight control and reduce stress. The cost is \$15 per person. To find out more information, please call 368-9173.

JCC AND ADULT INSTITUTE OFFER COURSE ON ISLAM

The Jewish Community Relations Committee of Delaware in cooperation with the Adult Institute of Jewish Studies, is sponsoring a special course on Islam from October 9 through November 6, 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Delaware JCC. The instructor is Professor Khalid Blankinship, chairperson of the Department of Religion at Temple University. He is a prominent scholar of Islam and is active in inter-religious dialogue. In cooperation with other Islamic scholars, Professor

Blankinship will present an overview of Islam. A question and answer session will follow each session. Registration forms are available at area synagogues and the Delaware JCC. A \$20 registration fee includes the course plus admission to the November 13th Cantorial Concert *Music from the Heart, Music for the Soul*. For additional information about the Islam course, please call Mark Wagman, JCRC co-chair, at 475-8351.

MITZVAH BASKETS

Jewish Family Service invites you to extend your heart to others while supporting the great work of Jewish Family Service. Mitzvah gift baskets are the ideal way to commemorate a special occasion or to simply show that you care about a friend or loved one. Prices range from \$24 to \$40 with a \$2 local delivery charge. To order, please call JFS at 478-9411.

COMMUNITY RABBIS OFFER INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM PROGRAM

Rabbis Peter Grumbacher of Congregation Beth Emeth, David Kaplan of Temple Beth El, and Dan Satlow of Congregation Beth Shalom invite interested persons to join the 5763 INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM program for those considering choosing Judaism. Please encourage those who are thinking about becoming part of the Jewish People and faith to contact one of the rabbis. Each class member must have a sponsoring rabbi (who may be selected after the orientation evening).

The Orientation session will be held on Tuesday, September 17, 7 PM, at Temple Beth El, 301 Possum Park Road in Newark. At that time the rabbis will discuss all facets of the program including the schedule, the required texts and other important details. Subsequent classes take

place in the synagogue of the instructor.

Subjects include Comparative Religion; Holidays, Holydays and Festivals; Basic Beliefs; Life Cycle; Liturgy; Jewish Texts and Ancient and Modern Jewish History. There is also a special program with a counselor from Jewish Family Service as well as other aspects of the Jewish community.

This program is only for potential Jews-by-Choice and, if applicable, their significant Jewish others. Beginning its third decade as a community-oriented class involving the rabbis of New Castle County synagogues, it allows the participants to experience the differences in thought and approach to Jewish life and encourages them to involve themselves in the activities and programs of Delaware Jewry.

Again, tell someone about this program. **There is absolutely no requirement to convert;** many have taken these classes merely to learn more about the religion of their partner/spouse. It is, however, essential to have a sponsoring rabbi. Rabbis Grumbacher (764-2393), Kaplan (366-8330), or Satlow (654-4462) would be happy to answer any and all questions of perspective students.

WILMINGTON AUTHOR TO SIGN BOOKS

Local author Rachel Simon will discuss and sign copies of her new book, *Riding The Bus With My Sister*, on Thursday, September 19th, 7:00 p.m., at Barnes and Noble Booksellers in the Concord Mall. The book is a true story about the relationship between Rachel, a professor in the Creative Writing Program at Bryn Mawr University, and her sister, Beth, whose mental retardation proves no obstacle to leading an independent, adventure-filled life. For additional information about the book or the author, please call Ann Murphy at 478-9677.

DOVER SHUL HOLDS ART AUCTION

On Saturday evening, October 12th, Congregation Beth Shalom in Dover will host an Art Auction for the entire community. Traditional and contemporary pieces in oils, watercolors and a variety of other mediums will be offered. For additional information, please call the synagogue at (302) 734-5578.

JEWISH ADULTS GO BACK TO SCHOOL

Join thousands of other adults around the world who are taking just 2 hours each week to study Judaism in a challenging but comfortable, pluralistic environment. Explore Jewish texts from all ages-Biblical, Rabbinic, mediaeval, modern and contemporary-to discover the central ideas and beliefs behind the practices and traditions that define the Jewish experience.

Classes are now forming and limited openings are available. Melton meets from September 18 through May 15 at the Delaware JCC. Sign up for Wednesday mornings from 9:15 to 11:30 a.m. or Thursday evenings from 7:15 to 9:30 p.m. Contact Marion Hamermesh at (302) 478-5660, ext. 202 for more information.

GRATZ COLLEGE OFFERS FREE PROGRAM

Spotlight on Gratz Scholars presents **American Jewish Spirituality: What We Know and What We Don't**, a lecture by Dr. Harris-Shapiro, on September 19th, 8:00 p.m. at Gratz College, 7605 Old York Road, Melrose Park, PA. Dr. Harris-Shapiro is the new Coordinator of the Jewish Communal Service Program and Assistant Professor of Contemporary Jewish Studies at the College. Admission is free and refreshments will be served. Seating, however is limited and reservations are suggested. For more information, please call (215) 635-7300, ext. 143.

ARTS UPDATE

FROM BIMAH TO BROADWAY...Congregation Beth Emeth in Wilmington presents four of the nation's top Jewish singers in concert on Sunday, October 13th, 7:00 p.m. at the synagogue on 300 Lea Blvd. "From Bimah to Broadway" features a quartet of singers performing a varied program of Jewish choral and cantorial music, Yiddish art songs, and Broadway hits written by Jewish composers. Leading this talented ensemble will be Beth Emeth's own Cantor Michael Mandel, who has sung with the Washington Opera and has performed in concert halls around the world. Seating is limited, so make your reservations today! Reserved seating is priced at \$36.00, general admission is \$18. A champagne dessert reception will follow the performance. Funds raised by the concert benefit the synagogue's music programs. For additional information, please call Roberta Beutel at 302-239-0144.

WCU PRESENTS "WE SHALL SING AGAIN"... "We Shall Sing Again," a musical cantata written by Dr. Irene G. Shur, Cantor Paul Schwartz, and Ken Joseph will be performed Sunday afternoon, October 13, at 3 P.M. in Philips Library on the campus of West Chester State University. This will be the first in a series of eight free programs to be held under the auspices of the University's Holocaust/Genocide Education Center.

The story of the four thousand year development of Hebrew and Jewish music will be performed. Included will be the renowned Workmen's Circle Chorus from Philadelphia, musicians from the Ki Klezmer Band in West Chester, and instrumental and vocal soloists. The narration will be read by Dr. Sidney Rabin. A reception will follow. For further information about the event, please call 610-738-0486.

A Link To Craft And Creation

Continued from page 14

It was our own make shift harvest hut, a reminder of a rest stop that our ancestors once took on their way out of Egypt. In a family that spent much more time sitting inside and reading books than being outside, sukkot reconnected us to the natural world — and to the joy of both craft and creation.

One time a neighbor asked "When are y'all gonna finish that shed?" But more often than not our little backyard sukkah was an opportunity for our Christian neighbors to see a biblical verse in action.

Each Sukkot, I read the words: You shall live in sukkot seven days; all citizens of Israel shall live in sukkot, in order that future genera-

tions may know that I made the Israelite people live in sukkot when I brought them out of the Land of Egypt. (Leviticus 23:42-43)

When I read of these words concerning the sukkah, I often think of another passage from Torah which describe the mishkan, the sacred tent:

I have singled out Bezalel . . . I have endowed him with a divine spirit of skill, ability and knowledge of every craft... and I have also granted this art to all who are skillful, so that they may make everything that I have instructed you. (Exodus 31:1-3, 6)

I may not have knowledge of every craft, but my experience in helping my father build a sukkah

each year taught me to value craft and to celebrate the work of my hands. But beyond the functional aspect of building a sukkah, the value of craft is spiritual wisdom.

The building of the sukkah is a metaphor for creating a new world. It is a world more in tune with natural rhythms and more open to the heavens. It is a world where we invite in ancestral spirits, neighbors and friends. For one week, in a fragile world made by two by fours and branches, we envision a more secure world and pray, "Spread over us a sukkah of peace." Rabbi Daniel S. Brenner is a senior teaching fellow at CLAL-The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership.

Community Capital Campaign Features Friedman In Concert



Save the date, Sunday, October 27th, 3:00 p.m. for a Community Capital Campaign CELEBRATION featuring famed recording artist Debbie Friedman. Friedman will perform at Congregation Beth Emeth, 300 Lea Boulevard. This concert is open to the entire community!

The celebration continues on the 27th at 5:00 p.m. with a special reception at the Milton and Hattie Kutz Home for donors who make a \$10,000 commitment or higher to the Federation Community Capital Campaign.

For additional information about the CELEBRATION, call Amalia Snyderman at 427-2100, ext. 30.



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