



JEWISH Voice

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ISRAEL CUTS PALESTINIAN TAX TRANSFERS

By Dan Baron, JTA

Israel is laying down the battle lines with a future Palestinian Authority led by Hamas.

With the radical Islamic faction gathering political power and refusing calls to reform from both the West and more moderate Palestinians, Israel has acted pre-emptively.

Interim Prime Minister Ehud Olmert's Cabinet on Sunday ordered a permanent halt to the monthly transfers of some \$50 million in tax revenues collected on behalf of the Palestinian Authority and ordered tighter restrictions on travel across the West Bank and Gaza Strip boundaries.

The Palestinian Authority is, for all intents and purposes, becoming a terrorist authority. The State of Israel will not agree to this," Olmert told fellow ministers.

A day before, the new Palestinian

Legislative Council, the Palestinian Parliament, was sworn in with Hamas taking 74 of its 132 seats. That paved the way for Hamas to form the next Cabinet.

Under Palestinian Authority law, President Mahmoud Abbas remains chief executive with a fair amount of autonomy in diplomatic matters. He urged Hamas to respect past Israeli-Palestinian peace accords.

This was quickly rejected by Ismail Haniyeh, Hamas' choice for Palestinian Authority prime minister. "We were elected on a different political agenda," he said, referring to the Jan. 25 vote in which Hamas crushed Abbas' Fatah.

That agenda includes preserving the Hamas charter calling for the Jewish state's destruction, not renouncing terrorism – and at most entering into an extended state of non-belligerency with Israel.

Israel's Shin Bet chief warned

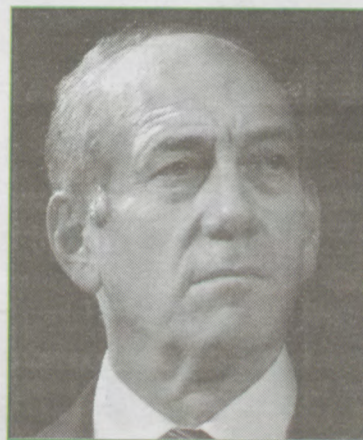
against any such truce, which many see Hamas using to rearm and regroup for a future war.

"If a Hamas state is established that could mobilize along Israel's borders with a military capability – as far as I'm concerned, that's a strategic threat," Yuval Diskin told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee in a briefing Monday.

"We cannot accept a truce if the price is that the Palestinians will establish a Hamas state and every Islamic organization from Saudi Arabia to Iran, global jihad to Al-Qaida, will come," he said.

Although no one expects Olmert to yield on Israel's hard-line stance toward Hamas, especially with general elections looming on March 28, Sunday's sanctions were not as tough than many expected.

The Defense Ministry had recommended a blanket ban on Palestinians entering Israel or cross-



Interim Prime Minister
Ehud Olmert

ing its territory to get from the West Bank to Gaza Strip.

A Jerusalem source said the government is trying to tread a middle path of putting Hamas under pressure while not sending more mainstream

Palestinians into the arms of potential patrons such as Iran and other extremist Arab regimes.

Israel also finds itself caught in the middle of a growing schism between the United States and European Union on how to handle a Hamas-led Palestinian Authority. The former is calling for international isolation while the latter prefers to engage the radical Islamic group in hope of taming it.

"With all the variables at play now, both in Israel and abroad, Olmert is trying to take a tough stance while leaving room to maneuver," the Jerusalem source said.

But there is no let-up in Israel's security measures.

Israeli forces killed four Palestinian terrorists since the weekend in separate operations in the West Bank and Gaza. Also slain were two Palestinian rock-throwers who attacked soldiers conducting a sweep of Nablus.

ARE JEWS SAFE IN FRANCE?

By Brett Kline

The brutal murder of a young Jewish man here is roiling the community and reviving questions over whether France is a safe place for Jews.

In an incident that has dominated headlines across the country, Ilan Halimi, 23, was lured away from the store where he sold mobile phones on Jan. 21 by a woman, abducted and then held in a suburban housing project for three weeks by a criminal gang, where he was repeatedly tortured, according to French officials.

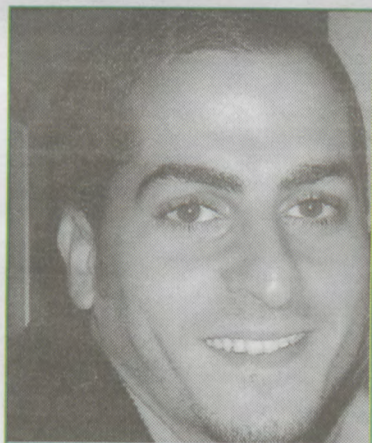
He was then dumped, barely alive and reportedly with burn marks all over his body, at a suburban train station on Monday, Feb. 13. Halimi died while being driven to a hospital.

Until this week, detectives investigating the case said they were not linking it to anti-Semitism.

But in a turnaround, Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin told a Jewish communal gathering Monday night that officials had decided to treat the case as an act of anti-Semitism.

De Villepin said the minister of justice had ordered that Halimi's torture and murder be considered "premeditated murder motivated by religious affiliation."

Villepin spoke at the annual dinner of the Representative Council of Jewish Institutions in France, or CRIF, the umbrella organization of secular French Jewish groups. In addition to pledging that the government would



Ilan Halimi

do its utmost to find Halimi's killers, de Villepin vowed that the French government would fight anti-Semitism throughout French society.

Anti-Semitic attacks, largely committed by youths of North African origin, increased in France during the first few years of the Palestinian uprising against Israel. The increase was largely attributed to tensions over the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The climate for Jews had seemed to improve in recent months, as had France's relations with Israel. The change came after Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's visit to Paris last summer and the Israeli pullout from Gaza.

But the recent incident has rocked the community, with many saying they had felt all along it was a deliberate act against Jews.

After meeting on Tuesday with

France's interior minister, Nicolas Sarkozy, known for ordering the police crackdown against anti-Semitic violence in 2005, Cukierman said Halimi's death "was one of the worst incidents for the Jewish community in France, if not the worst."

"It is possible that this did not start out as an anti-Semitic case," said Meyer Habib, owner of a large jewelry concern in Paris. "But if Ilan were not Jewish, I think he would still be alive today. He died because he was Jewish."

The victims's mother agreed. She was quoted as saying, "If Ilan weren't Jewish, he wouldn't have been killed."

At least 10 people, aged 17 to 32, have been arrested. The suspects, of North African and black African Muslim origins and of white French background, have been labeled the "gang of barbarians" by the French media.

The group's alleged leader, identified as Youssouf F., has reportedly fled to the West African country of Ivory Coast.

Cukierman addressed the prime minister: "The Jews of France want to know the truth. Did Ilan Halimi die because he was Jewish?"

At a news conference after meeting with Sarkozy, Cukierman said that the police believe that gangs are controlling certain suburban districts, "and people do not want to talk." He added that police had found documents in one apartment linked to Salafists, a radical North African Islamist group.

In a live forum on Jewish radio Tuesday, Cukierman told listeners that the CRIF had only learned of the kidnapping when the death was reported, because police had kept tight control of the case until then.

"I think the police are devoting considerable means and manpower

to this case," said Cukierman. "The proof is that arrests have been made, and the suspects are talking."

"Before that, there was failure," he said. "Today we can say for sure that a man was killed because he was Jewish." (JTA correspondent Lauren Elkin contributed to this report.)

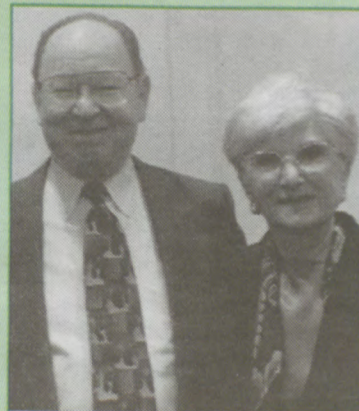
CELEBRATE AEA's 36TH ANNIVERSARY

The 2006 Albert Einstein Academy Gala at the Symphony is being held on Sunday, March 5, 2006 at the Grand Opera House in Wilmington, Delaware. The Gala, which begins at 5:30pm, coincides with the 36th anniversary year of Albert Einstein Academy, according to Gala Committee Co-chairs Jodi & Benjie Cohen and Miriam and Steven Edell. This year's Honorary Tribute Co-Chairs are Mildred and Herman Cohen, who have been longtime advocates and supporters of the school.

Gala attendees will enjoy a crescendo of culinary delights at a private gathering held prior to the performance of the world renowned Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra.

This is Albert Einstein Academy's premiere event. Couvert for the Gala \$100 per person. For more information, contact Debbie Nachlis, Director of Development at AEA at 302-478-5026 ext. 118.

Albert Einstein Academy is the



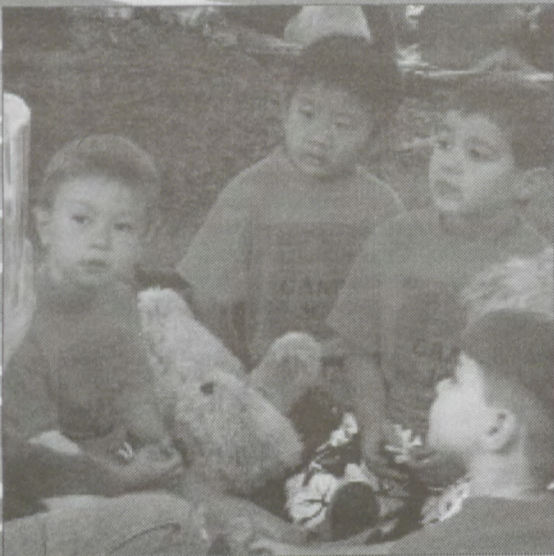
Herman and Mildred Cohen

academically excellent Jewish Elementary Day School in the Brandywine Valley. It is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, and is a constituent of the Jewish Federation of Delaware. For more information about Albert Einstein Academy, call 302-478-5026 or visit the school on the web at www.aeacademy.org.

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Samuel H. Asher
Executive Vice President

"I believe the children are our future

Teach them well and let them lead the way

Show them all the beauty they possess inside

Give them a sense of pride to make it easier ..."

As I participated in a recent teleconference call sponsored by The Israel Project about images of Israel and Israel advocacy, these words from Whitney Houston's popular song "The Greatest Love of All" played in my head.

The call contained important information about a December study conducted by The Luntz, Maslansky Strategic Research Group. Study data revealed that 82% of American Jews learn about Israel by the age of 20 and younger Jews gain knowledge about our Jewish homeland far earlier than their parents.

In a child's earliest years, parents provide the initial learning experiences about Israel. As he or she matures, friends, teachers and Hebrew school experiences exert an influence. The influence of the print and broadcast media and the internet on our perceptions about Israel grows even stronger in the teen years and beyond.

The market research shows a

direct link between the strength of a person's Jewish identity and ties to Israel with the depth of involvement in our synagogues and other Jewish communal organizations.

It all ties together.

Your support of early childhood programs at the Bernard and Ruth Siegel Jewish Community Center, a Jewish day school environment at Albert Einstein Academy, Hebrew School and youth group programming at area synagogues and youth organizations like BBO help us to ensure that our children indeed are our future Jewish leaders.

Love for Judaism and the Jewish State must be nurtured at an early age and sustained beyond Bar or Bat Mitzvahs. This is why your gift to the Federation Annual Campaign helps support Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School and innovative programming at the Kristol Center for Jewish Life at the University of Delaware.

The data released during this conference call affirms the validity of the time and effort spent by our Federation Board and members of

our Partnership 2000 Committee in bringing Idan Kligerman to our community. Idan, an Israeli from our Partnership 2000 city of Arad, is Delaware's first Shaliach or Young Emissary in more than 20 years.

Idan has had tremendous impact on the young people he has worked with at all of our Federation beneficiary agencies and has brought a positive message about Israel to numerous public and private schools and inter-faith organizations. To coin a phrase, Idan has been "everywhere" in his almost six months with us.

We focus a lot of our energy on Israel and overseas education through our Partnership 2000 Committee. They have done a great job establishing the Young Emissary program this year and supplying Idan with the resources and contacts necessary to get his job done. Todah Rabah to Lelaie Nemser, Iris Tocker, Eve Slap and the many other volunteers who have helped to set up Idan's apartment and provide him with appropriate transportation so that he could move into his job

quickly and effectively.

Partnership 2000 is our link to our sister city of Arad/Tamar. We have many programs that link our two communities. Through programs like Kefiyada, Ivriyada and the Maccabi games, we forge people-to-people connections between Israelis and American Jews. We send volunteers to Israel and they send their volunteers and children here.

We will continue our Young Emissary program next year and I want to thank all of our rabbis and educators who helped to make maximum use of Idan's unique talents and insights into Israeli life. This program is supported by the annual campaign as well as a grant from unrestricted endowments of the Jewish Fund for the Future.

Together we will continue to raise a future generation of leaders who are confident in their Jewish identity and proud supporters of the State of Israel. Together we are all building Jewish Community. Let us go from strength to strength in this worthy endeavor.

Israel after birthright



Idan Kligerman (second from right) and Michael Landsberg, executive director of the Aliyah Department of the Jewish Agency talk with students at Hillel.

The power of an Israel experience for Diaspora Jews cannot be overstated! It is an important antidote to the problems of Jewish apathy and assimilation addressed in the following two statistics:

*Each year, the Jewish people "lose" 50,000 people every year due to intermarriage.

*Only 30% of the Jewish people living in North America have visited their ancestral homeland- Israel.

Numerous studies have determined that traveling to Israel and seeing the country that is mentioned so frequently in his or her prayer book is the singular most engaging first hand experience for a Jewish person. This revelation led to the creation of birthright Israel-an amazing program that provides a free, all-inclusive Israel experience for every Jewish person from the age of 18 to 26.

It is a ten-day adventure open to Orthodox, Conservative, Reform, Reconstructionist or unaffiliated Jews who wish to see the Holy Land for the very first time on an organized trip. You get to see a lot and can meet fascinating people. The experience is completely safe-even the president of the United States walks around without bodyguards!

Each and every birthright participant has experienced a WOW moment-an epiphany.

They are touched and inspired by the land and the people and cry out "I got it, this is what it's all about." It is truly amazing to witness this magic moment.

Birthright is a taste of Israel. Most participants can't wait to return and make a deeper connection with the land and its people. One of my favorite jobs as your community shaliach is to make this connection possible.

Earlier this winter, 31 students participated in the birthright trip sponsored by the Kristol Center for Jewish Life (Hillel) at the University of Delaware. Many described this adventure as "the trip of a lifetime". Many came back asking questions about how they could return for a more extensive experience. It was my privilege to invite them to attend a special program called ISRAEL, The Second Time Around. Michael Landsberg, the executive director of the Aliyah department of the Jewish Agency for Israel, spoke about MASA, a joint initiative of the Jewish Agency and the Israeli government. MASA, the Hebrew word for journey, offers more than 100 programs designed to offer an intensive Israel experience to meet almost every taste and interest. Among the many options are high school, undergraduate and graduate studies, internships, participation in a kibbutz Ulpan program where one can work on a kibbutz, learn

Hebrew and earn up to 8 college credits or volunteer as a fire fighter or with the famed Magen David Adom ambulance force. All this and much, much more.

More than 40 students participated in this special evening which also included presentations by Jessica Novic an alumni of 3 programs in Israel and a student at the University of Delaware and Mike Klein, also a student, who is a graduate of one of the MASA programs. We viewed pictures and movies from the speakers' saw exciting movies watched pictures from the speaker's varied Israel experiences, listened to Israeli music and enjoyed Tu B'Shevat themed foods.

It was a big celebration for lovers of Israel. Right now in our Delaware Jewish Community, we have one student who is in the process of making Aliyah, another who will be joining the

Israeli army for 18 months and still another who plans a resume boosting internship. Thanks to the MASA information evening, we picked up seven more applications!

I am so impressed with the wonderful students served by Hillel at the University of Delaware. These young men and women well represent the future of our Jewish community. I have been honored to work with people who feel such deep ties with our Jewish homeland. They embody the new slogan of the "Israel at Heart" initiative- "Israel-where Hope is the national anthem."

Although I will be spending much of my time in the Cherry Hill, New Jersey community during the next few months, I will be returning one weekend a month for special programs which will be publicized in future editions of the Jewish Voice. It

is my HOPE to see you there.

This week's trivia question is: what is the name of the new party formed by Ariel Sharon?

There are prizes answers to be send to my email Idan@shalomdel.org

Idan Kligerman is Delaware's first Shlichut or Emissary in over 20 years. Support for the Young Emissary program in Delaware comes from the Jewish Fund for the Future, the endowment fund of the Jewish Federation of Delaware, Partnership 2000 and Matt Slap Subaru. Idan will be here through February promoting Israel and strengthening the bond between Israel and Delaware. Beginning in March, he will be in Cherry Hill and will visit Delaware once a month. Idan can be reached at the Federation office (302) 427-2100 ext. 30. Also visit the Partnership 2000 website for general P2K information <http://www.partner.org.il/arad/>

JCPA takes leadership role in combating Darfur genocide

The Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA), the community relations arm of the organized American Jewish community, and member of the executive committee of the Save Darfur Coalition, has stepped into a leadership position to lead the charge for increased efforts to combat the genocide in the Darfur region of Sudan.

Steve Gutow, executive director of the JCPA, said the following about the JCPA's position on Darfur:

"Since 2003 atrocities have been occurring in Sudan's Darfur region. Labeled by the United States as genocide, four hundred thousand people have been murdered and millions more have been displaced from their homes and left to starve. As violence in the region increases, humanitarian aid continues to dwindle and Darfurians continue to suffer at the hands of an abusive government.

The United States has taken more action than any other country to fight the genocide, and the JCPA acknowledges with appreciation the effort made by President Bush and his administration. In addition to a proposed \$500 million for Darfur as part of a special budget request, this past

Friday, the President called for a substantial increase in the number of international troops in the war-torn region and an expansion of NATO's presence. It is an acknowledgement that past efforts and continued peace talks have failed to end the violence - the war continues and more Darfurians die each day.

As Americans and as Jews, it is our responsibility to ensure the unspeakable tragedy in Darfur comes to an end.

The JCPA believes the only way to make a significant change in the current situation is to provide assistance to the African Union (AU) and to formulate a plan for transitioning the AU force into an effective United Nations peace-keeping mission. With this in mind we urge President Bush, who already has demonstrated leadership on this issue, to devote the kind of sustained and intensive attention to this issue that will result in the development of such an international force."

To keep attention focused on Darfur, the JCPA, together with the American Jewish World Service, is coordinating efforts in the Jewish com-

munity in support of the "Million Voices for Darfur" campaign - a coordinated initiative intended to raise awareness of the genocide taking place in Darfur and promote the actions necessary to end it. This campaign has been launched by the Save Darfur Coalition, a grouping of over 150 faith-based, advocacy and humanitarian aid organizations.

Organizers hope to collect one million hand written and electronic postcards from Americans calling on President Bush to support and stronger and multinational effort to safeguard the citizens of Darfur. The signed postcards will be delivered to the White House at a rally on April 30th, 2006. The upcoming JCPA Plenum in Washington, DC (February 26-28), which brings together hundreds of Jewish leaders from across the country, provides a great opportunity to amplify our efforts on Darfur.

Additional information on the JCPA's efforts and the "Million Voices for Darfur" campaign can be found on the JCPA website, www.jewishpublicaffairs.org, the AJWS website, www.ajws.org, and the Save Darfur Coalition's website, www.savedarfur.org.

EDITORIALS AND OPINIONS

Haman and Hamas: Kindred Spirits?

In just a few short weeks, we celebrate Purim—one of the most fun-filled holidays on our Jewish calendar. It commemorates a time when Haman, an evil advisor to the king of Persia, was foiled in his attempt to decimate the Persian Jewish community.

As we read in the Book of Esther, Esther—a Persian Jewess—was taken by her cousin Mordecai to King Ahasuerus to be a part of his harem. The king was captivated by her cunning, kindness and beauty and made her his queen. The king did not know that Esther was a Jew.

When Haman revealed his plot to destroy her people, Esther approached the king. She revealed her true identity to her husband and asked him to intervene. Haman was sentenced to death.

We read this story during the festival of Purim, which is celebrated on the 14th day of Adar. This is the day that Haman selected for the extermination of the Jews. The word "Purim" means "lots" and refers to the lottery that Haman used to choose the date for the massacre.

During the Megillah reading on Purim, congregants delight in booing, hissing, stamping their feet and rattling groggers whenever the name of Haman is mentioned in the service. In so doing we blot out the name of Haman—the personification of evil.

How ironic that Hamas, a group bent on Israel's annihilation, shares four of five letters with Haman. Hamas, which recently won the majority of seats in the Palestinian elections is listed as a terrorist organization by Israel, the European Union (EU), and the United States; Jordan has banned the group.

Since the beginning of the Al-Aqsa Intifada, Hamas orchestrated nearly 60 suicide bombings against Israeli civilians, although it has largely respected the truce declared in March

2004. Its 1988 charter calls for the destruction of the State of Israel, as well as of any secular Palestinian government, and the creation of an Islamic Republic in their place. Abdel Aziz al-Rantissi, one of its co-founders, has gone on record as stating that one of the primary goals of this movement is to "remove Israel from the map."

Unlike Haman, the name of Hamas cannot be easily blotted out. The Hamas-led parliament was sworn in Saturday, officially removing the ruling Fatah Party from its decades-long stronghold on Palestinian politics. On Tuesday, Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas made a formal request of Ismail Haniyeh, Hamas' choice for prime minister, to form a new government. This process may take upwards of a month or more.

We need the intervention of a modern-day Esther to force Hamas to revoke its charter and recognize Israel's right to exist. U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice appears to be taking on this role. She is currently in the Mid-East on a mission to rally our Arab allies, Egypt and Saudi Arabia, to apply pressure on Hamas to moderate its militant policies and honor agreements made by prior Palestinian leadership. She also wants these countries to cut off financial support if Hamas does not agree to these terms.

The Purim tale, like many of our tradition's holiday stories, demonstrates the power of mere mortals to achieve miracles when doing, G-d's work.

I believe in miracles. How about you?
Shabbat Shalom and a Joyous Purim!

Lynn B. Edelman

Lynn B. Edelman
Editor

**Shabbat
Candlelighting
Times**

March 3rd – 5:38 PM

March 10th 5:45 PM

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Tournies celebrate Jewish connections

A few weeks ago, the Allentown JCC hosted the "Tournies" convention. As one of the advisors for our local BBG group, I had the privilege to accompany our group of close to 40 members from Wilmington to the event. The weekend was filled with competitions and our teens showed off their talents in many areas, by participating in both team and individual activities. There were tears and cheers, and emotional ups and downs as the weekend unfolded. However, I was moved by the ability of our kids to take care of one another and to so joyously feel a connection to this group which is bigger than all of them. I wish all of their parents could have seen, as I did, their kids sway together, arms

folded around each other as they ended Shabbat with songs and prayers. To see the AZA and BBG groups screaming and yelling their support for one another as they played water polo and basketball. They all returned, exhausted, some with medals around their necks, some not, but all of them better off for the experience. Thank you to the families who have allowed their children to participate in a group that fosters connection to one another and to our heritage in a way that they will impact their lives forever.

Sincerely,

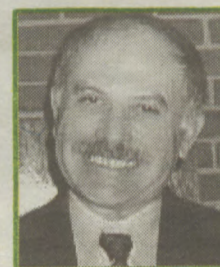
Michele Asher
Wilmington

Taste of Torah

Torah Talk reflects the individual opinions and interpretations of members of the Rabbinic Council of Delaware.

Kindness

By, Rabbi Sanford L. Dresin
Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation



Rabbi
Sanford L. Dresin

In the book of Exodus, we find the *Shirat HaYam*, Israel's song praising Hashem following the drowning of the Pharaoh's Army. The Shira has been an integral part of our daily prayers for over a thousand years. In unsurpassed lyrical prose, it depicts often through anthropomorphism Hashem's awesome might and kindness for his people.

Among the Shira's verses, we read "*Nachisa V'Chasidcha Am Zu Ga'alta* — you have led with your kindness the nation that you redeemed". At first glance the verse appears to be referring to Hashem, however, the Chofetz Chaim, the great rabbinic sage of the early twentieth century cites a Medrash that speaks of a gathering in Egypt of Jewish leaders who as they experienced the ever increasing cruelty of the Pharaoh, agreed that as a counter-measure, they would perform increased acts of kindness toward one another in order to evoke a concomitant response from heaven. It was this compassion and kindness that ultimately brought about the peoples deliverance.

The meaning of this Medrash is that it was acts of kindness by our ancestors that moved Hashem to "*Nachisa V'Chasidcha* — to lead us with kindness". In effect, the heavens mirror our behavior here on earth, they reflect back all our acts and if this is so, we have at this time a great deal to be concerned about over our treatment of our fellow Jews both here in the Diaspora and in Israel. In particular, I refer to last summer's events in Gaza at Gush Katif and more recently the West Bank settlement of Amona.

When Prime Minister Sharon bolted Likud and formed Kadima, I was hopeful. In Israel like here at home, there is far too much extremism and polarization on the political

scene. For a long time, there has existed in Israel, a need for a truly centrist party which hopefully would work toward building consensus. Unfortunately, that appears to have been derailed. The tragic illness of Sharon which has ended his political career brought Ehud Olmert, his deputy to power. Olmert, unlike Sharon does not have a stellar military background, but appears bent on acquiring a reputation as a tough and decisive leader all in preparation for the March election. Though I favored a withdrawal from Gaza, unfortunately, without a quid pro quo from the Palestinians, it only increased their bravado and may even have contributed to a Hamas victory in the recent Palestinian election. Sharon's handling of the disengagement from Gaza was a near disaster; Olmert's dismantling of Amona is a disaster.

On my two recent trips to Israel, I learned that Olmert's ruthlessness in dealing with the settlers has earned him the wrath of both sides of Israel's political spectrum. While in Israel, I spoke with many Israelis, soldiers and settler/demonstrators. Following the forced evacuation from Gush Katif, I was deeply moved by the comments of a tough young officer in the border police who was involved in that operation. He told me that his best protection in that action were sunglasses, because they prevented anyone from seeing the tears he shed as he carried out his mission. No such comments at Amona with the exception of a large group of soldiers who refused to follow orders. The difference between Gush Katif and Amona can be summed up in the statement of one settler: "To Gush Katif they sent busses, to Amona they sent ambulances".

May the almighty grant us leaders who lead in kindness that we may be rewarded with Hashem's kindness.

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(Passover begins 4/13)

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EDITORIALS AND OPINIONS

I'm not dancing the hora over Irving verdict

By Deborah Lipstadt

David Irving's arrest and three-year jail sentence for having denied the Holocaust has been met with a chorus of cheers in the Jewish community. A notorious liar, he was once considered a prominent historian. Many people were delighted that prison would now house a man who has called Jews cockroaches, believes black newscasters should be relegated to reading news of criminals and drug busts, and asked a survivor how much money she had made from having a number tattooed on her arm.

At long last, justice seemed to prevail. In the immediate aftermath of the verdict, my blog (Lipstadt.blogspot.com) was flooded with expressions of delight. Most people assumed I was dancing the hora.

But I was not.

I fought this man's libel charge against me for six years. For over three months I had to silently sit in court in London listening to him say the most horrible things about Jews, people of color and survivors. He made fun of those who talked about gas chambers and sneered at survivors' accounts of what they endured. He was full of bluster about how he was going to demolish the myth of the Holocaust.

Quietly and meticulously, relying on the stellar work of a dream team of historians,

we showed that every one – not many, not most, but all – of David Irving's claims were complete rot. They were based on lies, distortions and fabrications. They were, as the prominent historian Richard Evans and the leader of our research team, said, "A tissue of lies."

In no way, Evans continued, could this man even be thought of as a historian. Some people have argued that since he has written over 30 books on historical topics, he is a historian. If I wrote books on building bridges that would not make me a structural engineer. Irving has been dubbed by some people on the Internet as a "distorian."

During my trial, Irving kept trying to introduce evidence of a world Jewish cabal or global conspiracy against him. He described me as "the gold-tipped spearhead of the enemies of truth," his euphemism for the Jews. He laughed at survivors, declaring them liars or psychopaths. And he called the judge – in a very telling slip, "Mein Fuhrer."

He suffered an overwhelming loss. When the judge, in a 350-page judgment, said he "perverts," "distorts," "lies," and that his conclusions are a "travesty," Irving's reputation was left in tatters. When two different courts of appeal concurred, he faced financial ruin.

Why then was I not delighted with the court sentence handed down in Vienna on Feb.

20? I am writing this sitting in the shadow of the Vatican, preparing to teach a course on the Holocaust at the Pontifical Gregorian University, the Jesuit university affiliated with the Vatican. For centuries the church censored Jewish books, forcing Jews to remove anything the church authorities deemed objectionable to Christianity. Even prayers were censored.

We Jews, who have suffered from censorship, should not be supporting it. Moreover, I don't believe censorship is efficacious. It renders the censored item into forbidden fruit, making it more appealing, not less so.

Here in Europe, as in many quarters in the United States, this discussion has been joined with the debate over the Danish cartoons. Various Jewish organizations have pointed out – and rightfully so – that the Islamic world, which is so vigorously protesting the insult they perceive in these cartoons, is ignoring its own double standard. It has lived quite comfortably for many years with a spate of anti-Semitic cartoons. Some are well nigh pornographic and worthy of what one might find in *Der Sturmer*, the Nazi anti-Semitic newspaper.

While it is legitimate to argue that there is a difference between cartoons and the murder of millions of people, it is hard to argue for laws against Holocaust denial but demand that the Danish cartoonists' free-

dom of speech be protected. It suggests a double standard.

More importantly, there is a far better way to fight Holocaust denial than to rely on the transitory force of law. When David Irving forced me to go to court to defend my freedom of expression, my most important weapon was the historical truth. We have truth and history on our side. From both an ideological and strategic perspective, those are far more powerful weapons than laws, especially laws that seem to counter the ideal of freedom of expression.

The best way to counter Holocaust deniers is to teach as many people as possible this history. That is why courses on history of the Holocaust have proven so popular and important. Students who take those courses will never fall prey to the David Irving-like distortions.

Jewish tradition teaches that the word *emet*, truth, composed as it is from the first, middle and last letters of the Hebrew alphabet, encompasses everything. The truth of the Holocaust is terrible and painful, but it is the truth and that is the most potent weapon anyone could want.

Deborah Lipstadt teaches at Emory University and is the author of *History on Trial: My Day in Court with David Irving* [Ecco, 2005] which is a winner of the National Jewish Book Award.

We were brought up to hate - and we do

By Nonie Darwish

The controversy regarding the Danish cartoons of the Prophet Mohammed completely misses the point. Of course, the cartoons are offensive to Muslims, but newspaper cartoons do not warrant the burning of buildings and the killing of innocent people. The cartoons did not cause the disease of hate that we are seeing in the Muslim world on our television screens at night - they are only a symptom of a far greater disease.

I was born and raised as a Muslim in Cairo, Egypt and in the Gaza Strip. In the 1950s, my father was sent by Egypt's President, Gamal Abdel Nasser, to head the Egyptian military intelligence in Gaza and the Sinai where he founded the Palestinian Fedayeen, or "armed resistance". They made cross-border attacks into Israel, killing 400 Israelis and wounding more than 900 others.

My father was killed as a result of the Fedayeen operations when I was eight years old. He was hailed by Nasser as a national hero and was considered a shaheed, or martyr. In his speech announcing the nationalization of the Suez Canal, Nasser vowed that all of Egypt would take revenge for my father's death. My siblings and I were asked by Nasser: "Which one of you will avenge your father's death by killing Jews?" We looked at each other speechless, unable to answer.

In school in Gaza, I learned hate, vengeance and retaliation. Peace was never an option, as it was considered a sign of defeat and weakness. At school we sang songs with verses calling Jews "dogs" (in Arab culture, dogs are considered unclean).

Criticism and questioning were forbidden. When I did either of these, I was told: "Muslims cannot love the enemies of God, and those who do will get no mercy in hell." As a young woman, I visited a Christian friend in Cairo during Friday prayers, and we both heard the verbal attacks on Christians and Jews from the loudspeakers outside the mosque. They said: "May God destroy the infidels and the Jews, the enemies of God. We are not to befriend them or make treaties with them." We heard worshippers respond "Amen".

My friend looked scared; I was ashamed. That was when I first realized that something was very wrong in the way my religion was taught and practiced. Sadly, the way I was raised was not unique. Hundreds of millions of other Muslims also have been raised with the same hatred of the West and Israel as a way to distract from the failings of their leaders. Things have not changed since I was a little girl in the 1950s.

Palestinian television extols terrorists, and textbooks still deny the existence of Israel. More than 300 Palestinian schools

are named after shaheeds, including my father. Roads in both Egypt and Gaza still bear his name - as they do of other "martyrs". What sort of message does that send about the role of terrorists? That they are heroes. Leaders who signed peace treaties, such as President Anwar Sadat, have been assassinated. Today, the Islamo-fascist president of Iran uses nuclear dreams, Holocaust denials and threats to "wipe Israel off the map" as a way to maintain control of his divided country.

Indeed, with Denmark set to assume the rotating presidency of the UN Security Council, the flames of the cartoon controversy have been fanned by Iran and Syria. This is critical since the International Atomic Energy Agency is expected to refer Iran to the Security Council and demand sanctions. At the same time, Syria is under scrutiny for its actions in Lebanon. Both Iran and Syria cynically want to embarrass the Danes to achieve their dangerous goals.

But the rallies and riots come from a public ripe with rage. From my childhood in Gaza until today, blaming Israel and the West has been an industry in the Muslim world. Whenever peace seemed attainable, Palestinian leaders found groups who would do everything to sabotage it. They allowed their people to be used as the front line of Arab jihad. Dictators in countries surrounding the Palestinians were only too happy to exploit the Palestinians as a diversion from problems in their own backyards. The only voice outside of government control in these areas has been the mosques, and these places of worship have been filled with talk of jihad.

Is it any surprise that after decades of indoctrination in a culture of hate, that people actually do hate? Arab society has created a system of relying on fear of a common enemy. It's a system that has brought them much-needed unity, cohesion and compli-

ance in a region ravaged by tribal feuds, instability, violence, and selfish corruption. So Arab leaders blame Jews and Christians rather than provide good schools, roads, hospitals, housing, jobs, or hope to their people.

For 30 years I lived inside this war zone of oppressive dictatorships and police states. Citizens competed to appease and glorify their dictators, but they looked the other way when Muslims tortured and terrorized other Muslims. I witnessed honor killings of girls, oppression of women, female genital mutilation, polygamy and its devastating effect on family relations. All of this is destroying the Muslim faith from within.

It's time for Arabs and Muslims to stand up for their families. We must stop allowing our leaders to use the West and Israel as an excuse to distract from their own failed leadership and their citizens' lack of freedoms. It's time to stop allowing Arab leaders to complain about cartoons while turning a blind eye to people who defame Islam by holding Korans in one hand while murdering innocent people with the other.

Muslims need jobs - not jihad. Apologies about cartoons will not solve the problems. What is needed is hope and not hate. Unless we recognize that the culture of hate is the true root of the riots surrounding this cartoon controversy, this violent overreaction will only be the start of a clash of civilizations that the world cannot bear.

Nonie Darwish is a freelance writer and public speaker who is also a part of Stand WithUs' Stand4Freedom speaker's bureau. StandWithUs is an international Israel education organization that ensures that Israel's side of the story is told in communities, campuses, libraries, the media and churches through brochures, speakers and conferences. Founded in 2001 in response to the second Intifada, SWU now has offices in Los Angeles, New York, Israel and Michigan. <http://www.standwithus.com/>

This Week in Jewish History



**Celebrate 350
Jewish Life in America
1654 - 2004**

This Week in History" is an introduction to 350 years of American Jewish history, brought to you by the Jewish Women's Archive. More information about each of the events described below can be found on JWA's website at http://www.jwa.org/this_week/week_31.html

FEBRUARY 22, 1920

An article about Elizabeth D.A. Cohen, the first practicing female physician in Louisiana, appeared in the New Orleans Times-Picayune, on February 22, 1920, her 100th birthday.

FEBRUARY 22, 1993

New York Judge Judith Kaye was nominated by then-governor Mario Cuomo to become the first female Chief Judge of the New York State Court of Appeals on February 22, 1993.

FEBRUARY 24, 1912

Hadassah, the largest women's organization in America, was born on February 24, 1912.

FEBRUARY 25, 1936

On February 25, 1936, Rose Pesotta joined a Goodyear Rubber workers' sit-in as an organizer of a strike, which temporarily closed the largest tire factory in the world.

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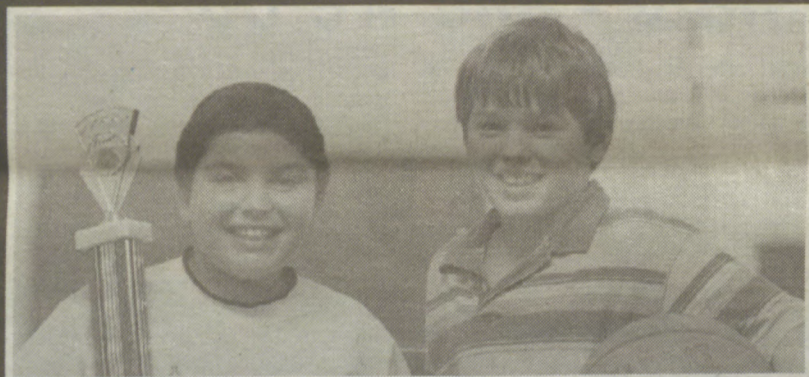


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Passover Preview March 17th

INSIDE DELAWARE

Israel Bonds DE Campaign tops \$700,000

State of Israel Bonds' High Holy Days campaign in Delaware produced over \$700,000 in bond sales in 2005, David Halpern, the organization's national chairman, has announced.

"The outstanding response from congregants at five synagogue appeals demonstrates the Delaware Jewish community's commitment to build Israel's economy at this critical moment in her history," Halpern said, emphasizing that "Israel must remain economically strong in order to ensure the safety and security of her citizens, achieve a just and lasting peace, and pursue her best interests among the nations of the world."

Raisa Neyman, director of Israel Bonds' Delaware campaign and its associate executive director in Philadelphia, congratulated the synagogues and said she hoped others would join them by organizing and

conducting appeals in 2006.

Neyman said three of the synagogues who participated last year are from Wilmington: Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth (Rabbi Sanford L. Dresin, appeal: Marc Pevar), Congregation Beth Emeth (Rabbi Peter H. Grumbacher, appeal: Esther Timmeney), and Congregation Beth Shalom (Rabbi Michael Beals, appeal: Alan Lipschultz).

The other two synagogues are Temple Beth El in Newark (Rabbi David B. Kaplan, appeal: Alexander Mackler) and Congregation Beth Shalom in Dover, she said.

State of Israel Bonds is an international organization offering securities issued by the government of Israel. Since the first bond was sold in 1951, Israel has secured \$25 billion in investment capital to develop Israel's economy, and Israel has made every payment of principal and interest on time and in full.

BBYO Corner

Over the past few months, the Wilmington B'nai B'rith Girls have participated in many chapter and regional activities. This past fall, Wilmington BBYO hosted a regional Kickoff convention at our JCC that was a great success. The weekend included speakers about Israel, beautiful Shabbat services, sisterhood and brotherhood programs, and a Friday night performance from the entertainment group brought in from Philadelphia, Comedy Sports. Our region also rented out the Skating Club of Wilmington for a night of ice skating and music.

Recently our BBG chapter held an eighth grade intake program at Coldstone Creamery. Over twenty-five BBGs attending including many potential new members. The program consisted of an information session about BBG and introductory and bonding exercises so everyone could get acquainted. We hope that this program encouraged potential new members to join the Wilmington B'nai B'rith Girls and to help our chapter to continue to grow.

Wilmington BBG has also attended two regional events in January and February. Our January inter-city was an overnight event held at the synagogue, Keshet Israel, in West Chester. This was a fun, late-night dance along with a havdallah service, song session, and all-night movies. The February convention took place from the 10 through the 12. This was our regional Tournaments convention, short for "tournaments", where all chapters competed in different events. Wilmington BBG and AZA placed for events such as basketball, volleyball, water polo, singing, handicrafts, mini-games, and many more.

In the near future our chapter, along with the whole region, will attend the regional brotherhood and sisterhood convention, in York, Pennsylvania, called Beau. This will include a exciting weekend filled with brotherly and sisterly bonding programs all topped off with a formal dance to the theme of "Noches de Espana" (Nights of Spain). All new members are encouraged to attend.

Lastly, Wilmington BBG is selling soft bean pillows as a fundraiser for our chapter. The pillows are green and say CRE BBYO on them. All are encouraged to purchase pillows and help support the Wilmington B'nai B'rith Girls. Keep a look out for future updates on what is going on for Wilmington BBG and AZA!

For more information please contact Samantha Diamond at 528-3083 or Alex Resch at 1-610-506-1422



2nd Annual Jewish Studies Lecture Series

The community is invited to the 2nd annual Jewish Studies Lecture Series on the University of Delaware Campus. All classes meet on Tuesdays from 12:30 - 1:30 pm in Smith Hall, Room 203.

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| February 28 | Rabbi Eliezer Sneiderman
Chabad House at the University of Delaware, Newark, DE
"Historical Development of the Concept of Chosenness" |
| March 7 | Dr. Mark Miller
Professor, Department of Political Science and International Relations,
University of Delaware, Newark, DE
"Recent Developments in the Arab-Israeli Political Situation" |
| March 14 | Dr. Stephen Stern
Assistant Professor, Department of Religion,
Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, PA
Topic: TBA |
| March 21 | Rabbi Michael Beals
Congregation Beth Shalom, Wilmington, DE
"From the Bible to Delaware: How We Got Here" |
| April 4 | Dr. Barry Gittlen - Professor of Biblical and Archaeological Studies,
Baltimore Hebrew University, Baltimore, MD
"Joseph in Egypt: With the BBC on the Trail of Israel's Ancestors" |
| April 11 | Dr. Margaret Crouch
Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Committee,
Jewish Federation of Delaware
"Setting Up the Conditions for the Holocaust: Webs of Deceit" |
| April 18 | Dr. Jonathan Skolnick
Editor, German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C.
"From Nazi Racism to Code Era Hollywood: German Jewish Exiles and
African-Americans in the Movies: 1933-1934" |
| April 25 | Dr. Heidi Kaufman
Assistant Professor, English Department, University of Delaware, Newark, DE
"Making the Cut: Cartoon Racism and Anti-Semitism in the 19th Century and Beyond" |
| May 2 | Dr. Elaine Safer
English Department, University of Delaware, Newark, DE
"The Absurd in Bernard Malamud and Phillip Roth" |
| May 9 | Ms. Linda Meiberg
Doctoral Candidate, Art and Archaeology of the Mediterranean World,
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
Topic: TBA. |

Did you know that if you're over 60 you can take University of Delaware courses for FREE? You need to purchase your own textbooks and supplies and you do need to do a little paperwork, but if you've always said that you'd like to learn more about Judaism "some day" when you had more time, maybe now is the time to do it. Take as many or as few classes as you like and take them for credit or as a listener (no papers, no tests). Please call Barbara Johnson (831-1615) and ask for more details. Most of the information can be found at <http://www.continuingstudies.udel.edu/home/over60.shtml>



Congregation Beth Shalom's Jeff Lewis promises good American political satire for all persuasions.
(Photo by Joel Glazier)

How Will This Purim Differ From Others?

The Capitol Steps will perform their pre-holiday mockery

"This fund raising will be fun," according to Jeff Lewis, Director of Fund Raising for Congregation Beth Shalom. He is referring to the March 11 Program at Beth Shalom featuring the renowned comedy troupe, The Capitol Steps. "We're planning to offer merry making programs for the community every year around Purim and this group provides needed humor in the current politically charged atmosphere," adds Lewis, who also has organized Beth Shalom's winter Jewish Film Festival the past two years. The Capitol Steps has been known to change their musical political satire weekly to reflect news of the moment. There are a limited number of tickets available for the March 11 program that begins at 7:00 PM with a wine and cheese reception, and will include a performance by singer/songwriter Amanda Kaletsky. Ticket information is available at Beth Shalom, 18th and Baynard Boulevard in Wilmington, phone (302) 654-4462.



Uriel Palti, Consul General for the Mid-Atlantic Region, discusses Israeli population and immigration concerns with Paula Solomon of Wilmington. Consul General Palti fielded an array of questions from audience members at a recent program sponsored by The Jewish Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Delaware. Palti, who has served for 3 years as Consul General in Philadelphia, said the 2 most important issues facing Israel are the Hamas victory in the Palestinian elections and the nuclear threat posed by Iran. "There's never a dull second in Israel especially with the upcoming March 28 elections and the interesting phenomena of the new Kadima Party," said Palti. "There is a new atmosphere in Israel in the last 5 years

with tourism rising, cafes and hotels filling up and you should be proud of the enormous role America has played toward securing peace in the Middle East," he told those attending the February 16 program, held at Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth in Wilmington. Mark Wagman serves as chairperson of Federation's Jewish Community Relations Committee. (Photo by Joel Glazier)

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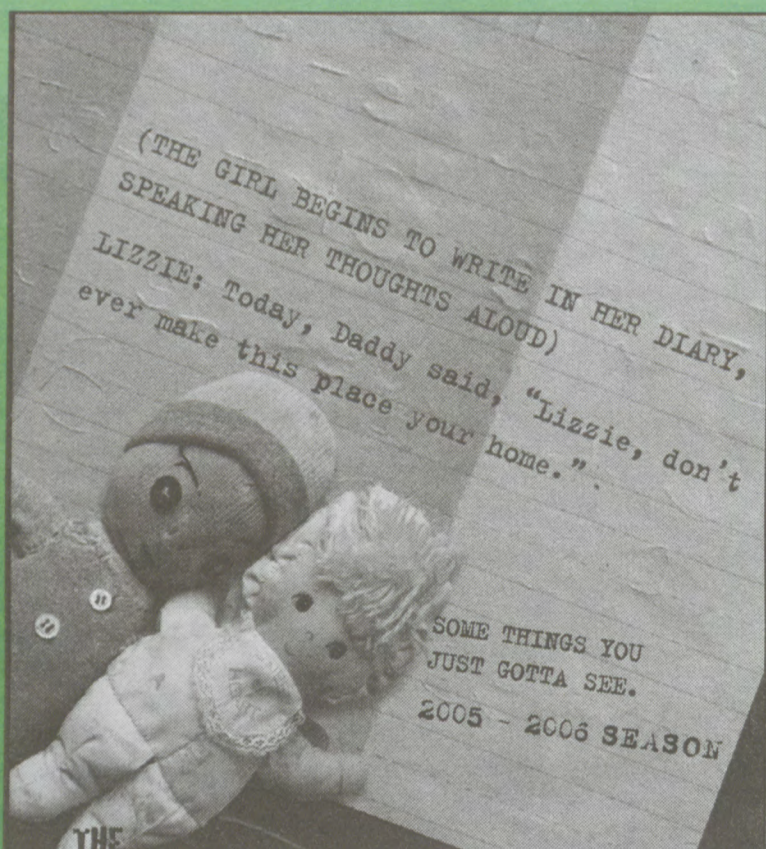
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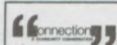
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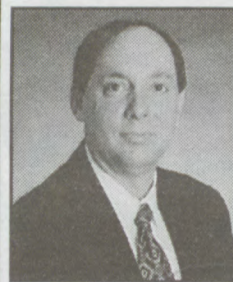
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17 ELECTRIC SHADOWS (not rated) 2:00, 8:00	18 2:00, 5:00, 8:00	19 2:00, 5:00
24 MANDERLAY (not rated) 2:00, 8:00	25 2:00, 5:00, 8:00	26 2:00, 5:00
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If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Bev Zimmermann at 302-576-2137 or by email at theatren@ci.wilmington.de.us. You may also sign up on our website at www.theatren.org - click on the "Contact Us" page and fill in your contact information.

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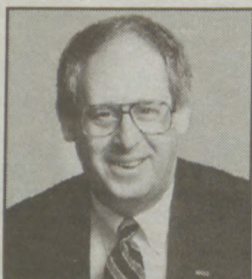
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JEWISH LIFESTYLES

Jewish groups do Mardi Gras

By Larry Brook
Deep South Jewish Voice

With the waters parted, NOLA's Ark rested once again on dry land. This time, though, it came dressed with a blue tarp over the roof, and signs advertising home rebuilding services.

The dry land in question was New Orleans on a chilly Feb. 11 night, but that did not stop this year's Jewish-style Mardi Gras festivities.

Krewe du Vieux, the first parade of the Mardi Gras season, featured two Jewish groups — Krewe du Jieus and Krewe du Mishigas, the latter of which paraded with the ark.

The Krewe du Vieux parade's overall theme was "C'est Levee," and the notoriously satirical sub-Krewes had no trouble skewering everything from Federal Emergency Management Agency to local, state and national politicians. Mayor Ray Nagin's "Chocolate City" comments in which he expressed his desire to make New Orleans a "chocolate city" — were also a popular target.

Hurricane Katrina was also the object of scorn, and for much of the parade, strong winds seemed to be nature's way of taking part.

Not everyone agreed with the decision to hold Mardi Gras. In his monthly bulletin column, Temple Sinai Rabbi Edward Paul Cohn said Mardi Gras should have been canceled because "too little time has passed" and "suffering is still widespread and profound" in the area. "This is no year for Kings and Queens on papier-mache thrones," he added.

Not surprisingly, Krewe members had a different view. For Katherine Kay, whose home was destroyed by the hurricane, being able to

come to New Orleans on the weekends before the parade and be hosted by Krewe du Mishigas' captain, Joel Nitzkin, "made all the difference in the world."

Noting that since the hurricane she has had "some extremely dark moments," Kay said that "Working on the float" and on the painted bagels "meant the world to me." Nitzkin, whose home was not damaged, hosted many Krewe members that came to town to help prepare for this year's event.

Krewe du Jieus' captain, LJ Goldstein, said the crowds watching the parade were much larger than usual. "We needed it more, and this was the first parade," he explained.

In New Orleans, every business that reopens, every sign that normal life is on the way back is celebrated, and those lining the streets demonstrated that.

Krewe du Jieus began a decade ago as one of the sub-Krewes in the Krewe du Vieux parade. It sought to poke fun at Jewish stereotypes by making them so exaggerated and ridiculous that nobody could take them seriously, Goldstein said.

The Krewe's royalty received the title "King of the Jieus" and "Jieush American Princess," complete with credit-card earrings to wear during the parade.

This year, the Krewe split over creative control issues. Goldstein kept the Jieus name, while the Mishigas kept the float and the sub-Krewe marching slot in the parade.

Without a place to march, the Jieus became the "Wandering Jieus." Goldstein said the Krewe of KAOS, or Komitee for the Aggravation of Organized Society, was the only Krewe that had any room for the Jieus, extending six of its 32 slots. Many Jieus who were

unable to march attended the Krewe du Vieux Doo, which followed the parade.

KAOS named FEMA's former director, Michael Brown, as its grand marshal, then placed an "Out to Dinner" sign on his empty seat. The Jieus marched alongside, under the banner "Jieus Wander Into KAOS." Because this is the only parade that goes through the narrow French Quarter streets, the floats are smaller and mule-drawn. Only the Krewe royalty gets to ride.

This year, the Mishigas named John Valentino and Ellen Steigman as the royalty. Dressed in yellow raincoats, they piloted the ark through the crowds.

Elliott Raisen, the only original Jieus who has marched in all 10 parades since the Krewe was created, was named King of the Wandering Jieus, and received the Golden Nose.

The Jewish groups are usually the more tame of the sub-Krewes. But the explicit float immediately after Mishigas was one of many that could not be shown on television.

As Mishigas members made their way through the streets, they passed out business cards for "Bush and Brownie Contractors: Now in the City that FEMA Forgot" and boarding passes for the ark.

Then there was the Krewe's signature item, the painted bagels. At first, the Krewe had trouble finding bagels because their suppliers had not reopened. They relied on frozen store-bought bagels until they were able to boost their supply with care packages from around the country.

There were also NOLA's Ark medallions on strings of beads, created by this year's royalty. The Jieus passed out hurricane-proof yarmulkes — dust masks with a drawn Star of David. They



A Jewish reveler marches in a Mardi Gras parade in New Orleans on Feb. 11, 2006.

Credit: Deep South Jewish Voice

also handed out matzahs that were painted blue, "Fiddler on the Blieux Roof Matz-O Shingles."

Mishigas members dressed in a variety of costumes, from Nitzkin's scuba gear to DeJewtantes wearing blue tarp party dresses. Diane Lundeen commented that "It's hard to find a small size in blue tarp. Everyone has all the big ones."

Ironically, with the crush of the crowds along the parade route, some of the ark's siding was sheared off two-thirds of the way through the parade, looking almost as if it had been through a hurricane.

Come to Delaware Women's Conference

The 22nd Annual Delaware Women's Conference titled "Inspiring Your Life, Your Community, Your World," is scheduled for Saturday, March 4, 2006 at Clayton Hall. Since 1984, the full day event has brought together more than 1,000 women from all walks of life, with a connection to the region and an interest in women's issues.

An all-volunteer planning committee organizes the conference in order to empower women of all ages, races, socioeconomic groups and lifestyles to development themselves and improve their lives. Wendy Mackowski, a life coach and owner of Inner North Coaching, will help conference participants achieve these goals during a lunchtime presentation. They will learn how to brainstorm specific, tangible ways they can make a difference and the resources to implement them after the event.

Wendy Mackowski holds a Master's in

Educational Counseling from San Jose State University and is a Certified Professional Co-Active Coach. She has over 15 years experience in both corporate and educational environments. She is the first local keynote speaker in the history of the conference. Over the past two decades the conference has featured Gloria Steinem, Geraldine Ferraro, Erica Jong, Rita Moreno, and many others as keynote speakers.

Women attending the conference will have the opportunity to explore over 50 exhibitors, participate in three workshops of their choice, and listen to a kick-off presentation and lunchtime keynote address reflecting the theme of the conference. Workshop topics are organized into tracks which focus on financial security, physical and mental wellbeing, home and family care, professional development and social issues.

The Delaware Women's Conference is part-

nering with the YWCA to hold a Ladies Clothing Drive at the conference to provide business attire to low and moderate income women pursuing career opportunities. Women are encouraged to bring any donations they would like to make to the conference.

In conjunction with the Delaware Women's Conference, area artists have been invited to show their works at the Newark Arts Alliance between March 3-25 and at the Biggs Museum of American Art in Dover from March

29 through May 7. The show is juried by Susan Isaacs, a professor of Art History at Towson University and the Adjunct Coordinator for the Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts.

To register for the conference or for more details on participating as a sponsor or exhibitor, visit www.delawarewomen.org or contact Kelly Ballas, 2006 Conference Chair, at (302) 266-0898.

Registration is \$45.

A new way for Jewish groups to be part of post-Katrina recovery

While many Jewish groups from across North America want to play a role in post-Katrina recovery and rebuilding, figuring out just how to do it has been a challenge. The Jewish Community of Jackson, Mississippi is prepared to help!

The Jackson Jewish Welfare Fund (UJC) and Beth Israel Congregation (URJ) have joined forces to make a project service coordinator available to interested Jewish groups that wish to help with disaster relief efforts in the coming months.

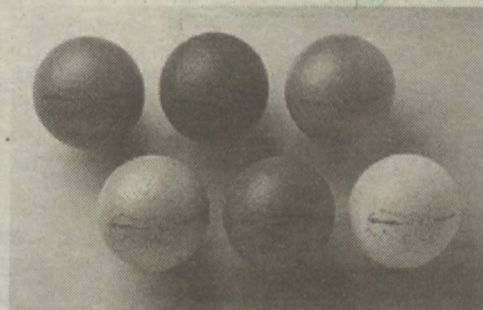
Based out of Beth Israel Congregation in Jackson, the coordinator will help groups work through all of the details such as, finding a project or partner organization that matches the skills and interests of the group, assisting with logistical arrangements (housing, food, local transportation), and serving as an onsite resource. While the

coordinator is being provided as a service, participating groups will be expected to play an active role in making their own arrangements and covering their own costs.

By making a project service coordinator available, the Jewish community of Jackson hopes to bring Jewish groups from around the country into contact with the vast population of rural poor whose lives were devastated by the storm, enabling them to provide support and comfort wherever possible — and, in so doing, play a role in both rebuilding our state and enhancing the positive impression that our neighbors have of the Jewish community.

If you are interested in bringing a group to the Gulf Coast to help, please contact Project Service Coordinator, Robyn Pollack, with the Jackson Jewish Welfare Fund/Beth Israel Congregation — (601) 529-3419.

Spring season start-up for Adult Dodgeball



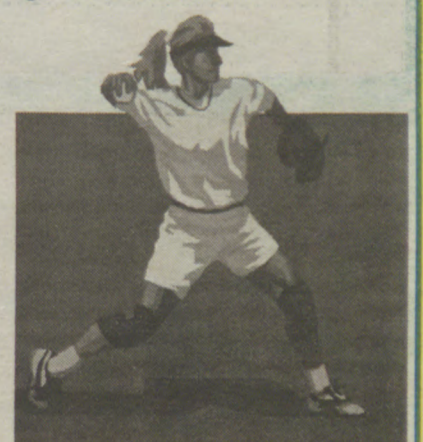
The only adult dodgeball league in Delaware is getting ready to begin its 3rd season. The league meets in the gymnasium at the Bernard and Ruth Siegel Jewish Community Center in Wilmington. Men and women of all abilities are invited to call Randy Rosenthal at Dodgeball Delaware, 302-478-5660, ext. 243 or email Randy at randyrosenthal@siegeljcc.org. All games are governed and sanctioned by the National Amateur Dodgeball Association.

Teams consist of six people, men or women. Matches are best out of 7 games. The captain's preseason meeting will be held on Monday, March 13th at 7:00.

Seaside searching for Maccabis

Become a member of the Seaside Maccabi team. The search is on for pitchers, catchers and fielders. Seaside has "chai" hopes of attracting 18 team members, males and females, to play in June, July and August on Sunday mornings.

If you are interested in playing, please call Jules Kirschenbaum, beginning March 1, 302-945-2362.



MILESTONES

In Memoriam

FURMAN

Mildred S. Furman, 87 of The Kutz Home, died February 11, 2006.

She was predeceased by her husband, Dr. David S. Furman who passed away in 2002. She is survived by her children, Ellen F. and Dr. Gerald M. Resnick and Jeffrey E. Furman; and granddaughter, Marcy S. Resnick.

Private services and interment were held at the Jewish Community Cemetery.

The family requests memorial contributions to either Hadassah c/o Eva Weissman, 9 Devon Court, Wilmington, DE 19810 or The Kutz Home, 704 River Road, Wilmington, DE 19809.

GOLDBERG

Lillian Goldberg, 81, of Dover, DE, passed away on Saturday, February 11, 2006, at Westminster Village Healthcare. The funeral and burial were held privately.

GREENHOUSE

Sylvia Greenhouse, 83, of Claymont, DE, died February 13, 2006.

She had been title supervisor at the Wilmington lane of the Delaware Motor Vehicle Agency. She was active in Hadassah, the Jewish War Veterans Auxiliary, the Deborah Heart & Lung Foundation, Congregation Beth Shalom and its sisterhood, the Junior Board of Christiana Care, a Past Worthy Matron of the Delaware Link of the Order of the Golden Chain, and the Women's Democratic Club.

She was predeceased by her husband, Bernard. She is survived by her daughter, Linda (Gerald) Harwitz, of Wilmington; son, Dennis (Liz) Greenhouse, of Rockville, MD; grandchildren, Steven Harwitz, of Tucson, AZ, and Marc (Daniele) Harwitz, of Atlanta, GA.

The funeral service was held on February 15, 2006 with interment in the Jewish Community Cemetery on Foulk Rd.

The family requests contributions to Congregation Beth Shalom, 18th & Baynard Blvd., Wilmington, DE 19802; or to the Kutz Home, 704 River Rd., Wilmington, DE 19809.

HANDELMAN

Alma B. Handelman, 92, formerly of Wilmington, DE, died February 13, 2006.

She had been a member of Congregation Beth Shalom and its Sisterhood, the Deborah Heart & Lung Foundation, and the Jewish Community Center. She was a volunteer at the gift shop at the A.I. duPont Hospital for Children, and at the Jewish Historical Society.

She is survived by her son, Fred A. Handelman, of Reisterstown, MD; grandchildren, Lisa Herman, Tom Handelman, and Marcie Cooke; 2 nieces; and a nephew.

There was a graveside service on February 16, 2006, in Machzikey Hadas Cemetery, 318 Wilder Ave., Minquadales.

The family suggests contributions to a charity of the donor's choice.

KOROTKIN

Freda Strauss Korotkin, 93, of Ardentown, DE, passed away on February 11, 2006 after a brief battle with cancer.

Born April 2, 1912 in New York City, her family moved to Newark, NJ and later to Philadelphia where she spend the majority of her life. At a time when few women owned their own businesses, she owned and operated her own dress shop.

Mrs. Korotkin was predeceased by her husband, Michell; and her son, Arthur. In addition to her daughter, Barbara K. Levy of Wilmington, she is survived by her daughter-in-law, Carol Korotkin, of Cabin John, MD; and 9 grandchildren, Rabbi Audrey Korotkin and husband, Don Clippinger of Skokie, IL, Susan Brady of CA, Debbie Elefant and husband, Steve of Lafayette, CA, Joel Korotkin and wife, Tierney of Sacramento, CA, Sandra Levy Goldsborough and husband, Richard of Manahawkin, NJ, Sharon Lee of Gaithersburg, MD, Alan Levy of Wilmington, Susan Rehr and husband, Eric of Morgansville, NJ, David Korotkin and wife, Ronna of Ellicott City, MD and 10 great-grandchildren.

A funeral service was held on February 14th at Schoenberg Memorial Chapel. Interment was private.

The family suggests contributions to either the American Cancer Society, 92 Reads Way, New Castle, DE 19720 or to Congregation Beth Emeth, 300 W. Lea Blvd., Wilmington, DE 19802.

SCHICK

Nora Schick, beloved wife of the late Leo, passed away peacefully at home on February 14, 2006. She was the much adored mother of Nina and Alfred Appel and Carol and the late Steven Rothschild; loving grandmother of Karen and Gene Oshman, Richard Appel, Jeffrey and Debra Rothschild, Peter and Elana Rothschild and extremely proud great grandmother of Stephen and Katherine Oshman, Gabriel and Grace Jandali Appel, Jonathan Rothschild and Sydney Rothschild.

SHAPIRO

Charlotte Shapiro, 90, of Greenville, DE, died February 17, 2006.

She was the widow of Irving Shapiro and is survived by her son, Stuart and his wife, Janice Lee; her daughter, Elizabeth; her sister, Marcia Miller and her

beloved grandchildren, Lily, Sam, Kenny and Mark.

Private graveside services were held on February 19, 2006 in Beth Emeth Memorial Park.

The family would appreciate memorial contributions to either Congregation Beth Emeth, 300 West Lea Blvd., Wilmington, DE 19802 or to the Kutz Home, 704 River Road, Wilmington, DE 19809.

WEIGEL

Renee Weigel, 90, of Wilmington, DE, died February 12, 2006.

She is survived by her children, Diane Horn, and her husband, Murray, of Wilmington, Elden Weigel, and his wife, Francine, of Oceanside, NY, and Arlene Rushefsky, and her husband, Dan, of Chandler, AZ; 7 grandchildren; and 9 great grandchildren.

There will be a graveside service at 1 pm on February 14, 2006, in New Montefiore Cemetery in Farmingdale, NY.

The family suggests contributions to the Kutz Home, 704 River Rd., Wilmington, DE 19809

*Eshet chayil mi yimtza v'rachok
mip'ninim michrah
An accomplished woman, who can find?
Her value is far beyond pearls.*

The Officers, Board of Directors
and Staff of the
Jewish Federation of Delaware
announce with great sorrow
the passing of
Charlotte Shapiro
A true Woman of Valor

On February 19, 2006-21 Shevat 5766

*May her memory be a blessing to her
children and grandchildren
and to all whose lives were touched by her
kindness and generous spirit*

*The Officers,
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Jewish Federation of Delaware
mark with sorrow the Passing of
Nora Schick
who died peacefully at home
On February 14th, 2006
May her memory be a blessing to
the children, grandchildren and
great-grandchildren who adored her*

NACHAS NOOK

Mazel Tov

William and Molly Lipschultz!

William and Molly (Gomberg) Lipschultz of Delray Beach, Florida celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on November 6, 2005. The couple formerly resided in Wilmington, DE and Kennett Square, PA.

Their children are Mindi Joy Lipschultz of Venice Beach, California and Jan Susan Kolchinsky and her husband, Allen, of Moorestown, New Jersey.

The Lipschultzs are proud grandparents of Sedona Whisper Kolchinsky and Lana Blossom Kolchinsky.



William and
Molly Lipschultz

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Brandywine Chapter of Women's American ORT presents "Shop til you Drop"—an amazing day-long shopping extravaganza
When: Thursday, April 6, 2006
Where: The Bernard and Ruth Seigel JCC Time: 10am until 6pm

Wilmington Hadassah Presents a Brunch for Men Only—Sunday, March 5, 2006, 10 a.m. to Noon at the home of Ken & Cheryl Kamm in Wilmington. Dr. Brian Aboff of Christiana Health Care will speak about "Men's Health - Issues and Answers". Learn more about key men's health issues and what can be done to maintain health and vigor. This brunch is open to all men at a cost of \$12. Reservations are required. Brunch is dairy and all dietary laws are observed. RSVP by March 1st to Ken Kamm at (302) 764-9700 or email CherylKamm@comcast.net

It's The Annual Adas Kodesch Purim Carnival!—Come join in the fun on Sunday March 12, 10:30 am - 1:30 PM. This year there will be several new games as well as exciting entertainment. Special features: at 10 am, a

professional Purim puppet show for the children. At 11 am, AKIDS dance group will perform several Israeli dances. Raffles will be available for purchase with either adult or child-oriented prizes. Enjoy a delicious lunch as well as hamantashen. Admission is free and the carnival is open to the community.

Beth Emeth Staging Reunion Weekend—A reunion weekend is being planned for March 17 and 18 as part of Congregation Beth Emeth's year long centennial celebration. The weekend will include Friday evening services honoring returning clergy, faculty and students followed by a gala Oneg Shabbat. Services start at 8 PM.

There will be a havdalah service on Saturday evening beginning at 6:30 PM. Following the service, the committee is planning a cocktail reception

and deli dinner. Live music will be provided by Phil Berger's trio. Along with dancing, the evening will feature other activities and entertainment.

Everyone is welcome. If you are a former student or faculty member, the committee is looking for you. Please contact the school office at 302-762-5858.

12 Friends Needed by JFSI—To share volunteer hours each month on an ongoing basis. Basic office responsibilities and tasks as assigned. Any assistance is appreciated — no experience necessary! Please call Volunteer Coordinator Lisa Driban today at (302) 478-9411 for further details.

The Jewish War Veterans of Delaware need new members, young or old and patrons. It is extremely important that this Jewish Organization continue. Please call Len Markovitz at 302-234-4785 or Milt Slovin 302-478-4888. You do not have to be a veteran to join.

Summer Scholarship Available—The Sylvia & Isadore N. Silverman Scholarship Fund will be awarding its 17th annual Scholarship to a deserving youth for a Jewish summer experience in camp or Israel. Applications may be

picked up at the Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Synagogue office, Washington Street Ext. and Torah Way, Wilmington, DE 19802, and must be returned by the deadline — March 1, 2006. The fund was established in 1989 to honor the Silverman's 55th wedding anniversary by their four daughters and many friends. Questions can be directed to Mollie Epstein at 494-5980 or Mollie1818@aol.com

Beth Emeth Plans Get Acquainted Party. Congregation Beth Emeth is planning a spring party especially for new members who joined Beth Emeth in 2005 or 2006. Potential members who would like to learn more about Wilmington's Reform Congregation are also invited to attend this gathering planned for Sunday afternoon, March 19, 2006 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the Boothwyn, PA home of Doug and Deborah Hershman. Finger food and beverages will be served. Membership information will be available for those who are considering joining the congregation, but there will be no "sales pitch." The party is intended for adults only and will provide an opportunity for new and potential members to get better acquainted with each other and

Congregation Beth Emeth—to enjoy a relaxing afternoon with each other, members of the clergy team, and temple leaders.

Make your reservations by calling Adele Kessel at (302) 478-0776. Adele will be happy to provide directions. Questions about this event or congregation membership may be directed to Verna Schenker at (302) 478-6673

Delaware Gratz Scholar-in-Residence Program. Gratz invites the community to the Delaware Gratz Scholar-in-Residence Program, sponsored by the Margules Family Fund. This year's scholar is Rabbi Moriah Hazani, a doctoral student in rabbinics at the University of Pennsylvania.

REMAINING DATES:

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

Beauty: Between Ethics and Esthetics, beauty and ugliness in the Rabbis' World

SUNDAY, APRIL 30

Brains: The story of Bruriah, a woman in the world of men

Adult Education classes are held from 11:15 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Contact Delaware Gratz to register at 478-8100 or gratz@delawaregratz.org.

SEASIDE MARCH EVENTS

3-06 Friday Shabbat Services held at Seaside Jewish Community at 7:30 pm on Holland Glade Rd in Rehoboth Beach. Call 302-226-8977 for more information.

3-18 Saturday Shabbat Services held at Seaside Jewish Community at 10:00 AM.

3-18 2nd Annual BINGO AND BROWNIES held at Seaside Jewish Community at 8:00 PM. \$7.50 per person includes cards for 20 games, Bingo Blotter, great prizes for each game and all the Brownies you can eat. Call 302-227-1107 for more information and your reservation.

3-23 Adult Education held at Seaside Jewish Community at 7:30 PM. Discussion will be led by Nardy Ableman on the "History of Judaism in Sussex County and the current Judeo-Christian Relations". Call 302-226-8977 for more information.

3-26 Rosh Hodesh Group to meet at Seaside Jewish Community at 2PM to hold a Book Review/Discussion on "The Red Tent". Call 302-227-1107 for more information.

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JCRC responsibilities include Israel advocacy, Holocaust education and monitoring local, state and national issues of interest to the Jewish community. Applicants should be self-starters with strong inter-personal, computer, written and oral communication skills. Experience working with volunteers. Applicants with MPA, MSW or MBA are preferred. Please e-mail or fax resumes to sam.asher@shalomdel.org or (302) 427-2438.

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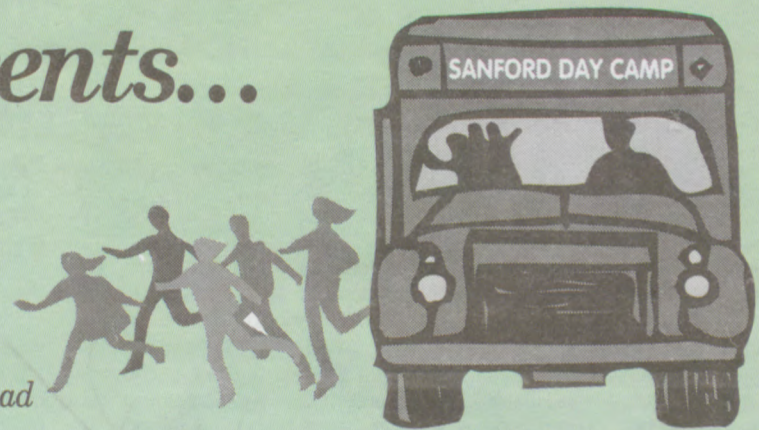
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DAVE SZAROLETA
Director

(302)475-8013
For Information & Brochure

CONTACT

OR



PETER BRADLEY
Director

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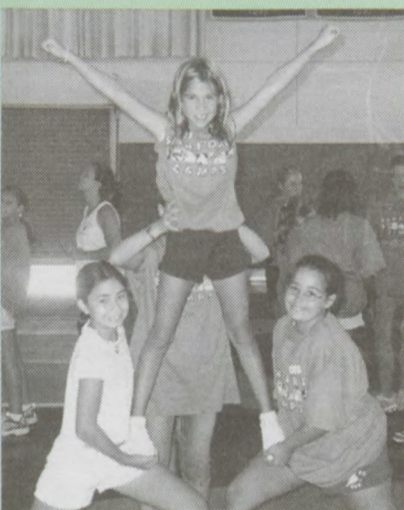
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