



Rabbi Avraham Rosenblum

## Riffs of Resonance to be Released by Rockin' Rabbi

### Rabbi in a Rockin' Role

The Hillel Student Center at The University of Delaware will present their own director, Rabbi Avraham Rosenblum-aka "The Rockin' Rabbi," and "Thread of Blue" in a Gala Concert on Sunday night, Oct. 27, at 7 p.m., at Mitchell Theater, University of Delaware. Members of the community are warmly welcomed to join students for a rockin' time.

The evenings star performer - Avraham Rosenblum - has musical credits going back to the early sixties when he and Stallone brother Frank led a Philadelphia rock-group called Valentine. Later, in Jerusalem, Rosenblum founded the world renowned Diaspora Yeshiva Band, winning awards for songs he penned for The Israel Chassidic Song Festival. He has appeared on MTV along with Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers, and has performed in concert at New York's Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, and Town Hall, as well as in other major Jewish centers around the world.

Also featured on the program is "Thread of Blue" Temple Beth El of Newark's up and coming klezmer group. They are under the direction of UD Music Professor Michael Zinn. Their repertory includes many famous old world *klezmer niggunim*, performed by Beth El and local talent on an eclectic variety of traditional instruments.

Both "The Rockin' Rabbi" and "Thread of Blue" are performing free of charge.

General admission is \$10.

Group discounts are available.

# Chevron Negotiations Continue

By NAOMI SEGAL

JERUSALEM, Oct. 7 (JTA) — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has announced that he will propose a resumption of the final-status negotiations with the Palestinians as soon as the two sides finalize details of the Israel Defense Force redeployment from Chevron.

In an address peppered with heckling from opposition members, Netanyahu spoke October 7 about the peace process during the opening of the 14th Knesset's winter session. Netanyahu's address came as Israeli and Palestinian negotiators resumed talks after his meeting in Washington with Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat.

The premier told legislators that he believed that there was a wide national consensus for the Likud-led government's positions regarding the implementation of the Israeli-Palestinian peace accords. Netanyahu also spoke of the recent armed clashes in the territories, when Palestinian police joined

stone-throwing protesters in confrontations with the IDF.

Fifteen Israeli soldiers and 60 Palestinians died as a result of the Sept. 25-27 clashes.

"The most important lesson from the recent events is that the violations must stop," Netanyahu said. "There is only one option for peace. If the Palestinians are really interested in discussions at the negotiating table, they must abandon the options of incitement, violence and war."

The prime minister pointed an accusing finger at the previous Labor government for embarking on what he described as a misguided peace policy.

Taking the podium after Netanyahu, opposition leader and former Prime Minister Shimon Peres lashed into the Israeli premier. "Listen to me, I speak from my experience," Peres said. "You talk about mutuality? But all you offer is one-sidedness. You demand that the [Palestinians] give you everything, but you won't give anything." The Labor Party

leader, who stalled redeployment months before his election-bid, accused Netanyahu of using the security issue as an excuse not to implement the Chevron redeployment.

On Monday, Israeli and Palestinian officials began tackling the focal point of their negotiations, the Chevron redeployment, after a ceremonial first round of talks the evening before that were devoted mostly to procedural matters. At the Sunday session, the two sides agreed to form three subcommittees to deal with Chevron, security issues and economic issues.

The Chevron negotiations are expected to be particularly delicate, given the Israeli call for increased security for Chevron's 450 Jewish settlers and Palestinian demands that the two sides not renegotiate an already signed agreement.

As the negotiations got under way, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher wrapped up a brief shuttle mission to the region, during which he met with Israeli and Palestinian leaders. Christopher said he believed that it was possible for Israel's security needs to be met within the framework of the existing accords.

"The United States places great emphasis on the statements of both the prime minister and foreign minister that they do not intend to modify or rescind the existing agreements, but move to implement them," he said at a joint news conference after talks with Foreign Minister David Levy.

Levy told reporters that all the blockades Israel had imposed on West Bank towns after the violence would be lifted shortly. Israel lifted its blockades of Kalkilya and Tulkarm on October 7. Some 600 Palestinians also showed up for work at the reopened Erez industrial zone.

But Israeli security sources reportedly turned down a Palestinian request to renew joint patrols.

The sources said the Palestinian Authority had not yet taken any steps against those of its police officers who had opened fire on Israeli forces.

## UJA Federation Campaign to Kick Off Early

### No Gift Touches More Lives

*To be Jewish means to be present wherever and whenever our presence is needed by other Jews.*

-Elie Wiesel

The 1997 UJA/Federation Campaign is already under way in this new Jewish year of 5757. This year many events will take place in the autumn. The Community Wide Event, the JFD Shabbat and Super Sunday will all take place in early 1997. During this time, community members will be asked to make their 1997 commitment.

No gift touches more lives than a contribution to the UJA/Federation Campaign. Here in Delaware the UJA-Federation Campaign helps support the services of the Albert Einstein Academy, Gratz Hebrew High School, the Jewish Community Center, Jewish Family Service, Hillel at U of D, and the Milton and Hattie Kutz Home.

The national UJA/Federation campaign involves 800,000 individual contributions. Over 3,000 of those come from the Delaware Jewish community. You fund an exodus of biblical proportions, rescuing people from danger and bringing them to Israel. You resettle, integrate and sustain thousands of new immigrants. You help students, set up new communities and provide funding for over 200,000 special projects and humanitarian programs. You help one million people every year in 58 countries around the world. You care for the elderly, educate our

children, reinforce our values and provide an example of Jewish continuity. Ninety percent of UJA's dollars collected go straight to people and their needs.

How does your participation in the Jewish community touch your life? There are 800,000 individual stories why Jews in North America contribute to the UJA/Federation Campaign. Are you moved by the work of the JDC doctors in Rwanda? Do you feel good about what Hillel is doing for your college student? Does your support of the Kutz Home give you a sense of honoring your mother and your father? Has the Jewish Family Service been there for you when you needed someone most? Do you wake up each day pleased that your child is at the JCC pre-school or at the Albert Einstein Academy? Do you feel a strong connection to Israel and Jews around the world? Do you feel great knowing you are helping to provide services and opportunities for others?

Send your story to:

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*Never doubt that a small band of caring and committed people can change the world. Indeed it is probably the only thing that ever has.*

-Margaret Mead

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# Prostate Cancer Awareness Breakfast Provides Food for Thought and Pro-Action

By LAUREN POKRAS

Family Life Educator at Jewish Family Service of Delaware

Nearly 317,000 men in the United States will develop prostate cancer this year, including over 800 Delawareans. Delawarean men came out to defy the claim that men fail to seek information about the disease, which is the most common type of cancer among men, and the second leading cause of cancer deaths in men.

About fifty concerned seniors including 11 cancer survivors attended the Prostate Cancer Awareness Breakfast on September 25 at the JCC. The successful event was co-sponsored by the Jewish Family Service, Jewish Community Center, American Cancer Society and Zeneca Pharmaceuticals Group. The program featured Dr. Bruce Bengel, a urologist; Dr. Joseph Ravelese III, a radiation oncologist; and Mr. Harold DeCarli, facilitator for the



(Left to right): Dr. Bengel; Dr. Ravelese; Judy Dollinger; Joan Wachstein, board member of JFS.

First State Prostate Cancer Support Group.

The prostate is a male gland that

produces part of the seminal fluid. It is located just below the bladder and in front of the rectum, and sur-

rounds the first inch of the urethra, which carries urine from the bladder and semen from the sex glands. The cause of prostate cancer remains unknown, but we do know that men over 65 and those with a strong family history of cancer are at greater risk.

Symptoms are not often felt for months or years after the disease develops, so the hope lies in early detection by your doctor in the form of a digital rectal exam recommended for men over forty and a Prostate specific Antigen (PSA) blood test recommended for men after age fifty - both at the annual physical. When symptoms do begin to develop they may include weak urine flow, inability to control urination, the need to urinate frequently, especially at night.

Dr. Bengel and Dr. Ravelese provided an overview of conventional and experimental treatment options currently being used. Radiation therapies include external photon, and brachytherapy or the implantation of small radioactive "seeds" into the prostate. These aim to decrease the spread of the disease. Hormonal therapies block testosterone production which cancer cells "feed" on. There is also a combined hormone and radiation treatment. Surgical procedures

include radical prostatectomy or removal of the prostate and cyro-surgery, which destroys the tumor by freezing. Indications for the use of these options and possible side effects were discussed. The doctors stressed that the course of treatment is an individual decision that should be well investigated.

After a diagnosis has been made, gaining support is paramount. The last thing men may want to do is talk about the private feelings that a diagnosis or treatment may trigger. Feelings range from shock to fear, humiliation, and depression. Being involved in a support group often proves as valuable as the medical treatment. There is a shared experience and comradery among participants which relieves a sense of isolation and provides hope by witnessing how others are coping and living life after cancer.

Current treatment techniques for prostate cancer are being refined and new ones investigated. The overall 5-year relative survival rate for all stages of prostate cancer has risen from 50 percent to 80 percent over the last 50 years. Nine out of ten men survive prostate cancer if it is diagnosed before it spreads to other areas and vital organs. The best course of action is your own proactive steps in preventive health!

**SHE LEARNED ABOUT ANTI-SEMITISM IN COLLEGE, WITHOUT TAKING A CLASS OR OPENING A BOOK.**



The first *mezuzah* disappeared. The second was left broken on the floor. Shock, anger and determination led her to Hillel and a place on its organizing committee. Your gift help thousands of students just like her. The UJA Federation Campaign is at the heart of a sacred Jewish trust to build, strengthen and care for our community around the world. Keep that trust. Make your increased gift today. At home, in Israel, and in 58 countries, no fight touches more lives.



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(Left to right): Lauren Pokras; Judy Dollinger; Scott Katz, Director of Recreation at the JCC.

## ARTS • ENTERTAINMENT • BOOKS

### What's On TV?

The film adaptation of Arthur Miller's critically acclaimed state play "Broken Glass," starring Mandy Patinkin, Elizabeth McGovern, Henry Goodman, Margo Leicester and Ed Bishop, set in Brooklyn in November 1938, will be shown Sunday, October 20 at 9:00 p.m. on PBS. In the aftermath of Kristallnacht in Germany—when thousands of Jewish shops were looted, syna-

gogues razed, and uncounted numbers of Jews killed—a middle-aged Jewish American housewife suddenly finds herself unable to use her legs. A doctor concludes that she is suffering a hysterical response to the newspaper reports of Jews who were humiliated into scrubbing sidewalks with toothbrushes after the Kristallnacht devastation.



## BRIEFS

## NATIONAL • INTERNATIONAL

## Quake Felt in Israel

JERUSALEM, Oct. 9 (JTA) — An earthquake whose epicenter was 25 miles off Cyprus was felt this week in Israel and other parts of the Middle East.

Wednesday's tremor, which registered between 6.1 on the Richter scale, had its epicenter some 180 miles from Israel.

It fell short of being designated a major earthquake, but was capable of causing severe damage.

While causing injuries and damages in Cyprus, it caused buildings in Israel to shake. Seismologists in Israel said the tremor was not linked to another earthquake almost one year ago that caused damage in Eilat and which resulted in several deaths in the region.

## Rabbi's Home Burglarized on Yom Kippur

On the Day of Judgment, as Rabbi Joseph and Miriam Gopin and their family were in synagogue asking for forgiveness and praying for a good year ahead, burglars broke into their home, ransacked the place and stole a number of items.

Sometime around 1 p.m. on Yom Kippur day, Miriam Gopin and four of her children walked back to their home at 295 North Main Street in West Hartford from services at Chabad House, where Rabbi Gopin is spiritual leader.

Upon entering their Bishop's Corner area home, they found the place in shambles—kitchen items were strewn about the floor and every drawer in the children's rooms were opened and dumped out. "It was like a pogrom," said Rabbi Gopin, who said that jewelry was mostly stolen along with items such as a cellular telephone and tape recorders.

## Revelations Raise Questions About Swiss Role in Nazis' War

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7 (JTA) — Half a century after Nazi Germany plundered billions of dollars worth of gold from Jews and from occupied countries in its march across Europe, Switzerland has been forced into a financial and moral accounting of its own actions during the war.

A storm of international criticism has engulfed Swiss society in recent weeks as newly declassified documents show that the neutral Swiss turned a substantial profit — and helped finance the German war effort — by acting as the Nazis' bankers during World War II.

Allegations have mounted that the Swiss National Bank knowingly purchased and laundered millions of dollars in looted Nazi assets during the war years, including jewels stolen from Jews on their way to death camps. Switzerland is known to have made its banks available for the safekeeping of tons of so-called Nazi gold — some of it believed to have been melted down from wedding bands and from the fillings of Holocaust victims.

The Swiss agreed after the war to turn over \$60 million worth of gold to the United States, Britain and France for eventual return to the countries from which it was pilfered. But according to a recent British government report based on newly revealed documents, that figure accounted for only one-tenth of the Nazi gold stash. The remaining gold — estimated now to be worth some \$6 billion — may still be sitting in Swiss vaults, the report said. The recent revelations — and the flurry of media reports focusing on them — have placed Switzerland at the center of an international inquiry into the fate of Nazi gold.



MELBOURNE—The Dalai Lama (left) discusses the relationship of Buddhism to the principles of Judaism with Australian Chassidic Rabbi Laibl Wolf, an exponent of Kabbalistic teachings and its application as a guide to contemporary living. The private meeting took place during the Tibetan spiritual leader's recent tour of Australia. Kabbalism—ancient Jewish mysticism—was once the domain of selected Jewish scholars but now has captured the imagination of many ordinary people, Jews and non-Jews.

## Possibility of Protest Over New Mosque Beneath Temple Mount

By NAOMI SEGAL

JERUSALEM, Oct. 9 (JTA) — Israeli security forces warned this week of protests in reaction to the planned opening of a mosque at an archaeological site beneath the Temple Mount. The construction of the mosque was carried out in violation of a court order; the Supreme Court is presently dealing

with an appeal of the decision.

The warning comes in the wake of reports that officials from the Wakf, which administers Islamic holy sites on the Temple Mount, have for the past few months been quietly overseeing renovation of the site known as "Solomon's Stables" into a mosque able to accommodate thousands of Mus-

lim worshipers. The mosque is reportedly scheduled to be opened next week.

Meanwhile, the Israel Antiquities Authority said some of the work being done at the site by the Wakf, including the installation of lighting, loudspeakers and a floor, had caused damage to the archaeological site.

## Doctor-Assisted Suicide Stirs Intense Debate Among Jews

By Heather Camlot

NEW YORK, Oct. 7 (JTA) — When Margaret was suffering from terminal stomach cancer, she turned to her psychiatrist with a plea to help end her life.

"I want to choose the time of my death. I want you to help me," the woman in her late 40s told Dr. Samuel Klagsbrun.

"I decided to say yes, not knowing how, what, when," Klagsbrun told a recent symposium on doctor-assisted suicide convened by the American Jewish Committee.

A day later, Margaret's husband called Klagsbrun to tell him she had died.

"I was so relieved. I was so glad it was out of my hands," said Klagsbrun, who is a principal player in a case to be heard by the U.S. Supreme Court, which opened its 1996-1997 term this week.

**"The financial bottom line will always prefer assisted suicides over the more costly treatments for pain and depression."**

—AJCommittee Director of Religious Affairs Rabbi A. James Rudin

Although he did not have to go through with the act in that instance, Klagsbrun has become a leading advocate in the Jewish community of doctor-assisted suicide for the terminally ill. It is a position vehemently opposed by many other Jewish doctors and medical ethicists who maintain that a doctor's first priority is to save a patient's life. Some opponents draw comparisons with Nazi practices during the Holocaust.

As the Supreme Court engages in the controversial issue of physician-assisted suicide, the debate within the Jewish community is likely to become more intense and passionate.

Until now, the national debate on doctors helping terminally ill patients die has focused mainly on Dr. Jack Kevorkian, the Michigan physician who has admitted to assisting in at least 30 suicides. But the practice may be much more widespread.

A recent issue of the New England Journal of Medicine reported that one in five nurses working in

an intensive care unit admitted to hastening the death of terminally ill patients. A recent USA Today poll showed that 75 percent of Americans support doctor-assisted suicides.

Regardless of public support, the American Medical Association reaffirmed in June its opposition to doctor-assisted suicide.

The Supreme Court decided to address the issue when it accepted for review two lower court decisions favoring assisted suicide.

In April, the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New York struck down a 19th-century statute that made it illegal for physicians to help their patients die. Klagsbrun was one of the plaintiffs in the case. A month earlier, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, in a similar case, banned a Washington state law. While 32 states still forbid the practice, fear of a slippery slope pervades in the Jewish community.

Once assisted suicide is deemed a constitutional right for the terminally ill, it would be "hard to confine it to that particular context," said David Zweibel, Agudath Israel's director of government affairs and general counsel.

The Orthodox group, which plans to file a friend-of-the-court brief in support of New York and Washington states, maintains that it is a "principle of Jewish law and ethics that a doctor's role is to provide healing, not to hasten death."

Klagsbrun, who also is chairman of pastoral psychiatry at the Jewish Theological Seminary, said he regrets that his position contravenes Jewish law, but maintains that doctors should be allowed to respond to suicide requests made by terminally ill patients.

Who decides which patients are terminally ill, whether medical technology has been exhausted before considering doctor-assisted suicide and whether the patient is competent when requesting assistance to die are questions that doctors and medical ethicists debate.

"For a lot of old people, the choice is between dying and living in a degraded environment, possibly for many years," said Daniel Wikler, a professor of medical ethics at the medical school at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Wikler said some elderly might feel obligated to die in order not to be a burden on family and society.

Without a long-term health care policy in the United States, he added, advancements in medical

technology may be overlooked for the more cost-effective assisted suicide.

Rabbi A. James Rudin, the AJCommittee's director of interreligious affairs, who opposes the act, sees a trend toward viewing assisted suicide not as a compassionate act, but rather as a business decision.

"As health costs continue to soar, insurance companies and hospitals will increasingly seek the most cost-efficient means of treating patients," he said. "The financial bottom line will always

prefer assisted suicides over the more costly treatments for pain and depression."

In the New York case, the court ruled that patients could only be considered for doctor-assisted suicide when they are terminally ill. They must be mentally competent, request help themselves and take the medication on their own, the court said.

**"A doctor's rule is to provide healing, not to hasten death."**

—David Zweibel

Klagsbrun stressed that the ruling was for those who no longer respond to pain medication.

"We do our best to ease their suffering with pain management techniques," he said. "But there is a small number who can't respond and beg to die earlier. That population should not be abandoned as I believe it is now."

Klagsbrun has developed criteria in order to distinguish himself and other physicians from Kevorkian.

First, Klagsbrun said, he must know the patient and family intimately for a long period of time and he must know their values and their motives so as not to be "trapped into a hidden agenda."

Second, medical care must have been exhausted. If the patient is suffering from depression, the depression must be cured. Finally, the doctor has to suffer. "The doctor should be aggravated, full of doubt, concerned, because life deserves that," he said.

Many people, however, who might seek doctor-assisted suicide would not meet Klagsbrun's criteria, said Nancy Dubler, head of the bioethics department at the Montefiore Medical Center in New York, who also addressed the AJCommittee symposium.

Continued on page 13



EDITORIAL

# Trust Through Communication

Last week's summit meeting in Washington between Prime Minister Netanyahu, Palestinian leader Arafat, and King Hussein, invited by President Clinton, may not have fulfilled everyone's expectations and desires, but the communication and beginning trust it initiated are clearly good signs.

Blaming Prime Minister Netanyahu for a late night opening of a second tunnel entrance in the Moslem quarter will not move the peace process forward. Neither will blaming Arafat for helping to spread the unfounded and volatile claim that the work done on the tunnel placed any Muslim shrine in danger.

Trust, beginning with communication and materializing in reality through action, must

be built. The low point of the crisis may have been the exchange of gunfire between Palestinian police officers and IDF soldiers serving in a police function. Trust can help bring people of the region further back from that turbulent low point.

Both leaders have indicated their commitment to keep the channels of communication open. Arafat's meeting in Israel with President Weizman this past week and the meeting at the Erez Border Crossing the Sunday following the Washington summit are harbingers of the commitment to communication both sides will adhere to in the future of the peace process.



Palestinian leader Arafat, King Hussein of Jordan, President Clinton, and Prime Minister Netanyahu stroll the White House grounds during the summit that Clinton called.

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## VOICE BOX

"To the believers who fight for Allah, kill and are killed, heaven is promised."  
—Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat, during a memorial service in Gaza on September 25, 1996.

"If there's been any wellspring in the history of anti-Semitism, it is to describe the Jewish people as the poisoners of the wells, as the enemies of mankind. It is the same repetition of libellous slander that precedes violent attacks, that has always sparked the worst attacks against our people. And if there's one task that we all share in order to obstruct this calumny, it is to fight the battle of truth."

—Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, addressing a crowd at the Christian celebration during the Feast of Tabernacles on September 28, in response to Palestinian claims that a second tunnel opening posed threats to a mosque.

### LURIE'S WORLD



The unveiling of the new Afghanistan

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## OPINION

## The Rabbinic Perspective

# Light A Fire



By **RABBI ELIEZER SNEIDERMAN**  
Director of Chabad House, Newark  
Division

A revered rabbi once journeyed to visit a younger rabbi who was known for his religious devotion. The older rabbi was impressed with the young man's immersion in prayer and study and asked the secret of his unwavering piety. The young man answered that by concentrating on his studies he was able to block out any distracting influence. The older man then told the younger, "When it is very cold there are two ways to warm yourself. One is by putting on a fur coat, the other way is by lighting a fire. The difference is that the fur coat warms only the person wearing it, while the fire warms anyone who comes near."

The previous Lubavitcher Rebbe used to say that a Jew has to live with the times. Everything in our environment, everything that we come in contact with provides a spiritual lesson. If this is true for mundane events, how much more so is it true for events and occurrences that are spiritual to begin with. That is why there is always an important lesson to be learned in the weekly Torah portion. More than just a history book, the Torah has been a pillar of life and synagogue for over three thousand years.

The Torah relates to our lives and it relates to events that are happening in the world. Yet how can this be? Out of all the portions of the Torah this one, Genesis, looks like it has the least relevance in one's life. Morals, Tikun Olam, even Mitzvahs might be of interest, but creation does not seem to have a personal message. Creation is an event that occurred nearly six thousand years ago, or six billion years ago. It could be even six

trillion years ago for as much importance as it holds in our daily lives. I work on a college campus where the Reagan years are considered ancient history and so I appreciate the dilemma. The reality is, however, that Bereishis is directly connected to our lives and the events of the day. Bereishis is the source of Tikun Olam and communal responsibility.

The connection lies in the fact that G-d created us for a reason to act virtuously and to perfect this imperfect world. This is a responsibility that flows naturally from a belief in divine creation. It is a responsibility which we have not out of a sense of guilt or duty; it is a necessary and healthy component in our lives. If, on the other hand, we are an accident, a random natural occurrence, then ideas of morality and communal responsibility also take on a random, haphazard, relativistic hue. Ethics become a result of a social contract, an article that can be rewritten and revised depending on the historical circumstances. Today, in America for example, notions of communal responsibility are being rewritten and the contemporary moral vocabulary is at a loss to either understand or argue against this revision.

The belief that the world just happened or that it created itself is not a new one. It is present in the Story of Abraham. In Parsha Vaiera, Abraham asks his guests to wash their feet before entering his tent. It is explained that the Arabs of the day worshipped the dust of their feet. They believed that all their accomplishments were a result of hard work and effort on their part. G-d, they argued, played no part in their lives. They were willing to pay Abraham for his food, yet, they recoiled at the idea of thank-

ing G-d for the meal. To do so would have shaken their belief in their own power. This denial of G-d is and was idol worship. To confront it Abraham required a foot bath.

The denial of G-d's hand in creation was also present in the story of Sodom. In Sodom communal responsibility eventually became non-existent. Sodom was a meritocracy run amok. Achievement and independence were so admired that sharing became illegal. The sin of Sodom was its inability to share its wealth with strangers, with the weak, and with the poor - and its insistence on the absolute right of each individual to his own property. Pirkei Avos, The Ethics of the Fathers, states "What's yours is yours and what's mine is mine - some say this is the mark of Sodom." The Malbim, a nineteenth century rabbinical scholar from central Europe, writes:

The citizens of Sodom were worried that the desert dwellers or the poor from surrounding areas would come to their cities in search of a livelihood and wealth. It was in order to prevent others from sharing in the wealth that legislation against strangers - unless they were rich, like Lot - was passed and enforced in Sodom. This jealous protection of their wealth later led to corrupt laws and practices which characterized Sodom and precipitated its destruction.

These words are over a hundred years old, yet change the names and it could be an excerpt from last week's New York Times editorial page commenting on changes in the welfare and immigration laws. In Judaism, charity is not simply an act of kindness but a fulfillment of a legal obligation. The "haves" have an obligation to share their property with the "have nots" since it was given to them by G-d partly for that purpose.

The idea of sharing and communal responsibility is not just economic. Rashi tells us, commenting on this week's parsha, that Adam was created as a unique individual to emphasize the fact that we are all unique individuals. G-d creates each person

with unique talents and insights. Since we are unique and no one possesses our specific set of talents, it follows that we have an obligation to share our talents for the benefit of the community. A writer writes, a builder builds, and a leader leads. A skill that one takes for granted may fill an indispensable need for someone else.

**Just as a Torah is invalid if one of the letters is missing or broken, so too the Jewish community needs every member, every talent, and every skill to function properly.**

Put another way, our sages tell us that the word "Israel" is an acronym for "There are six hundred thousand letters in the Torah." Just as a Torah is invalid if one of the letters is missing or broken, so too the Jewish community needs every member, every talent, and every skill to function properly. The latest population study shows that there is a percentage of unaffiliated Jews in this community. Outreach to these individuals is an obligation, not just for Jewish professionals but for every individual in this community. No letter can afford to be lost.

If one were to take the theories of "Natural Selection" and "Survival of the Fittest" to their ultimate conclusion, it would always make more sense to put on the "fur coat". Yet, during the week of Bereishis, we must remember that G-d created us for a purpose and we need to "light a fire" for ourselves and others, in every facet of our lives.

(Rabbi Sneiderman is an intern at JFS as part of the MSW program at Wurzelirt.)

## Timing

By **MICK WEINSTEIN**

This is the time of yearly assessment in the Jewish calendar: Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur and Succot. Many of us from America recognize only the significance of the first two — Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur — which tend to be solemn, inward-looking times. If we make the most of the ten days that they frame, we can experience a profound introspective assessment of our behavior from the previous year, and set goals for personal growth in the

upcoming year. A sense of joy and optimism, however, tends to be absent from these days. Succot comes to address this lack and balance the holidays — we build succos and move out of our homes, opening things up. Here in Israel, Succot comes just before the rainy season. Our Succot prayers and drying reservoirs yearn for essential refilling, and we look not backward at the past, but forward to the upcoming year. Succot is marked by nature, guests, a week of no work, singing, and memories of the freedom ride the Jewish people took from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Land of Israel.



Mick Weinstein

Today is the fifth day of Chol HaMoed (intermediate day) of Succot in Eretz Yisrael. As I peer out my window here in my town of Efrat, I see that every single home has a succah outside of it. Twelve hundred families and (as far as I can tell) twelve hundred succot! The main activity this week was succah-hopping, visiting friends in their succot, admiring their decorations, and joining them for festive meals and singing in the succah. It has been a week of joy and hope, a welcome change from last week, when, with the heaviness of Yom Kippur still lingering in the air, the latest round of conflict struck. I wish that my friends and family in America could experience the fullness of our Succot, rather than merely cringing from the awful pictures of shooting and violence. It is as if the beauty, optimism, and openness of Succot simply swept away last week's tsumis. Perfect timing.

But of course all of us here know that is not the case — we are in the midst of a very real and profound conflict that is not going away anytime very soon. Three years ago the Labor government under Yitzhak Rabin z'l began a process of agreements with the PLO that functioned as a gamble: now, they determined, was the auspicious moment to realize

Continued on page 11

## Touch Points

Delaware Jews meet with Israeli immigrants from all over the world who have benefitted from the UJA/Federation campaign.



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### Your contribution helps:

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★ A Jewish pre-school program in Newark at Temple Beth El co-sponsored with the JCC.



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# Wilmington Represented at CAJE Conference

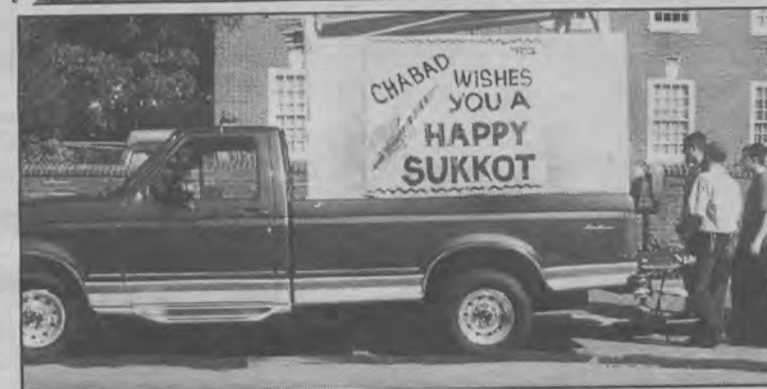
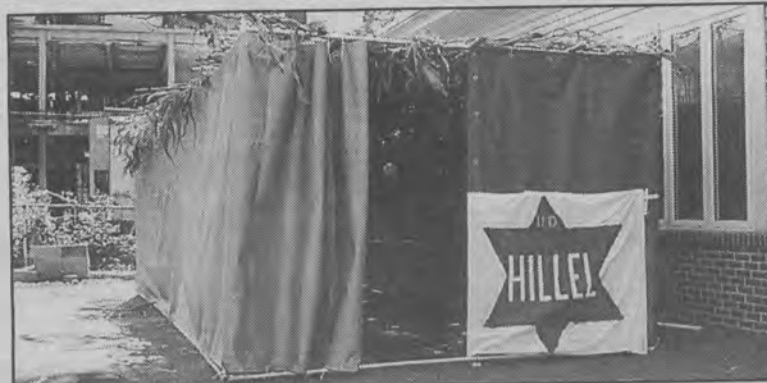


From left: Robert Davis, Faith Brown, Eta Knepler, Ann Jaffee, Arlene Davis and Lou Brown at the CAJE Conference.

A record-breaking 2,000 Jewish educators from five continents recently participated in the 21st annual Conference in Alternatives in Jewish Education (CAJE). The conference was held at The Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Mt. Scopus Campus. Representing our community were educators and spouses including Faith and Lou Brown, Ann and Steve Herman, Arlene and Robert Davis, Ann Jaffee, Eta Knepler and Eleanor Weinglass.

Subjects of this five day conference included "Educating for Jewish Identity," "Parent and Family Involvement," "Jewish Values in the Real World," and "Meeting the Challenge of the Future of the Jewish People." The Conference was sponsored by the Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education and the Joint Program for Jewish Education of the State of Israel.

What's shakin'? It's Hillel's succah and the Chabad succahmobile, both available for students, faculty, and community members this past Succot.



## Ardensingers Rescheduled

The Sisterhood of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth is pleased to announce that the Ardensingers Road Show Troupe Performance has been rescheduled for Sunday, October 20th at 7:30 p.m. A half-dozen soloists, accompanied by a talented pianist, will present a one hour concert of Gilbert & Sullivan songs and songs from Broadway shows followed by coffee and dessert.

Tickets may be reserved by mailing \$7.50 for adults and \$5.00 for children 12 and under to: A.K.S.E. Sisterhood, Washington Blvd. & Torah Way, Wilmington, DE 19802. Tickets will also be sold at the door the evening of the concert. Please call Wendy Shlossman, 479-5599, for further information.

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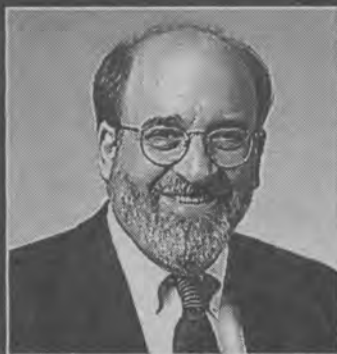


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## Hadassah Meeting to Feature Joyce Rabin, Chair, National Major Gifts

The annual membership meeting of the Wilmington Chapter of Hadassah will take place Monday, October 28 at Congregation Beth Emeth at 6:00 p.m. Associate and Life Members will be honored at the meeting and the guest speaker will be Joyce Rabin, National Chairman of Hadassah's Major Gifts Department and a member of Hadassah's National Strategic Planning Committee.

The kosher dinner, catered by Ala Carte Catering of Boscov's, is \$15 per person. New members are invited to attend the dinner as guests of Hadassah. Members who are unable to attend the dinner are invited for dessert at 7:00 p.m. Reservations are required for dinner or dessert and should be made by October 17 by calling Michele at 478-6391 or Faith

at 475-8065. Membership information is also available.

Joyce Rabin of Woodmere, N.Y., is a member of the National Board and Executive Committee of Hadassah. She currently serves as the National Chairman of the Major Gifts Department and serves on the National Strategic Planning Committee. Joyce is the immediate past President of the Nassau Region. Before that, she served on the Region Board as Area Vice President, Membership Coordinator and Organization Vice President. She is a past President of the Lawrence-Cedarhurst Chapter. She is actively involved in her local Jewish community and currently serving as program Chair of the Long Island Jewish Women's Forum, on the Executive Board of the Five Towns Jewish



Joyce Rabin

Council, as well as the Board of Trustees of Temple Sinai of Long Island.

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc., is dedicated to healing, teaching and research, is the largest women's volunteer organization in the United States.

## ORT's Share Your Wares

The Brandywine Chapter of Women's American ORT will hold its fourth annual Share Your Wares event Wednesday night, October 23, 7 p.m. at the home of Caryl Stape, 5 Emma Court. Vendors will offer for sale a selection of handcrafted jewelry, stained glass, furniture, handbags, personalized items, birdhouses, Judaica and more.

An added feature this year will be a special opportunity to meet Leah Pe'er, principal of ORT Geula School in Tel Aviv and General Counsellor of ORT Israel. Pe'er has worked for ORT since 1976, working primarily with children from underprivileged homes. Under her leadership, ORT Geula, formerly a "last chance" school, has successfully graduated several hundred once-troubled youths. She will give a brief talk about her experiences. The mother of five children, Pe'er is visiting the United States to address ORT's first

Presidential Installation in Newark, NJ at the end of the month.

Women attending the Share Your Wares evening should bring a wrapped white elephant item as well as a dairy dish or salad for a potluck

dinner. Orlando's Bakery will provide baked goods.

This event is open to the community at no charge. Please call Wendi Weingartner at 475-4416 to RSVP and to indicate what food item you are bringing.



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# PANIM EL PANIM

(Face to Face with JFD People)



## Second Annual Jewish Women's Gathering

Author and lecturer Harriet Rochlin will be the featured speaker at the Second Annual Jewish Women's Gathering on November 18th at the JCC. Raised in Boyle Heights, a section of east Los Angeles that, at the time was primarily Jewish and Mexican, Rochlin was exposed early to people of varied cultures. Although people within Boyle Heights often celebrated and valued their experiences with different cultures, many in other areas of Los Angeles looked down upon the residents of



Harriet Rochlin

Boyle Heights due to harsh anti-foreigner sentiments.

So, after obtaining her Bachelor of Arts in Hispanic Studies, Rochlin was determined not to move back to Boyle Heights. It was not until the 1960s that, amidst all the social unrest, Rochlin realized her connection to the area. She began writing short stories and poems, and then began research about Jews from Boyle Heights and elsewhere throughout the American West. Her research has produced numerous articles as well as three books. *Pioneer Jews: A New Life in the Far West* is in its seventh printing. Her most recent work, *The Reformer's Apprentice: A Novel of Old San Francisco*, is the first novel in a completed trilogy.

Please join all the many Jewish women's organizations in welcoming Harriet Rochlin on November 18th. A "Browse and Learn" session will be held at the JCC starting at 6:00 p.m. The buffet dinner will

# Y.L.D.A. is Established to Develop Community Leaders

## Kickoff Event to be Held Nov. 16 at Harry's

By DAN WEINTRAUB  
YLDA Director

A new group has been organized to provide dynamic Delaware Jews and young Jewish professionals from their late twenties to the early forties the opportunity to prepare for community leadership. The Young Leadership Development Alliance participants will seek to strengthen the community through leadership training, community projects, educational programs, social activity, and volunteering to support the UJA/Fed-

eration Campaign. The Young Leadership Development Alliance or Y.L.D.A. will promote understanding of and cooperation with Jewish agencies and synagogues.

An exciting opening affair has been scheduled by YLDA on Saturday night, November 16 at 7:30 p.m. upstairs at Harry's on Naaman road. AN EVENING WITH Y.L.D.A. will feature a buffet, entertainment and a cash bar for adults from their late twenties to early forties. Cost for the event is \$18. An RSVP is requested to the Jewish Federation

of Delaware at (302) 427-2100 before November 8.

The Young Leadership Development Alliance is a committee of the Jewish Federation of Delaware. The Chair of Y.L.D.A. is Buddy Berger and the Co-Chair is Heidi Kinsella. Heidi is also the Chairperson of Super Sunday. Berger, Kinsella and the Executive Subcommittee of Y.L.D.A. are looking to bring other Delawareans into their organization for such upcoming events as: Super Sunday; a partnership with Habitat for Humanity; educational programs such

as for young parents and more.

The mission of Y.L.D.A. is as follows:

To ensure a strong and viable Jewish community, YLDA develops future leaders under 45 by strengthening their ties to the Delaware, national and international Jewish organizations, teaching leadership skills and responsibilities and providing diversified programming that is rewarding, educational and fun.

To find out more about Y.L.D.A. or to RSVP for AN EVENING WITH Y.L.D.A., call (302) 427-2100.

## Beth Emeth Sisterhood Event Change

The Sisterhood Membership Coffee Demonstration featuring Brew Ha-Ha on Sunday, October 20 has been CHANGED TO SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27. The time of this event remains the same. For further questions please call Elizabeth Goleburn, 762-3393.



begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by Ms Rochlin's discussion and exciting slide presentation. The cost for this delightful, informative evening is just \$6 per person. For more information, please contact Ella Zukoff, Adult Services Director, or Staci Levin, Cultural Arts Coordinator, at (302) 478-5660, or contact your own women's organization.

## Open House at AEA

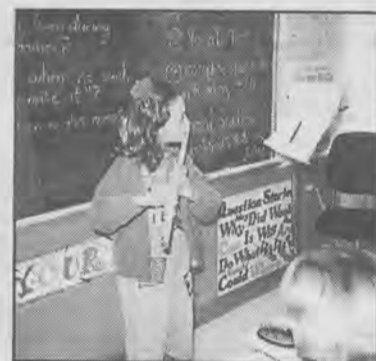
Albert Einstein Academy will hold an Open House for parents of prospective applicants on Monday, November 11, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Meet with Rabbi Ellen Bernhardt, the Head of School; the faculty; the staff; and tour the renovated and expanded facilities.

Albert Einstein serves children in pre-K through sixth grades and pro-

vides general and Jewish education. The Academy is located in the Jewish Community Center complex, 101 Garden of Eden Road in

Wilmington.

Please call the Director of Admissions, Lorri Finkel, at 478-5025 for further information.



As part of the curriculum of the fourth grade, students are learning about the state of Delaware. They learn the history, geography, customs, etc. They also learned "Oh, Our Delaware," the state song. Felicia Goodman, a student in the class, learned to play it on her flute and accompanied her classmates.



Rabbi Chuni Vogel visited Albert Einstein Academy and showed to students different kinds of shofarot. He explained why we blew the shofar on Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur and actually showed the children how to make a shofar out of a ram's horn. Michael Yarhoulahos (5th grade) looks on as Rabbi Vogel saws a ram's horn and makes a shofar.

**Jewish Community Newcomers Network**

Jewish Federation of Delaware

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# MORE NEWS

## Timing

Continued from page 5

the hope of every Israeli - to establish a lasting peace with our Palestinian neighbors. Tens of thousands of guns to arm a Palestinian police force, uniforms and vehicles for that police force, and entire cities of autonomy were passed over quite rapidly to Yassir Arafat and his makeshift Palestinian Authority (PA).

At that time we all recognized that the success of this gamble would be marked by the emergence of two patterns: a) the quelling of Palestinian terrorist activity and b) the responsible behavior of the PA's political and police forces. Regardless of one's political position regarding the wisdom of the Oslo accords, all recognized its reality — these were the facts and the chips were already on the table. The Left assured us the bet would pay off, while the Right urged us either to leave the casino entirely or to wager much more conservatively.

If the bus bombings of February and March shook our confidence in the first anticipated return, last week's events did the same for the second. Among the violent rioters Israeli soldiers faced were Palestinian police, some firing upon the Israelis with the very rifles handed them (perhaps by those same soldiers) just months ago. An anonymous Palestinian policeman interviewed on the radio this morning

spoke of feeling torn as he fended off a group of rioting Palestinians — the crowd cried to him, "What are you doing?! You are one of us!! Turn around and fight!!" Frozen by indecision, he simply ran away from the situation. Some of his comrades didn't have such difficulty redirecting their efforts. A number of Israeli soldiers described seeing the very Palestinian police with whom they had done joint patrol firing upon them.

Kenesset member Benny Begin stated succinctly what many of us find most aggravating: "In such a peace process you need to know who are your friends and who your enemies. Who are we working with here?!" While Hamas continues to spew its venom with statements calling upon Palestinians to "destroy Zionists in Palestinian land," and condemning the "crimes of Judaisation," we still wait for Arafat and the PA to demonstrate their distance from these terrorists. The Palestinian Covenant calling for the destruction of the State of Israel has still not been repealed, and the inconsistent or downright hostile behavior of the PA and its police force continues to undermine its legitimacy.

Questions of the day: When will we stop assuming that every problem was somehow caused by a lack of Israeli generosity? When will the

Western press acknowledge that our situation here is not simple, black and white, a peaceloving Left and bloodthirsty Right? Was Rabin's bold, Nobel-winning effort a pipe dream, the Prize ceremony a farce?

Most agree with the basic premise of Oslo: Israeli occupation of densely populated Palestinian areas should end. The issue, however, is one of timing. At this stage in Middle-Eastern history, was the gamble a smart one? At what point do we cut our losses, leave the table, and wait for a generation of Palestinians who pledge a sincere peace?

In the Jewish calendar, every holiday is carefully arranged to form a rhythm, a yearlong harmony. As we read on the first day of Succot from Kohelet (Ecclesiastes): "For every time and age, the appropriate activity." We do well to take such lessons from the Torah: so many aspects of life are simply a question of proper timing. May G-d's succah of peace dwell over the Jewish People this year, and may our leaders have the insight to expedite its arrival, through action and, when necessary, courageous restraint.

(Mick Weinstein is a Delaware native who is studying at Bravenders Yeshiva in Efrat with Rabbi Shlomo Riskin. Mick is the son of Sheldon and Ruth Weinstein and is an occasional contributor to the Jewish Voice and the News Journal.)

## New York Theater Trip

A limited number of seats are available on the bus to New York on Wednesday, October 30. The bus will leave the JCC parking lot at 8:00 a.m. and will return by 8:00 p.m. The cost is \$30.00 for JCC Members and \$34.00 for non-members. Reservations do not include theatre tickets. Paid reservations will be taken at the JCC Front Desk. For further information, please call Ella Zukoff, Adult Services Director, at (302) 478-5660.

## Chess 'n' Chat

Do you enjoy a good game of chess? Do you want to learn how to play a better game of chess? If so, please join us for an afternoon of "Chess 'n' Chat" at the JCC on Sunday, November 3rd from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Chess enthusiasts of all levels are encouraged to attend. For more information, please contact Ella Zukoff, Adult Services Director, or Staci Levin, Cultural Arts Coordinator, at (302) 478-5660.

## "Yidl Mitn Fidl"

The Jewish Community Center's Yiddish Festival continues on Sunday, October 20 at 11:30 a.m. with a delicious brunch, followed by the showing of the Yiddish film classic, "Yidl Mitn Fidl", starring Molly Picon. This delightful musical-comedy is subtitled in English.

The cost for the brunch and film is \$3.50 for JCC members and \$4.75 for non-members. The cost for the film is only \$1.00 per person. Advance reservations are requested at the JCC Front Desk. Please call Ella Zukoff at (302) 478-5660 for additional information.

## Senior Trips To Florida

The Jewish Community Center of Delaware, in cooperation with the New Jersey YM-YWHA Camps, is offering winter trips to Florida for seniors. Two and three week options are available beginning on January 2, 1997.

Two hotel choices are being offered to seniors in Delaware. The Saxony is a strictly Glatt kosher facility with three meals served daily. The Deauville is newly renovated and offers two "kosher style" meals daily. All meals, gratuities, door to door transportation and round trip airfare from Philadelphia are included. Fees vary, \$1530 - \$2300, depending on length of stay and type of room. For more information, please call Michelle Silberglied, Adult/Senior Adult Coordinator, at (302) 478-5660.

# Breast Cancer Awareness Luncheon

**Tuesday, October 29, 1996**  
**JCC Zallea Auditorium**  
**11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m.  
 The program will begin at 12:00 noon

Keynote Speaker: Dr. John Stevens, MD,  
 Vice-President of Research Grants and Awards at the  
 American Cancer Society National Headquarters will discuss  
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FEATURES



The exterior of la synagogaia Carpentras.

# Kol Nidre Service

thought, I knew that the Jewish community in Carpentras had recently experienced a desecration of its cemetery and was wary of strangers — yet how else could I find out about Yom Kippur services? Carpentras was the only nearby community with a synagogue still in use, and this was the only telephone number I had.

Bob and I were spending two weeks in the south of France, in Vacqueyras, a village 12 kilometers from Carpentras. We were renting a house with our cousins, Mark and Suzy Harris from Los Angeles. The four of us had stopped in Carpentras that morning to learn the time of the Kol Nidre service only to find the synagogue ferme'. It would not open again for tourists until the day after Yom Kippur.

I had visited Provence five years ago and remembered the Carpentras synagogue. It was a tiny jewel, tucked into an obscure corner of the city and discreetly identified with some small Hebrew lettering.

The Carpentras Jewish community dates from the 14th century when the pope in Avignon offered protection to the Jewish people. Their descendants had either scattered or perished in World War II. The community was now largely composed of Algerian and Moroccan Jews who had emigrated in the late 1940s and kept alive a dying community.

The structure currently in use was built 250 years ago, decades before our thirteen colonies declared their independence. I knew from my visit in 1991 that unlike the synagogue in Cavaillon, which was now merely a museum, the Carpentras synagogue was the house of worship of a viable Jewish community, the oldest in France. I had to figure out a way to attend Yom Kippur services.

I plunged ahead. "Je suis juive des e'tats-unis. Je voudrais aller au service Kol Nidre dimanche soir. Pouvez-vous me dire 'a quelle heure le service commence?" I sensed relief in the man's voice as he finally admitted that, yes, he too was Jewish, but one had to be careful. He did not know the exact time of the service, but he could direct me to Monsieur Amand, the president of the congregation who could help me. A quick call to Monsieur Amand, and I was given the time to arrive — 18 hours and a half (6:30 p.m.).

We arrive promptly. The synagogue was tightly locked. Oh, no, had my French comprehension been that bad?

At about 6:35 p.m. a man arrived with a key and introduced himself as Monsieur Amand, who had wanted me to arrive early for "securite". I introduced myself and showed him my letter of introduction — in both French and English — from Rabbi Wortman. "Bienvenue! L'shana tova!" We felt at home.

The service, scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m., began at 7:10 p.m. ("Jewish time" is universal.) I was glad we'd come because they barely had a minyan. However, as time progressed, more people arrived.

By 8:00 p.m. approximately fifty people were in attendance.

The synagogue has aqua walls, several beautiful antique chandeliers, and stone floors with worn, but elegant oriental rugs. It is orthodox, the bimah in the center with a small balcony circling above. When we entered, I headed for the balcony, but was prevented from proceeding because, as I was told, the second story is no longer sound. Instead, the women sat in the last three rows on one side of the bimah.

A young rabbi imported from Cannes conducted the service. His two preschool-age children roamed the sanctuary, dressed like dolls, occasionally hanging from his knees. His son wore a pint-sized tallis, which surprised me because I'd always thought one didn't wear a tallis until the bar mitzvah.

I could follow little of the service. The prayer book was sephardic, totally in Hebrew, with no page numbers. None of the melodies were familiar. Sephardic Hebrew, with a French Provençal accent, doesn't sound like any Hebrew I know. A handful of men participated. The women seemed as lost as I.

I did, however, recognize the shma, sung with soprano clarity by the rabbi's tiny son. So, too, the "Al chait shecha-tonu" (when we ask forgiveness for our sins) was immediately identifiable by the breast beating, but the sound of the words was unfamiliar. I finally figured out where we were in the prayer book by the time we got to the first recitation of the kaddish — a good two hours after the service had begun.

A brief chat with the woman next to me informed me that the synagogue only has services about a half-dozen times a year — Rosh

Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Succoth, Simhas Torah, Purim, Pesach, Shavuot. Five years before there had been services every Friday evening and Saturday morning, but so many young people had left the community, either by moving away or intermarrying, that there was no longer a minyan for weekly services, and the congregation no longer employed its own rabbi.

Bob learned that the man sitting next to him was from Orange, about 20 kilometers away. He had arrived in Carpentras before sundown with his wife and son; they were renting rooms nearby for the night.

For me, the true test of Yom Kippur was to come on Monday. Could I fast in a country where food is the centerpiece of one's day? Even beginning the fast Sunday evening had taken ingenuity. The French are very precise in their eating habits. Dinner is never taken before 7:30 p.m.. Fortunately the four of us had spent the morning before Yom Kippur at the Isle Sur La Sorgue weekly outdoor market, stocking up on food we could prepare at home in order to eat before sundown, as well as breakfast type food for breaking the fast the next day.

I began Yom Kippur morning as I do at home — sleeping as late as possible to trick myself into easily skipping breakfast. We had decided that since Yom Kippur was time of penance, in the true spirit of the day we would take a punishing hike in Gigondas, a village three kilometers away. If we timed it right, we could be hiking between 12:00 noon and 2:00 p.m. when all of Provence closes for lunch (even the supermarkets are shut). How difficult it would be to be anywhere

Continued on next page

By ELLEN MEYER

Jewish Voice

Editorial Committee Member

"Bonjour. Est-ce la synagogue?" Silence. Then a curt response that I'd dialed the wrong number.

I had carefully telephoned the number given in the Hadassah magazine article on Provence in March, 1996. Surely, the information hadn't changed so quickly.

"Êtes-vous juif?" I asked. Again, silence. Dumb of me to ask, I

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# at Carpentras



Prayer books and tallit

near local inhabitants thoroughly savoring their fresh, warm breads, full-bodied cheeses, succulent fruits and vegetables and silken wines! The cafes would be overflowing with local townspeople in gustatory paradise, no doubt praising in hearty Provencal voices their superb repasts.

We had to climb — up and out of town — and climb we did, for close to three hours up the dramatic Dentelles. Susan managed to get “adopted” by a stray dog. Bob gathered kindling for the fire we were to build that evening when we broke our fast. All talk of food was forbidden.

A short nap after our hike, and we returned to Carpentras for the neelah service. Unlike the evening before, the synagogue was now filled to overflowing — three times the previous turnout. The crowd, looking primarily Mediterranean, wore everything from suits and ties or chic Parisian fashion to jeans and running suits. One pale young woman, who told me she was studying archaeology in Paris, looked the height of fashion in her pastel beret and clunky shoes.

There were crying babies and restless preschoolers everywhere. Chaos was king! The women had even turned one of the benches to face one another, making no pretense of following the service. There were no more prayer books — not that mine yesterday was of much use — and when Bob took a tallis folded by the door, he later learned, to his embarrassment, that it belonged to a man who had merely left briefly for la toilette.

We were waiting to hear the shofar — the signal that we could return chez nous and begin preparing our omelette and green bean break fast meal.

“Tikeah!” “Amen!” responded the congregation. I saw no shofar in evidence and thought that per-

haps the shofar blowing was not part of this synagogue's tradition — when, *voilà*, from seemingly out of nowhere, a gleaming ebony shofar appeared in the rabbi's left hand. Upon seeing the raised shofar glistening under the central chandelier's crystals, the congregants grew strangely silent. The men, with young children, huddled under their tallit as if they were tents — and the golden sounds of the shofar signaled the end of the day.

We returned to our rented village home, kindled the wood in the fireplace, raised our glasses of velvet Vacqueyras wine, ravenously devoured our slices of exquisite chevre and toasted the end of Yom Kippur in Provence.



The ark with the eternal light. Two torah scrolls are behind the curtain.

## Suicide

continued from page 3

“Heaven forbid one of us in this room needed access to a physician to end our lives, we could get it,” she said. “We are all well-connected.” Dubler also asked whether anyone would help an elderly African American with a history of drug use whose family has abandoned him and who has AIDS.

“The answer is no,” she said.

“There is no alternative but to create a process to which all people in pain and suffering would have access,” she added. Rudin said he believes that the same people Dubler feels would have less access to doctor-assisted suicide would be the first to receive it because they are among the weakest in society.

“The legalization of assisted sui-

cides, even for so-called compassionate reasons, reminds me of the brutal excesses of the Holocaust when the Nazi physicians carried out deadly experiments upon the Third Reich's ‘surplus population’: Jews, Gypsies, political prisoners, homosexuals, mental patients and others,” Rudin said at the symposium.

In 1939, Hitler allowed doctors to kill patients diagnosed as terminally ill. They began by putting to death the physically and mentally disabled. They then proceeded with the elderly, orphans, the insane, opponents of the Hitler regime, and Jews.

The Nazi analogy is used frequently by Jewish opponents of doc-

tor-assisted suicide.

“Are we going to start killing people who just don't want to live anymore. Is that the next step?” said Dr. Mandell Ganchrow, president of the Orthodox Union and an associate clinical professor of surgery at the New York Medical College.

“People will be denied life because they have the potential to die. That's what the Nazis did. First they took the feeble, then they took those who could not work,” he said.

God gives human beings, physicians, the right to cure the diseases of their fellow man,” said Ganchrow. “We do not have the ability to put an end to it. It comes under the commandment ‘Thou shall not kill.’”

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## Professor to Address Challenges Facing Jewish Education in the 21st Century

On Sunday, October 20, 1996, the Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth (A.K.S.E.) Men's Club and Adult Education Committee will feature Dr. Gary S. Schiff, President of Gratz College in Melrose Park, Pa., who has been invited to address the issue of "the challenges facing Jewish education in the 21st century."

Dr. Schiff has been president of Gratz College since 1983. He also holds faculty rank as Professor of Middle East Studies. He was previously Executive Assistant to the President and Director of Program Development at the Academy for Educational Development, a worldwide non-profit educational consulting organization headquartered in New York. Prior to that, he was Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies and Political Science at City University of New York, Visiting Assistant Professor at Yeshiva University and Director of Middle East and Energy Affairs of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council.

Born in New York, Dr. Schiff was educated in Jewish day school there. He continued at Yeshiva University, earning a B.A. and a Bachelor of Hebrew Literature with top honors. One undergraduate year was spent in Israel studying at the Hebrew University and at the Gold Hebrew



Dr. Schiff

Teachers College.

Dr. Schiff received his M.A., Certificate of Middle East Studies and Ph.D. from Columbia University. His dissertation, *Tradition and Politics: The Religious Parties of Israel*, based on research funded by the Ford Foundation, was published by Wayne State University Press to critical acclaim. He has published and lectured widely on Jewish education, the Middle East, and energy. A recipient of many fellowships and research grants, Dr. Schiff is fluent in Hebrew.

A leader in Jewish life, Dr. Schiff has served on the Governing Board of the World Jewish Congress, as Chairman of its Commission on the Younger Generation and as a Board

member of its Institute of Jewish Affairs in London. He is listed in *Who's Who in the East* (1984), *Who's Who in World Jewry* (1981 and 1987), and *Who's Who in Israel* (1990-91). Active in the American Jewish Committee, Dr. Schiff was Chairman of its Academy for Jewish Studies Without Walls and serves on AJC's Jewish Communal Affairs Commission and on the Board of its Philadelphia chapter. In his avocational life, Dr. Schiff is a cantor (hazzen). He lives in center city, Philadelphia.

Gratz College is the oldest non-denominationally affiliated college of Jewish studies in the United States. Founded in 1895 as a Hebrew teachers college, today Gratz is a comprehensive institution of higher Jewish, Hebraic and Middle East studies, offering pre-collegiate, undergraduate, graduate, continuing education and special certificate programs to over 4,000 full- and part-time students. The college has recently moved to a 28-acre campus in Melrose Park, Pennsylvania and is fully accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

The A.K.S.E. Men's Club Monthly Sunday Brunch is open to the public. Brunch is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. and the program is from 10:00-11:00 a.m. The cost is \$3.00 for brunch and the program. Reservations for non-members are suggested and can be made by contacting the A.K.S.E. office at (302) 762-2705.

## Beth Shalom October Bar and Bat Mitzvot

Daniel McVicker, son of Ellen London, will celebrate his becoming a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, October 12th at Congregation Beth Shalom. He is a 7th grade student at Springer Junior High School. Active in the Boy Scouts, he plays drums, participates in roller hockey and basketball. He also likes to build things.

Daniel is the grandson of Samuel and Janet London, and Betty Jane McVicker.

Rebecca Neipris, daughter of Jonathan Neipris and Myrna Ryder, will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, October 19th at Congregation Beth Shalom.

Rebecca is a 7th grade student at Akiba Hebrew Academy in Merion, Pa. Her hobbies include horseback riding, reading, basketball and playing the piano.

She has a sister Jessie. Grandparents are Martin and Joan Ryder of Mt. Laurel, N.J., and Eli and Ruth Neipris of Harrisburg, Pa.

Daniel Gevurtz, son of James and Jodi Gevurtz, will be called to the

Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, October 26th at Congregation Beth Shalom.

Daniel, a 7th grade student at Springer Junior High School, includes baseball, soccer, and skating among his favorite hobbies.

Daniel is the brother of Paul and Robin. He is the grandson of Lillian Rosenthal of Claymont and Nathan and Marge Gevurtz of Philadelphia.



Students of Wilmington's Congregation Beth Shalom Religious School visited the home of Mr. & Mrs. Alan Lipschultz and celebrated Succot. Blessing the Lulav and Etrog are (from left) Ilene Bloom, Danielle Lipman and Alex Sklar.

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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

# NACHES

Entries for the Calendar of Events are due on the Thursday deadline, published in *The Jewish Voice*. Copy should be typed and double spaced. Entries are preferred on 3 1/2" floppy disk or via E-mail. Please include day, date, time, place, brief description, and contact person.

## OCTOBER

### Sunday \_\_\_\_\_ 13

**ORT presents Janet Weiss, LCSW**, who will speak on the topic of "Sex and the 90's". Call Jewish Family Service at 478-9411 for location and time.

**Meg Macaky & Billy Philadelphia**, of San Francisco will be featured at Wilmington's Beth Shalom first social event. They will be providing nostalgia songs from the 30s, 40s, jazz, show tunes and more. The evening includes a wine reception, entertainment and gourmet desserts and is being held at the Synagogue, 1801 Baynard Blvd at 7 p.m.. Cost is \$15 per person. Call the Synagogue office, 654-4462, for tickets.

### Sunday \_\_\_\_\_ 20

**Men's Club Breakfast & Speaker**, Social Hall, A.K.S.E., 9:30 a.m.

**Brunch and Film.** Join us for a delicious brunch followed by "Yidl Mitn Fidl" starring Molly Picon. Cost is \$3.50 for JCC members and \$4.75 for non-members. Film only - \$1.00. 11:30 a.m. For more information, call Ella Zukoff at (302) 478-5660. A **one hour concert** presenting Gilbert and Sullivan songs and tunes from Broadway musicals by a talented pianist and a half dozen soloists, followed by dessert and coffee will be held at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$7.50 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and under. Send self-addressed envelope with check made payable to A.K.S.E. Sisterhood, Washington Street Extension and Torah Drive, Wilmington, DE 19802 by Oct. 12.

### Tuesday \_\_\_\_\_ 22

**Yiddish Vinkl.** Join us in the JCC for a Yiddish sing-a-long. Free of charge. 1:15 p.m. For more information, call Ella Zukoff at (302) 478-5660.

### Wednesday \_\_\_\_\_ 23

**ORT Share Your Wares Event.** Vendors will sell a variety of handcrafted items and Leah Pe'er, principal of ORT Geula School in Tel Aviv will speak. The event also includes a dairy potluck dinner and a white elephant exchange. It will be held at the home of Caryl Stape, 5 Emma Court. For further information or to RSVP, call Wendi Weingartner at 475-4416.

### Thursday \_\_\_\_\_ 24

**Coping with Infertility** preparing for the holidays, presented by Jerry Oster, Ph.D., licensed psychologist, infertility consultant, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Hockessin Library Community Room, 1023 Valley Road, Hockessin, DE. Free admission, limited seating, reservations required. Please call 302-738-9296.

## NOVEMBER

### Saturday \_\_\_\_\_ 16

**An Evening with YLDA**, YoungLeadership Development Alliance hosts a buffet dinner at Harry's on Naaman's Road with entertainment and a cash bar for adults from late twenties to early forties. Find out what YLDA is all about. Evening begins at 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$18. To RSVP call the Jewish Federation of Delaware at (302)427-2100 before November 8.

### Sunday \_\_\_\_\_ 17

**Men's Club Breakfast & Speaker**, Social Hall, A.K.S.E., 9:30 a.m.

### Sunday \_\_\_\_\_ 24

**Dr. Michael Berenbaum of the**

**U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum** will speak about "Holocaust and Contemporary American Conscientiousness: Why Remember The Past? Why Teach The Past?" at 2:30 p.m. at Arshat Hall at the University of Delaware's Wilmington Campus. Program includes showing of Academy-award winning documentary "One Survivor Remembers." This Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Memorial Lecture is free and open to the public. For more information call the Jewish Federation of Delaware at (302)427-2100.

### Ongoing

**Every other Wednesday** - "Empowering Workshops for the Elderly" at the B'nai B'rith House with Barbara Cohen, MSW. Call JFS, 478-9411 for more information.

**Young Jewish Adults of Delaware's (YJAD's)** co-ed, non-competitive volleyball league continues every Wednesday night from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.



## Blumberg Earns PFS

Nancy F. Blumberg, CPA, a Certified Financial Planner since 1987 with over 20 years of accounting experience has now earned the designation of Personal Financial Specialist (PFS). The PFS designation established nine years ago, recognizes CPAs with considerable experience in financial planning. Only five people have this designation in Delaware.

## Pascale Birth

Paul and Robyn Pascale of Valley Forge, PA announce the arrival of their daughter, Jacqueline Brooke, on Friday, September 27, 1996, in the Jefferson Hospital, Philadelphia. The Pascales also have a daughter, Jennifer Leigh, age 2. The grandmother is Betty Wexler-Rosen of Wilmington.

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## OBITUARIES

### EDNA FISCHER

Edna Fischer, 87, of 27 Paisley Drive, Hyde Park, Brandywine Springs, died September 30 at home.

Mrs. Fischer had taught in public schools in Pinebrook, N.J. She was a former member of Congregation Beth Shalom and its Sisterhood, Hadassah and the Kutz Home Auxiliary. Her husband, John, died in 1990.

Survivors include sons, Jeffrey of Wilmington and Harris E. of Port Jefferson, N.J., and two grandsons.

Contributions: Hospice of Palm Beach County, 5300 East Ave., West Palm Beach, Fla. 33407; or the ALS Association, 2101

Ventura Blvd., Suite 321, Woodland Hills, Calif. 91364-9764.

### JOSEPH LEVY

Joseph Levy, 84, of 150 Bradley Place, Palm Beach, Fla., died September 26 of complications from heart surgery in Miami Heart Institute.

Mr. Levy was a real estate agent. Survivors include wife, Dorothy Levy; daughters, Sue Rohrbacher of Dartmouth Woods, Brandywine Hundred, Del., and Mary Salerno of Long Island, NY.; four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Contributions may be made to Congregation Beth Emeth, Wilmington.

### RUTH M. SCHWARTZ

Ruth M. Schwartz, 74, of Landenberg, Pa., formerly of Atlantic City, died Tuesday, September 24 of heart disease and diabetes in Christiana Hospital, near Stanton, Del.

Survivors include daughter, Meryl Bergstein of Arizona; son, Mark L., with whom she lived; sister, Elaine Cohen of Florida; brother, Morton Metz of Florida; four grandchildren.

Contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Foundation or charity.

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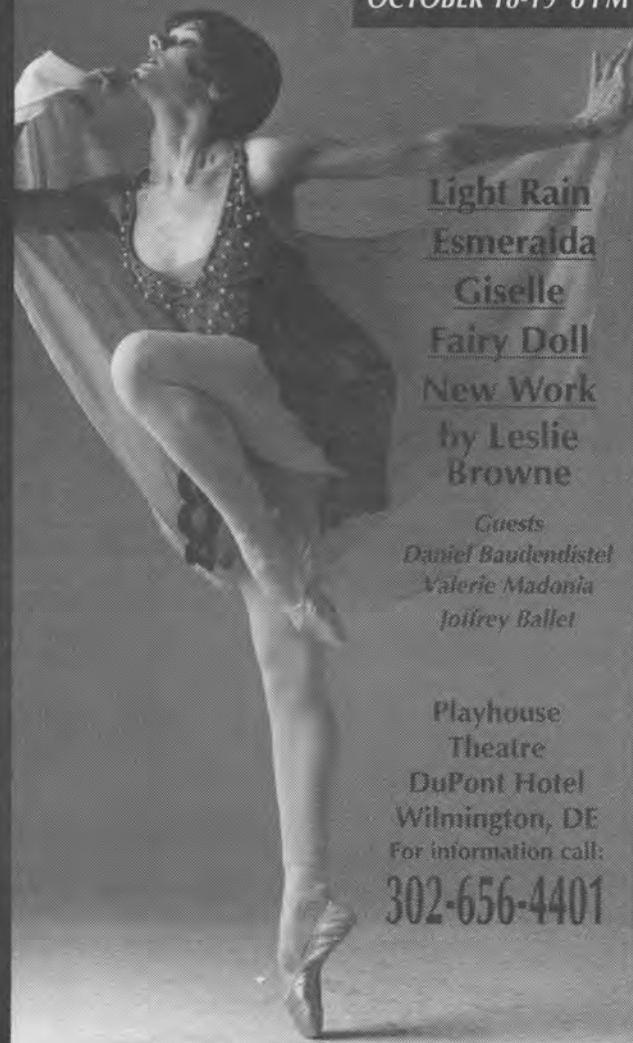
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