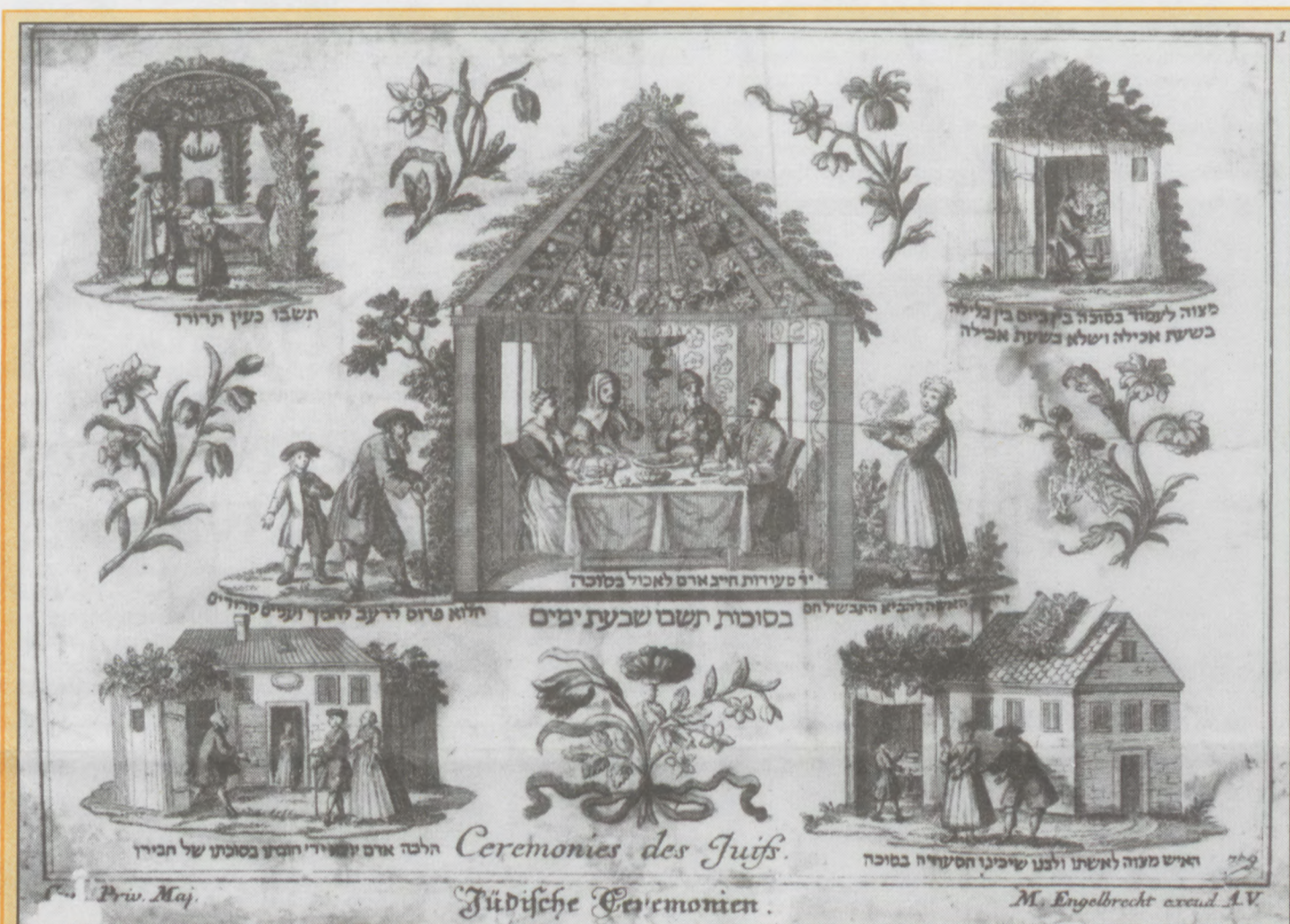


# The JEWISH VOICE

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Sukkot Engraving by Martin Engelbrecht. Courtesy of the library of the Jewish Theological Seminary. Sukkot begins at sundown, September 24th.

## MUD ON THE BOOTS

Article courtesy of Project JOI-Jewish Outreach Institute

It is told that the B'aal Shem Tov (the founder of Chasidism) had a special love for the ritual of dwelling in the sukkah. He thought it special because one could actually enter the ritual space, "even with the mud sticking to one's boots". He loved the immersive physical experience of the sukkah. His insight points to the combination of the physical and what I'll call "grit" that makes Sukkot a most interesting holiday. Both the immersive bodily experience and the "mud on the boots" embody the same "physicality" that is something of a motif for Sukkot.

Of course, physical ritual has always played a part in Jewish Religious life. The body is in the forefront in such diverse activities as the waving of the hands over the just lit Sabbath candles, the task of lifting of the Torah, even circumcision of the newly born boy. But all of these activities take place in ritually and physically clean places. Preparation for most any Jewish holiday requires both cleansing of the normal routine mentality and the cleaning of any physical spaces. Beyond that, the place of ritual is inevitably the home or the synagogue, rather than in the great outdoors.

Much of Biblical literature is filled with stories and layouts for the Temple. There are minute details about the materials that are to be used in the structure and ritual implements of the service. These days, the most physically demanding commandment is that of building the sukkah. But the aim of all the labour of bulding a sukkah is by nature impermanent. One one hand, we are to dwell in a sukkah as if it were home (by decorating and furnishing it); on the other we must be constantly aware of the elements.

And that is where grit comes in. While the B'aal Shem Tov emphasized the immersive experience of the sukkah-dweller in the sukkah, he also, by noting the mud, referenced the immersive experience of the sukkah in nature. Many sukkot are made with sheets or curtains along their sides, such that a wind will rustle the "walls." And the rabbis made sure that the roof could only be made out of organic material and only stacked in such a way so that rain would be able to permeate. A little drizzle is generally not enough to warrant vacating the sukkah. In order to have a real Sukkot experience, we must conduct our religious practices fully aware of the muddy world around us.

## Leading And Learning In The 21st Century

### Doris And Irving Morris 1999-2000 Leadership Seminars

By Lynn Edelman and Sue Shaffer

Thanks to a generous grant from Jewish communal leaders Doris and Irving Morris, a second year of leadership seminars will kick-off on October 4th.

These seminars are being offered to persons 30-45 who serve or wish to serve on committees or boards of the Jewish Federation of Delaware and its agencies. This comprehensive program will help participants acquire and enhance skills necessary to assume major leadership roles within the Jewish community. Seminar participants are asked to make every effort to attend all sessions to maximize the value of this educational experience.

Doris and Irving Morris, whose niece, Tamara is a Wexner Fellow, has worked for CLAL, the National Center for Learning and Leadership. The couple appreciates the value of the organization in ensuring that the Jewish community has leaders who are ready, willing and able to meet present and

future challenges. CLAL is the leading educator of Jewish leaders-both lay and professional-in North America. It links the values of Jewish tradition with contemporary issues and concerns. The organization has trained more than 5,000 leaders in over 100 American communities.

The couple arranged for Yitz Greenberg, one of CLAL's founders, to speak at the dedication of the Jewish Community Center Family Campus in Wilmington, when they served as Campus campaign chairs. Their grant covers all faculty expenses, all administrative costs, and the cost of meals.

Both Morris are leaders in Delaware's Jewish community. Irving has served as President of Beth Shalom Congregation and the Jewish Federation of Delaware. He is also a lifetime member of the Milton and Hattie Kutz Foundation Board of Trustees and is a member of the Board of the Anti-Defamation League. She is a past President of the Jewish Community Center, the first recipient of the Harry Cohen Award for

Service and was also a recipient of the Jewish Federation of Delaware's Award for Service. Albert Einstein Academy, honored the couple in 1997 for their commitment to Jewish education.

All sessions will be held at the Jewish Community Center from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Dinner will be provided. CLAL faculty and sessions topics will be announced shortly.

If you think you are an eligible candidate for participation in this elite program, and wish to join the first year's core group, contact Sue Shaffer, JFD Leadership Development Director, at (302) 427-2100, ext. 17. Space is limited and restricted to appropriate participants so call today.

This program is offered under the auspices of the Jewish Federation of Delaware.

By participating in this program, you can acquire the skills needed for major leadership roles within the community.

## INSIDE THE VOICE

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## ISRAEL FOCUS

## Arad Rescue Team Aid's Turkish Quake Victims

By Moty Brill

*Editor's Note: Moty Brill is the chairperson of Living Bridge projects and a nuclear scientist in Arad, The Jewish Federation of Delaware's Partnership 2000 community.*

It was August 17th when the 7.9 Richter scale earthquake changed the face of Turkey's landscape. Eli Sagi was at work when he took a call from Dr. Efraim Laor, Israel's rescue team coordinator. Laor explained the situation in Turkey and asked Sagi to join a rescue team and help give first aid. Eli

took a hand bag and 22 hours later found himself with 4 other volunteers from the Arad Rescue Team and 35 Israelis from the other 7 Rescue Teams working day and night to rescue people from under the ruins.

Twenty years ago a few volunteers from Arad established the Arad Rescue Team. Some 26 people are committed to the holy work of saving lives of travelers in the Judean Desert near Arad who get into trouble when they tour the desert. They specialize in rock climbing and sophisticated rescue

operations from deep canyon, 21 hard days course plus monthly orientation, is the price those brave men pay to belong to this group. During "normal" times in Israel, the team works on 30-40 rescue operations a year. They are on alert 24 hours a day to locate, rescue, give first aid and bring back home innocent men, women and children. They use two vehicles and their own private Jeeps. They work in cooperation with the IDF and the Israeli Police forces.

Rescue hardware is expensive and the amortization of the vehi-

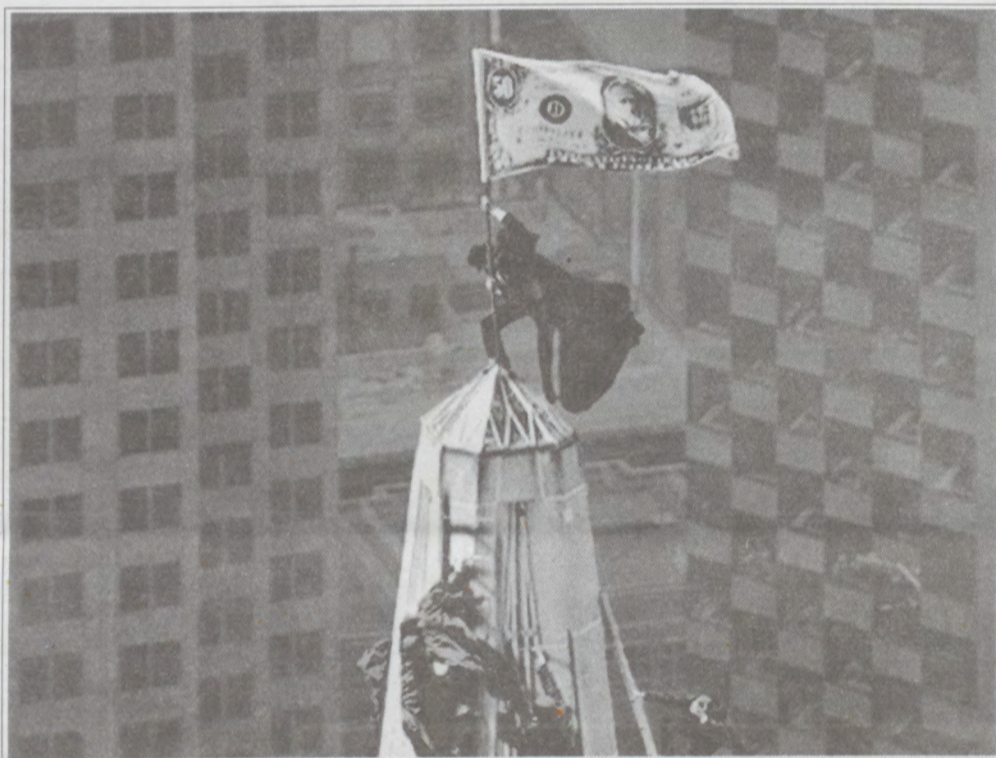
cles and hardware is fast, because of landscape conditions. The national nonprofit organization FIRST is responsible for most of the funding of these operations. Some of our costs are covered by the Arad municipality and some by the IDF. Donations and funds from the Ministries of Internal Affairs, Tourism and Education comprise the balance of our budget. Last year, funding was extremely scarce because the local municipality and all the government agencies were in budget constraints.

The rescue trip to Turkey, for which we incurred \$25,000 in expenses, was not budgeted at all. Despite the cost, no one refused to go, including our local car electrician who paid the seven days absence from work out of his own pocket. The Arad Rescue Team, came to Tchercherchik about 50 miles east of Istanbul to provide

medical assistance. They used their skills to rescue six people from the ruins.

Eli told me one of the stories of how he rescued a 50-year-old lady buried under 100 tons of concrete. The Turks heard a voice after 36 hours and managed to drill a hole of about 20 inches in diameter. No one had the courage to enter the hole, so Eli took a flashlight and crawled for about 25 feet to find the lady with two walls on her legs and spine. With a lot of skills and improvisation, a car jack, a few pieces of wood, and eight hours of hard work in the dark he succeeded in freeing the lady and saving her life.

It takes a lot of course, experience and great skills to be a member of the Arad Rescue Team. We were proud to be a part of this international rescue effort.



When you set out to build your future in the financial world, just be sure you have the right set of tools. There's no shortage of financial products out there. But how do you know what's best for you? At First Union®, our trust specialists will help you define your financial objectives, manage your



portfolio and, most importantly, preserve and grow your capital. So you can achieve your long-term goals. Or, if you prefer, your short-term goals. To find out more, come to the financial mountain called First Union.

Gerry McShane has 25 years of experience in the financial services industry. He studied finance and accounting at Widener University and attended the Cannon Trust School. He has several years of experience in investment management services. He is a member of the Delaware Estate Planning Council and Wilmington Tax Group.



Call (302) 552-3158 or visit us in Wilmington at 300 Delaware Avenue, Suite 900  
gerard.mcshane@firstunion.com

Gerard J. McShane  
Vice President



## Act Now To See Israel For Free This Winter!

The University of Delaware Hillel has been deluged with phone calls from Jewish college students interested in the 20 slots made available to the local Hillel from Birthright Israel. Call Renee Shatz,

Hillel executive director at 453-0479, to apply for this 10-day, all expenses paid adventure to Israel designed for first-time travelers. Deadline for applications is September 30 so call today!

## 8th Grade Trip To Israel

If you fit the following requirements, come to a meeting on **Thursday, September 30 at 6:30 PM at the Jewish Community Center**

- ✓ 8th grade student
- ✓ In Hebrew High School
- ✓ Want to go on an awesome trip to Israel for a week!

Call  
**(302) 478-5660**  
for more information



# FEDERATION FOCUS

## Telushkin Keynotes Major JFD Event

By Lynn Edelman

Rabbi Joseph Telushkin, prolific author and lecturer, will keynote the Sunday, October 17th Dinner of Commitment in celebration of the Year 2000 Federation/UJA Campaign. Rabbi Telushkin will speak about "Jewish Humor: What the Best Jewish Jokes Say About the Jews"-the subject of one of his most critically acclaimed books. According to Larry Gelbart, author of the films M.A.S.H. and Tootsie, "I don't know if Jews are really the chosen people, but I think that Telushkin's book makes a strong argument that we are the funniest."

One of Telushkin's biggest fans is Harry David Zutz, who is chair-

ing the Dinner along with his wife, Gladys. "I am very impressed with Rabbi Telushkin's sense of humor and with his contemporary knowledge of Jewish affairs," he said, exhorting everyone to read his works.

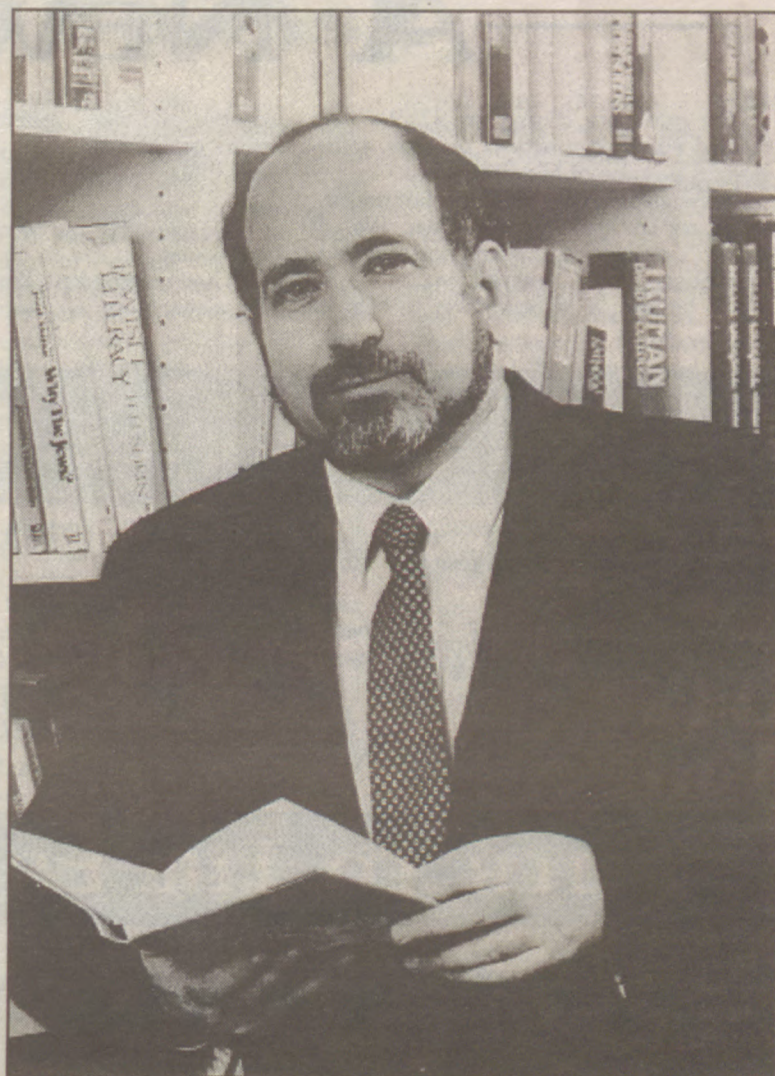
His 1997 novel, *An Eye for An Eye*, became the basis for four episodes of David Kelley's Emmy Award winning television series *The Practice*. Another book, authored in 1997, *Biblical Literacy: The Most Important People, Events and Ideas of the Hebrew Bible*, was a Book of the Month Club Selection.

Telushkin is also the author of "Jewish Literacy: The Most Important Things to Know About

the Jewish Religion, Its People and Its History-a popular gift for B'nai Mitzvot and other Jewish lifecycle events.

The Dinner of Commitment, honors all Delawareans who make a minimum gift of \$10,000 to the annual campaign. This year, dinner attendees will be treated to a special viewing of "From Al's to Zutz," a salute to Delaware's Jewish Business Tradition at the Delaware History Museum. The exhibit is co-sponsored by the Jewish Historical Society and The Historical Society of Delaware.

Cost for the dinner is \$65. For additional information, please call Rhonda Falk, campaign director, at 427-2100, ext. 16.



## JFD Professionals Participate In Institute

Rhonda Falk, JFD Campaign Director and Rachel Gross, JFD Director of Endowments, will participate in the sixth cycle of the Tri State Institute for Jewish Communal Professionals. The Delaware contingency to this Institute which begins on October 10th will also include Renee Shatz, Executive Director of the

University of Delaware Hillel.

The Institute, under the leadership of its new Director, Merle Berman, M.S.S., develops leadership within the Jewish communal field through a year-long professional development seminar for men and women in upper middle management. Students are

matched with a mentor to support their growth. This prestigious program is affiliated with The University of Pennsylvania School of Social Work and Gratz College.

Limited openings are available for the October 10th Institute. For further information, please call Berman, at (215) 893-5650.

## JCRC Begins Fall Meetings Educators Learn The Lessons Of The Holocaust

By Sue Shaffer, JCRC Director

Join other concerned community members and be a part of the JCRC. Our first meeting of the program year is set for Thursday, October 7, 12:00-1:30 p.m. at the Community Services Building, 100 West 10th Street in Wilmington. If you are interested in attending, please call Sue Shaffer, JCRC Director, at (302)427-2100, ext. 17; or e-mail Sue at Shalomdel@aol.com.

The Jewish Community Relations Committee (JCRC), co-chaired by Susan Coonin and Matt Denn, is the public affairs arm of the Jewish Federation of Delaware (JFD). Through the JCRC, the Jewish community interacts with the community at large. JCRC works with government leaders and the media as an advocate for Israel, combats anti-Israel propaganda in the media and the general community, and promotes policies in keeping with Jewish values and the welfare of the Jewish people. JCRC combats anti-Semitism and other forms of

bigotry and racism, and seeks civil rights for all members of the community. JCRC participates in programs and community coalitions to enhance good relations among different religious and cultural groups.

JCRC provides educational opportunities for school administrators and teachers to heighten sensitivity on issues of religion in public schools; tracks violations of the First Amendment in public schools and assists with resolution; and produces and distributes a 10-year Jewish calendar to assist school administrators.

JCRC's Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Center promotes education about the Holocaust: The Holocaust Education Center provides: a lending collection of books and tapes housed at the Concord Pike Library; coordinates a Speakers Bureau; offers educational seminars for teachers; provides assistance for curriculum development in public schools and coordinates an annual interdenominational Yom HaShoah program.

By Sue Shaffer, JCRC Director

The Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Center recently organized a trip to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. The program was designed primarily for teachers through the Delaware Teacher Center, as part of their Professional Development and Content Area Courses program. Participating teachers who completed a lesson plan based on their experiences received in-service credit. Dr. Margaret Crouch, a Holocaust

scholar and member of the Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Committee, presented historical background during the bus ride to Washington, DC.

Forty-five travelers, gave excellent evaluations of this program, which has been offered by the Federation-sponsored Holocaust Education Committee for several years. Because this trip was a sell-out, the Committee will probably offer it again. It is an outstanding opportunity to teach our state's teachers about the Holocaust.

### SAVE THESE DATES!

Wednesday, September 22nd  
Lion of Judah Reception  
New York Matinee Performance  
of  
"The Gathering"

Sunday, October 17th  
Dinner of Commitment  
Delaware History Museum  
Rabbi Joseph Telushkin, Author

October 31st - November 8th  
Federation Mission to Israel

Sunday, January 9th or 16th  
Generation to Generation Reception  
(originally known at the Chai Dinner)  
Details to follow

Friday, February 4th and Saturday, February 5th  
Federation Shabbat with Danny Siegel  
Well-known author, lecturer and poet

**The Jewish Fund for the Future notes with great sadness, the passing of Leo ZefTel z"l. Among his many achievements in the Delaware Jewish community, he was instrumental in the establishment of the Fund. May the ZefTel family be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.**  
**The Jewish Fund for the Future**

### YOU & I CAN CHANGE THE WORLD!

The Jewish Federation of Delaware invites you to the Lion of Judah Reception on behalf of the 2000 Annual Campaign

A special New York Matinee Performance of "The Gathering" currently starring Theodore Bikel on Wednesday, September 22, 1999

Lion of Judah Reception Chairperson Ellen Koniver

The Lion of Judah event welcomes and honors women contributing a minimum of \$5000 to the 2000 Jewish Federation of Delaware/UJA Annual Campaign.

Our community's needs are many. Please consider increasing and/or endowing your gift.

Couvert of \$50 includes play, round-trip transportation to New York and lunch. Luxury bus will leave from the JCC at 9:00 a.m. and return at approximately 6:00 p.m.

For more information, please call 302-427-2100, Ext. 16.



# EDITORIAL

## A NEW BEGINNING

The gates are closing on 5759—a year marked by random acts of violence and a glorious promise of Mid-East peace.

In the waning days of a year fast ending, we set our spiritual houses in order. We ask for G-d's guidance in making ourselves better spouses, parents and children.

We beseech a higher power to help us

control our baser instincts and ignite the spark of the divine that is in each and every one of us.

We pray that our world leaders will find the courage to rise above petty partisan politics and commit both time and resources to the global goals of peace and prosperity.

We ask G-d to bless Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and PLO leader Yasser Arafat as they move beyond the Selichot signing of the new Sharm Accords and resolve the issues that may stalemate final status negotiations.

May the author of our destiny guide

Syrian President Hafez Assad, Egyptian leader Hosni Mubarak and Jordan's King Hussein along the path to peace.

5760—a new year, a new decade dawns. May we celebrate with a renewed commitment to *tikkun olam*—repairing the world with the salve of *shalom*!

### MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERS

Dear Members of the Delaware Jewish Community,

The Jewish Federation and its beneficiary agencies are responding to the terrible tragedy at the JCC in Los Angeles with the following measures:

a. A security guard is making

rounds on the Garden of Eden Road Campus.

b. Agency staff members have been trained in emergency procedures.

c. A security evaluation is being conducted by the head of security of MBNA.

d. Measures are being taken to assure that all doors except main entrances are locked.

e. Handbooks on security written by the ADL have been distributed by our JCRC Committee to every agency and synagogue in the State of Delaware.

f. The Board of Directors of the

Jewish Federation will meet to consider further recommendations once the evaluation is completed.

Please be assured that security is **always** our primary concern. Because of the recent shooting incident and the High Holidays,

these extra precautions have been implemented.

Sincerely,  
Judy Wortman,  
Executive Vice President  
Jewish Federation of Delaware

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

#### Neutral Or Partisan?

Dear Editor:

A recent article by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency erroneously reported that the left-wing Israel Policy Forum is "a group founded to support the Oslo peace process."

In fact, the Israel Policy Forum was established long before the Oslo accords. It was created by Israel's Labor Party in order to promote Labor's political aims among American Jews.

When Jonathan Jacoby, president of Americans for Peace Now, was chosen to organize the Israel Policy Forum in December 1992—ten months before the Oslo accords—the Jewish Telegraphic Agency itself reported: "The president of Americans for Peace Now is stepping down from his post to head a new organization aimed at building U.S. support for Israel's Labor Party. Sources say Jonathan Jacoby has been tapped by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Labor Party Secretary Nissim Zivli to take charge of the Labor-allied mis-

sion."

Likewise, in April 1993—six months before the Oslo accords—the JTA itself reported: "Jacoby headed Americans for Peace Now until recently, when Rabin's Labor Party tapped him to create an American organization to support the party's ideas. While the nascent group's nature and function—not to mention its name—have yet to be defined, the decision to put Jacoby on the payroll speaks to the perceived need in Jerusalem to do more to gain American Jewish support."

The Israel Policy Forum cannot claim to be a neutral organization that merely supports "peace" or "the Oslo accords." It has a partisan political agenda, because it was established by a foreign political party, to serve that party's purposes abroad.

Sincerely,  
Morton A. Klein  
National President  
Zionist Organization of America



### SHABBAT Candle Lighting

SEPTEMBER

24TH — 6:39 PM

OCTOBER

1ST — 6:27 PM

8TH — 6:16 PM



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On behalf of the  
Board of Directors  
and the staff of the

Jewish Federation of Delaware

We wish our friends and extended families a  
Shana Tova Tikatevu.

May you be inscribed for a  
year of peace, health & fulfillment.

Barbara Schoenberg, President  
Judy Wortman, Executive Vice President

1999-5760





## A MATTER OF OPINION

# Conversion: It's Time To Ask

By Rabbi Eric H. Yoffie

More than twenty years have passed since Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler gave an extraordinary speech that shook North American Jewry to its very core. He said that the Reform Movement would not merely accept or tolerate converts to Judaism but would fully and enthusiastically embrace them. We would not sit shiva for our children who intermarried, but would welcome them into our synagogues, our families and our homes in the hope that the non-Jewish partners would ultimately convert to Judaism and if not, that they would commit themselves to raising their children as Jews. We would continue to resist intermarriage, but we would not reject the intermarried.

Have we been successful? The easiest way to measure the extent of our impact is to ask: What would have happened had that speech not been given?

In the absence of Outreach, tens of thousands of intermarried couples who are now members of our congregations would have been forever lost to the Jewish people. Innumerable Jews who have married non-Jews would have been denied any but the slimmest hope of a Jewish future. Resentment and the sting of rejection would have been the lot of many who, instead, have found a

secure place in our community. There would have been far fewer Jews-by-choice, and they would still be subjected to ambivalent and even hostile attitudes.

The Outreach initiative has stirred considerable criticism, which can be reduced to a single argument: that Outreach has, in effect, encouraged and justified intermarriage and is therefore hastening the destruction of the Jewish people. This is pure nonsense. Intermarriage is a product of modernity, and no Jewish group, including the Orthodox, has found a way to keep Jews from marrying non-Jews.

But our success has raised some thorny issues. When a Jew marries a non-Jew, and with our encouragement joins a synagogue, how is the non-Jewish partner to be seen? In the real world, Outreach is not a cause of intermarriage but a response to it — one that is necessarily partial but exceedingly effective.

In the best of circumstances, the non-Jewish partner will see himself or herself and will be seen by temple members as having the status of a *ger toshav*: the stranger who lives among Jews, who has not adopted the Jewish faith but has acquired Jewish customs, values, and friends. The *ger toshav* is granted exceptional privileges and

protection by biblical law.

Not every non-Jewish spouse fits this category, but the Reform Movement assumes that the non-Jew who has married a Jew and joined a synagogue is positively inclined toward identification with our people and tradition. By conveying our unequivocal acceptance and offering an enthusiastic welcome, the non-Jewish spouse often comes to see herself or himself as a *ger toshav*, sharing the values of Judaism and participating in the rituals and the customs of our community.

The question then arises: should we urge the non-Jewish spouse to convert? And if so, how and when?

Most non-Jews who are part of synagogue life expect that we will ask them to convert; they come from a background where asking for this kind of commitment is natural and normal, and they are more than a little perplexed when we fail to do so.

We can ask, but should not pressure. We can encourage, but should not insist. If someone expresses unwillingness, we must respect that; and if someone says, "I'm not ready," we must listen. If we pursue conversion with a heavy hand, the result could be anger and resentment.

But none of this is a reason for inaction. And the fact is that we

usually do not ask.

My conversations with both rabbis and lay leaders lead me to believe that in most instances we do not encourage conversion by non-Jewish spouses in our synagogues. Perhaps this bespeaks a natural reluctance to do what we fear will give rise to an awkward or uncomfortable situation. Or perhaps we have been so successful in making non-Jews feel comfortable in our congregations that we have inadvertently sent the message that we neither want nor expect conversion. But whatever the reason, alongside our lengthy list of Outreach successes, this must be counted at least a partial failure.

We must ask ourselves: What must rabbis do? What must lay leaders do? Are our synagogues sending the right message? Are we offering significant public recognition to non-Jewish spouses who become Jews, as a means of encouraging them and others?

Despite our accomplishments, we cannot take for granted the acceptance and integration of Jews-by-choice and intermarried couples into our synagogues. The changes that we have witnessed are indeed immensely encouraging, but the Outreach revolution is so radically new that it would be a mistake to become complacent.

To those who still say that there

is too much Outreach, I would respond that we are not doing enough. What is required, I believe, is both institutional and personal commitment. We need movement-wide programs, and the efforts of individual Reform Jews who care and do this work one-on-one. We need national initiatives, and Reform synagogue members who will extend their hands and share with others a joyous holiday celebration.

Will we attract enormous numbers of intermarried couples and unaffiliated Jews? We cannot tell for certain. But even if we draw in only 20 percent of those on the periphery, we will have added upwards of half a million Jews to the ranks of the Jewishly committed.

In any case, our ultimate motivation is not about numbers; it is about faith. We do the work that we do because we are confident that being a Reform Jew deepens one's love of God, promotes the practice of Torah, and strengthens our shared destiny as a holy people. There is no greater joy than sharing with others the power and the beauty of our sacred tradition. (Rabbi Eric H. Yoffie is president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.)

# Battling Cancer And Fighting For Freedom

By Ben Caspit

It began with a slight discomfort, that gave way to pain, that began to get worse and worse. Then came the check-ups, x-rays, and biopsies. The result: in February, this year, Esther Pollard received the news that she had been stricken with cancer.

Esther was terrified of how the news would affect her husband Jonathan and hesitated to tell him. After 14 years of incarceration in the U.S. for espionage on behalf of Israel, Jonathan is not well himself. In the end, she had no choice but to tell him.

"I was aware that Esther had some sort of medical problem," Pollard recalls, "but I had no idea it could be something this devastating. I thought it was something marginal. I remember clearly the day she told me.

"I remember I was standing in the prison phone booth. I remember she was saying something about cancer and I started to black out. I became completely detached from the world. I reeled backwards and my back hit the glass back of the telephone booth. I slid down and slumped on floor. The receiver was still dangling from the telephone, hanging there in front of my chest. I could still hear Esther's voice as I just sat there with my head in my hands and cried, asking myself over and over again what else is going to happen to us?"

Jonathan and Esther Pollard — each in their own way for more than six months, have been waging a battle with the cancer that threat-

ens to end their love. Shortly after being diagnosed, Esther Pollard underwent an operation and a cancerous lump was removed from one of her breasts. An operation on the other breast also yielded up another lump, which fortunately turned out to be benign.

Following the operation, Esther refused to undergo chemotherapy. The reason: her insistence on hanging on to the possibility of bringing a child into the world with Jonathan.

Until now, the couple has kept this story secret. Today, on the eve of Esther Pollard's arrival in Israel to seek a meeting with the Prime Minister and other officials, she and Jonathan decided to end their silence.

Esther Pollard: "No one even knew that I was sick. But then, no one ever asked either. We are completely alone in this affair. When I told Jonathan, he was devastated. He went into total shock. Until now, I was always taking care of him — he has an endless number of medical problems and none of them are getting any better. Now suddenly, he had to take care of me, and he had absolutely no way to do so. Since Ehud Barak came to power, the Israeli government has cut off all contact with us so even if Jonathan wanted to ask for help, there was no one to ask."

The way things were, the only one who was able to help was Esther's mother, Rose. Age 72, with severe diabetes and with a serious heart condition as a result, this elderly woman comforted her

son-in-law, Jonathan Pollard and told him that she would travel from Montreal to Toronto to be at Esther's bedside throughout her operation and recovery. Jonathan, who up until then had been inconsolable, took a deep breath and swallowed hard. He knew that his mother-in-law was in very poor health herself, and he also understood that there also was no other option.

Esther herself, had fewer reservations. "I was terrified that my mother would not survive the trip. I begged her not to come. She wouldn't listen."

Rose traveled from Montreal to Toronto by bus, took up position in the hospital and selflessly cared for her daughter. Then she returned to Montreal and had a major heart attack. She never really recovered. In between lengthy hospitalizations and treatments, two more heart attacks followed. The doctors had given up hope. "They told us, that she would not make it through the night. They told us to prepare ourselves for the end. We began to make funeral arrangements. As we were doing so, in a complete and unanticipated miracle, my mother revived."

Now her mother is undergoing rehabilitation. "She will never be what she used to be. She can't go home any more. She has had to give up her own house and move to a residence. Even with the extra care she receives, her health is very fragile from moment to moment," Esther explains.

"And in the midst of the treat-

ment I am receiving, — first radiation and then follow-up care goes on for the next 5 years — I am busy running back and forth between the prison in North Carolina to take care of Jonathan, and to Montreal to take care of my mother and back to Toronto for my myself and then the cycle begins again."

**Not One Cancer, But Two**

Pollard himself, speaking from prison: "I took Esther's illness very personally. It felt to me as if fate were conspiring to rob me of all that I have — of my chances, my hopes, my dreams, my future. I am angry with this miserable government of ours that is responsible for the fact that I wasn't able to hold my wife, to comfort her, to laugh with her, to be by her side for the operation, to wait for the results, which was very hard to do. And then the weeks after the operation. It was Hell. Esther and I were completely alone. There wasn't a single person from the Government of Israel that I could turn to. Not a single ear that I could whisper into. 'Please. Help us. Do something for Esther. For me. Support us. Please.' — There was no one to talk to at all."

In Pollard's words, they aren't battling just one cancer, but two. "One is the cancer that has stricken Esther. The other is the cancer of the hatred of the politicians towards me. I hope that Esther's cancer is in remission. But I know that the cancer of the government is still metastasizing. As long as Esther has a chance to live, I have

a chance. And I blame this cancer that has stricken both of us, on the government."

Pollard has no criticism of his wife's decision to refuse chemotherapy. "It was her decision, and it reflects her total commitment to raising a family with me, without consideration of the danger to herself. I wish the government of Israel would have a scintilla of the kind of courage that she has, when it comes to what it takes to bring an agent home.

Esther Pollard is expected to arrive in Israel today. Ever since Ehud Barak's victory in the elections, the Israeli political establishment has cut all contact with Pollard. The man into whose hands the Pollard file has fallen, is Dani Yatom. The couple disparagingly call him "the address". The problem is, this address doesn't answer. People who have spoken to him have reported to the Pollards that Yatom has no intention of lifting a finger for them. A source close to both sides told Jonathan Pollard that when anyone brings up his name, Yatom makes a face as if he were going to vomit. "We have already done everything for him" said Yatom, according to this source. "Now, there is nothing more to do. We will wait for an opportunity."

A few weeks ago, the Pollards' attorney, Larry Dub, sent two letters to the Prime Minister's office: one to the Prime Minister himself, requesting an urgent meeting (for

Continued on page 13



# SINGLES MINGLE

## Fall Fun For Jewish Singles

Young Jewish Singles of Delaware, men and women in their 20s and 30s, invite community members to join them for a number of fun-filled activities in the weeks ahead.

Spend Sukkot at the University of Delaware's Hillel Sukkah. Enjoy a bagel brunch and meet new friends, on Sunday, Sept. 26th at 1:30 p.m. In case of rain, festivities will be moved indoors. Hillel is located at 47 West Delaware Avenue, 1 block west of South College Avenue in Newark. Cost of the program is \$5. Reserve by September 23rd by calling Jonathan at 793-1943.

Celebrate Simchat Torah in traditional fashion at Chabad Lubavitch. This free event will be held Saturday, October 2nd, 7:30 p.m., 1306 Grinnell Road, just off Silverside Road in Green Acres. Food and fun galore for those who

reserve by September 29th by calling Jonathan at 793-1943.

Sample the wines produced by Smithbridge Cellars Winery in Chadds Ford, PA. Tour, taste and stay for lunch. Just \$13 for everything! Meet at the winery, located on Rte. 202 just off Rte. 1, on Sunday, October 17, 11 a.m. Call Phil at 563-5700 by October 11th to register.

Think Halloween is kids stuff? YAD has a full evening planned for grown-ups only on Saturday, October 30th. Start off with dinner at Lamberti's, then head over to Bellevue State Park for a "non-haunted" hayride. Stay to schmooze around a blazing bonfire. Dinner begins at 5 p.m. and is pay as you go. The hayride starts at 7 p.m. sharp. This annual event is a sell-out, so make your reservation by October 27th. Call Phil at 563-5700.

## Mingle With Singles at Beth Emeth

Make new friends in 5760. Join Singles Mingles at its next planning meeting, Sunday, October 3rd, 4 p.m. at Congregation Beth Emeth in Wilmington. The group is designed for men and women ages 40 and over who are widowed or divorced. For additional information, please call Miriam Weiner at 478-6897.

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The Delaware Jewish community is committed to life-long Jewish learning. In this spirit, the Adult Institute of Jewish Studies offers a six-week series of classes on Jewish ethics, mysticism, arts and culture, sacred texts and a wide-variety of other interesting topics. Begun in 1991, this popular evening program has expanded to two locations. This year, courses will be offered on Tuesday evenings, October 12 through November 16 at Temple Beth El in Newark and on Wednesday evenings, October 13 through November 17, at the Jewish Community Center in Wilmington. Courses are taught by community rabbis, cantors, educators and other talented professionals.

Chaired by Arnold Harris, the Institute is sponsored by Albert Einstein Academy, Gratz Hebrew High School, Hillel Association, Jewish Community Center, Jewish Family Service, Jewish Federation of Delaware, and Northern Delaware synagogues. Please call Harris at 475-7066 to receive a course schedule.

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# JEWISH HERITAGE

## High Holiday Kick-Off For Hebrew Literacy Campaign

The National Jewish Outreach Program (NJOP) has selected the Jewish high holidays to kick-off its READ HEBREW AMERICA/READ HEBREW CANADA '99 campaign. This year's campaign is expected to attract 20,000 Jews to learn to read Hebrew throughout North America during the month of November. Its organizers predict that it will be the most extensive Hebrew literacy campaign ever undertaken by any organization.

The University of Delaware Hillel, Chabad of the University of Delaware, Chabad Lubavitch, Temple Beth El in Newark and the Jewish Community Center in North Wilmington are among the 750 locations across the United States and Canada which will offer NJOP Hebrew literacy courses. Last year, 15,000 North American Jews learned to read Hebrew during these programs.

NJOP has set the launch of RHA/RHC 99 to coincide with the holiest days on the Jewish calendar since it is the time when non-Hebrew literate Jews feel the most

inadequate about their inability to read the mother tongue of their religion. By offering non-Hebrew literate Jews the ability to quickly and easily learn the language, NJOP hopes to help as many Jews as possible feel comfortable fully participating in synagogue services and other Jewish rituals in the future.

"During the High Holidays, Jews of every denomination and level of practice gather in synagogues to reaffirm their spiritual commitment to Judaism and resolve to increase their participation in Jewish life in the upcoming year," commented Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald, founder and director of NJOP. "For thousands of Jews, I can think of no better way to achieve a strong foundation for future participation in Jewish rituals, customs, and prayers than to take part in Read Hebrew America/Read Hebrew Canada '99."

To stress the importance of Hebrew literacy to the long-term continuity of Judaism, major

Jewish organizations including the Orthodox Union (OU), the Rabbinical Council of America (Rabbinical arm of the OU), and the USCJ (United States Conservative Judaism) are urging their membership-base to participate in RHA/RHC '99. Also helping to raise awareness for NJOP's Hebrew literacy campaign are such major national Jewish organizations as the Jewish National Fund, Hillel (Foundation for Jewish Campus Life), and United Jewish Communities (formally the UJA Federation and the CJF).

While no surveys or studies specifically report on the state of Hebrew literacy in North America, experts agree that, at an absolute minimum, 80% of all North American Jews do not know how to read Hebrew. The basis for this statistic is the 1990 National Jewish Population Study, Council of Jewish Federations, which documents the growing rate of Jewish assimilation in North America.

According to the Study, of approximately 6 million North American Jews, 2 million no longer identify themselves as Jews, 2 million are not affiliated with any Jewish organization, and 1.2 million are marginally affiliated, meaning they rarely attend synagogue and have little to do with any aspect of Jewish life.

RHA/RHC '99 is based on NJOP's popular Hebrew Reading Crash Course, which, since 1987, has taught over 200,000 North American Jews to read the Hebrew language. Designed for Jews with little or no background in the Hebrew language, the program concentrates on teaching the Hebrew alphabet and basic reading skills. Additionally, a level-two program is available to those who are interested in further advancing their Hebrew reading and compre-

hension skills. As with their year-round Hebrew Reading Crash Courses, NJOP will provide free Hebrew primers for each student, as well as its free instruction manual and flash-cards to RHA/RHC '99 volunteer instructors. Below are the names and phone numbers for Read Hebrew America courses offered in Delaware:

Renee Shatz, University of Delaware Hillel, 453-0479  
 Rabbi Eliezer Sneiderman, Chabad, University of Delaware, 455-1800  
 Rabbi Chuni Vogel, Chabad Lubavitch, 478-4400  
 Rabbi David Kaplan, Temple Beth El, 366-8330  
 Ivy Harlev, JCC, 478-5660

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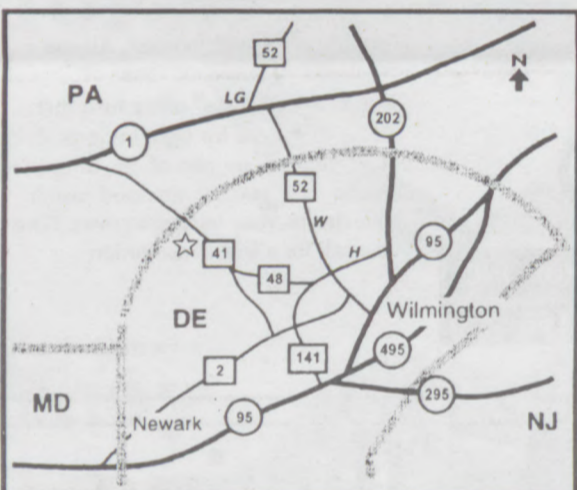
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## SYNAGOGUE LIFE

# New Clergy For The New Year

## Congregation Beth Emeth Welcomes New Cantor and Assistant Rabbi

By Lynn Edelman, Editor

A new year is a time for new beginnings. If Rabbi Peter Grumbacher has his way, 5760 will mark the beginning of a long and happy tenure for Cantor Michael Mandel and Assistant Rabbi Seth Stander – two new additions to the Wilmington synagogue's family.

Cantor Mandel, a native of Havana, Cuba, made Congregation history when he joined the staff over the summer. He is the first full-time cantor in Beth Emeth's 90 year history!

At 43, with more than a decade of teaching experience under his belt, Mandel believes that he has the maturity to handle the demands of this exciting new role.

Beth Emeth is Mandel's second appointment in this second stage of his professional life. Mandel's solo at his nephew's bar mitzvah proved to be a milestone event for both men. "The cantor spoke to me after the service and insisted that I was in the wrong career." Upon reflection, Mandel realized that becoming a cantor would allow him to combine his singing skills – he has performed with the Choral Arts Society in Washington, D.C. and the Washington Opera Company – with his expertise in teaching languages to young people.

His teaching experience also came in handy when he enrolled at Hebrew Union College. "As one of the oldest students, I helped my classmates master the study skills they needed to succeed," he said.

Upon graduation, Mandel found employment as cantor for a 425 family Reform congregation in Redondo Beach, California. Although the weather was warm and the congregants were friendly, Mandel missed his friends and family on the East Coast.

He learned about the Wilmington opening last November while he was in New York performing for the 50th anniversary of HUC's School of Sacred Music. He faxed his resume to Beth Emeth's Search Committee and they invited him in for an interview.

"It was Thanksgiving weekend, and the full 15-person committee left their homes to meet with me, Mandel recalls, adding that "I was amazed to see more than 30 people sitting in the sanctuary listening to my audition."

Mandel is excited about the opportunity to work with the Congregation's bar and bat mitzvah students and looks forward to sharing his love of the Hebrew language with adult congregants who want to learn to chant and read prayers.

Like Mandel, Assistant Rabbi Seth Stander started at Beth Emeth in July. Unfortunately, his personal belongings arrived 10 days after he and his new bride, Margot did. The couple, married in a civil ceremony shortly before they left Memphis, Tennessee where Rabbi Stander interned at Temple Israel, will

return to the Reform synagogue in February "for the Jewish wedding we didn't have time for."

He is overwhelmed by the warm reception that he has received from the Beth Emeth congregation and from "all the clergy who have called to welcome me since I have arrived in town."

Shortly after his arrival, Rabbi Grumbacher – with whom Stander developed an "instant rapport," hosted a reception in his honor for the spiritual leaders of all of Delaware's synagogues. "I was very impressed by the spirit of cooperation and friendship in our religious community," said Stander.

Stander, who grew up in Syracuse, New York – the product of a classic Reform education – is also impressed by how Beth Emeth blends the classic reform traditions with contemporary Reform rituals and liturgy. "This congregation has great respect for the needs of all its congregants," he explained.

Stander's own Jewish education went on hiatus after his Bar-Mitzvah. "I had absolutely no interest in joining a synagogue youth group or going on for confirmation," he said.

Participation in the National Federation of Temple Youth's (NFTY) inside Israel program when he was 18 literally turned his life around. "After I returned from Israel, I attended Siena College, a small but highly regarded school," said Stander, who remained on



Cantor Michael Mandel



Assistant Rabbi Seth Stander

campus for little more than a week. "When I toured the campus and found a monastery, I knew that I strayed too far from my roots," he said.

Stander returned to Israel for a mini-semester sponsored by NFTY at Hebrew Union College's Jerusalem campus. He remained in Israel for several months after the program ended, staying with host families and working for a time on a kibbutz.

He came back to the United States in 1988 and began an eclectic series of jobs including creating maps for the Census Bureau and counseling juveniles in a program sponsored by Catholic Charities.

In 1990, he went back to Israel for a visit and spent time on a Reform kibbutz. "I decided that I wanted to become a professional Jew and make a real difference in the lives of my people," he said.

Stander enrolled at the State

University of New York's Binghamton campus and earned a B.A. degree in Judaic Studies. While in rabbinic school, he served as a student rabbi at congregations from Pine Bluff, Arkansas to Flagstaff, Arizona.

While he has enjoyed his travels which have transported him back to his heritage, he looks forward to setting down roots in Wilmington's Jewish community.

## Satlow Celebrates First Year At Beth Shalom

by Bonnie Falchuk

Delaware may be suffering from excessive heat and drought, but the news hasn't reached the flowers at Congregation Beth Shalom in Wilmington. The plants, which are growing in planters along the parking lot, are thriving. At the time of this writing, roses, petunias, black-eyed Susans and portulacas were blooming profusely.

It was on August 1, 1998 that Rabbi Daniel Satlow became the rabbi at Beth Shalom. And one year later, these flowers seem symbolic of the way things are going there: Pretty well indeed.

A graduate of the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, Rabbi Satlow had been Assistant Rabbi at Temple Valley Beth Shalom in Encino, California. For the Wayne, Pennsylvania native, coming to Wilmington was practically coming home.

What has this first year been like for him and the congregation?

One of the major aims, he says, was to develop a feel for the synagogue and to get to know as many members as possible. With the membership growing – it's now approximately 475 families – that will of necessity be an ongoing process. He is especially pleased to be developing a good rapport with those preparing to become a Bar

or Bat Mitzvah. "We're of a size where I can get to know each one," he says, adding that the connection with the kids would ideally continue.

Younger children and their parents are another focus for Rabbi Satlow and the congregation. "There's a feeling that the synagogue's children are your children – we're on the right path with that," he says. He mentions the Tot Shabbat program, which has been kept alive and thriving through the efforts of young, committed families, as something that "really bodes well for our future. It's really thrived and at least doubled in size." During the summer months, the group meets at different families' houses, and everyone helps out with each others' children. "There's a real communal feel to it," he says.

Also doing well are the Shabbats under the Stars, which are held across from the synagogue building in Brandywine Park. People bring a dairy or parve potluck supper and blankets or lawn chairs for sharing a meal outdoors. The prayers afterward then feel "like a natural outgrowth of the experience, and people respond to that," he says. The outdoor setting and informality are great for children, but people of all ages attend.

Attendance at Shabbat morning services has picked up, he says, and along with that, the level of participation in the services is increasing.

What does the future hold? Rabbi Satlow would like to see the present upward membership trends continue. He's considering ways to have more going on during the daytime, including perhaps programs for retirees. A group of Hebrew school parents is also a possibility.

Rabbi Satlow describes his role as including being a facilitator, saying that a great many good things go on at the synagogues due to the continuing combined efforts of many members. He mentions the morning minyan, which has been

meeting for years, as an example, calling it "very strong," and describes the congregation as becoming more fully aware of the talents and resources they already have. He would like to see a focus on people's talents and gifts, and not only in the context of fundraising. Growth in membership has eased financial concerns, freeing up energy for an increased focus on larger issues. "And it's been nice bringing the resources I have to those of Beth Shalom," he says, mentioning the singing group Nerunana, with which he had been connected and came to his installation last October. With so many people involved in building on past achievements and new ideas, things are looking good. "We're on the right path," he says.





# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Remembering Bernstein

By Paula Shulak

It has been many years since I saw Leonard Bernstein, Jerome Robbins, and Stephen Sondheim's magnificent interpretation of the classic Romeo and Juliet saga, but I am happy to say that those years have not dimmed the genius of WEST SIDE STORY one bit. And the production currently at the Media Theater is one well worth seeing. The show is as topical as today's headlines which once again proves Shakespeare's genius. It is, however, the vibrant choreography of Brian Blythe and Kristin Madden

which deserves special plaudits. I am not sure how much they followed the original choreography of the show but to translate this energetic dancing to a stage as small as Media's was no small feat. The clever chain link fence setting was also unique and very effective.

Director Jesse Cline and Music Director Scott Bradley mined this well known show for all it was worth and their casting of relative unknown Susan Derry as the innocent Maria was a very good idea. She brought sparkle and vitality as well as a magnificent singing voice

to the role, although I was a bit disappointed in the finale which Maria must carry and tear into the audience's heartstrings as she buries her beloved. She fell a bit short in this scene. Tony, played by Allan Snyder, looked the part but seemed to sing a little flat on occasion and could not totally meet the demands of the role. But it was Matt Toronto as Riff, Michael San Giovanni as Bernardo and Lyn Philistine as Anita along with the entire dancing chorus who really brought the show to life. Their interpretations of Bernstein's unbelievable music along with their stylized, energetic dancing were the apex of the evening. You could see the arms and legs flying at incredible angles on such a small stage and wonder how no one ever bumped into anyone else. In particular the gang rumble was magnificent as was the Officer Krupke number. And musically, the duets One Hand, One Heart and A Boy Like That deserve mention. All in all this is a fine production. It will play at the Media Theatre on State Street until October 10. Tickets from \$37 to \$43 are available by calling 610-566-4020. Dinner is available before the show for an additional fee.



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## NATIONAL • INTERNATIONAL

# UJC Takes First Major Changes

By Julia Goldman, JTA

United Jewish Communities-UJC- North America's umbrella fund-raising and social service organization will start 5760 with several major innovations.

Organizational shifts approved this week by the UJC would make Jerusalem and Washington the centers for overseas concerns and for domestic services and policy, respectively.

Another significant change gives representatives of the synagogue movements one-third of the seats on the UJC committee for Jewish "renaissance and renewal."

It was up to a 21-member interim cabinet to approve proposals meant to re-energize and to streamline American Jewry's most broad-based means of raising communal funds and delivering social services.

Before being implemented, the proposals need final approval from decision-making bodies including an executive committee — that have yet to be created.

The recent cabinet meeting marked the latest stage in the merger of the Council of Jewish Federations, the United Jewish Appeal and the United Israel Appeal.

That union was forged in April, but still awaits the appointment of permanent governing bodies and a chief professional officer, as well as the legal approval of New York state.

The new system is designed as a national table where federations come together to set an agenda that will define the UJC's position on a range of communal concerns.

The national entity, in turn, will help federations execute the agenda on a local level by providing funding, expertise and information about successful projects and innovative programs.

UJC will focus on four major program areas-Israel and overseas; human services and social policy; campaign and fund-raising development; and Jewish continuity, defined by the UJC as renaissance and renewal. In addition to recommending that the Israel and Overseas department of UJC be headquartered in Jerusalem, the interim cabinet adopted the following proposals:

-Jerusalem-based "community consultants" would serve as liaisons in assisting North American Jewish communities to develop community-to-community relationships; these connections could

include helping a local donor fund a project in Israel or identifying 'sister' communities in the former Soviet Union.

- The office overseeing missions to Israel would move from New York to Jerusalem "where missions are actually planned and implemented."

- The Israel and Overseas department will represent the federation movement to the Israeli government on issues of national concern, such as the controversial "Who Is a Jew" question, and on community-based and national projects, such as the Birthright Israel initiative, which plans to provide all-expenses-paid first-time trips for Jewish youth.

- The North American Jewish community's traditional overseas partners — the Jewish Agency for Israel and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee — will coordinate a single approach for soliciting funds and communal cooperation on projects that the UJC determines to be "elective" needs.

- The UJC will replace the UIA — founded in 1925 as the United Palestine Appeal and which until now served as a conduit for communal funds to the Jewish Agency

— in appointing representatives to the agency's Board of Governors. The UIA will, in a more limited way, continue its mostly administrative role.

-Representatives of the UIA board, including representatives from Zionist movements, the task force recommends, should sit on the Israel and Overseas committee together with federation leaders who are influential in their communities and are committed to Israel and overseas needs.

In announcing the proposed system-wide changes, Joel Tauber, the UJC's executive committee chairman explained that "What occurred reflects what we've been hearing from federations, who are the new owners of the UJC."

According to Tauber, however, representatives of federations—having approved the CJF-UJA-UIA merger — also told the national leadership that they were not sure what they had agreed to do.

Tauber and Stephen Solender, the acting president of the UJC, together with other national lay and professional UJC, spoke to what they estimated to be 2,000 people this summer at various meetings.

That trip around the country

showed, Tauber said, that "there was not a clear understanding" of what ownership entailed in terms of rights and obligations.

Tauber said the UJC was planning to hire a consultant, who over the next few months would canvas federations for their "suggested definition of ownership."

Federation representatives should get a taste of ownership soon: Federations are now submitting names for UJC standing committees, and Tauber said the governing bodies — including the full board of trustees and executive committee — could be appointed by October, in advance of the UJC's General Assembly in Atlanta, scheduled to begin Nov. 17.

He was less specific when it came to discussing who would replace Solender as chief professional officer when his six-month contract ends in October.

The search for a permanent UJC president has dragged on for a year, but Tauber said only that the search committee discussions on "how we wish to move forward in that area" should be concluded by Sept. 15. The committee is currently reviewing several applicants, he said.

## Southern Baptist Urged To Pay for Jews During High Holidays

By Julie Wiener, JTA

During the High Holidays, a traditional time for Jewish soul-searching, a number of evangelical Christians will also be eyeing those souls.

In an effort Jewish leaders describe as "arrogant" and "offensive," an organization that claims to represent almost 16 million Southern Baptists is distributing a new booklet offering suggestions on how to pray that Jews find Jesus.

According to a Sept. 4 article in the Associated Press, the booklet offers background information on Jewish culture and urges Baptists to "pray for Jewish individuals you know by name."

The same Associated Press article quoted Randy Sprinkle, director of the convention's International Mission Board, as saying that the effort is "an act of love." "Christian intercessors are people of love," he is quoted saying. "They love the Jewish people, even scattered across the earth as they are, because God first loved the Jewish people."

The group also targets other non-Christians. It published a similar guide to help Christians pray for Muslims during Ramadan and plans to publish guides for prayer efforts focusing on Hindus and Buddhists.

Leaders of the organization could not be immediately reached for comment. Jewish critics see the

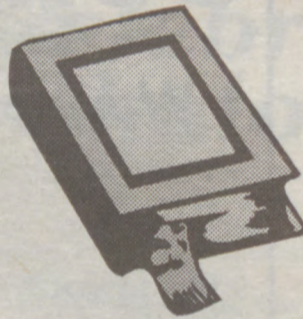
prayer effort as an outgrowth of the Southern Baptist Convention's vote three years ago to direct energies and resources toward converting Jews to Christianity.

Rabbi A. James Rudin, national interreligious affairs coordinator for the American Jewish Committee, said this is the first such prayer effort he knows of timed to coincide with the Jewish High Holidays.

"Many Southern Baptists, particularly politicians, want to put the Ten Commandments in schoolrooms and courtrooms, but this program counters two of the commandments: thou shalt not steal and thou shalt not covet," said Rudin, saying the action was equivalent to stealing Judaism from Jews and "expropriating the Jewish religion." "It's particularly offensive and it's not going to work," he said.

He said the International Mission Board does not represent all Southern Baptists, noting that the denomination includes those with more moderate beliefs.

Rabbi Eric Yoffie, president of the Reform movement's Union of American Hebrew Congregations, said, "We are deeply offended" by the effort. "We are particularly saddened that this campaign comes during the holiest time of the Jewish year, shortly after a number of violent, anti-Semitic acts have been committed in cities throughout America," he said.



According to Dr. Eugene Fisher, the sole prayer for the Jewish People in the Roman Catholic Liturgy is that of Good Friday. It is in between prayers "For the Unity of Christians" and "For those Who Do Not Believe in Christ," i.e. a distinct theological category all its own. The prayer reads:

VI. For the Jewish People  
Let us pray for the Jewish People

the first to hear the word of God,  
that they may continue to grow in the love of his Name  
and in faithfulness to his covenant.

(Silent prayer: then the priest says:)

Almighty and eternal God, long ago you gave your promise to Abraham and his posterity. Listen to your Church as we pray that the people you first made your own may arrive at the fullness of redemption.

LEX ORANDI, LEX CREDENDI  
(The Law of Praying is the Law of Faith)

## Wye II, At A Glance

By Mitchell Danow, JTA

The Israeli-Palestinian agreement signed recently in the Egyptian resort of Sharm el-Sheik comes after a 10-month suspension of the peace process. The accord, known as Wye II because it revises the Wye accord signed last October, includes the following provisions:

\* Israel will hand over 11 percent, or some 230 square miles, of the West Bank to the Palestinian Authority in three withdrawals. The first is slated to take place in the coming days, followed by further withdrawals on Nov. 15 and Jan. 20.

\* Negotiations for a final Israeli-Palestinian peace agreement will begin after the first withdrawal. The two sides will reach a framework outlining the agreement by mid-February and sign the completed agreement a year from now.

\* Israel has already released nearly 200 Palestinian prisoners in the coming days and will set free an additional 150 in October. The two sides agree to negotiate additional releases.

\* The Palestinian Authority agrees to cooperate with Israel in the war against terrorism.

\* The Palestinian Authority agrees to implement specific security steps, including the collection of illegal weapons and apprehending terror suspects. It also agrees to provide Israel with a list of all Palestinian police officials.

\* Israel agrees to allow the Palestinian Authority to begin construction of a Gaza seaport on Oct. 1.

\* Israel agrees to open on Oct. 1 the first of two safe-passage routes for Palestinians traveling between the West Bank and Gaza Strip.





ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Unimaginative But Unsinkable

By Paula Shulak

The current production on the boards at Three Little Bakers Dinner Theatre is a rather well done version of a rather poor show. THE UNSINKABLE MOLLY BROWN, which many will remember as a vehicle for Debbie Reynolds years ago, is unfortunately a lackluster script, but the version now in performance at the Pike Creek Valley location overcomes that drawback by the use of spectacular choreography, a terrific leading lady and several excellent supporting performers. In the title role of Molly Tobin Brown, veteran actress Bonnie Jones is energetic and her voice captivating. She is the epitome of the brash, crude nouveau riche woman with a heart of gold who took Denver by storm and made a worldwide name for her heroics on the Titanic. Especially outstanding in smaller roles were Tim Moudy (whose drunken pantomime is a joy to watch) as he went from Molly's brother to townsman to the venerable Monsignor with a wonderful Irish brogue as well as Barbara

Higgins playing Molly's mother, a tough old bird who provided much of the comedy in the show. Gregg Scott as the Prince was also quite charming and had the best singing voice in the show. Leading man Tom Burke as Johnny Brown left something to be desired both in his acting and vocalizing; Molly com-

pletely outshone him.

Director Robert Kelly provided some imaginative staging, lighting and sound effects (the echo sequence in particular), but it was the sparkling choreography of Vicky Todd that really lit up the stage. Each number was better than the previous one culminating

in the excellent She's My Friend. Interestingly, it was the male dancers who really stole the show with Tim Moudy at the top of the list. Costuming also deserves an accolade for the lovely period dresses, particularly Molly's spectacular red one. The music of MOLLY BROWN is totally forget-

table, the story line is banal, but as I have said, the producers of this version managed to overcome these drawbacks and provide a good evening's entertainment. MOLLY BROWN continues at Three Little Bakers until October 10. Reservations may be made by calling 302-368-3303.

Battling Cancer

Continued from page 5

Esther), and the other to the PM's chief administrator, Yossi Korchik, requesting that he set the date for the meeting. Dub waited and waited for a reply. After weeks of waiting, Dub finally received a reply from Korchik, "We have received your letters and the subject is being handled."

Editor's Note: Ben Caspit writes for Ma'ariv, in Israel. This article was excerpted from Ma'ariv's Weekend Magazine-Cover Feature which appeared on September 2, 1999.

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# SUKKOT RECIPES

## How Sweet It Is!

**By Essa Bissele**  
**A review of The New Jewish Holiday Cookbook: An International Collection of Recipes and Customs Hardcover-\$27.50**

**By Gloria Kaufer Greene**

Oh, honey! This book is just lovely! This Jewish Voice cookbook reviewer was so thrilled when the nice folks at Times Books sent this volume to our office that she rushed right home to try out some recipes. I wanted to test them so that you could show off for your friends and family at Sukkot-such a sweet holiday!

Nu, to be honest with you, I really made these recipes for Rosh Hashanah, so I could impress my mother-in-law, the world's best cook (but I'm a better baker).

This easy-to-use cookbook is arranged in chronological order, by, of course, Jewish Holidays. There are 260 recipes which vary from traditional Jewish favorites to exotic sounding "meichels" with international appeal. For convenience, all the recipes have been marked M for meat, D for dairy and P for pareve.

Gloria Kaufer Greene, former food editor at the Baltimore Jewish Times says that "Jewish food is inseparable from the traditions, customs, history, and lore of the people who cook it." "In this second edition of the cookbook that every Jewish kitchen should have, readers will learn not only how to make a delicious Passover Seder, but also why each dish is prepared for this annual celebration, and where these recipes originated." If you want to learn more about the author check out her website at [www.jewishcuisine.com](http://www.jewishcuisine.com).

One of the reasons why I really liked this book, and I can't wait to cook some more goodies, and share them with you, is because the recipes are relatively simple to make, fun and interesting to read.

Most recipes have very useful "notes" which turned out to be helpful hints, which, as a not-too-sophisticated cook, I used and loved!

So, here goes - try them and enjoy - our family did, and let us here at The Voice know what you think (e-mail us at [SHALOM.DEL@AOL.COM](mailto:SHALOM.DEL@AOL.COM))

### Chicken with Brandied Cherry Sauce

**Serves Six**

1 16 ounce can of dark sweet cherries (including liquid)  
 2 tbsps. canola oil  
 6 medium boneless chicken breasts (about 1 lbs)  
 1/3 cup cherry flavored brandy, sweet cherry wine or cream sherry  
 1 tsp. cornstarch  
 2 tps. Sugar  
 1 1/2 tbsps. Cool water

Drain the liquid from the cherries into a small measuring cup. There should be at least 2/3 cup; add water if necessary. (Reserve the well-drained cherries)

Put the oil into a large skillet over medium-high heat; then lightly brown the chicken pieces on both sides. Pour the cherry liquid over the chicken in the skillet along with the brandy (or wine or sherry). Cover the skillet, lower the heat, and simmer the chicken in the cherry juice, turning once, for 15 to 20 minutes, or just until the chicken is tender and cooked through.

Meanwhile, in a custard cup or a very small bowl, stir the cornstarch with the sugar and the cool water, and set aside. Use tongs or a slotted spoon to remove the cooked chicken from the skillet to a serving platter.

Stir the cornstarch mixture to make sure that no cornstarch is stuck to the bottom, and add it to the in the skillet while stirring. Simmer the sauce until it thickens and is not cloudy, about one minute, stirring constantly and

scraping up any browned bits in the bottom of the pan. Gently stir in the reserved drained cherries for about one minute, or until they are heated through. Spoon the cherries and sauce over the chicken breasts. (If desired, the cooked chicken breasts may be warmed in the sauce in the skillet for a few minutes immediately before serving.)

**NOTE:** To make this recipe ahead, cook the chicken as directed but do not thicken with the cornstarch mixture. Refrigerate the chicken in its pan juices, and place the drained cherries in a separate container. Shortly before serving, reheat the chicken and juice by simmering them together in a covered skillet. Prepare the cornstarch mixture, and proceed as above to make the cherry sauce, simmering the cherries a little longer to make sure that they are heated through.

### Orange Honey Cake

**Makes two loaves, about 10 slices from each**

1 cup hot water  
 1 tbsp. Instant coffee granules  
 1 (6 oz. Can) frozen orange juice concentrate, thawed  
 1 tsp. Ground cinnamon  
 1 tsp. Ground allspice  
 1 tsp. Salt  
 2 tps. Baking powder  
 2 tps. Baking soda  
 3 cups all-purpose flour  
 4 large eggs (No substitutes)

1/3 cup canola oil  
 1 cups sugar  
 1 cup honey

Grease two 9 by 5-inch loaf pans. Line the bottom of each pan with a small piece of wax paper cut to fit. Grease or coat the paper with non-stick spray. Set the pans aside. Pre-heat the oven to 325 degrees.

Put the hot water into a two-cup measuring cup or a small bowl. Add the instant coffee granules and stir until they are dissolved. Stir in the orange juice concentrate to cool the coffee. Set aside.

Measure out the cinnamon, allspice, salt, baking powder, and baking soda and place in a small custard cup or on a piece of wax paper. Set aside.

Measure the flour by spooning it into the proper-sized measuring cups and leveling off the top. After measuring the flour, sift it into a large piece of wax paper or into another bowl. (Sifting is necessary as tiny lumps may not beat out during the mixing process and will appear in the finished cake.)

Put the eggs, oil, sugar and honey into a large mixer bowl. With an electric mixer at medium speed, beat them together until completely combined. (About 2 minutes) Add the spice mixture and beat until combined. Beat in about a third of the flour, then a third of the orange/coffee mixture, repeating twice until all the ingredients are added. Beat on low speed until the flour is completely mixed in, scraping the bowl if necessary. Then beat the batter on high speed for one to two minutes until it is very smooth. The batter will be thin.

Pour the batter into the prepared pans, dividing it evenly. Bake the cakes at 325 degrees for about

60 to 70 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted into the center of each cake comes out completely clean. (Test both cakes). If there is a wet spot in the middle of the cake, bake a few minutes more. Remove the cakes from the oven and let them cool in their pans for one hour on a wire rack. The sides of the cake should shrink away from the pans a little.

Run a knife around the sides of each cake to loosen it; then turn the cake out of its pan, and peel the wax paper from the bottom. Invert the cakes so that the tops are facing upward. Cool the cakes completely on a wire rack. Wrap

the cooled cakes well for storage (use sturdy plastic wrap or heavy-duty foil).

If the wrapped cakes are allowed to mellow overnight, their taste and texture will improve, and they will be easier to slice. (A serrated bread knife works best) The tightly wrapped loaves can be kept at room temperature for up to four days, or they may be frozen for up to several months. (Defrost wrapped, at room temperature, before slicing and serving). To serve, cut each loaf crosswise into slices, and arrange the slices, slightly overlapping, on a tray or platter.

## MILESTONES



### DR. LEO ZEFTEL

Dr. Leo ZefTEL, a prominent leader in the Delaware Jewish community, died September 12 after a long and courageous battle with multiple myeloma. A native of Providence, Rhode Island, he graduated from Brown University with an Sc.B in Chemistry. He earned his doctorate in Chemistry from the University of Rochester.

Dr. ZefTEL moved to Delaware to join DuPont's Chemical's Division. He worked in the department's manufacturing division for more than 40 years, retiring in 1989 as Manager of Material Resources.

He distinguished himself in his professional career by working towards the goal of world peace by preventing chemical warfare. He devoted more than a decade to intricate negotiations that led to the development of the 1993 Chemical Weapons Treaty. This treaty was signed in Geneva,

Switzerland by 130 nations and was ratified by the United States Senate in 1997.

Dr. ZefTEL also served as consultant to the Federation of American Scientists and participated in Pugwash programs related to banning chemical weapons.

His funeral services were held, appropriately, at Congregation Beth Emeth in Wilmington, which he served with distinction as President. He also was a past President of the Jewish Federation of Delaware and was a founding member of the Gratz Hebrew High School, a Federation constituent agency.

He is survived by his wife, Sybil; his children, Mona, Peter, and Julie; and six grandchildren. The family requests that contributions in his memory be made to Congregation Beth Emeth or to Sojourners Place in Wilmington.

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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

## SEPTEMBER

**Tuesday 21**  
**Jewish Family Service of Delaware** sponsors a support group for widows and widowers the first and third Tuesday of each month from 1:00-2:30 p.m. Call 478-9411 for additional information.

**Wednesday 22**  
**Jewish Family Service of Delaware** begins a five-week women's series, entitled *Returning to Ourselves*, from 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. at the JFS offices, 101 Garden of Eden Road in Wilmington. To register, call 478-9411.

**Wednesday 29**  
**Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School** sponsors a meeting for all graduating seniors and their parents to discuss all necessary items for graduation. Meet in the Gratz Wing of the JCC campus at 7 p.m. RSVP at 478-8100 by 9/22.

## OCTOBER

**Monday 4**  
**JFS offers a support group** for parents who have children with special needs. The group meets every Monday throughout October, 2-3:30 p.m. Call 478-9411 for additional information.

**Wednesday 6**  
**"Nourishing Our Spirits"** - a spiritual support group for people living with cancer will be offered every Wednesday afternoon in October from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. The program will meet at JFS offices, 101 Garden of Eden Road

in Wilmington. Call 478-9411 for more information.

**Wednesday 13**  
**The Kimmel-Spiller Jewish Healing Center of JFS** offers Jewish Healing Services at the Adult Institute, every Wednesday through November 17, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Call Rabbi Myriam Klotz, at 478-9411 for additional information.

**Thursday 14**  
**JFS offers workshops** for parents and children who are experiencing divorce, this evening and Thursday, October 21st, 6:00-9:30 p.m. in the Jewish Community Center board room. Call 478-9411 for additional information. The agency also offers divorce mediation services.

## ONGOING

**VOLLEYBALL ANYONE?** - Young Jewish Singles of Delaware sponsors a weekly volleyball game and dinner outing for adults in their 20s and 30s. Non competitive play every Wednesday at 6p.m., dinner at 8p.m. Call Phil at 652-6688 for more information.

**ISRAEL AND JEWISH STUDIES**  
The WUJS Institute offers scholarships of \$200 during the year 2000 to all young adults in the Delaware/NJ Partnership 2000 Region. The scholarship brings the cost of the seven-month Institute to \$2000 and includes Hebrew Ulpans, Jewish-Israel Studies, camping trips, seminars and a wide range of social and cultural activities over seven months. Also included in the cost are accommodations, one cooked meal a day and employment assistance. For additional information, call the Jewish Federation of Delaware at 427-2100.

## Gratz Hebrew High School 1999 Graduating Class



Gratz Hebrew High School says Mazel Tov to its 1999 graduating class. (From left to right) Nathan Cohen, Emily Pressman, Jacob Cabelli, Maya Rich, Joel Lipschultz, Hannah Grossman and Abram Barth. (Not pictured are Marna Lew and Josh Romirowsky)

## Simons Honored By AKSE During Rosh Hoshanah

By Mark E. Wagman

Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation recognized Arlene and Howard Simon with special "endowed" honors during High Holiday services. The endowed honor program, now in its ninth consecutive year, honors "pillars" of the congregation who have worked tirelessly for the benefit of the Shul. Since the Simons' accomplishments have been both as a couple and as individuals, AKSE paid tribute to them on separate days: Arlene on the first day and Howard on the second day of Rosh Hoshanah. There was a testimonial and presentation of a cer-

tificate of honor to each honoree.

The couple has been at the forefront of some of the most important projects AKSE has undertaken including the renovation and dedication of the beautiful Gewirtz Sanctuary and the acquisition of houses for both the current Rabbi and the Rabbi Emeritus. They have long been committed to the beautification of the synagogue facility, inside and out. Howard's strong leadership as President guided the congregation with confidence through a difficult transition period. Arlene co-founded the very successful Chai and President's Circles, whose members make a voluntary financial

commitment well above dues, and she remains active as Co-Vice President of Ways and Means.

The Simons community involvement extends well beyond AKSE. The couple co-chaired the Continuing Exodus campaign for the Jewish Federation and were honored by Israel Bonds several years ago. Howard recently co-chaired a very successful JNF dinner honoring Senator Roth. Both have held leadership roles with the Kutz Home, JCC, NCCJ, and the University of Delaware.

For further information about the AKSE endowed honors program, please call the synagogue office at 762-2705.

## You And I Can Change The World!

The Jewish Federation of Delaware invites you to the Lion of Judah Reception on behalf of the 2000 Annual Campaign

Attend a special New York Matinee Performance of "The Gathering" currently starring Theodore Bikel on Wednesday, September 22, 1999.

Lion of Judah Reception Chairperson - Ellen Koniver.

The Lion of Judah event welcomes and honors women contributing \$5000 or more to the 2000 Jewish Federation of Delaware/UJA Annual Campaign. Our community's needs are many. Please consider increasing and/or endowing your gift.

Couvert of \$50 includes play, round-trip transportation to New York and lunch. Luxury bus will leave from the JCC at 9:00 a.m. and return at approximately 6:00 p.m.

For more information, please call 302-427-2100, Ext. 16.

## OSI SEARCHING FOR HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS...

...who lived in Kupishok, Lithuania or surrounding towns during July, August or September of 1941. Their testimony is needed in connection with a pending criminal case against an alleged war criminal. For additional information, please call Stephen Paskey or Susan Adams at the Office of Special Investigations, (202) 616-2501. Collect calls will be accepted.

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