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WILMINGTON JCC NAMED IN HONOR OF SIEGELS

In recognition of their generosity and commitment to the community the JCC was officially renamed the Bernard and Ruth Siegel Jewish Community Center at its annual meeting on Sunday, June 27, 2004. "The couple has devoted a lifetime of service to our Delaware Jewish community and are the ideal recipients of this prestigious honor," said Jewish Federation of Delaware Executive Vice President Samuel H. Asher. The couple are co-chairs of the Federation Community Capital Campaign, the fundraising drive that powers the renovation and expansion project at the Garden of Eden Road Campus. The Jewish Community Center, Jewish Family Service, Albert Einstein Academy and Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School all will reap the benefits of this ambitious undertaking. Improvements have also been made at Hillel at the University of Delaware and the Milton and Hattie Kutz Home.

The couple has been active in the leadership of all of these agencies. In June, 2003, Bernie became the first recipient of the Irving S. Shapiro Community Builder Award, recognizing individuals whose service to the Jewish community transcends any loyalty to a particular agency or organization. His qualifications for this high honor include his tenure as past president of the Jewish Federation of Delaware and a former chairman of the Federation Annual Campaign, service as the first president of the Kutz Foundation and current life membership on the Foundation's Board, and service on the JCC board of directors.

Ruth Siegel, a former elementary and pre-school teacher, is deeply committed to Jewish education. She founded the Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School and served as the school's president for ten years. She is a former board member of Albert Einstein Academy and the Jewish Community Center and has received numerous awards for her tireless commitment to Jewish life.



Bernard and Ruth Siegel proudly pose at the JCC named in their honor.

SHARON, PERES TALK UNITY

By Dan Baron, JTA

With the slow inevitability of ships meeting out at sea, Israel's two elder statesmen appear to be coming together to steer the country through one of the most turbulent periods in its history.

Opposition leader Shimon Peres on Tuesday won his Labor Party's approval to accept Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's offer of talks on a national unity government.

For most Israelis, a deal between the two longtime political rivals — and personal friends — appeared a given, with the only question being how the rest of the future coalition would look.

The current government, under Sharon's Likud Party, needs urgent buttressing. He fired two ministers from the right-wing National Union bloc last month to win Cabinet approval for his plan to withdraw Israeli troops and settlers from the Gaza Strip in 2005.

That left Sharon in command of just 59 of the 120 seats in the Knesset, with another right-wing coalition partner, the National Religious Party, threatening to bolt over Sharon's determination to cede land to the Palestinians.

Allying with Labor means the support of its 19 lawmakers for

Sharon's Gaza plan, a political lifeline Peres is well aware of.

"They say we're being used," the 80-year-old dove told skeptical fellow Laborites in Tel Aviv. "What are they using us for? To bring peace? Should we be embarrassed by that?"

Most political analysts think Peres will want to return to his old role as Israel's foreign minister, adding diplomatic polish to Sharon's unilateralism, which the Palestinians decry as a ploy to duck their demand for all of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

But the current officeholder, Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom, has made clear he will not go quietly, and is already leading a group of Likud "rebels" against any alliance with Labor.

Another senior Likudnik, Finance Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, insists as a precondition of coalition talks that Peres accept Netanyahu's belt-tightening budgetary policies — a long shot given Labor's recent vocal championing of Israel's economic underclass.

Sharon on Monday threatened the rebels within his party with the prospect of a return to the polls.

"If you don't want this or that, we can go to elections. That's the way it is," Sharon told the Likud's Knesset faction, referring to the

option of a national-unity government. "I am saying this in the clearest possible way: This situation cannot continue."

The prime minister also must plan further ahead, for the likely loss of the NRP from his Cabinet once the Gaza plan gets rolling. According to political sources, on Thursday Sharon is to meet with representatives of Shas and United Torah Judaism with possible offers of coalition seats.

As fervently Orthodox parties — representing, respectively, Sephardi and Ashkenazi Jews — Shas and United Torah Judaism historically have demonstrated greater flexibility on territorial concessions than their Zionist religious brethren in the National Union and NRP.

There's a hitch — Sharon's current core coalition partner, the secularist Shinui Party, refuses to sit in a government with the fervently Orthodox. But Shinui's footing also is unsure, given the implication last week of one of its senior members, Infrastructure Minister Yosef Paritzky, in a bribery conspiracy.

Sharon fired Paritzky, a move that sent shivers through a party once considered Israel's political kingmaker and anti-corruption champion. Shinui may feel that it, too, is dispensable.

AMIA, 10 YEARS LATER

This month, the Jewish community of Argentina marks the 10th anniversary of the bombing of the AMIA Jewish community center, which killed 85 people and wounded 300 on July 18, 1994.

"I think the AMIA attack triggered a big feeling of solidarity by Argentines toward the Jews, and an acceptance that the Jews are a part of Argentine society," said Abraham Kaul, President of AMIA.

An estimated 60,000 to 70,000 Jews, about one-fourth of the country's total Jewish population, live below the poverty line. Some 35,000 Jews receive daily food and housing assistance.

Much of that help comes from Jews in the United States. The JDC runs a \$10 million operation in Argentina.



Elderly Jews share lunch at a soup kitchen in Buenos Aires in July, 2004.

INSIDE THE VOICE

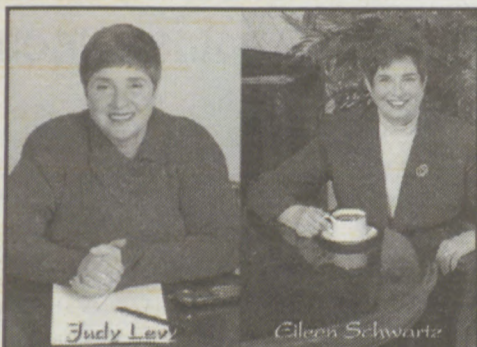
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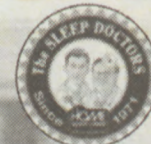
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EDITORIAL

Bringing Light into Darkness

I love the ying and yang of Judaism. Our Jewish holiday calendar is a dizzying juxtaposition of contrasting images. The sweetness of Rosh Hashonah apples dipped in honey is followed by the solemn soul search of Yom Kippur. The sorrow and anger we feel during Yom Ha Shoah is mitigated by the joyful celebration of Yom Hazikaron - Israel Independence Day.

Thus, it should come as no surprise that Tisha B'Av - for traditional Jews perhaps the darkest day of the Jewish calendar - falls in the middle of the languid, light-filled summer season. This fast day of mourning for the destruction of both ancient Temples in Jerusalem, begins this year at sundown on Monday, July 26th.

For Reform Jews who do not assign a central religious role to the ancient Temple, Tisha B'Av is designated as a time to remember the

many tragedies that have occurred throughout Jewish history and continue to challenge us.

This holiday is the ideal time to embrace what I refer to as the "three Rs" of Judaism. Remember the Shoah, the pogroms and the virulent anti-Semitism that has left an indelible impression on our collective Jewish experience. Reflect on how these lamentable occurrences have personally impacted our lives. Then, and only then can we embrace the future by Renewing our commitment to dispel the darkness of spiritual and physical poverty and affirm our role as a people that brings light to others.

Lynn B. Edelman

Lynn B. Edelman,
Editor

The JEWISH VOICE

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Passage of HB 400-A major achievement

Thank you for your excellent front-page article by Mark Delmerico on the passage of HB 400, the bill to move Delaware's primary election from a Saturday to a Tuesday. As you noted, this is historic legislation, ending three decades of Shabbat voting.

The final votes in the General Assembly, 38-0 in the House and 21-0 in the Senate, were highly satisfying. This overwhelming success, though, obscures the considerable obstacles, opposition, and setbacks that had to be overcome in a sustained two-year effort. As State Treasurer Jack Markell commented, "The passage of this bill was hard fought," and demonstrates that we can achieve success in pushing through legislation that impacts us if we are organized and proactive.

Many friends and supporters helped achieve this success. I wish to amplify Treasurer Markell's thanks to three individuals whose extraordinary efforts warrant the special gratitude of the entire Jewish community—Representative Bob Valihura, Senator Patty Blevins, and Tom McGonigle.

Rep. Valihura was principal sponsor of HB 400 as well as two earlier primary day bills. From the beginning he understood the issue, believed it was the right thing to do,

and advocated passionately for its passage, especially among the majority Republicans in the House. Despite numerous setbacks, he persevered in his efforts to find a workable bill.

Sen. Blevins was the other principal sponsor of HB 400. Her leadership among Senate Democrats and as chair of the committee dealing with the bill was critical to its passage. She was dedicated to finding a compromise that eliminated voting on the Jewish Sabbath while also addressing the concerns of election and school officials.

JCRC lobbyist Tom McGonigle was totally committed to passage of this bill. In consultation with Rep. Valihura, Sen. Blevins, and others he crafted the compromise that is HB 400. Drawing on his experience, relationships and just plain hard work, he pressed effectively for its passage and guided our grassroots efforts, overlooking no detail.

Like our best personal friends, friends of the Jewish community such as these are precious. We cannot overstate how much we appreciate them.

Mark Wagman
Chairman,

Jewish Community Relations Committee

UN Security Fence vote is politically motivated

Giora Becher

Consul General of Israel
Mid-Atlantic Region

The International Court of Justice was asked to address the question of Israel's security fence as a result of a politically-motivated maneuver, which Israel and over thirty leading democracies did not support. Israel cannot accept this politicization of the Court.

As expected, and as a result of the one-sided question put before the court, the Advisory Opinion fails to address the essence of the problem and the very reason for building the fence - Palestinian terror. If there was no terror, there would be no fence.

This Palestinian terror has taken the lives of nearly one thousand Israelis in over twenty thousand attacks over the last three and a half years, wounding thousands more, leaving broken families, widows and orphans. No other country would act differently in the face of such an evil campaign.

Since the fence has been in operation, the number of casualties has decreased significantly. The fence is reversible, whereas the lives taken by terror are not. Moreover, the fence works. It is a temporary, non-violent security measure and it saves lives.

As long as the terror continues, Israel will have no choice but to defend its citizens.

This is our moral and legal obligation.

Israel continues to seek the necessary balance between protecting the lives of its citizens and the humanitarian needs of the Palestinian population. We will continue to do so, in accordance with the rulings of our Supreme Court, which alone has the capacity to fully address all aspects of this matter. The fact that every individual affected by the fence has the right to directly petition Israel's Supreme Court ensures legal recourse without the need for outside involvement.

The only way to resolve the differences between Israel and the Palestinians, including the dispute over the fence, is through direct negotiations, as stipulated by UN Security Council resolutions and the Roadmap.

An essential condition for such negotiations is the cessation of Palestinian terror. The solutions to the problem lie in Ramallah and Gaza, from where the terror is directed, not in the Hague or Manhattan.

Israel calls on the Palestinian side to end their campaign of terror and to return to the path of negotiations.

Israel calls on the international community not to lend their hand to the ongoing Palestinian attempts to use international force to avoid fulfilling their own commitment to fight terror.

Dry Bones



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FEDERATION FOCUS

Jewish Federation of Delaware's Charitable Gift Annuity Program



Jennifer Young
Endowment and Women's
Philanthropy Director, JFD

By Jennifer S. Young

The Jewish Fund for the Future, the planned giving arm of the Jewish Federation of Delaware, is pleased to offer Charitable Gift Annuities to individual donors who are both interested in benefiting the Federation and receiving lifetime income.

The Gift

Through a partnership with United Jewish Communities, we offer Charitable Gift Annuities for a minimum gift of \$10,000.

Example: If you use appreciated stock to fund a gift annuity and retain annual payments for yourself, only a portion of the gain would be taxable and you would be allowed to recognize that gain in equal amounts over your life expectancy. Jessica, 70, owns stock worth \$100,000 that she purchased several years ago for \$20,000 and wants to use the value of the stock to fund a gift annuity agreement with her community. If she sells the stock, she will real-

ize an \$80,000 gain that will generate a \$12,000 capital-gain tax. This will leave her just \$88,000 to fund the gift annuity.

Alternatively, if she contributes the stock itself for the gift annuity, her annual payments will be based on the full \$100,000 value. The amount of taxable gain she must recognize will be reduced from \$80,000 to just \$51,250. Better yet, she will have to recognize only \$3,224 of the gain each year over the life expectancy of 15.9 years rather than recognizing – and paying tax on – all of her gain right now.

The Charitable Gift Annuity yields are hard to beat. Money invested in taxable money market accounts or CDs will yield 5% or less. With an annuity the amount you receive is fixed and will not change regardless of current investment or market conditions. For example, a 70-year-old donor would receive 6.5%; a 75-year old donor would receive 7.1%. Charitable Gift Annuities offer many benefits to the donor:

- The annuities can be established with a minimum gift of \$10,000.
- Upon setting up your annuity, you may be

able to claim a current charitable income tax deduction.

- A portion of each income payment to you is tax-free.

- Income payments are based upon the recipient's age at the time of the first payment – the older the recipient, the higher the payment.

- A Deferred Gift Annuity can be an excellent supplement to retirement planning and is not subject to qualified plan regulations.

- Charitable Gift Annuities provide you peace of mind in that you will be receiving a fixed payment for the rest of your life.

If you would like more information, or to request your complimentary copy of our booklet, *The Charitable Gift Annuity: Guaranteed Payments for Life*, please contact me at 302-427-2100 x 19.

The Jewish Fund for the Future can assist you with all of your planned giving needs: Philanthropic Fund/Donor Advised Fund, Named Endowment Fund, Charitable Remainder Trust, Charitable Bequest, Perpetual Annual Campaign Endowment (PACE), and Lion of Judah Endowment (LOJE).

Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Committee and Delaware Teacher's Center co-sponsors Annual trip to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

For: Teachers of grades 5-12
(6 clock hours towards re-certification; PIP credit)
Date: Tuesday, August 10, 2004
Departure: 7:00a.m. from Jewish Community Center
101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington DE 19803
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Delaware rest stop
Southbound bus parking
Instructor: Dr. Margaret Crouch, Holocaust Educator
Cost: \$20.

Dr. Margaret Crouch, a Holocaust scholar, will provide historical background during the trip to Washington. Her presentation will be augmented by several videos. At the museum, you will receive a special guided tour for educators as well as an orientation to various educational resources. The bus will return to Wilmington at approximately 5:30 p.m. Snacks will be provided on the bus; lunch at the Museum cafeteria is on your own. To secure your seat on the bus, please mail a check for \$20.00 payable to the Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Committee, 100 West 10th Street, Suite 301, Wilmington, DE 19801. Please indicate your pick-up location. The fee is non-refundable after July 19, 2004. For more information please call (302) 427-2100 ext. 30.

Stars Campaign Helps Community Meet the Longwood Challenge

Co-Chairs Iris and Allan Tocker are pleased to launch the Stars Campaign of the Community Capital Campaign. This grass roots effort will raise funds to renovate and expand the six beneficiary agencies of the Federation. To date, the Community Capital Campaign has raised nearly \$20 million, an astounding achievement. In order to finish the Campaign, the Longwood Foundation has offered a Challenge Grant of \$500,000. To receive this funding, we must raise an additional \$2 million. The continued generosity of hundreds of individuals, corporations and other foundation is needed to meet this lofty goal.

"The Stars Campaign is the perfect way for everyone in the community to be a part of this historic effort," said Dr. Allan Tocker, "Iris and I are proud to be members of a community that values the work of the generation before us and is working hard to secure the future for the next generations."

For as little as \$100, you can have your name listed among the Stars of the Delaware Jewish community. A beautiful design of etched Stars will be created along the windows of the Jewish Community Center that will include the names of individuals, families, organizations etc. who buy a single line or an entire Star to show their support of this remarkable project. **Look for the full-page ad on page 11 in this issue of the Voice. You can even order Stars online at www.shalomdelaware.org!**

The steel is erected as the additions at the Weinberg Campus (formerly known as the Garden of Eden Road Campus). Excitement is building as we can see the future of the Seigel Jewish Community Center, Jewish Family Service, Albert Einstein Academy and Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School. Please join us! For more information, call Ruth Rosenberg, Community Capital Campaign Coordinator at (302) 427-2100 ext. 17.

Myths and Facts

*The following information is presented as a public service by The Jewish Voice and the Hasbara Committee of the Jewish Federation of Delaware. It is written by Mitchell H. Bard, author of *Myths & Facts Online — A Guide to the Arab-Israeli Conflict* by Mitchell G. Bard, <http://www.JewishVirtualLibrary.org>.*

MYTH #146

"Israel's Supreme Court ruled that the security fence is illegal and a land grab by the Sharon government."

FACT

In 1989, Alan Dershowitz observed, "For the first time in Mideast history, there is an independent judiciary willing to listen to grievances of Arabs — that judiciary is called the Israeli Supreme Court (Speech to AIPAC Policy Conference, May 23, 1989). That court took up the grievances of Palestinians who claimed the Israeli security fence causes hardships for them, is illegal according to Israeli and international law, and is meant to disguise the Israeli objective of annexing additional territory to Israel."

The Court ruled that a small segment of the fence — an 18 mile stretch near Jerusalem (out of the 125 miles built at that time) — needed to be rerouted because of the hardships caused to the Palestinians in the area who were cut off from their farms, schools, and villages.

The Court also said, however, that it could not accept the argument that the fence's route was determined by politics rather than security. The Justices specifically rejected the idea that the fence should be constructed on the "green line," noting that "it is the security perspective — and not the political one — which must examine a route based on its security merits alone, without regard for the location of the 'green line.'"

The Justices also concluded "it is permitted, by the international law applicable to an area under belligerent occupation to take possession of an individual's land in order to erect a separation fence upon it, on the condition that this is necessitated by military needs. To the extent that construction of the Fence is a military necessity, it is permitted, therefore, by international law. Indeed, the obstacle is intended to take the place of combat military operations, by physically blocking terrorist infiltration into Israeli population centers."

The fundamental question for the Court was how to satisfy Israel's security concerns without causing disproportionate injury to the residents affected by the fence. The Justices ruled that international humanitarian law and Israeli administrative law "require making every possible effort to ensure that injury will be proportionate. Where construction of the Separation Fence demands that inhabitants be separated from their lands, access to these lands must be ensured, in order to minimize the damage to the extent possible."

The Justices acknowledged that the ruling would have an impact on the fight against terrorism. "We are aware this decision does not make it easier to deal with that reality. This is the destiny of a democracy: She does not see all means as acceptable, and the ways of her enemies are not always open before her. A democracy must sometimes fight with one arm tied behind her back. Even so, a democracy has the upper hand. The rule of law and individual liberties constitute an important aspect of her security stance. At the end of the day, they strengthen her spirit and this strength allows her to overcome her difficulties."

"In the length of the fence involved, in the number of villages and people affected, the decision is hardly momentous. But as a statement of principle, it is head and shoulders above anything any other Middle East government would permit — never mind implement."

— Richard Cohen (Washington Post, July 3, 2004)

The Supreme Court once again demonstrated that in Israel the rule of law and judicial review is applied even to matters of national security and that it can balance the State's need to protect its citizens with humanitarian matters.

Though the Court's decision made the government's job of securing the population from terrorist threats more difficult, costly, and time-consuming, the Prime Minister immediately accepted the decision and began to reroute the section of the fence near Jerusalem. In addition, the Court's ruling is also being factored into the planning of the rest of the barrier.

MATTER OF OPINION

Reflections on the life of Rabbi Schneerson

By Rabbi Chuni Vogel

Editor's Note: This is a personal tribute to Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, the last Lubavitcher Rebbe on the occasion of his 10th yartzheit.

As a child growing up in London, my earliest recollection of the Rebbe, aside from photos of his visage, was when my father returned from a visit to New York. As a Holocaust survivor whose life has been forever defined by that period, my father had become a generator of Jewish communal activity and an address for help and advice for all in need. But when he returned from that visit to the Rebbe, he was aglow. His engine had been tuned up, filled with super powered fuel and all fired up. The renewed sense of mission and purpose was apparent to all, "Bobby Vogel must have been to the Rebbe lately".

Another episode that I recall was in those fateful days just prior to the Six Day war, people in the community were speaking of how the Lubavitcher Rebbe had declared that we would see miracles and Israel would be victorious. Everyone was worried sick but, at the same time, strengthened by the statements of encouragement and faith coming from the Rebbe.

From my earliest years I have vivid images of our phone constantly ringing with requests from people in need of a special blessing or advice to convey to the Rebbe on their behalf. They must have thought that we had a direct line. In short, my childhood impression of the Rebbe was as a wise and holy person with tremendous caring for people, an address for all Jews in need, and that when he said something people took notice.

Decades later, these impressions still ring true. Apparently, when something is so clear, a pure love so uncomplicated and true, even a simple child can see it. As I matured, I deepened my appreciation of his eminent scholarship. I

was exposed to some of the Rebbe's 6 hour-long talks and studied several of his over 70 volumes of Torah commentary and correspondence.

I was in awe of his devotion to Jewish learning, evidenced by his 18+ hour days for over fifty years (without a single day vacation). I was astounded by the sacks of mail that arrived at his house on a daily basis from his followers around the globe. The hours upon hours that the Rebbe stood at his father in law's grave reading petitions and praying for others, while fasting, gave a whole new meaning to selflessness. He greeted statesmen and school children alike with such parental warmth and genuine individual concern, as he himself remarked, "counting and beholding diamonds".

The Rebbe was a tower of faith and strength to Am Yisrael. My father was an eye witness to the destruction of Jewry and Judaism during the second World War. Like many others, he was fearful that the next generation would never be able to identify religiously in the wake of the atrocities of the Holocaust. Despair for the future was an understatement. But the Rebbe was the inspiration not just to his disciples who had somehow fled Russian gulags or escaped the Nazis, but to Jews and others everywhere. He immediately embarked on a mission to bring Jewish life and hope to every possible corner of the globe. As British Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks commented, "Just as each Jew had been, but a few years earlier, searched out in hate, the Rebbe now would search out each Jew in love". With his immense scholarship, illuminating insight in Torah and life, passion for a thriving Am Yisrael, boundless love and concern for each individual, he began a Jewish revolution that changed the landscape of post Holocaust Jewry. He emanated such a confidence, enthusiasm and deep pride in Judaism that it



David Margules, Delaware Regional Co-Chair of Jewish National Fund and Rabbi Chuni Vogel, Director of Chabad Lubavitch of Delaware, enjoyed the rare privilege of a private meeting with Rabbi Menachem Schneerson. The famed Lubavitcher Rebbe died 10 years ago.

allowed for his students to be in the most spiritually devoid places and in difficult circumstances and yet be successful in their mission of empowering Jews and Judaism. According to Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz, "The shift toward greater observance and greater interest in Jewish study evident today across the denominational spectrum is due to his influence... He exerted the single greatest influence on the revival of Jewish pride."

At the time of the Rebbe's passing ten years ago, sociologists, historians and experts all predicted that the Chabad empire of Jewish revival that the Rebbe had built, would dissipate, disintegrate and would become a memory of a once very successful Jewish movement. The centrality that the Rebbe was to Chabad would be the undoing after his passing. Ten years later, not only has Chabad

not fulfilled those prophecies of doom, but it has grown from strength to strength.

In the last ten years, over 1100 couples and their families have gone out on Shlichut - a life of dedication to Jewish communal service, demonstrating the eternal vitality of the Rebbe's message. His life work and legacy has reached deeper, further and more forcefully than ever before. Thousands of Chabad Centers dot the map, including 78 full time Chabad Houses on campuses (double the number of ten years ago!), each in turn touching countless lives. The teacher has physically left the classroom some time ago, but the students continue with the lesson, teach others and the new students now assume their role as teachers. In the words of Rabbi Norman Lamm, director of Yeshiva University in New York, "Rabbi Schneerson was an

indomitable leader, a preeminent scholar and a truly creative visionary of organization. The Rebbe has left an indelible impression on Judaism in the 20th century."

My five-year-old daughter remarked recently how lucky I was to see the Rebbe for so many years and to speak to him (nachas for me to see her relate to such a role model). Yes, I was fortunate indeed, and so was this generation. For my wife, Oryah and I and for thousands of my colleagues in communities large and small, our life-long commitment to Jewish continuity and community service is a testament to his life and inspiration. These past ten years, though not without their challenges, have revealed another dimension to the Rebbe's continuing legacy.

May we merit the full vision of the Rebbe, a healed, peaceful and perfected world with the coming of Mashiach, amen.

The special needs of Arab education

By Nechemia Meyers

Prof. Ismael Abu-Saad has a special responsibility as the only non-Jew on the 18-member Dovrat Commission, which has just submitted a preliminary report on the reform of Israeli education. The Commission was established after tests showed that Israeli pupils, once ranked among the best in the world in math and other key subjects, are now way down the list. This situation can be changed, so Dovrat and his colleagues hope, by a series of reforms, the most important of which are measures to increase the status and salaries of teachers.

Yet to be tackled, however, are the specific problems of Arab-

language schools, where the situation is far worse than that in Hebrew-language schools. Last year, for example, when a national exam in mathematics was given to eighth graders, the failure rate for Hebrew-language schools was about 50%, while it was 75% for Arabic-language ones.

This significant difference is certainly linked to the fact that the expenditure per pupil in Jewish schools is one-third higher than in Arab schools.

"The situation in Bedouin areas is even worse," says Abu Saad, himself a Bedouin. There are dozens of unrecognized towns, which lack basic facilities, including schools. So children

there have to travel many kilometers to reach a classroom."

When asked about the education of Bedouin girls, which once was of very little interest to their families, Prof. Abu-Saad says this is no longer the case. He points out that Ben-Gurion University's Bedouin Center for Studies and Development, which he helped found, has played a key role in bringing 200 Bedouin women to the University, 27 of whom are studying for a master's degree and three for a doctorate. "If Government scholarships were made available, there would be a thousand of them at Ben-Gurion," he declares.

As in other sectors of Israeli society, Abu-Saad says, Bedouin

place an increasing emphasis on quality of life, which is far easier to achieve when there are two wage-earners in the family. While admitting that Bedouin families are typically two or three times larger than Jewish families, this would change, in his view, were Bedouin education improved. "A recent study showed that Bedouin parents with a high school education have an average of four children, as against eight or nine for other Bedouin families," Abu-Saad reports.

While Bedouin schools are among the worst in Israel, there are Arab schools that are among the best. Two of the top educational institutions in Haifa, and

indeed in the country as a whole, are the Greek Orthodox School and the Nazareth Nuns School. As the names indicate, both are Christian-run, but many of their pupils are Moslems, and one graduate of whom they are proud is Talab al-Sana, a Bedouin Knesset Member. Both have an almost unbelievable pass rate of 95% or above when it comes to matriculation exams, and a great majority of graduates go on to earn a university degree.

Prof. Abu-Saad doesn't expect Bedouin schools to reach the level of these two elite Arab schools in Haifa any time soon. But he will be more than pleased if they reach the level of the country's Jewish schools.

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INSIDE DELAWARE

Delaware teacher in 'dream' Israeli teaching program

by Joel F. Glazier
(special to the Jewish Voice)

Nitzana, Israel—Edna Gordon, retired NYC teacher had a dream to bring American teachers of English to Israel as volunteers to help students in Israeli ORT High Schools. Her program, Teachers on Volunteer Service (TOVS) has been doing such for 30 years.

Mr. Lova Eliav, retired Knesset Member and former minister in the Golda Meir government had a dream to establish living communities in the Negev Desert of Israel. For over 20 years, one of his establishments, Nitzana, has grown to several dozen families thanks to the village's scientific developments in water reclamation from the brackish aquifer.

This summer, the two visionaries' dreams came together in a unique 3 week summer school for 30 students from Rehovot, Yeroham and Arad ORT High Schools. "The year of planning, fund raising, and phone calls has paid off," said Gordon as she greeted the anxious students who assembled in June at the remote Nitzana Educational Center, just 3 KM from the Egyptian border, for the Edna Gordon Summer School.

Along with the specially selected 30 students were two full time Israeli teachers of English, an on site coordinator and 3 American volunteer teachers, who traveled to Nitzana to help with the in-depth English language summer school. This writer was one of the fortunate 3 teachers asked to volunteer for this first ever residential summer school in Israel for ORT students.

Enrichment and tutoring

"In 10th grade, high school students must devote time to a personal commitment project, much like service learning in American

schools," explains Rachel Eitan, a Beer Sheva teacher who acted as on site coordinator, and all around house mother for the 30 teenagers, many of whom had never been away from families for such a long period. "It's hoped that these strong English speaking students will be able to act as tutors to younger students next year, as their service project," added Eitan.

Mary Greenberg, English Supervisor for ORT Israel, was instrumental in finding the Israeli staff for this unique and intense program. "As the summer school began, I was so thankful that all the staff, especially the 3 American volunteers, jelled into such a hard working team. We were surely lucky as the kids benefited from fine teachers and a rigorous curriculum," Greenberg said happily. The students had been tested and were accepted with their schools' approval, as well as parent permission.

Four hours of intermediate level English reading and grammar was the course of study for 6 days a week. In the afternoon and evenings the staff at Nitzana led activities in science, nature, and astronomy for the students in English. "The English language component of the Nitzana activities was a first for our staff and we are excited about it," said David Palmach, Director of Nitzana. Often the students helped the Nitzana science instructors with their English. **English as a Necessary Tool in Israel**

"All students seeking university admission, must pass the begrut, or English language examination," explains Gordon, adding, "We want our ORT students to have every opportunity to further their education, like children from well off parents who often send their kids

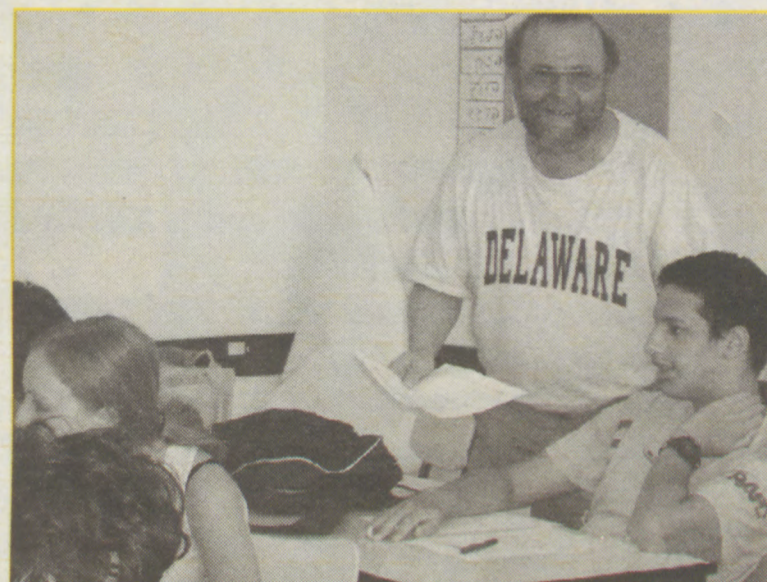
abroad to English language camps in the UK or America." The students for the Edna Gordon Summer School were specially picked from outlying areas where opportunities for English enrichment are not strong.

Half of the students were from recent immigrant families, including the former Soviet republics, Argentina, Turkey and Ethiopia. All Israeli school students begin learning English in early grades but writing is particularly difficult as English composition writing often precedes Hebrew composition instruction. The summer program focused on reading and writing, but some artistic talents surfaced during the afternoon art classes.

Additionally, Nitzana also hosts an ulpan for new immigrants to Israel. While the ORT students resided there, they joined 49 Ethiopian young adults who were finishing their 10th month of absorption into Israel. Often the students would join in nighttime soccer games with the Ethiopians and it was not uncommon to see the ORT Students trying out new tutor skills helping the Ethiopians in both Hebrew and English.

"The character building we saw was beyond anything a test could measure," comments Roberta Weill, retired NYC teacher who was one of the American volunteers. "The kids were so caring, even to me...as they made me join in on a rigorous mountain bike ride into the desert and accompanied me on the camel ride when an evening of Bedouin culture was the scheduled evening activity, organized by the Nitzana staff."

Weill, a retired "senior citizen," was told by one student, "Roberta, it's a once in a life time opportunity,



you must come." All of the teachers made the mile long ride by camel into the setting sun of the Negev as English chatter permeated the moon lit path.

"This is a life changing experience," commented one of the students at the final closing program. He was talking not of the camel ride, but of the opportunity to improve his own confidence in English and certainly the conversational skills that the American volunteers were being challenged for almost 24 hours a day.

The most common expression the day the parents arrived to accompany their children home, was a hearty, todah rabbah, (thank you very much). However, it was the staff who felt thankful for such a motivated group of students and dream teaching opportunity.

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employable skills for Russia's impoverished Jewish people. Since that time, skills taught by ORT have evolved in step with technology and today there is a network extending to 50 countries serving over 290,000 students. ORT cooperates with industry, provides vocational training in schools and is supported in its non for profit work by an international membership of over 250,000. ORT Israel is the organization's flagship operation, and today there are over a half a million ORT graduates who are making valuable contributions to the country's industry and economy.

There are several ORT chapters in the Delaware Valley region including the Brandywine Chapter which serves the greater Wilmington area. For membership information contact Jodi Cohen, at bjc10rc@aol.com.

For information about the Edna Gordon Summer School, contact Lorraine Braun, at American ORT (212)353-5819 or lbraun@aort.org.

Jack Markell awarded Henry Crown Fellowship

Delaware State Treasurer Jack Markell has been named a Henry Crown Fellow by the Aspen Institute. These fellowships honor professionals and executives under the age of 45 who have achieved outstanding success in their chosen career fields. Markell, was one of 20 individuals across the nation to be awarded a 2004 fellowship. He is the only elected public official and the only Delawarean ever to receive this honor.

Markell considers it "a true privilege" to be recognized by the Aspen Institute, an international non-profit organization founded in 1950 to develop leaders and stimulate open-minded dialogue on contemporary issues. "The individuals with whom I am being honored are some of the brightest leaders in the country. The opportunity to gain new ideas from these high achievers in the public and private sectors will benefit Delawareans for years to come," Markell commented.

He will meet with the 2004 class of Henry Crown Fellows on four occasions over the next two years, undertake community service initiatives, and attend leadership and community development seminars.

This fellowship program was established in 1997 to honor the life and career of Chicago industrialist Henry Crown. It is funded by the Henry and Gladys Crown Charitable Trust Fund.



Noted Biblical scholar to teach at Delaware Gratz

Sign Up On-Going This Summer

Tamar Jacobowitz, a doctoral candidate in Midrash at the University of Pennsylvania with a Wexner Graduate Fellowship, will share her love of Biblical interpretation with community young adults as Scholar-In-Residence during the second semester at Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School. She will teach a course in January, 2005 to 11th and 12th graders at the Wilmington Jewish Community Center. Students can earn college credit through Gratz College in Philadelphia while learning how to use traditional commentary to analyze the interpretations of various

Biblical texts and discover the relevance to their lives as emerging Jewish adults. They also will learn how to develop and present D'var Torahs that have personal meaning to them.

This 1999 graduate of the acclaimed Drisha Institute for Jewish Education in New York City, is a popular teacher in the Philadelphia area. Class size is limited so early registrations are encouraged. Students do not have to be already enrolled in Delaware Gratz to take Ms. Jacobowitz's course.

For registration information, please contact Marlene Milunsky, Principal, at 302-478-8100 or email her at gratz@delawaregratz.org.

Provocative discussion group at Seaside

What do American Muslims think about the current state of Islam? Come to this month's discussion group on Thursday July 22nd at 7:30pm. and hear Dina Odetalla talk about a woman's point of view of Islam. Dina is a local resident, very intelligent and a good speaker! This will be a great chance to enlight-

en those in the dark about what Islam is about or what American Muslims are thinking about today's interfaith affairs. Everyone is welcome. Seaside Jewish Community meets at the Ocean Wave Lodge on Holland Glade Road which runs along side of Outlet Mall 3 (behind the Mikasa Outlet).

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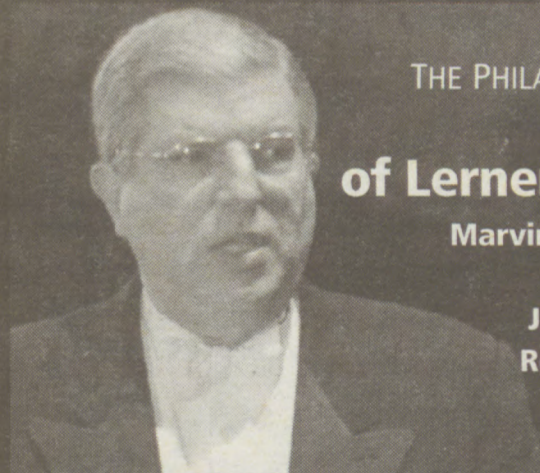
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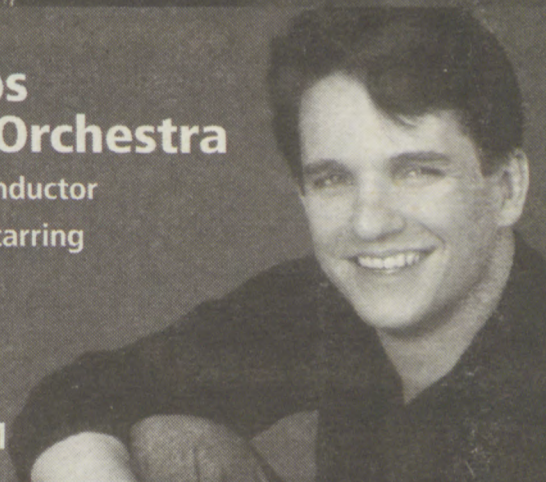


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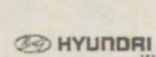
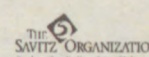
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COMMEMORATING TISHA B'AV

Tisha B'Av: Let us remember the children

By Jane Ulman

In the blazing heat of mid-summer, with its long, light-filled days and leisurely pace, we confront the darkest day on the Jewish calendar, Tisha B'Av.

This holiday, which begins this year at sundown on Monday, July 26, marks the destruction of both Holy Temples in Jerusalem, the fall of the Betar fortress to the Romans, the expulsion of Jews from Spain and other tragedies that have befallen the Jewish people throughout history.

In many ways, Tisha B'Av is the inverse of Chanukah, a holiday of lights that occurs during the darkest days of winter.

"At the moment of light, we have to remember darkness, and at the moment of darkness, we have to remember light," says Sharon Brous, rabbi of Ikar, a new spiritual community in Los Angeles that is both traditional and progressive.

But unlike Chanukah, one of the most celebrated Jewish holidays in the United States, Tisha B'Av is commemorated primarily by observant Jews and kids at Jewish summer camps.

Are the rest of us missing an important opportunity? Does the demise of the Temple and, for some, the desire for its return have meaning for us almost 2,000 years later?

"There is a movement in religion today toward greater consciousness and symbolic understanding," says J. Marvin Spiegelman, an author and Jungian analyst in private practice in the Los Angeles area. "I think when we say we want to rebuild the Temple, we mean that we want to make it real psychologically."

But before the Temple can be rebuilt, psychologically or otherwise, we need to come to

terms with the forces that caused the devastation. As the Talmud tells us, "Why was the First Temple destroyed? Because of idolatry, incest and the spilling of blood within it. And why the second? Because of senseless hatred."

In other words, because of the forces of darkness that reside within human beings.

"I think it's healthy to take that upon ourselves," Spiegelman says. "It's important that we become aware of evil — our own murderousness, coldness and selfishness — so we don't act it out and project it out."

Unlike Yom Kippur, in which we concentrate on individual sins, Tisha B'Av focuses on the collective evil, the darkness or shadow that dwells within a whole community or nation, and the wreckage it can engender.

Evil always has existed. In the book of Isaiah, God says, "I am the Lord and there is none else. I form the light and create darkness. I make peace and create evil. I am the Lord that does all these things."

"There's a sense, though, that the world is particularly off-kilter now," Spiegelman says.

Thus, the need to recognize the darkness is even more crucial.

"Ultimately Tisha B'Av is about emerging from the darkness into something much more whole," Brous says.

To do this, both Brous and Spiegelman see power in the time-honored traditions of Tisha B'Av.

This includes observing a 25-hour fast from sundown to nightfall and, during evening services, sitting on the floor in semi-darkness reading the book of Eicha — Lamentations — and

other kinot, or elegies, which also are read the following day.

"But we can't just go through the motions. We have to contextualize it, to ask, 'What are we actually doing? What does it mean to commemorate this event right now in this way?'" Brous says. "The problem now is we have only the shell of the ritual without the essence."

The summer camp experience often provides more context.

At Camp Ramah of California, located in the Ojai Valley north of Los Angeles, campers and staff gather together on Tisha B'Av eve in the outdoor synagogue, the area illuminated by dim candlelight. They sit on the ground as mourners and listen as Eicha is read.

Afterwards, before the campers leave for their tents, Rabbi Daniel Greyber, executive director of Camp Ramah of California and the Zimmer Conference Center, urges them not to speak to one another.

"I want to create an awareness for them of how we use words and the ways in which they're hurtful to one another. I want to bring alive what it feels like to hate each other so much that we can't even speak to one another and how destructive this was for the Jewish people."

That evening, staff members watch "Nine Days in November," an Israeli film depicting the years and months leading up to the assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

"I believe that there's no time in modern Jewish history that better reflects the dangers of sinat chinam, senseless hatred, than that moment," Greyber says.

The following day, the mood progressively

lightens. Campers engage in creative projects, such as painting murals of Jerusalem or acting in skits about hurtful speech. They talk about the importance of Israel.

"Tisha B'Av is not the most fun day in camp. The kids learn about some of the dark things that have happened to the Jewish people historically. But they walk away having grown as individuals, with a very deep message about what it means to be part of the Jewish people and to take responsibility for creating the Jewish community they want," Greyber says.

That is the message Tisha B'Av can teach all of us — to take responsibility. And not only for the Jewish community.

"Tisha B'Av isn't just ancient history; it's also the awful, sad and gruesome reality for many people today. A lot of the horrible images that are depicted in Lamentations are actually happening in the world, in places like Sudan and Haiti," Brous says.

Tisha B'Av teaches us that survival and change are possible. The destruction of the Temple, horrific as it is, revolutionized Judaism, dispersing us in all directions and eventually transforming our communication with God from animal sacrifices and priestly rituals to prayer and good deeds. And we have been able to continue to survive.

We have turned the minor holiday of Chanukah into an extravaganza of light and celebration. Can we now turn the most tragic day in Jewish history into an experience of deep significance and transformation?

"Let there be light," God says in Genesis. But let us also not forget the darkness.

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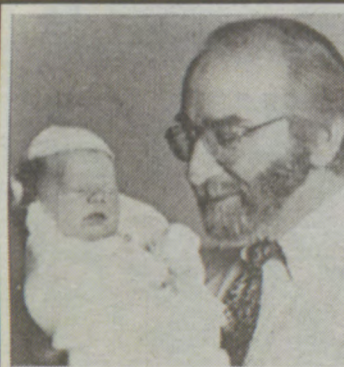
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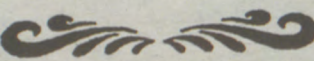
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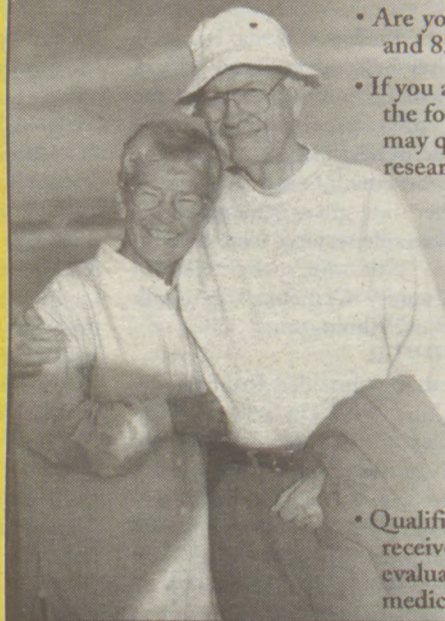
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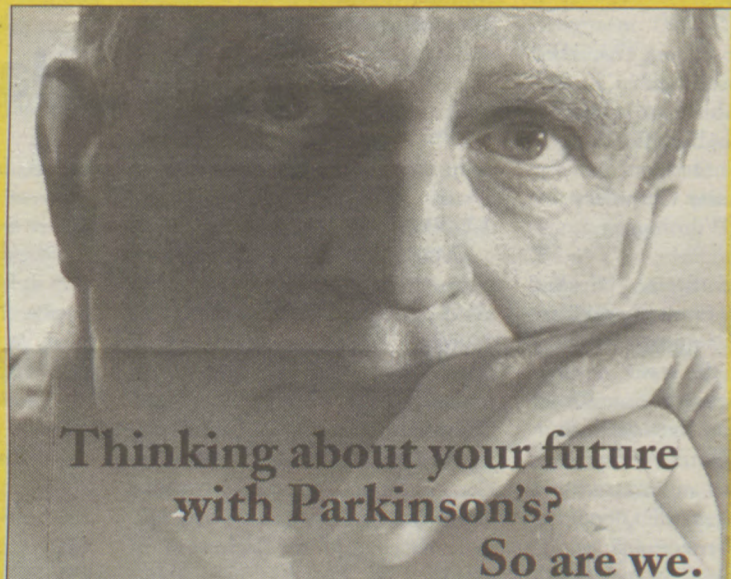
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MILESTONES

In Memoriam

GORDON

Norman Gordon, 93, died July 7th at Wilmington Hospital. Born and raised in Philadelphia, he attended West Philadelphia High School and the University of Alabama. He worked at the Frankford Arsenal during World War II and later moved to Ventnor and Margate, NJ where he ran a toy business with his wife, Eleanor. He will be remembered by his friends, family and customers as a man of great warmth and intellect.

In addition to his wife, survivors include his son and daughter-in-law, Dr. Richard and Helaine Gordon; and his grandchildren, David, Brett and Stefanie.

A memorial service was held on July 9th at Schoenberg Memorial Chapel.

Contributions in his memory may be made to the Jewish Family Service, 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington, DE 19803.

GROSS

Morris Isaac Gross, 73, died June 26th at his home in Dover. His funeral was held on June 29th at Congregation Beth Shalom in Dover with interment in the Jewish Community Cemetery on Foulk Road in Wilmington.

HOFFSTEIN

Clara M. Hoffstein, 105, died June 26th at Franciscan Care Center in Hockessin. An accomplished violinist, she was a member of the Eastern Star Masonic Order and Congregation Beth Shalom in Wilmington. Family and friends recall her warmth and creativity in needlecrafts, the garden, cooking and baking. Predeceased by her

parents, Fred and Lena Rudnick and her beloved husband, Albert, she will be sorely missed by her sons, Jules (Ace) and Stan; her grandchildren, Mark, Kurt and Beth (Sowden), Lesley (Stevenson) and her nine great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were held on June 29th in the Jewish Community Cemetery on Foulk Road in Wilmington.

KONIVER

Esther Schneider Koniver, 93, died June 29th. The widow of Dr. Charles C. Koniver, she spent much of her life in Allentown, PA where she was active in Temple Beth El and other Jewish and community organizations. She was an avid golfer and loved all card games, especially Bridge.

She is survived by her sons, Dr. Garth and his wife, Ellen and Brett and his wife, Marion; her daughter, Deena; grandchildren, Mia, Beth and Dr. Craig and two great grandchildren.

Graveside services were held on June 30th at Roosevelt Memorial Park in Trevoze, PA.

The family would appreciate contributions in her memory to a charity of the donor's choice.

LUNDY

Marian Lundy, nee Minnie Shapiro of Sunny Isles, Florida, died on July 8th at Aventura Hospital in Florida at the age of 83. She was a native of Philadelphia who moved to Wilmington in 1935. Her family opened Shapiro's Delicatessen on Second Street—a local landmark for more than two decades. In 1937, she married Julius (Jack) Lundy.

When her parents, Louis and Tillie Shapiro retired in the early 1950s, Mrs. Lundy and her husband opened Jack Lundy's Delicatessen. The business was a restaurant and catering mainstay in Wilmington for 30 years. She was an active member of the Link Order of the Golden Chain.

In the 1980s, Marian relocated to Sunny Isles, Florida. There, she wrote news bulletins for her condominium complex and other charitable groups.

She is survived by her sister, Edythe Wishnow of Clermont, Florida; her children, Eileen Sidlow of Sunny Isles, Florida and Michael and Barbara Lundy of Livingston, NJ; her grandchildren, Elizabeth Lloyd, Tammy Kushner, Sharon Baartmans and Lisa Rieger

and her great grandchildren, Cameron, Jade and Raymond.

Graveside services were held on July 11th at the Jewish Community Cemetery on Foulk Road in Wilmington. Contributions in her memory may be made to the American Diabetes Association, 100 West 10th Street, Wilmington, DE 19801.

PERLOW

Syd Mittelman Perlow, 95, of the Kutz Home in Wilmington, died June 27 at Christiana Hospital. She was a former resident of Bridgeton, New Jersey and Boca Raton, Florida. Predeceased by her first and second husbands, Albert Mittelman and Samuel Perlow and a son, Richard J. Mittelman, she is survived by her son, Herbert J. Mittelman of

Columbia, MD; her brother, Irwin Rheingold of Dayton, Ohio; two grandchildren, Michael Mittelman of Wilmington and Sharon Coverdale of Chadds Ford, PA; her daughter-in law, Nancy Mittelman of Wilmington; three great grandchildren; five step grandchildren; 15 step great grandchildren and two step great-great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on July 7th at Chandler Funeral Home in Wilmington with burial in the Jewish Community Cemetery on Foulk Road, Wilmington. Contributions in her memory would be appreciated to The American Diabetes Association, 100 West 10th Street, Suite 1002, Wilmington, DE 19801.

NACHAS NOOK

Hadassah presents Achievement Awards

Suzy Grumbacher of Wilmington Hadassah recently received the National Leadership Award. The award is presented to women who have exhibited outstanding leadership in Hadassah and other organizations – civic, educational, and/or cultural, as well. In addition to being a past Chapter President, Suzy has held numerous other positions in the local chapter and at the Regional level. The award was bestowed on June 7, 2004, when the Wilmington Chapter celebrated its 75th birthday. OTHER HADASSAH AWARDS PRESENTED...

At the 75th birthday celebration Wilmington Hadassah also presented the Myrna Lomish Rubenstein Young Leadership Award. This is given to a member who has either become active recently (within the past five years) or who has been a member for fewer than five years.

This year's recipient was Janet Bailis.

Other awards presented were the Executive Board Awards and the Love-of-a-lifetime Award. These were bestowed on people who have served in various capacities for many years.



Suzy Grumbacher



Janet Bailis, left and Harvey Rubenstein

A New Daughter of Israel is born



Bryna and Jay Rappaport are thrilled to announce the birth of their first grandchild, Hannah Gabrielle Rappaport, daughter of Dr. David and Jennifer Rappaport of Washington, DC. Hannah was born on June 23, 2004, in INOVA Fairfax Hospital, Falls Church, Virginia, where her father is Chief Pediatric Resident. At birth, Hannah weighed 5 lb 10 oz and was 18-3/4 inches long.

Hannah is also the grand-



Hannah Gabrielle Rappaport

daughter of Jackie and Steve Rollin and Bruce Levy of Florida, and the great-granddaughter of Lillie Rappaport of W. Orange, NJ. Hannah is named for her paternal great-grandfather, Louis Klastorin.

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COMING ATTRACTIONS

JEWISH WAR VETERANS HOST SUNDAY SPEAKER

The Jewish War Veterans of the United States, Department of Delaware, will host Allan Zabach this Sunday, July 18th at the B'nai B'rith House in Claymont. The free program begins promptly at 10:30 a.m.

Zabach is the new director of the State Division of Services for the Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities. The entire community is invited to attend.

SUMMER ISRAELI DANCING SESSIONS

Please join us for summer outdoor Israeli dancing, Mondays July 12 and August 9, outdoors at the Wilmington JCC amphitheatre (behind and to the left of the pool), from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. All are welcome! More beginning dances are taught and reviewed the first hour, the second hour is usually more advanced. Led by Sharon Kleban and Howard Wachtel. Cost is \$3 per session for JCC members, students & AEA families, and \$5 for non-members. For directions call the JCC at 478-5660, or look up on www.jccdelaware.org.

In addition, there is one more summer session at the Arden Gild Hall on Wednesday, July 21, from 7:30 - 9:30, through the Arden Club Folk Dancing Gild. For directions call 302-475-3126, or look up <http://home.sprynet.com/~tbrat/>.

NCJW WILMINGTON SECTION'S ANNUAL FAMILY BBQ

Come one, come all-Monday, July 26 at 6:00 pm at the JCC Picnic Grove. NCJW members and non-members are welcome. The cost is \$5 per adult, \$3.50 per child (free for children 2 and under), \$15 max per family. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Linda Kushner (302) 733-7628. Enjoy a kosher style

meat meal and access to the JCC swimming pool. NCJW membership information will be available at the time as well. Rain date is Tuesday, July 27.

PROVOCATIVE FREE CLASS IN NEWARK

The Jewish Community Center Newark is offering a free 4-week class on Tuesdays, August 3 through 31; except the 17th, from 7:00 to 8:00 pm.

This class will focus on "Heaven and Hell and the World in Between." The focus will be the Jewish view of these different worlds. Facilitator is Rabbi Eliezer Sneiderman, director of the University of Delaware Chabad. This is a free class, open to all. Call (302) 368-9173 to reserve your seat by August 2.

The JCC Newark is located off I-95 on Route 896 going north, on the corner of West Park Place and South College Avenue.

COMMUNITY NEWCOMERS BAGEL BRUNCH

Are you "newish and Jewish?" The Women's Philanthropy committee of the Jewish Federation of Delaware plans to welcome newcomers to the Delaware Jewish community at a community-wide *Bagels and...* brunch on September 12 at the Wilmington JCC. Women in our community are invited to become involved with the Federation through the Women's Philanthropy initiative. Whether your interests lie in educational programs, fund-raising or outreach, Women's Philanthropy can enhance your awareness and understanding of your Jewish community and Jewish heritage...and offers you the chance to meet new people with similar interests. The Women's Philanthropy initiative is your connection to the wealth of active organizations in our Jewish

community. If you know of a newcomer to the community, or are interested in joining the committee, please call Jennifer Young at the Jewish Federation of Delaware 302-427-2100.

JACOB K. JAVITS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM INVITES APPLICANTS

United States Senator Joseph R. Biden, Jr. announced that the Department of Education is seeking applicants for the Jacob K. Javits Fellowship Program. The Fellowship is designed for students beginning graduate study in selected fields of the arts, humanities and social sciences leading to a doctoral degree or master's degree in those fields in which a master's degree is the highest degree awarded. Selection is based on demonstrated academic achievement, financial need and exceptional promise. 71 Fellowships will be funded with an average award of \$41,511. The deadline for applications is October 8th. For additional information about scholarship opportunities, please visit the Department of Education website at: www.ed.gov/ed/pubs.html.

AUTHOR SEEKING TALLIT STORIES TO INCLUDE IN NEW BOOK

Jewish educator Dr. Debra Smith, inspired by the stories she hears about what each tallit means to the wearer, is writing a book about these beautiful Jewish prayer shawls, and she's looking for interesting and unusual stories to include in it. Titled *Every Tallit Tells a Tale*, the book will feature submissions from throughout the United States, from Canada, and even from Israel. The deadline for submissions is August 15, 2004. Smith is seeking a wide range of pieces, including stories by young people, especially teenagers; stories about multigenerational tallitot, which have

been handed down from generation to generation; writeups about specially designed tallitot; contributions detailing how a tallit changed a person's life; stories about Holocaust-era tallitot; and submissions from older people who have traveled life's journey with the same tallit or various tallitot that reflected each stage of their life.

To submit a story about a tallit for consideration in Smith's forthcoming book, send a 750-1,000-word piece (e-mailed as a word document attachment or pasted into the body of an e-mail) to tallitstories@yahoo.com. A few lines of autobiographical information, plus a contact street address and telephone number, should be included as well. For further information, call Debra Smith at (908) 850-8037.

FILL A BACKPACK FOR A DELAWARE STUDENT IN NEED

Adopt-a-Family Launches the Annual Adopt-A-Student Program

The Adopt-a-Family program is inviting Delawareans to participate in the fifth annual Adopt-a-Student program and help a less fortunate child start off the school year right, complete with backpack and school supplies.

The Adopt-a-Student program is administered by Delaware Health and Social Services' Division of State Service Centers. Last year, the program helped more than 1,100 children in New Castle County and over 300 children in Kent and Sussex Counties. An outpouring of backpacks and supplies from the community helped the program top its goal last year by more than 900 backpacks statewide. By distributing backpacks and supplies to more than 1,500 students statewide, the Adopt-a-Student program exceeded its 2003 goal of helping 600 students statewide by

more than 150 percent. This year the program hopes to again provide 1,500 students with school supplies statewide.

Please help your young neighbors in need by adopting an individual student and filling a backpack with his/her needed supplies. Adopt-a-Student will match you with a student and provide you with a list of requested supplies. Sponsors are asked to provide a gift card for a pair of shoes and one new outfit for school. Also, for each child sponsored in New Castle County, Hair Cuttery will donate a free haircut certificate.

To be matched with your Adopt-a-Student, please call by July 30. Donations should be delivered to the Adopt-a-Family location nearest you before August 15, 2004 for distribution before the start of the school year. In New Castle County, call (302) 792-9538; in Kent County call (302) 739-3145; and in Sussex County, call (302) 424-2780. To make monetary donations, please mail checks to Adopt-a-Family of New Castle County, 3301 Green St., Claymont, DE 19703; or Adopt-a-Family of Kent/Sussex Counties, 13 SW Front St., Milford, DE 19963. All donations are tax deductible.

POKER ANYONE?

The Jewish Community Center Newark is holding a Poker Tournament on Sunday, August 8, 2004. This afternoon of cards will begin at 1:00 pm.

Come have fun with a group of people that enjoy the same game you do. The game of the day will be Texas Hold'em. The entrance fee is \$100. Call by August 5th to reserve your seat in the tournament. Contact Brandon Buglio at (302) 368-9173.

The JCC Newark is located off I-95 on Route 896 going north, on the corner of West Park Place and South College Avenue.

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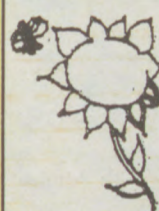
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Welcome the newcomer and introduce yourself through an advertisement in the 2004 Jewish Voice Shalom Delaware special supplement.

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Hurry, deadline for this special edition is July 22nd!