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Delaware Hosts Middle East Peace Forum



Left to right: David Satterfield, National Security Council Director for Near East and South Asian Affairs; Fayez A. Tarawneh, Jordan's Ambassador to the U.S.; Shlomo Gur, Minister - Deputy Chief of Mission for the Israeli Embassy; PLO representative Hasan Rahman; and Ahmed Maher El Sayed, Egyptian Ambassador to the U.S.

Representatives From Egypt, Israel, Jordan, the PLO, and the U.S. Discuss Future, Voice Concerns

By JORDAN SOPINSKY
Editor of The Jewish Voice

High-ranking representatives from Egypt, Israel, Jordan, the PLO, and the United States discussed the future of the peace process at the Hotel DuPont's Gold Ballroom in Wilmington during a Middle East peace forum on Monday, May 20. The forum, dedicated to the memory of Sadat and Rabin, was sponsored by the Delaware chapter of People To People.

Speakers included Ahmed Maher El Sayed, the Egyptian ambassador to the United States; Fayez A. Tarawneh, Jordan's ambassador to the United States; Hasan Abdel Rahman, the chief PLO representative in Washington; Shlomo Gur, minister-deputy chief of mission for the Israeli embassy; and David Satterfield, the director for Near East and South Asian Affairs, National Security Council.

Satterfield, who spoke at a People To People event on the Middle East last year, cited dialogue, conciliation, and trust as the forces

which will bring about, in President Clinton's words, "the quiet miracle of a normal life." "Progress has been made," Satterfield, the keynote speaker, said, "but more is needed. We want to make the impact of peace felt on the street." He said the U.S. is committed to all parties concerned. "The President is determined and the administration is committed. America will remain a force for peace and prosperity."

Dr. Saleem A. Khan, the President of the Islamic Society of Delaware, introduced Shlomo Gur, from the Israeli embassy. This was later commented on by Egypt's Maher who felt that it symbolized the progress of the peace process as gaining hold among the people, and not just its leaders.

"Complexities and difficulties still need to be worked out," Gur said, "but the peace process has gone beyond the point of no return." Gur emphasized that there must be an uncompromising fight against terrorism. "Part of the fight stems from avoiding circumstances and

conditions that give them support." Gur cited past and future economic summits, which have the goal of creating a prosperous economic infrastructure in the Middle East, as one important arena to wage the battle.

Egyptian ambassador Ahmed Maher El Sayed underscored Gur's speech by repeating that the peace process was beyond the point of no return. He pointed out that Egypt and Israel's peace treaty paved the way for the current peace process. Maher also discussed the importance of considering the sensitivities of the other parties while one country is making a decision that could have an effect on another.

Maier, albeit diplomatically, criticized Israel's defensive measures in retaliating against Syrian backed Hezbollah terrorists in southern Lebanon who sent missiles into northern Israel from close proximity to villages and refugee centers. Maier also criticized Israel's closure of Gaza and the West Bank in response to bus bombings in recent months. The am-

bassador called these "over-reactions."

Rahman, the PLO representative, was introduced by Toni Young, the immediate past president of the Jewish Federation of Delaware. He said the most difficult part lies ahead. "We fought each other for a long period of time," he said. "But our destinies are intertwined and so we have become rational."

He also commented on the economic dependence of Palestinians on Israel. He questioned why Israel did not invest the same amount of money per capita in the occupied territories as for its citizens. However, he failed to mention the lack of support from other Arab nations. Rahman suggested that Israel was responsible for destroying the Palestinian infrastructure during what he called Israeli occupation however he produced no evidence that there previously was ever such an infrastructure.

Rahman's overall message, however, was focused on the desire for peace, as was the clear indication from all of the participants of the forum. And while the representatives chose diplomatic avenues for expressing differences of opinion, it was obvious that the sentiments and desire for peace expressed by everyone was genuine.

Dr. Tarawneh, the Jordanian ambassador,

Continued on page 5

Declassified CIA Documents Show Wallenberg Was U.S. Spy

By DANIEL KURTZMAN

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Newly declassified CIA documents support long-standing claims that Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat who saved thousands of Hungarian Jews from the Nazis, served as a spy for the United States and survived well beyond his disappearance in 1947. A new study conducted by the weekly newsmagazine U.S. News and World Report "shows conclusively that Wallenberg was a valued U.S. intelligence asset" for the Office of Strategic Service, the precursor of the CIA.

Rep. Tom Lantos (D-Calif.), who, as a 16-year-old living in Hungary in 1944 escaped to a Wallenberg safe house in Budapest, welcomed the new revelations. "If he provided information that got back to U.S. intelligence officials which was helpful in the Allied effort to defeat the Nazis, that is wonderful," said Lantos, whose wife, Annette, was also saved through efforts inspired by Wallenberg.

Lantos stressed, however, that Wallenberg went to Budapest to save lives. "His was a

humanitarian mission, but he may have provided some intelligence information. Clearly he was not a spy who just happened to save lives."

Arriving in Budapest in July 1944, Wallenberg established buildings of refuge under the protection of the Swedish flag where he distributed food, medical supplies and Swedish passports. His efforts saved the lives of at least 20,000 Hungarian Jews facing deportation and extermination in Nazi death camps.

Wallenberg's service to the OSS was approved by President Roosevelt, although he was not formally on the OSS payroll, according to U.S. News. "His mission was not only to save Jews," the article states, "but to provide U.S. spymasters with access to anti-Nazi resistance forces trying to break up Budapest's alliance with Berlin." The article also asserted that Wallenberg browbeat and bribed Nazis to free Jews using funds from the U.S. War Refugee Board, which the declassified files showed had links to U.S. spy operations.

Soviet authorities, aware of Wallenberg's ties to U.S. intelligence, "spirited him out of Budapest in January, 1945," U.S. News reported. The Soviet claim that Wallenberg died in 1947 has long been disputed, and U.S. News offered eyewitness and secondhand reports that placed Wallenberg in the Soviet Union decades after that date.

One of Wallenberg's closest colleagues, retired Swedish Ambassador Per Anger, believes he was alive as late as 1989 and may be alive today. Anger told U.S. News he urged German Chancellor Helmut Kohl to help probe Wallenberg's fate in 1989.

"Holding an extension phone," the article states, "Anger listened as Kohl called Mikhail Gorbachev and pleaded 'let that old man go.' The Russian had no answer, says Anger, who then went to Moscow to appeal personally to the Soviet leader. 'He showed no interest' and 'implied that he had no control over the KGB.'"

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PANIM EL PANIM
(Face to Face with JFD People)



Engaging Couples of Interfaith Marriage Initiative Under Way In Delaware

By DAN WEINTRAUB
JCRC Director

Love is what brings together many interfaith couples. Today, as intermarriage has reached 52% of marriages involving Jews nationally, we are faced with finding adequate responses to this challenge. Two years ago, as a new initiative of the UJA-Federation campaign, Myrna Ryder, the Jewish Family Services Family Life Educator began to staff a group of interfaith couples. Ryder's approach is to provide information about Judaism and to discuss with participants the challenges they face coming from different backgrounds. The premise of the initiative is to provide an avenue into Jewish life for interfaith couples rather than an avenue out. The goal is that through

education and counseling under Jewish auspices one or both spouses will live in a Jewish context.

In supporting this initiative, the community has not decided that this is the only appropriate approach to intermarriage, but that it may prove to be helpful to bring some into the Jewish community. Population studies, which previously indicated that small percentages of children of intermarriage chose to live Jewishly, do not measure the effectiveness of efforts such as this interfaith group which were not in existence at the time of prominent population studies such as the 1990 CJF study.

On May 1, I had an opportunity to meet with the group and discuss the issue of anti-Semitism. Ironically anti-Semitism was historically one of

many factors which contributed to lower rates of intermarriage. The Jewish Community Relations Committee has opposed anti-Semitism and coordinates responses to anti-Semitism in Delaware. Participants were interested in discussing the causes and extent of anti-Semitism. Relevant to non-Jewish spouses was the sense that their loved one could be affected by anti-Semitism. Recent efforts by several Christian movements such as Catholics and Methodists, to counter anti-Semitism were noted. One message brought across was the need to find other reasons to participate in Jewish life than merely opposing anti-Semitism.

Some commentators have highlighted the need for measures to prevent intermarriage from occurring.

Such measures may include trips to Israel, and Jewish education. Needless to say not all have agreed on the best approach. The interfaith group is intended to address what to do after intermarriage has taken place. This need not interfere with any efforts at prevention. Efforts to prevent intermarriage and efforts to provide avenues into Jewish life are legitimate expressions of our goal of perpetuating Jewish culture, people and religion.

Ostracizing interfaith couples is not the most effective way to make them feel welcomed into Jewish life, according to Ryder. At the same time it is challenging for synagogues to set eligibility guidelines for participation in rituals and decisions by those who do not wish to formally affiliate

through conversion. The primary rationale of welcoming interfaith couples into Jewish life is to encourage either conversion or participation in the Jewish community along with raising Jewish children. As a people faced with a history of forced conversions we may be reluctant to aggressively proselytize. By treating individuals with compassion and directness we may be more effective than in the recent past.

There is a long tradition of people becoming Jews through conversion. If any participants in the interfaith group become Jews-by-choice our community would benefit from the addition(s). If children of participants are encouraged into Jewish life then intermarriage would not in all cases mean the end of a Jewish line. The interfaith group initiative challenges the assumption that intermarriage is a one-way street out of Judaism. We are not against love but we are for Jewish continuity.

For more information about the interfaith group initiative staffed by Myrna Ryder, call (302) 478-9411.

JUNE BRIDAL **NEXT!**
ISSUE **JUNE 7TH**
and FATHER'S DAY
Deadline: May 29th

Israel Still Needs Your Support

Reason no. 1: ALIYAH



It's no longer front page news to the rest of the world, but every day hundreds of new immigrants arrive in Israel hoping to begin new and better lives. In fact, approximately five thousand Jews from the former Soviet Union land at Ben Gurion Airport each month! Last year, 76,361 Jews from the FSU, Ethiopia and other countries left their homes and joined the modern-day Exodus to Israel. Every tenth Israeli is now an immigrant who arrived during the past five years.

The UJA Federation Annual Campaign still needs your assistance to rescue Jews from danger, fly them to Israel and help them begin new lives of freedom. Your increased campaign gift will touch the life of nearly every new immigrant who arrives in Israel. Aliyah is just one reason why Israel needs our support now.

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BRIEFS

NJCRAC Looks To Its Future After Compromise With Agencies

By CYNTHIA MANN

NEW YORK (JTA) — A new compromise plan for the future of the Jewish communal world's national public affairs body has averted a rupture in relations between its local and national member agencies. The National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council has issued a strategic plan that it claims will make it a stronger and more responsive coordinator of public policy for its 117 local community relations council members.

The most important change is that NJCRAC for the first time will have a presence in the nation's capital, although its role will be severely limited. Another is the elimination of the veto power previously enjoyed by the national member agencies over any NJCRAC position statement with which they disagreed. Many local councils believed that such a veto had long loomed as an unjust power imbalance in favor of the national agencies.

NJCRAC represents a partnership of 117 local agencies (like Delaware's JCRC) and 13 national agencies (such as the ADL, UAHC, and Hadassah.)

New Magazines Aims To Open Black-Jewish Communication

WASHINGTON (JTA) — To the literary world and civil rights arena comes a new publication, CommonQuest: The Magazine of Black Jewish Relations. The brainchild of the American Jewish Committee and Howard University, this journal — to be issued three times a year — was created to foster dialogue between African Americans and American Jews.

AJCommittee President Robert S. Rifkind, in an introductory letter in the premier issue, said: "We will ask our contributors to illuminate the real conflicts that exist but also to identify fruitful fields for cooperation between blacks and Jews in advancing a common agenda."

The magazine's editorial advisory board lists members of Congress, rabbis and well-known African Americans and American Jews — from Rabbi Irving Greenberg to Prof. Henry Louis Gates Jr.

The magazine's backers hope that it will turn up in "black barber shops, the Hillel group at Boston University and at Tikkun magazine editor Michael Lerner's office."

Rabbi May Label Arab Brew Kosher

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A Palestinian brand of beer may soon have a kosher label.

Avraham Diesser, rabbi of a Jewish settlement near the West Bank town of Ramallah, said he would provide Orthodox certification for Taybeh Beer, adding that he would make regular visits to the local brewery to make sure there are no non-kosher ingredients in it.

Palestinian businessman Nadim Khoury began producing the brew last year. It has already reached an appreciative audience in some Israeli bars and among some secular circles in the West Bank. But the beer is off-limits to those adhering to Islamic law, which forbids the drinking of alcoholic beverages.

Huge Bar Mitzvah For Orphans, Immigrants And Disadvantaged

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Guinness Book of World Records has no category for "Largest Bar Mitzvah." If it did, though, B'nai B'rith in Israel might very well hold the title.

The district made its claim to the record on March 10 when it hosted a bar mitzvah in Tel Aviv for 160 children. Pnina Bor, president of B'nai B'rith in Israel, said the district prepared so many desserts that it had extra cakes and sweets to give to Tel Aviv's Ichilov Hospital, where many of the children injured in the recent Hamas terrorist attacks were recuperating.

Among the 160 Bar and Bat Mitzvahs were orphans, recent immigrants from Syria and Yemen and other children from similarly disadvantaged backgrounds. "I have no doubt," said Bor, "that if not for B'nai B'rith, some of these children who enjoyed this beautiful bar mitzvah would have never celebrated their bar mitzvah at all."

If not a world record, the bar mitzvah was certainly one of the largest ever in Israel itself, drawing significant media coverage and the presence of top government ministers. The chief rabbi of northern Tel Aviv, Rabbi Yona Mezger, presided over the ceremony.

The JEWISH VOICE

NATIONAL • INTERNATIONAL

New Voting System In Israel For May 29 Election

By DAVID LANDAU

JERUSALEM (JTA) On May 29, Israelis will for the first time vote directly for the next prime minister, where the race is between Peres and Netanyahu. With the direct election of the next premier, the reformed Israeli system will more closely resemble an American-type presidential election than the British-style parliamentary system, which until now has been the foundation of Israel's democratic edifice.

Each voter will cast a separate ballot to choose a party in the Knesset contest. Twenty-one parties are vying for the 120 parliamentary seats, though only 10 or so are expected to garner enough votes to win representation.

Until now, Israelis only voted for the incoming Knesset, casting one vote for a party. The candidate heading that party's list was in effect the voter's choice for prime minister, though in practice only the leaders of Labor and Likud ever seriously aspired to the post.

Because no party ever attained a majority under the old rules, the parties would vie after the election, with the top vote-getter appointed by the president to form a governing coalition. To that end, they would often become embroiled in weeks, sometimes even months, of haggling between themselves over who would take over the prime ministership and form the new government.

Small parties would maneuver between Labor and Likud seeking the best deal they could get as potential coalition members and constantly upping the ante to advance their own party's goals. As a result, the smaller parties could often win political influence that far exceeded their mandate from the voters.

Under the new system — and this is the key reform — only the winner of the contest for prime minister can become prime minister. And no one but the elected prime minister can form a

government. If he fails to form a government that wins the approval

of a Knesset majority within 45 days, a new election for prime minister will take place. If he fails a second time around, his party must put forward an alternative candidate, who then would run in a third election.

Under the new system, the small parties will lose much of their bargaining power: They can join in the proposed coalition, or they can opt to stay out. But because only the elected prime minister is capable of forming the government, they can no longer threaten to switch allegiance to another major party to form a government.

The chief purpose of the reformers was to whittle down the inordinate power wielded by the small parties under the old system and to enhance that of the prime minister. No longer will the prime minister have to feel himself subject to a small Knesset faction whose secession from his coalition could spell a change of government. Now, a secession leading to the governing coalition's loss of its Knesset majority would automatically bring about the fall of the government and the dissolution of the Knesset — and, therefore, new elections. Knesset members would presumably think long and hard before precipitating a coalition crisis — because their own continued tenure in the legislature would immediately be jeopardized.

Women of The Wall Angered By Delay For Its Quest

By MICHELE CHABIN

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The Women of the Wall are angry.

Nearly seven years after first petitioning Israel's Supreme Court for an order that would allow women to pray aloud as a group at the Western Wall with a Torah and ritual garments, the group is still waiting for its dream to be realized.

Two years ago, the Supreme Court vowed to resolve this politically explosive issue, which is opposed by the Orthodox religious establishment, but has yet to do so.

The court Sunday granted a government ministerial commission charged with resolving the issue an extension until July 29.

On that date, the court will hear from both the commission and representatives of the women's group.

The government's position relies on the halachic prohibition against "koh isha" — the sound of a woman's voice — because it can sexually arouse male worshippers.

In the first order it issued after the Women of the Wall filed a petition in 1989, the Supreme Court wrote in a temporary order that the group may not pray out loud at the Wall because "the voice of the woman is lewd."

Phyllis Chesler, a director of the International Committee for Women of the Wall, said, "In their opposing brief, the government has compared us to prostitutes and said that we're doing the devil's work, that we have been painted by feminism and should instead be at home taking care of our husbands and children."

The group now meets at the Wall once a month, on Rosh Hodesh, as well as on holidays, and prays together silently, without donning prayer shawls.

Then the group, which includes Orthodox and non-Orthodox women and ranges in size from 10 to 30 women, walks to the Jewish Quarter of the Old City, where they read from the Torah.

In January 1992, the Supreme Court asked that a Knesset commission be formed to resolve the issue. That commission sought, and was granted, extensions until last month.

In a discussion paper the Knesset commission issued in February, it suggested alternative sites for the Women of the Wall, including a site known as Kotel HaKatan, or the Little Wall, which is a continuation of the Wall surrounding the Temple Mount in the Old City's Muslim Quarter.

Another suggestion was that the

Continued on Page 5



Wallenberg

Continued from page 1

The new revelations about Wallenberg come as the U.S. Postal Service unveiled a postage stamp this week paying tribute to the Swedish humanitarian.

It is only one of a succession of honors to be bestowed upon him. In 1981, Wallenberg was named an honorary U.S. citizen; in 1986, a Washington, D.C., street, where the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum now stands, was renamed "Raoul Wallenberg Place"; and late last year, he was honored with a bronze bust in the U.S. Capitol.

The United States Postal Service is honoring Raoul Wallenberg on a postage stamp. The stamp will be available in 1997. (In 1981, President Ronald Reagan approved a special Act of Congress, making Wallenberg an honorary American citizen, a distinction only Sir Winston Churchill shares.)



June Bridal Issue
Deadline May 29th

EDITORIAL

Security Through Peace Or Peace Through Security

That is the question Israelis have been pondering and will continue to think about until elections are held on May 29. Yes, the two options sound remarkably similar. Prime Minister Shimon Peres and prime ministerial candidate Binyamin Netanyahu, caught in an extremely close race, understand that the outcome of the election will be determined most likely by voters who have not made a choice and are caught in the middle. Staunch supporters of each candidate believe that this rhetoric is simply a veneer able to be removed once elections are over.

This phenomenon is one of a few ways in which Israeli politics have been Americanized. On May 29, Israelis will directly elect the prime minister. For the first time, voting for the Knesset and the prime minister will be done separately. This could result in a divided government. In addition, modern campaign tech-

niques involving the media have taken on the same flavor Americans have been accustomed to witnessing, including jingles and television advertisements which utilize visual stimuli.

According to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, of the 600,000 olim who arrived from the former Soviet Union, 400,000 are eligible to vote. Political observers say it is difficult to predict how the immigrants will vote. Besides economic concerns, they are extremely security conscious; many of those injured or killed in recent terrorist attacks were Russian immigrants.

American Jews and Israelis should be proud that the only democratic nation in the Middle East is Israel. The peace process, while at times riding a roller coaster, should be viewed with the notion that no matter who wins the election, a secure and peaceful region is what everyone desires.



A rally in support of Shimon Peres.



Benjamin Netanyahu, campaigning in Israel with his wife, two weeks prior to the May 29 election.

Photos credit: RNS Photo/Reuters

THURSDAY NOON DEADLINE

for all articles, advertisements and news for The Jewish Voice

12 NOON THURSDAY

DEADLINE	FOCUS	ISSUE
May 29	June Bridal/Father's Day	June 7
June 13	Summer Weddings	June 21
July 11	Summer Spectacular	July 19
August 1	Guide to Jewish Life in Delaware	August 9

12 NOON THURSDAY
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Constance S. Kreshtool, a long time leader of the Jewish community of Delaware, has been named Editorial Committee Chair for *The Jewish Voice*. Connie's past commitments to the Jewish Federation of Delaware have been numerous. In addition, she has been a valued contributor to *The Jewish Voice* as a columnist and as a member of the Editorial Committee. *The Jewish Voice* and the Jewish Federation of Delaware welcome Connie to her new position. We know she will continue her commitment to keep the Jewish community of Delaware informed.



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VOICE BOX

"Get involved!"

- Leslie Newman, JFD President-elect at JFD's 62nd annual meeting

"In 1929 Albert Einstein wrote, 'It is now more than ever necessary to preserve the Jewish community in a vital form.' This certainly might have been written today. How appropriate that a man who changed forever the course of human history understood the significance of his Jewish heritage and of maintaining a vital Jewish future."

- Judy Wortman, Executive Vice-President of the Jewish Federation of Delaware, at JFD's 62nd annual meeting

"Can you imagine what would happen if I left the computer on in the temple and walked away, with that screen-saver?"

- Rabbi David Weber of Temple Rodeph Torah, Marlboro, N.J., a purchaser of an early edition of the CD-ROM version of the Hebrew Bible, after discovering that the program's screen-saver flashed quotations about Jesus.

"Late nights, when I start thinking of how much I miss Israel, I just open up my photo album. And it takes me right back into the heart of the Old City, or on a kibbutz learning to farm, or right back in the middle of the Galilee; looking out and seeing the rolling hills and the little towns nestled in between."

- Dan Medwin, Religious and Cultural Vice-President of the North American Federation of Temple Youth, Mid-Atlantic Region, during his speech at the JFD annual meeting about the "Exodus to Israel" trip he went on last summer.

OPINION

Shavuot: The Unfinished Holiday

By IRVING GREENBERG

(JTA) — Among the three biblical pilgrimage holidays, Shavuot appears to be short, undeveloped, and damaged by history. Biblically, it is observed for one day — now two in the Diaspora for traditional Jews — with no distinctive commandments comparable to the matzah and seder of Passover or the sukkah, lulav and etrog of Sukkot.

Sadly, the two classic Shavuot commandments of bringing bikkurim (first fruits) and offering the two loaves of bread from the new crop are unfulfillable since the destruction of the Temple. Moreover, the Torah clearly proclaims the date on which Passover and Sukkot occur, but fails to state that the giving of the Torah took place on the actual date of Shavuot, the sixth of Sivan. Finally, there is the gnawing question: if Passover and Sukkot each extend seven days, why is Shavuot only one day? Seven days is a symbol for perfection and wholeness in Jewish tradition. Why is not Sinai, the classic moment of revelation in Judaism, celebrated for a week? Is not the unique divine-human interchange that is not to be forgotten [Deuteronomy 4: 32ff] worthy of being treated as a whole and perfect revelation?

Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik argues that Shavuot is undefined, hence unfinished, because the Torah is unfinished. The "Torah Sh B'al Peh" (the Oral Torah) is the completion of the Sinai revelation. According to Soloveitchik, the reality of the world is impaired by God so that humans can complete the cosmos. Thus, the human is "partner of the Almighty in the act of creation" and perfecting the world "is the ultimate aim of Judaism ...

the telos (goal) of the halachah in all its multifold aspects and manifestations." In order to both perfect this world and to complete the Torah, the human is to act "not as a simple recipient but as a creator of worlds, as a partner with the Almighty in the act of creation."

By leaving the date of revelation uncertain, says Soloveitchik, the Torah ensures that the authority of the Scripture can only be celebrated in accordance with the instructions of the human court. Thus humans become full authority-bearing partners in Torah; in Soloveitchik's words, "God stripped Himself of ... His dominion — and has handed it over to Israel, to the earthly court." Following the logic of Soloveitchik, the people of Israel are to perfect and complete this holiday. If the historic process has deprived Shavuot of some of its main commemoration, then we must fill the vacuum.

This conclusion was already sensed by Kabbalists in Safed in the 17th century. Building on the Kabbalistic insight that God is in exile and the world needs tikkun (repair) by God's human partners, they extraordinarily enriched the holiday by developing a tikkun layl Shavuot (a Shavuot night seder of study). They prepared excerpts from the entire range of the textual tradition and decreed that people were to study all night and review a precis of the entire Torah. Then, in the morning they rose up and reenacted an informed acceptance of the Torah of Sinai — more informed because they had studied its contents, more complete because it included the entire range of the heritage, including Oral Law, Kabbalah and so on.

In the past century, the secular Zionist pioneers tried to stimulate Shavuot by returning its agricultural roots and Reform Judaism by attaching to it the ceremony of confirmation. However, neither of these attempts was particularly effective and the holiday has slipped into further neglect.

In Orthodoxy, Shavuot comes in behind the others in terms of participation and attention. How, then, can this generation restore the crown to its ancient splendor?

The most powerful aspect of Shavuot is not the unilateral divine revelation but its proclamation of a covenant or partnership between God and Israel to perfect humans and complete the Torah in the process of redeeming the world. This covenant must be renewed periodically so that acceptance is wholehearted — not just a passive reception — and each generation understands and commits to its specific task. The time has come to restore Shavuot by bringing the Jewish people together to renew its covenantal faithfulness. Three areas cry out for action.

In the aftermath of the Shoah, the Jewish people came to a consensus to take power and take more responsibility for Jewish fate and security in a world where God was more hidden than ever. We need to proclaim clearly that all who take part in this process do so because they see the ongoing creation of Israel and of Jewish dignity everywhere as a continuation of our covenant mission.

The second area is in Israel-Diaspora rela-

tions. We should renew the covenant by articulating that our destinies and values are inseparable. Israel will send money and people as needed here and serve as a magnet and full resource for intensive Jewish living and learning for Diaspora Jews there. American Jews will continue to build a better society in Israel through aliyah and tzedakah as well as offer political support here. Together, we must renew Jewish values and assure the quality of Jewish life in Israel and the Diaspora. This is the great challenge of the next century; it will take a Jewish renaissance to accomplish the goal.

Finally, the denominations that have become so alienated from each other that they talk and act as if we were no longer one people should get together to renew the covenant. Let us argue and clarify what works and what does not and explore how we can together revitalize the calendar and the way of life even as we differ.

Communitywide Shavuot, or post-Shavuot, renewal of the covenant ceremonies could provide extraordinary excitement and a surge of Jewish community and unity. A renewed Shavuot could complete the Exodus-liberation of modern life by infusing it with the partnership of values and distinctive behaviors of Sinai. Thus, this generation would make its contribution to the eternal covenant of God and Israel.

(Irving Greenberg is president of CLAL — The National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership and author of "The Jewish Way" (New York: Summit Books).

The Rabbi Writes:

Grads: Take Judaism Along In Your Backpack



By Rabbi PETER H. GRUMBACHER
Spiritual Leader of Cong. Beth Emeth

Graduation is upon us, and to high school grads and those who are completing other programs my message to you is to take our precious tradition along with you wherever you go. It is said that college students are the "lost generation" of the Jewish people, appreciating their new-found freedom away from home through exploration of new ideas and different ways of looking at the world.

In many respects this is very healthy, but as you do so take along with you a concise summary of the religion in which you were raised

so that when comparisons are made or when you are asked questions about being a Jew you will have the right answers. In the long run such knowledge is something which might gain you respect among your colleagues. You will find that campuses contain a wide variety of people whose thoughts and ideas, whose faiths and principles you may never have come across in your young life in Delaware. You will be curious about them and they will be curious about you. In addition, the kind of thinking which is expected of you in college will afford you the opportunity to look at "religious school stuff" in a new light. But before that light is turned on, you've got to know at least the basics.

My ninth grade class in comparative religion has read a book the points of which I would like you to consider as necessary contents for your backpack. The book is entitled *Judaism and the World's Religions*, written by David Bamberger. The chapter is called, "What Makes Judaism Special?"

The first important point about our religion is that our belief in the One God informs us that there is one set of rules for one humanity. Our God is not in conflict with any other; and even if you have theological doubts (which

so many people have, especially those your age), the notion of a Supreme Commander-in-Chief is most important when considering what is expected of those people who look to that God for guidance.

Indeed, Judaism makes the point that we must judge people by what they do and not by what they think or believe. All righteous people — regardless of religion — have a share in the world-to-come. Again, whether or not you believe in an afterlife please note that our religion is not exclusive. By following a decent way of life you can find salvation regardless of belief.

It is also important to carry along with you the knowledge that Judaism feels that this is a good world. There might be bad things that happen, but this is no reason to attempt an escape from the world into which you were born. We learn in the very first chapter of the Torah that God saw the world and declared the Divine creation to be good. God gave each of us the responsibility to make it better, but it's nice to know that we're starting off from an optimistic perspective. Each person was created "a little less than divine" which gives us a major responsibility in the task of *tikkun olam*, repairing that which needs repair in our

world.

Furthermore we are quite tolerant of the perspectives of others. We know all too many other faith communities in which this is not the case. They view those who do not agree with them as disbelievers or, even worse, heretics. Those people are condemned and, as such, are viewed as inferior.

Speaking of "inferior," Judaism does not divide its believers into castes. Any of the divisions we might have are cultural in nature, and even though we find there to be some discrimination, some "attitudes," the very foundation of Judaism abhors such classifications.

There are plenty of books you can put into your backpack for more detail on any of the above, and I encourage you to pack one or two of them along with your CDs. These few points however will arm you with some necessary information in order for you to think positively about Judaism and to use it as a basis of comparison in your inquiries as you pursue knowledge. After all, another point is that we encourage an open mind, hoping that when the smorgasbord of important ideas are in front of you, your plate will ultimately be filled with the spiritual delicacies of the Jewish heritage.

Wall

Continued from page 5

women pray at a site used by Christians, where Jesus presumably overthrew the money-lenders' tables.

"Those recommendations were filled with contempt," said Chesler, who lives in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Then, in April, the commission recommended that the Women of the Wall pray at a location outside the Old City of Jerusalem, in an area of Arab eastern Jerusalem.

The area is "unfit for prayer and

probably unfit for Jews," Chesler said, adding, "They're not offering us any bullet-proof tallises, either."

Orit Sulitzeanu, spokeswoman for the Israel Women's Network, called the commission's recommendations "no solution at all."

"The commission was supposed to come up with a solution that would enable the women to pray at the Wall but it has failed to fulfill its mandate," she said.

Shortly after the Knesset commission dissolved, the government appointed a ministerial commission

made up of current Cabinet ministers, to decide how, or whether, to implement the earlier group's recommendations.

Women of the Wall has proposed a time-sharing arrangement that would allow the women to pray together aloud in the women's section each morning when the Torah is read from 6 a.m. to 7 a.m., when few men are at the Wall.

In order to accommodate Orthodox women, the group would not constitute a minyan and would omit certain prayers that can only be said

by the ritual quorum of 10 adults, Chesler said.

According to Anat Hoffman, a leader of Women of the Wall in Jerusalem, "Women are welcome to pray as long as their mouths are shut. Shut in holy places; shut in ritual."

"The daughters of Abraham want to have a voice, but we are told that Abraham had no daughters."

Women of the Wall representatives charge that entrusting the task of resolving the dispute to a ministerial commission will accomplish nothing because the very ministers who have been named to the commission will

almost certainly be replaced once a new government is formed after the May 29 elections.

And it is likely — whether Labor or Likud wins the election — that the support of Orthodox political parties will be needed to form a coalition government.

"The issue is that the state has continually given into terror from ultraright-wing religious parties and individuals," Chesler said.

The Israeli government is defending the time it has taken to resolve the issue.

ARTS • ENTERTAINMENT • BOOKS

Words & Music:

Singapore, Cowgirls, Dysfunctional Families & Puccini

By STEVE COHEN

Special to The Jewish Voice

Song of Singapore is a casual show, made up of bits and pieces written by the musicians who were part of the original Off-Broadway cast. It doesn't try to be anything more than it is, and it provides a fine evening of entertainment. I enjoyed it at the Playhouse in Wilmington last week.

The setting is a sleazy Malaysian night club on the eve of World War II and the leading characters are members of the club band. Loretta Swit stars as its "girl singer." The music is 1940's style and the plot contains elements from Charles Busch's *Swingtime Canteen*, *The Maltese Falcon* and a host of B movies. Part of the fun comes from seeing every member of the cast, including Swit, playing an instrument, singing and acting.

A musical with a similar design is *Cowgirls*, at the Minetta Lane Theatre in Greenwich Village. I expected little because I'm no fan of country-western music, and found the show to be sophisticated, multi-faceted and fulfilling. It's set in a Kansas bar, where an all-female string quartet has been booked in error. The classical

musicians must learn country songs to earn their salary, and in the course of doing so they also learn to let their hair down and broaden their perspectives.

The rest of the plot is unremarkable, but the performances are superb. As with *Song of Singapore*, the script and the music have been written by members of the band: Mary Murfitt and Betsy Howie. They are talented in both musical genres and many of the songs are intricate combinations of classical and country themes. *Cowgirls* is one of the most worthwhile shows to see in New York this season ... thoroughly enjoyable.

Back in the Delaware Valley, two recent openings stand out in sharp contrast to the above-mentioned entertainments, because they attempt too much and confound expectations. They are the AMTF production of *Punch & Judy Get Divorced* and the Wilma Theatre presentation of *Escape From Happiness*.

The domestic violence and constant insults in *Punch & Judy* shows turned me off when I was a kid. The thought of a full-length *Punch & Judy* musical comedy troubled me. Now, after seeing this version by the respected father-and-son team of David

and Ian Gordon, I see that my expectations were too negative. I now realize that they use the image of the warring husband-and-wife couple to make some serious points about role modeling and interdependence.

These topics were explored more cleverly in Rob Becker's *Defending the Caveman*, running successfully on Broadway after trying out here. And *Punch & Judy Get Divorced* was mistakenly touted as a laugh riot, instead of an earnest examination of gender miscommunication. It's not easy to find humor in spousal abuse, and this show doesn't leave us laughing. I liked the piece most when it wasn't trying to be funny.

The Canadian play, *Escape From Happiness*, receiving its area premiere at the Wilma, shows spousal abuse and also throws in a bloody beating and mental illness for additional chuckles. A handful of people in our audience guffawed during a scene where a young man is bleeding on the floor and his mother-in-law refuses to help him, but I wasn't smiling.

In the second act we learn that much of what we saw in act one was a sham. Important characters turn out to be the opposite of what they

seemed. A witty drama ensues, topped with a slapstick scene that is genuinely funny in the tradition of that family saga from the 1930's, *You Can't Take It With You*. The acting throughout is superb. But the first act is disconnected from reality and from the second act. I don't know if playwright George F. Walker intended the two halves to be out of synch, or if he and two different plays in his mind and failed to integrate them.

When I have difficulty finding humor in the disasters of dysfunctional families, I think about Brooks Atkinson's review of Rodgers & Hart's *Pal Joey* when it was new. He said it was impossible to create anything good from such foul material — a society woman sleeping with

a younger man. In 1940 this was considered to be unpleasant stuff. Maybe this column will seem equally foolish fifty-six years from now — but I honestly doubt that time will treat spousal abuse, violence and mental illness as kindly as it has treated sex.

Giacomo Puccini wrote a bitter-sweet waltz opera, *La Rondine*, in 1917, that's been rarely performed since. Curtis Institute delighted us with a semi-staged concert of *La Rondine* two weeks ago, and we'd love to see it again soon. This is unabashedly romantic music and the beautiful melodies were well-served by the fine Curtis Orchestra and a pretty good student cast. *La Rondine* would be even more impressive with a real diva in the leading female role.

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SYNAGOGUE LIFE

Bikkurim Service

The following students were recognized at Shavuot services on Friday, May 24, 1996 for having demonstrated commitment toward continuing their Jewish education. In lieu of a confirmation ceremony, their dedication to Torah and Jewish values were affirmed in a Bikkurim service in which the students participated.

Samara Barth, daughter of Nedda and Howard Barth.

Paula Doroshov, daughter of Aida Wasserstein and Eric Doroshov.

Holly Echt, daughter of Mitzi and Elliott Echt.

Allison Goldberg, daughter of Vivian and Alan Goldberg.

Alison Gross, daughter of Lolly and Kevin Gross.

Judith Leitch, daughter of Lisa Elliott and Thomas Leitch.

Jonathan Makar, son of Mollie and Ron Makar.

Jacob Milunsky, son of Marlene and Cyril Milunsky.

Jason Resch, son of Linda and Thomas Resch.

Rachael Samuels, daughter of Mary and Sam Samuels.

Joshua Schoenberg, son of Barbara and Alan Schoenberg.

Michael Stiebel, son of Judy and David Stiebel.

Matthew Tanzer, son of Hinda and Daniel Tanzer.

Temple Beth El Confirmation

Temple Beth El invites the community to join their Confirmands to celebrate Shavuot and Confirmation at Shabbat services on Saturday, May 25 at 10:00 a.m. This year's Confirmands are: Shachar Breslouer, Lauren Brohawn, Jeremy Danneman, Lily Davidson, Jennifer Herst, Adam Kalkstein, Diana MacKessinis, Rebecca Oster, Rebecca Reidel, Ian Rofman, Arlene Tucker, Jennifer Weiner, Jennifer Zetlan. Their parents are sponsoring the Kiddush following the service.

Beth Shalom Seminar

The Sisterhood of Congregation Beth Shalom will present a Personal Development Seminar for women on Thursday evening May 30th. Leader for the seminar, which is free, will be led by Sharon Benveneste. Ms. Benveneste, a professionally trained leader, is immediate past President of the Philadelphia Branch of the Woman's League For Conservative Judaism.

The seminar is designed with today's woman in mind and will provide discussion and presentations in unlocking individual creativity, developing listening skills, motivation of


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others, enhancing leadership skills, delegation and stress management. The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Synagogue, 18th & Baynard, for reservations call Dana Levy (478-7853) or Elaine Morganstein (478-8667).

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FEATURES

Jewish Women At Beijing: Part Two
Equal But Different

By Rabbi Emeritus LEONARD B. GEWIRTZ A.K.S.E.

(This piece is a continuation of a March 22nd feature in the Jewish Voice in which The Platform for Action adopted in the U.N. Charter Final Declaration was examined in the light of how Judaism views women, their role in the family, and their spirituality. This second piece examines the question many modern Jewish women consider: If the woman is held in such high esteem and receives such an honored role in our sacred literature, why does the Halakhah relegate her to a secondary role and status in Judaism?)

At the outset we must understand that the Rabbinic Mind is not monolithic, a uniform tradition. The Rabbis display a sophisticated, multileveled manner of thinking. Long before Sigmund Freud, the Rabbis understood the function of sublimation. "Were it not for the Evil Inclination, Yetzer Hara, a man would not build a house, or marry a woman." (Midrash Rabba IX:8; Zohar HaKadosh (Gen. 137b). The Rabbis recognized the ambivalence in human nature. The Evil Inclination can be socially beneficial. This

ambivalence is a fundamental quality in Rabbinic thinking, and among other paradoxes, explains their views on women.

The Mishnah states: "Ben Azzai declared, a man is under obligation to teach his daughter Torah...R. Eliezer says, whoever teaches his daughter Torah, teaches her absenity. R. Joshua says, a woman prefers a scanty livelihood with sexual indulgence, to a prosperous style of living with continence" (Sota 20a). In the same vein, "Women are by temperament light-headed" (Kiddushin 80b). This evaluation of women led the Rabbis to the Halakhah decision that women cannot serve as witnesses (Rambam, Aidut 9:1) and may not serve as a judge - Dayan (Yerushalmi III:10; Hoshen Mishpat, 7:1). Yet a woman is trustworthy with Kashrut in her kitchen. The Talmud may venerate the woman, yet also be suspicious of her.

The paradox stems from an enchantment with the Feminine Mystique: "The voice of the woman is sexually arousing; the hair of a woman is sexually arousing; a woman's leg is sexually arousing" (Berakhot 24a). For this reason the halakaha requires an Ezrat Nashim.

Men did not trust themselves to pray with Kavanah when mixed with women. The rabbis recognized the attraction of the woman. "A woman carries her weapons about her" (Yevamot 115a). Because of the attraction of women, and vice-versa, the Halakhah recommends early marriage for men and women.

...the rabbis in the Talmud considered the woman more intelligent...

Despite the ambivalence about women, the rabbis in the Talmud considered the woman more intelligent and quicker to understand. "The Holy One blessed be He endowed the woman with more understanding (Binah) than the man" (Niddah 45b). "Women are more tender-hearted (Megillah 146). "Women are more modest and respectful" (Ketuvot 67b).

The woman is equal to man in the laws of economic empowerment, as explained in Part I of this article, however she is unique in the mitzvot

assigned to her by Halakhah. Just like the man has mitzvot of Talit (Num. 15:38) and T'filin, (Ex. 13:9) the woman was granted her three unique mitzvot: mikvah, challah, and lighting of the Sabbath candles. (Yerushalmi - Shabbat II:6)

Because of her special role of motherhood, and her role as Ikkeret Habayit (Even Shoshan Dictionary III: 1013), the ruling person in the

home, she was exempt by Halakhah of the Mitzvot Assay Sh'Hazman Grama, "Affirmative precepts limited to time" (Kiddushin 34a). Therefore women need not attend minyan and pray at a specific time, nor wear Talit and T'filin. Nevertheless, women are under obligation to observe the 248 "Thou shalt not" equal to men.

The Haraidi-pious families and Continued on next page

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JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER ANNUAL MEETING TO INCLUDE ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The 62nd Annual Meeting of the Jewish Community Center will be held on Sunday, June 9, 1996 at 4:00 p.m. at the Family Campus, 101 Garden of Eden Road.

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Mark J. Caplan, has nominated the following individuals for election to the Board of Directors of the JCC.

The following have been nominated for elected officers for a one year term:

- President Daniel Klein
Vice Presidents Lena Elzufon, Amy Leviton, Jordon Rosen, Michael Weiss
Treasurer Richard Stat
Assistant Treasurer Rhonda Walter
Secretary Connie Sugarman
Assistant Secretary Buddy Berger

The following have been nominated for a three year term:

- Sarah Andrus, Warren G. Butt, Howard Cohen, David Freschman, Jerome Grossman, Beverly Hindin, Francia Isakoff, Alan Jaffey, Mark Kuller, Pam-Sue Schwartz

The following have been nominated for a two year term:

- Rand Snyderman

The following have been nominated for a one year term:

- Jane Goldberg, Josh Schoenberg, Toby Weiner

According to Article VII, Section I of the By-Laws of the Jewish Community Center: "At least three months before the Annual Meeting, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee, to meet at least two months before the Annual Meeting, consisting of seven members in good standing. Four of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors. At time of said appointment, notice will be posted that the Committee will be meeting and suggestions may be submitted. This Committee shall nominate a slate of officers and members as candidates for the vacancies which shall exist on the Board of Directors, but in no event shall any members of the Nominating Committee be nominated by the Committee as an officer or director. No further nominations shall be submitted to the Annual Meeting."

FEATURES

Women

Continued from previous page

their women continue to willingly accept the traditional role of women as *mother* and *Ikkeret Habayit*. These families flourished with great demographic growth e.g. *Satmar Hassidim* in *Kiryas Yoel* in Rockland County, NY; Rabbi Kotler's *Yeshiva* men and their families in Lake-wood, NY; the various *Hassidic* groups in Borough Park, Brooklyn;

and *Lubavitch* on and around East-ern Parkway, Brooklyn. For these *Haraidi* families the role of mother and wife is primary and the egalitarian ideas have not affected them. For them it is *Mitzvat Anashim Melumadah* (Isaiah 29:13), a "com-mandment of the people well learned" and accepted.

The families of the liberal *zerem* (stream) at the opposite end of the spectrum are so progressive and as-similated in modern culture that they automatically have discarded *Kashrut* and *Shabbat* observance. For this *Zerem* there was no prob-

lem about accepting equality of the sexes. They did not rely on sacred texts or *Halakhah* to rationalize their actions. Women are treated as equal in every way. Women are ordained to the rabbinate and all seven re-quests of modern American Jewish women, listed in part I, are accepted without question.

The "Modern Orthodox" or "Or-thodox Centrists" have been experi-menting with a *Bat-Mitzvah* ritual, and a women's *T'filah* ritual that adheres to *Halakhah*. This *zerem*, bound by *Halakhah*, tries to give a role to women in public worship. At home, mothers and daughters cele-brate the ritual of *zimmin*, the call to prayers after meals.

The Liberal development of equal-ity for women in all public religious ritual has presented a serious reli-gious problem. Michael Rappaport, an astute observer of this liberal ritual, writing in *Sh'ma, Journal of Jewish Responsibility*, April 12, 1966, concluded, "Judaism is splitting into two religions."

"Modern American Jews including virtually all Reform and Reconstructionist rabbis, and even a large majority of the Conservative rabbinate, are committed to an egalitarian viewpoint in Jewish living...while I certainly do not take pleasure in saying so I find the evi-dence overwhelming that we are liv-ing in a time which Judaism is gently but inexorably fracturing into two religions."

Is it valuable to divide the Jewish people because of egalitarian - democ-ratic rights for our Jewish women?

I seek a *Halakhah* plan so we can retain equal rights for Jewish women in Judaism without causing a *split* within our people. In Israel, where the secular, national state unites the people, and the Israeli government recognizes a central Rabbinate for the rites of passage, the division of our people is not an imminent threat. However, in the *diaspora*, where there is religious freedom the dan-ger of division within our people is ever present.

How can we avoid this split? There

is sufficient basis in *Halakhah* theory to grant the Jewish woman compara-tively equal rights in ritual obser-vance. Rabbi Yosi b. Rabbi Yehudah (*nimuko immo-Gittin* 67a, "the law is with him") Tanna - authority, states that women may observe all the *mitzvot* assay *Sh'hazman Grama*, "the affirmative *mitzvot* limited to a particular time" (see Rashi, *ad hoc*; *Rosh Hashanah* 33a; *Megillah* 23a; *Haggigah* 16b); as *Rashi* comments, "even though the Torah exonerated them, there is no prohibition" for the woman to do the *Mitzvah* (R.H. 33a). The Talmud discusses that women brought sacrifices into the *azzara* of the Holy Temple, and prac-ticed the laying on of hands upon the sacrifice (*Somkhot al hakorban*).

R. Asher b. Yechiel (*Rosh*, d. 1340), medieval, Talmudic Commen-tary and dicisor of *Halakhah* says (R.H. III: 7), that women did prac-tice (*Somhot*) laying on of hands in the Holy Temple; that *Mikhal*, daughter of King Saul donned *T'filin*; that the wife of prophet *Jonah* practiced pilgrimages to the Temple on the festivals.

Rabbainu Asher quotes *Rabbainu Tam, Tosafot*, (R.H. 33a) leading member of the *Tosafot* Talmudic Commentary, that women may ob-serve all *mitzvot*, even though not commanded by the Torah, and may recite the blessings with the *Hashem*, G-d's name. They may sound the *Shofar*, sit in the *Sukkah*, wear the

Talit and pronounce the *B'rakhah*.

The clear assumption is that women may observe *all* the com-mandments, provided they do this not for *feminist exhibitionism* and they will observe the three *mitzvot* special for women: *Mikvah*, *Hallah*, and blessing of the *erev Shabbat* candles at sunset (*Yerushalmi, Shabbat* II: 6).

Public manifestation of Jewish women's piety and sincerity will gradually convince all observant Jews that we have here a *T'shuvah* move-ment of the scope of *Hassidism* in the 18th century. At first, the *Baal Shem Tov* and *Hassidim* were held in suspicion. The Torah world viewed them, at first, like *Sabbatai Zvi* (1626-1676) the false-messiah, whose movement shook the Jewish people, and destroyed communities who went astray. *Hassidism* tried to heal this sad spiritual disintegration. In time, *Hassidim* was accepted by the Torah world, and today the *Hassidim* are a part of the *Haraidim*.

We need to pray and hope that the woman's egalitarian movement will become *T'shuvah* movement and prevent a breach within our people and bring about a religious revival among women. Then *Klal Yisrael* will recognize that women who want equality with men, seek to observe *all* *mitzvot*, and live with *Halakhah*. As *Reb Saadya Gaon* (882-942) said: "Israel is a people only with its *Torah*."

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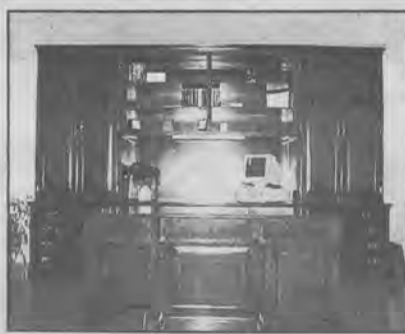
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Book
Review**St. Louis
Memories**

By MARVIN CYTRON

*The Boy Next Door
Memories Of Kensington
By Henry Eisenkramer
102 pages, \$8.95, Maxamur, St.
Louis*

In 1904 St. Louis hosted the Worlds Fair and a book, musical and film "Meet Me In St. Louis" endured for years after the fair closed. A popular song from the musical was "The Boy Next Door" and the address of the song on Kensington Avenue in the St. Louis West end was an actual location not far from the site of the Worlds Fair. Twenty years after the fair Henry Eisenkramer, then six years old moved with his family from center city, where his father owned a confectionary that the family lived above, to the famous Kensington Avenue address. Mr. Eisenkramer, a Professor Emeritus at a state college in St. Louis, takes the reader through memories of growing up in a Jewish neighborhood, the discoveries of inventions of the 20th century, shopping excursions to downtown St. Louis, travelling throughout the city on streetcars, Shabbat dinners, the YMHA, kosher butchers, and movies (remember outdoor movie theatres?).

The family would go out to dinner only on special occasions and would go to a kosher restaurant and order on the same items his mother would prepare at home, no Chinese, Texmex, or pizza for this family emerging into life in America. By the time Mr. Eisenkramer was a young boy the Worlds Fair was long gone, but in its stead was Forest Park, the showplace of St. Louis, with art and history museums, a lake with canoes for rent, and the now famous St. Louis Zoological Gardens. Visiting the park was a great outing with his family and he writes fondly of that period of his life. Sex education was hardly a formal school subject in the 20's or 30's and where did the author learn of such things? Where else but from an older (by one year) boyfriend and with the help of a statue of a young girl that adorned the entrance to an exclusive neighborhood near the park.

If you are over 50, stories in this book will bring back fond memories, if you are under 50 you will understand why parents talk longingly of the "good old days". A very special read if you grew up in a Jewish neighborhood in a large or midsize city, and for those transplanted St. Louisans now living in Wilmington, a "must" read.

(Note "The Boy Next Door" is available at major book chains or by order from Maxamur, PO Box 32917, St. Louis Mo. 63132)

(Marvin Cytron has served as Acting Editor of The Jewish Voice and on the Editorial Committee of The Jewish Voice.)

Poster Contest

The Jewish War Veterans of the USA is inviting school students to participate in a program for young people honoring Americans of the Jewish faith who have served in this country in the Armed Forces.

The theme of the Poster Contest is Jewish American Patriots. Through poster designs youngsters are being asked to create an expression of Jewish American Patriotism in celebration of the upcoming 100th Anniversary of the Jewish War Veterans of the USA on March 15, 1996.

The entry must be on paper no larger than 20" x 24", in any medium, such as watercolor, crayon,

pencil, oil paint or multi-media, such as collage. The contest will be divided into three levels: ages 5-8; 9-12; and 13-16. Grand prize winners in each category will receive a \$200 US Savings Bond. The top 12 posters will be published in *The Jewish Veteran*, the national publication of JWV and displayed at JWV's 100th Anniversary Convention to be held in our Nation's Capital in November 1996.

All entries must be mailed to: JWV 100th Anniversary Poster Contest, 1811 R Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009. Entries must be received by July 1, 1996. Include the following information: name, address, phone number, age, and name of school. For further information, contact the JWV Centennial Department at 265-6280.

Poetry Award

Poets wishing to enter the tenth annual Anna Davidson Rosenberg Award for Poems on the Jewish Experience, the only nationwide or worldwide competition for unpublished poetry in English on the Jewish experience, should send a self-addressed stamped envelope for entry form and guidelines by July 31, 1996, to Poetry Award, Judah Magnes Museum, 2911 Russell St., Berkeley, CA 94705.

Sponsored by the Magnes Museum, the Rosenberg Award is endowed by the descendants of community leader Anna Davidson Rosenberg to encourage poetry on the Jewish experience.

Each year, hundreds of poets enter the competition, open only to unpublished poems in English. Winners have included such recognized poets as Philip Terman, Alicia Ostriker, and Myra Sklarew, as well as many new and emerging writers.

The 1996 judging committee, consisting of three professionally renowned poets, will be announced in May.

Awards include first prize (\$100), second prize (\$50), third prize (\$25), Emerging Poet Award (\$25), and honorable mentions. Writers under age 19 are also eligible for a Youth Commendation, and poets over 65 are also eligible for a Senior Award. Winning poems will be read in an awards ceremony at the Magnes during Chanukah.

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Rachel Saifer Accepts Hillel Fellowship



Rachel Saifer

By JORDAN SOPINSKY
Editor of the Jewish Voice

Rachel Saifer, a member of the 1996 graduating class of the University of Delaware, has taken the position of Jewish Campus Service Corps Fellow for The Hillel of Greater Philadelphia. During Rachel's final semester she served as the assistant editor of the Jewish Voice.

Graduating May 25, the Bachelor of Science in Family and Community Service recipient will engage Jewish students on nine college campuses. The position entails helping students discover and explore their Jewish identity through activities, dialogue, and creativity.

Rachel has just completed an internship with the JFD where, besides her duties as Assistant Editor, she also served as a staff representative in The Allocations process and helped with the planning process of Delaware's mission trip to Israel in addition to

various other responsibilities.

"I'd like to thank the Jewish community of Delaware for taking me in and giving me a very special learning and strengthening experience," she said. "I look forward to working in Philadelphia while remaining connected to the Delaware Jewish community as well."

While at the University of Delaware she served as the JCRC representative in 1993 and 1994 in addition to serving on the Hillel Student Executive board as Social Actions Vice President, Community Relations Vice President, and as student representative to the board of trustees.

Hadassah Installs Officers

Judy Arenson, President of the Northern Seaboard Region of Hadassah and a member of the Wilmington Chapter of Hadassah was the installing officer at the Wilmington Chapter of Hadassah's Installation of Officers that was held at the home of Diane Franklin on Monday evening May 13, 1996.

The members that were installed were Suzy Grumbacher, President, Vice Presidents, Ann Jaffe, Eva Weissman, Faith Brown, Michele Sands, Sharon Sternberg and Susan Hoover. Also installed were Co-Treasurer's, Luiza Cohen and Dina Lipschultz, Financial Secretary, Millie Ackerman, Recording Secretary, Sena Garber and Corresponding Secretary, Jackie Berger.

In addition to the installation, Sharon Sternberg received the National Leadership Award which is an award that recognizes one member from each Hadassah chapter who has made outstanding contributions to the organization.

"Rachel's quick intelligence and her sense of responsibility made a big difference for The Jewish Voice," said Dan Weintraub, Publisher's Representative. "As a college student she took a lot on her shoulders and performed quite capably."

"Rachel's contribution to the Federation during her internship was profound," said Judy Wortman, Executive V.P. of JFD. "We will miss her keen intelligence, commitment, and loving nature. Hillel of Philadelphia is most fortunate that she has chosen to begin her professional career as an engagement worker with commuter students."

JFS Tribute To Lieberman

The Annual Meeting of the Jewish Family Service will feature a dinner and tribute to Arnold Lieberman, Executive Director for the past 20 years. It will be held on Tuesday evening, June 4, at 6:15 P.M. at the University and Whist Club in Wilmington.

The dinner is \$27.00 per person; Sponsor is \$50.00 (including dinner); Benefactor is \$100.00 per person (including dinner). Please mark the date on your calendars, and send checks and reservation information to Jewish Family Service, 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington, DE. 19803.

Jewish Meditation And Kaballah Shabbaton

Have you ever wondered where the spirituality is in Judaism? Did you ever want to know more about the mystical teachings of the Kabbalah? How about Judaism's philosophy on Life, Death and the Afterlife? What is the Jewish explanation for the Near Death Phenomenon?

Over the weekend of June 14-15 at Chabad House, you will have the opportunity to hear a lecturer and Kabbalist, Rabbi Laibl Wolf.

Rabbi Wolf is the founder of the Institute for Jewish Development in Melbourne, Australia. He is a rabbi, lawyer and educator, who teaches what he regards as the deeper fundamental meaning of Judaism.

Continued on page 19

Off To Israel

Nine Delaware high school students will be spending this summer in Israel. Thanks in part to grants from the Jewish Federation of Delaware, the teenagers will be going on a variety of programs with activities ranging from hiking, archeological digs, and riding camels to sailing the Mediterranean, working on a kibbutz, and creating a Beit Midrash.

Going on the Exodus: NFTY in Israel Trip will be Brian Eng, a junior at Concord High School, Peter Goldberg, a senior at Mount Pleasant High School, Michelle Jonas, a junior at Brandywine High School, Michael Newman, a sophomore at Brandywine High School, and Deborah Sands, a sophomore at Concord High School.

The program begins with a reenactment of the voyage of the Ma'apilim, a three day sail from a Mediterranean port to Israel. Jerusalem, Haifa, and Tel Aviv are on the agenda, as is a trek through the Galil and Golan and nights under the stars in the Negev. In the program as well are options for a five day period which will immerse the students in different aspects of Israeli life and Jewish thought with choices ranging from Mitzvah Corps to living on an Israel Defense Force base.

Douglas Nicholson, a sophomore at the Archmere Academy, will be on a five and a half week tour of Israel's main cities and desert hike with the Masada of the Z.O.A. program. His desire to learn about the heritage and history of Israel is what fueled an interest in going to Israel.

Regan Davis and Michael Stiebel are going on the Young Judea Israel Discovery Program, an intensive six week experience. Michael, a freshman at Concord High School, and Regan, a junior, will be hiking, rappelling, taking desert jeep trips, going on archeological digs, learning Hebrew, and participating in programs on Jewish identity and culture.

Currently a junior at Brandywine High School, Emily Davis is planning on attending the Safari - NFTY in Israel program. Emily says that it has been a life-long dream of hers to go to Israel.

For more information about NFTY Israel programs, call (914) 987-6300. For Young Judea, the number is 1-800-725-0612. For all other program information, call 1-800-27-ISRAEL.



Students pictured, from top: Michael Newman, Michelle Jonas, Deborah Sands, Michael Stiebel, Emily Davis, Peter Goldberg, Doug Nicholson, Brian S. Eng and Regan Davis.

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JWV March In Memorial Day Parade

The Wilmington Parade Committee has designated The Jewish War Veterans of the United States Of America, Department of Delaware, as responsible for the 1996 Memorial Day Parade, held each year in Wilmington to honor the memory of veterans who died in service of our Country in all wars. This parade will be held on May 30, 1996 starting at 6:00 p.m. The parade route starts at the corner of Brinckle Ave. and Delaware Ave.; proceeds down Delaware Ave.; and terminates at the Soldiers and Sailors Monument at Broom St.

Rabbi Sanford L. Dresin, Col. USA (Ret.) of Adas Kodesh Shel Emeth Synagogue, will deliver the Memorial Day address at the Monument. Paul C. Hirschman, Past Department Commander JWV Dept. of Delaware, is Parade Grand Marshal; his ADC is Sidney Davis. Honor Guard members are Samuel Wenzel, Garry Greenstein, Bernard Greenhouse and Robert Barnett.

This year also marks the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Jewish War Veterans national organization; founded by Jewish Civil War veterans in refutation of the calumny that Jews did not serve our Country in combat. In World War II alone, almost 600 local Jewish Delawareans served in various Service Branches, approximately 10 percent lost their lives.

Hadassah Speakers Effectiveness Training

Bonnie Laird of The National Hadassah Speakers Bureau will present a one day training program titled Speakers Effectiveness Training. This program will be sponsored by the Wilmington Chapter of Hadassah and will take place on Sunday, June 30, 1995 at Temple Beth Emeth from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The price of the program is \$12.00 for Hadassah members and \$25.00 for non members. This fee includes lunch.

Bonnie Laird is a professional training and communications specialist who began working with National Hadassah in 1990. In addition to working for Hadassah, Bonnie is a consultant for investment and commercial banks, construction and manufacturing companies, information service organizations and organizations in the not-for-profit sector. Ms. Laird is especially committed to the development and empowerment of women in all areas of business. She has trained women in effective interpersonal communication, advanced management, leadership skills, public speaking training and coaching techniques, and executive image development.

This training session is limited to a total of 20 people. For more information or to sign up for this program, contact Sue Rohrbacher at 475-5771.

UD Graduates Two Jewish Studies Minors

By PROF. VIV KLAFF

Special to The Jewish Voice

On May 25, the University of Delaware will have two Jewish studies minor students graduating. Rachel Saifer and Sara Sirman have both completed the requirements for the five year old program.

Rachel Elizabeth Saifer is graduating with a Degree in Family and Community Services, an area of emphasis in Intergenerational Learning and a minor in Jewish Studies.

Recalling her "immersion in the college search" four years ago, she remembers that two of her priorities in looking at different schools were that the school have a Jewish Studies program and a strong Jewish population. It has been a rewarding experience for her to be a vital part of these two developing elements at Delaware. Her graduating class watched the Hillel Student Center move from an area above the 5&10 to a beautiful multipurpose center for Jewish life. They are now also fortunate to have a prominent building and a terrific staff for the Jewish Studies program as well.

Rachel looks forward to watching the program grow in years to come. She would encourage all students, Jewish and non-Jewish, to get involved in some way with the Jewish Studies program. "Whether you take a course or go to a movie sponsored by the department," Rachel feels that, "you will benefit from the knowledge."

Rachel currently works as an intern for the Jewish Federation of Delaware as the Assistant Editor of *The Jewish Voice*. Next year she will return to her hometown Philadelphia, to be a part of a national Hillel fellowship called the Jewish Campus Service Corps, and she will be doing engagement work for Hillel of Greater Philadelphia.

Sara Sirman graduates with a major in History and a minor in Jewish Studies. She will receive a Degree with Distinction, having written her Senior Thesis on the effects of the Holocaust on the children of survivors.

Sara says that she was "always interested in literature and history," and she chose Jewish Studies as a minor because of her grandparents. They are Holocaust survivors, and Sara admits that their presence in her life made her want to learn more about their experiences and feelings and to help herself and others understand why they react as they do.

Coming from Seaford, where there are only a few Jewish families and "not very many Jewish things to do," Sara appreciates the variety of opportunities available on campus. She feels that her Jewish Studies courses have definitely improved her writing skills — there have been so many papers to write! — and also her ability to analyze information.

She believes sincerely that people need to learn understanding. "Even though we have different beliefs and ideas, we have common needs and feelings," she says. "People need to respect differences and to work together."

Sara is now enrolled in a graduate program in History and Library Science and she plans eventually to work as a Judaic Studies librarian.

Young Newcomers Barbecue Bash

The Jewish Federation of Delaware Young Newcomers invites you to a "Get Ready for the Summer" Barbecue Bash on Sunday, June 2 from 4-8 pm. The cost is five dollars per person and kids eat for free. Dietary rules will be observed. Please RSVP to Heidi Kinsella (302) 324-8296 by Friday, May 24.

(302) 831-3324.

(Viv Klaff is the acting director of The Jewish Studies Department at UD.)

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Regan Davis

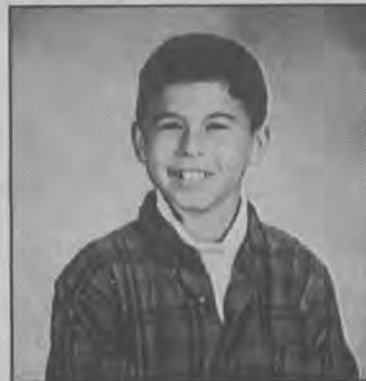
Regan Davis, Elana Romirowsky and Joshua Romirowsky have been named the 1996 recipients of the Sylvia and Isadore N. Silverman Scholarship awards. Given annually, these stipends assist young people

Silverman Scholarships Awarded

participating in a summer program of Jewish study or enrichment.

Currently a junior at Concord High School and a member of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation, Regan will be traveling to Israel with Young Judea. Her parents are Leonard and Joy Davis.

Elana, a sixth grader at Albert Einstein Academy, will be attending Camp Ramah. Joshua, a freshman at Brandywine High School, will also be attending Camp Ramah. Both Elana and Joshua are members of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation. They are the children of Samuel Romirowsky and Ellen R. Bernhardt.



Joshua Romirowsky

The Sylvia and Isadore N. Silverman Scholarship Fund was established in 1989, on the occasion of the Silvermans' 55th wedding anniversary, by their children and friends. The award honors their many years of dedication to the Wilmington community, especially to Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation and to the Boy Scouts of America.

Applications for next year's awards may be obtained by calling Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation at 762-2705. The Scholarship program is open to all Jewish youth in Delaware.



Elana Romirowsky



PANIM EL PANIM

(Face to Face with JFD People)



JCC Sports Classic

The Fourth Annual JCC Sports Classic will be held on Monday, June 24, 1996 at the DuPont Country Club.

The Sports Classic offers golf, tennis and lawn bowling tournaments. Golf participant entry package (\$240/person) includes green fees, golf cart, buffet lunch, on-course refreshments, use of locker rooms and awards reception with open bar and hor d'oeuvres. The tennis and lawn bowling entry packages (\$75/person) includes use of courts, refreshments, use of locker rooms and

awards reception with open bar and hor d'oeuvres.

Limited space available in all three tournaments! Don't miss your chance to join us for a great day of fun, while supporting programs and services offered by the Jewish Community Center.

Player information is available by calling Susan Parcels at (302) 478-5660. The deadline for tournament registration is June 10th.

Carol Rothschild is the winner of the airline tickets to Israel. The raffle was sponsored by JFD and Talleyville Travel.



Seniors create one-of-a-kind t-shirts at the JCC.

Gratz Graduates Thirteen

The Board of Directors, Administration and Faculty of Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School are proud to announce that Sarah Berengut, Sara Cabell, Daniel Franklin, Tammy Goldbaum, Brian Gottesman, Alyson Holob, Hana Kopolovic, David Leitch, Brett Levy, Iris Oren, Anne Parsons, Avi Teres and Daniel Tolpin have completed five years of Judaic studies and have successfully filled graduation requirements for certificates and diplomas in various pro-

grams. these students were honored at a Graduation Ceremony on Tuesday evening, May 21, 1996. The entire community extends congratulations to these fine students for their outstanding achievements and extends best wishes for their continued success.

Delaware Gratz is a constituent agency of the Jewish Federation of Delaware.

NACHES

Annette Flippen Earns Ph.D.

Annette Rose Flippen was granted a Ph.D. in Organizational Psychology by Columbia University on May 15, 1996. She is a member of the faculty at the University. She is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Richard Flippen. She is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Mount Pleasant High School, and was confirmed by Congregation Beth Emeth.

Markiewitz Birth

Kelly and Robert Markiewitz and big sister Johanna Louise happily announce the birth of their son and brother, Samuel Alan, on March 18, 1996. They all reside in Charlotte, NC.

The proud grandparents are Dr. Kenneth and Leona Markiewitz of Wilmington and Faye and Charles Rister of Walterboro, SC.

Jake LaPorte Chosen For Boy's State

A Junior at Brandywine High School and a student at Gratz Hebrew High School, has been selected as a delegate from Brandywine High School to Boys State. Sponsored by the American Legion, Boys State gives future leaders a chance to become acquainted with the legislative process. Jake will attend Boys State from June 9 - June 15 in Dover, Delaware.

Jake became a National Nominee

from Brandywine High School for the High School Heisman Award sponsored by Wendy's. The criteria for this award is scholarship, athletics and citizenship.

Jake is a member of National Honor Society and the French Honor Society. He plays football and Lacrosse at Brandywine High School and is a Key Club member who volunteers weekly at the A.I. DuPont Institute.

Honor Students To Attend Medicine Forum

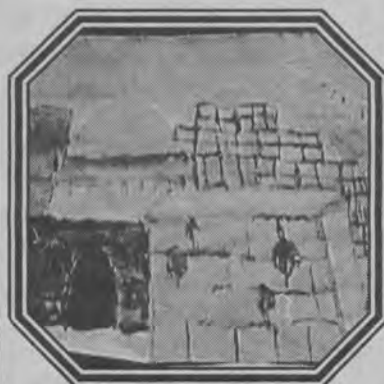
Jonathan A. Makar and Sharon A. Sandell, sophomore honor students at Concord High School, have been accepted to the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine (NYLF/MD) this summer. They were nominated for the Forum by their biology teacher, Dr. Ellen Johnson. The NYLF/MD, incorporates lectures, group study sessions and hospital experience into an intensive eleven day study program for students interested in pursuing a career in medicine.

Sharon, daughter of Nancy and Lionel Sandell, will attend the NYLF/MD in Washington, DC the beginning of July. Jonathan, son of Ron and Mollie Epstein-Makar, will attend the NYLF/MD in Houston, Texas in mid-July.

Jerusalem 3000 Poster Contest Winners



Andrei Drooz, 8th grade



Sarah Cabelli, 12th grade



Tara Lieberman, 2nd grade



Nicole Samuels, 5th grade



FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH
COMMUNITY CELEBRATES AT 62ND JFD ANNUAL MEETING



1. Outgoing President Toni Young accepts board and staff gift from Executive Director Judy Wortman
2. New Federation officers, standing left to right, Rick Geisenberger, Treasurer; Jonathan Neipris, Assistant Secretary; Leslie Newman, President; John Elzufon, Vice President. Seated left to right: Suzanne Grant, Assistant Treasurer; Clara Hollander, Secretary; Barbara Schoenberg, Vice President. Not shown: Donald Parsons, Vice President.
3. Leslie Newman discusses challenges facing the Jewish community.
4. New board members, left to right: Roger Levy, Connie Kreshtool, Linda Oster, Robert Aerenson
5. Toni Young presents the Gilbert J. Spiegel Young Leadership Award to Suzanne Grant.
6. Speakers, Myrna Ryder, Doris Morris and Dan Medwin highlight projects funded by Community dollars. PHOTO CREDIT: All photos by Morris Ariff.

Community and Involvement

By LESLIE NEWMAN
JFD President-Elect

(The speech was given by Leslie Newman at JFD's 62nd annual meeting)

How did I get here? The easy answer is that seven years ago Bill Topkis took me to lunch and asked me to join the JFD Executive Committee, a position I have had since. Then in December, Howard Simon and Bernie Siegel took me to breakfast and asked me to take this position. I guess I'm a soft touch after a meal. However, the more complicated answer has to do with what it means to be a Jew.

Last year I attended the National Council of Jewish Women's Public Affairs Luncheon where they distributed a promotion piece that said, "Today's woman is pulled in countless directions "with arrows showing children, Jewish life, parents, career and community." Those of you who know me, can understand why that piece hit home. It is the integration of those factors that challenge, propel and at times overwhelm me. They are also the reason that I am here today.

About 2 and 1/2 years ago my family had the opportunity to visit Israel in celebration of my son Michael's Bar Mitzvah. We visited the Museum of the Diaspora, a wonderful exploration of what it means to be a Jew. The museum is divided into such areas as the family, the synagogue and the community. While the synagogue designs varied according to the culture in which they were located, the family unit and sense of community were constant. Communities are complex but for a Jewish community to thrive, there needs to be opportunities for socialization and prayer as well as basic services for the young, the old and those in between. These are as numerous as the budget allows, from varying forms of

education to a kosher deli. However, the more diverse the community, the greater its needs. It is that integration that makes us a community.

We are that community. Federation's role is to facilitate a vital community through planning and ensuring that the resources, funds and people and buildings will be there. This will be an exciting year for our community. We will soon

JCC Annual Meeting

The Officers and Board of Directors of the Jewish Community Center invite all members of the community to the 62nd Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 9 at 4:00 p.m. to be held on the grounds of the Jewish Family Campus.

The program includes election of Officers and Board of Directors, President's Report, awards presentation, special thank you and farewell to David Sorkin, children's activities, entertainment and a free family picnic dinner.

A Professional Staff Development Fund has been established to honor David Sorkin's years of service to the Delaware Jewish Community Center. This fund will enable staff to enhance their Jewish education by participating in trips to Israel. In lieu of a farewell gift, David has requested donations be made to this fund.

If you would like to contribute to the Professional Staff Development Fund or would like to make reservations for the 62nd Annual Meeting, please call the Jewish Community Center at (302) 478-5660.

have the results of a population study that will give us insight as to not only the number of Jews but where they live, how old they are and what they need. This information will be a useful planning tool for JFD, the agencies and synagogues throughout the state. It will stimulate discussion, ideas and help us reshape our priorities. I look forward to a year filled with a thought provoking sharing of ideas.

This fall the Delaware community is sponsoring a mission to Israel. With continued peace in the region, a busload of Delawareans will tour Israel - see our history, meet our people and share the excitement. I encourage those of you who have not been or those who are ready to go again to join our community trip to see Ellen Koniver or Eileen Conner for more details.

This year we will be changing the time of our campaign. This will put us in sink with the rest of the Jewish world. Like the UW we will be soliciting support in the fall and early winter. This change will help us to allocate real dollars in the spring and allow agencies to plan effectively. Cas Anolick, who is in Israel now, will lead the campaign.

As Jews we learn from our past. Our past leadership, most recently

AEA Annual Meeting

Albert Einstein Academy will hold its annual meeting on June 5, 1996 at 7:30 p.m. in the AEA Science room. If planning to attend, please call 478-5026.

demonstrated by Toni, has been strong. However, we have many challenges ahead:

- the challenge to build resources;
- the challenge to maintain our current resources and help them flourish;
- the challenge to meet the needs of our growing Jewish community.

It is crucial that regardless of the challenge that we approach it as a community in order to find a solution that best benefits us as a community. I encourage you whether you are experienced leadership, young leadership, or leadership yet to

evolve — regardless of age — to work with us to find Solomon-like solutions to this community's challenges. Get involved!

My parents demonstrated community interest as I grew up. My mother who is here through PTA and LWV and my dad who would be very proud of me today through our synagogue, as brotherhood president and by encouraging our Jewish education. It is my prayer that my children assume the same interest and commitment. After all, isn't that what Jewish continuity is all about?

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OBITUARIES

Arlene Smolar B'nai B'rith District Director

WASHINGTON, D.C. — B'nai B'rith members and staff mourn the death of Arlene Smolar who was killed in an auto accident on Sunday, May 12. She was 58.

Smolar brought skills acquired in almost 40 years of affiliation with B'nai B'rith to her most recent position as executive director of B'nai B'rith District Three, a region including Delaware, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. But even more than her consummate professionalism, Smolar brought an easy charm and a commitment to the Jewish people that inspired the affection and respect of B'nai B'rith members and colleagues alike.

"Arlene was the best of the best," says B'nai B'rith International President Tommy Baer. "She was creative, committed, energetic — a pure pleasure. Her death is a devastating loss."

"Arlene embodied the essence of the B'nai B'rith professional," says Executive Vice President Dr. Sidney Clearfield. "More than that: she was a mensch. She was beloved. Her death leaves a void that cannot be filled."

Smolar began her association with B'nai B'rith as a student at Brooklyn College where her achievements as a student leader of the B'nai B'rith

Hillel Foundation earned her the Hillel Gold Key Award. Three years after graduation, she became music director of Camp B'nai B'rith (re-named B'nai B'rith Perlman Camp), spending her summers at the Pennsylvania camp while pursuing her career as a teacher in the New York City school system and raising her three children, Robin, David and Laura.

Smolar became Baltimore-Washington regional director in 1982 and was promoted to District Three director in 1992.

Smolar is survived by her mother, Sarah Ostrow, and by her three children.

Donations may be sent to the Arlene Smolar Memorial Fund, c/o B'nai B'rith, 1640 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

ELEANOR ADELMAN

Eleanor Adelman, 84, of Wilmington, died Saturday, May 11 of cancer at The Kutz Home, near Fox Point.

Mrs. Adelman, a former Philadelphia decorator and insurance agent, volunteered reading stories to young children at the Wilmington library and sang in the choir and acted in shows at the Jewish Community

Center, Talleyville. She attended the University of Delaware's Academy of Lifelong Learning and until a few years ago enjoyed ballroom dancing. Her husband, Henry, died in 1965. Her late brother, William Schwartz, owned a Wilmington drapery shop, the Yardstick. Survivors include daughter Judith Schwab of Wilmington; two granddaughters; four great-grandchildren.

Services were held on Monday, May 13 at the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel in Wilmington, DE.

Contributions may be made to The Jewish Community Center Senior Center, Talleyville, or charity.

SYDNEY BALICK

Sydney Balick, 80, died Friday, May 10 of complications from heart bypass surgery in University of Pennsylvania Hospital, Philadelphia.

Mr. Balick was one of the owners of Wax Furniture, Chadds Ford, Pa., retiring in 1986. He was a member of Congregation Beth Emeth, Wilmington.

Survivors include his wife, Marjorie; son, Jim of Arlington, Va.; daughter, Nancy Ferst of Philadelphia; brother, Jay of Wilmington; sister, Miriam Lieblein of Wilmington; and four grandchildren.

Services were held on Sunday, May 12 at the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel.

Contributions can be made to The Kutz Home for the Aged, 704 River Road, Wilmington, DE 19809.

MRS. PRISCILLA DICKER

Mrs. Priscilla Dicker, 73, of 1016 Jeffrey Road, Darley Woods, Brandywine Hundred, died Wednesday, May 15 of pneumonia in Crozer-Chester Medical Center, Upland, Pa.

Services were held Thursday, May 16 at United Hebrew Cemetery, Staten Island.

Contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, Delaware Division, 92 Reads Way, Suite 205, New Castle Corporate Commons, New Castle, 19720.

THERESA V. DOUGLAS

Theresa V. Douglas, 62, of 208 E. 23rd St., Wilmington, died Tuesday, May 14, of complications from a stroke in Riverside Hospital.

Mrs. Douglas was a domestic in homes in the Wilmington area and a

custodian at the Jewish Community Center for 20 years. She was a member of Ezion-Mount Carmel United Methodist Church.

Survivors include, son, Stephen Sr., daughters, Brenda Ledbetter, Darlene Douglas and Robin Owens, and stepsons, Charles and Lloyd Douglas, all of Wilmington; sisters, Shirley Reddick, Ivory Brinson, Helen Butler, Rose Butler and Barbara Wallace, all of Brooklyn, N.Y., and Gloria Dawkins of Wilmington; stepgrandmother, Amanda Moore of Wilmington; companion, William Miller, with whom she lives; seven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

YETTA A. FRIED

Yetta A. Fried, 78, of 2204 Arosa Lane, Holiday Hills, Brandywine Hundred, died May 15 of respiratory failure in Franciscan Health Center, Wilmington.

Mrs. Fried was a member of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation, Wilmington; Jewish Community Center, where she participated in musicals and plays, and the Brandywine, Wilmington and Claymore senior centers.

Survivors include husband, Jacob; son, Ronald J. of Lancashire; daughter, Francine Fried of New Castle; brother, Albert Arlech of Chester, Pa.; sister, Rose Luthy of Chester, and three grandchildren.

Graveside service was held May 17

at the Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth section of Jewish Community Cemetery, Foulk Road.

Contributions may be made to Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation, Washington Boulevard and Torah Drive, Wilmington 19802, or Brandywine Senior Center, 3301 Green St., Claymont, 19703.

YETTA ZISKIN

On May 5, 1996, Yetta Ziskin (nee Brown), of Philadelphia, died. She was the wife of the late Hyman Ziskin, beloved mother of Dr. Marvin Ziskin and his wife, Leah, Shirley Segal, Larry Ziskin and his wife Sherrill, Linda Hochberg and her husband Jules, grandmother of Daniel, Alan, and Jennie Ziskin and Rena Segal. He is also survived by nieces, nephews, and many friends.

Mrs. Ziskin was the last Brown survivor of the family of Harvey B. Brown (Fred, Israel, Rose, Abe, Harry, Alex) formerly of Second Street, 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*. Copy should be typed and double spaced. Entries are preferred on 3 1/2" floppy disk or via E-mail. Please include day, date, time, place, brief description, and contact person.

MAY 1996

Friday 24

Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Shavuot-Bikkurim Service at 8 p.m. Oneg reception following services honoring students of Bikkurim class.

Monday 27

Congregation Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth in Wilmington, Delaware, the annual celebration of Israel -Cafe Tamar will take place. Cafe Tamar features performances of Israeli dancing and music at Congregation Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth in Wilmington. The event takes place in the evening with the charge to be and further details to be announced. For more information, call (302) 762-2705.

JUNE

Monday 3

Brandywine Chapter Women's American ORT Installation Dinner, Waterworks Cafe. Contact Judi Rosenberg 478-8336 for more information.

Tuesday 25

Brandywine Chapter Women's American ORT Planning Conference. Contact Karen Melnick 477-0970.

JULY

Sunday 28

Brandywine Chapter Women's American ORT Young Leadership Initiative High Tea, Atop the Hotel Bellevue. Contact Ruth Rosenberg 529-1296 for more information.

Ongoing

JCC Art Gallery through May 26, 1996. Raphael Abecassis, internationally-known Israeli artist, will present a one-artist show at the Jewish Community Center. The show will include originals, serigraphs, lithographs, prints and posters, as well as Judaica. For more information, call Mona Allen or Ella Zukoff at (302) 478-5660.

Women's Torah Study Group will meet from noon to 1:30, at Myrna Ryder's office at the Jewish Family Service, 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington. This group meets every 2nd and 4th Thursday lunchtime (except some holidays). Women of the community are welcome. Both groups are studying Devarim/Deuteronomy. For more information, call Eliza Gouverneur at 322-4103.

Women's Torah Study Group will meet, 7:30-9:00 p.m., in the upstairs library of Congregation Beth Emeth. This Group meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday night (except some holidays).

Exhibition: "THE ASSOCIATED: A 75th Anniversary Retrospective,"

tracing the growth and development of Baltimore's Jewish community federation and its agencies. Historic photos, artifacts, and memorabilia. From January 21 through June 2, 1996 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays from noon to 4:00 p.m. at The Jewish Historical Society of Maryland, 15 Lloyd Street, Baltimore. Admission fee is \$2 for adults; free of charge for Society members and children age 12 and under. The sponsors of this event are The Jewish Historical Society of Maryland and the Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore.

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

Handbook Available On Internship Opportunities In Israel. Have you ever considered working in Israel as an intern or volunteer? A book, entitled *Volunteer and Internship Possibilities In Israel*, can make that dream a reality. Published by the Joint Authority for Jewish-Zionist Education, this handbook is perfect for students, young professionals and potential *olim* interested in exploring employment opportunities in Israel.

To order *Volunteer and Internship Possibilities In Israel* send \$10 for each book to: USD/AZYF, 110 E. 59th Street, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10022 or call: (212) 339-6941 or 1 (800) 27-ISRAEL.

Shabbaton

Continued from page 14

As a student of Jewish mysticism for more than twenty years, Wolf says that our mystical tradition dates back to the time of Abraham.

Born to Polish Holocaust survivors, his father a fighter in the Jewish resistance, he was raised in Australia and studied at the Lubavitch Yeshiva in Melbourne. At the age of twenty-three, he served as Hillel Director at the University of Wisconsin. He became a central figure in the campus unrest of the late sixties, and led a successful effort to rid the campus of a Nazi cell. He has also served as a consultant to the American Jewish Congress and B'nai B'rith, advising on outreach to unaffiliated Jews.

More recently, Rabbi Wolf founded the Institute for Jewish Development which reaches out to Jews involved in eastern religions and philosophies and personal growth groups. He has created a set of Jewish programs specializing in Jewish Meditation and personality development. He is the producer of a series of spiritual 'self-help' audio and visual materials, teaching meditative approaches to mindfulness and consciousness. An Orthodox Jew, he is at home amongst a group of Buddhist monks as he is with 'new age' practitioners. He is known for his broadmindedness and encyclopedic knowledge. He lectures on Quantum Physics and Kabbala, Transformation of Anger, Achieving Self Mastery, The Inner Meaning of Love, Making Your Life Really Work, Achieving Personal Balance and Equilibrium Through Kabbalistic Meditation, and others.

Wolf will be presenting three different lectures over the weekend. The first will take place Friday night,



From left to right are Carl Hutter, Chairman of the Middle East FORUM; Dr. Fayez A. Tarawneh, Jordanian Ambassador; Jacque A. Baron, V.P. of DSCC; Ahmed Maher El Sayed, Egyptian Ambassador; Shlomo Gur, from the Israeli Embassy; Hasan Abdel Rahman, PLO Rep., and David Satterfield, from the National Security Council. See corresponding story on page 1.

lecture titled "Personal Growth; Mastering Emotions Through Kabbala." The second lecture will take place Saturday, June 15. Services are at 9:45, followed by the Shabbat meal and lecture titled "Your Inner Landscape; Planting a Spiritual Garden." The third lecture will incorporate the Havdallah service Saturday night at 9:45 p.m. and is titled "Mind, Heart and Touch; Awakening The Soul Through Relationships." The cost for each meal and lecture is \$20 or \$36 for both meals, children \$8. Saturday night lecture and desserts is \$10. The entire Shabbaton will take place at Chabad House, 1306 Grinnell Rd., Green Acres. Babysitting is available. Reservations can be made by calling Chabad at 478-4400 and the deadline is June 5.

Israel's Defense

JERUSALEM (JTA) - Scientists and defense experts involved in the production of a missile intended to destroy incoming rockets said that they expect a preliminary version of the system to be operational within two years. They added that the Arrow anti-missile system will be fully operational by the end of the decade, offering Israel a "significant defense capability" at that time.

Speaking at a briefing this week for military reporters, Defense Ministry officials estimated that the total cost of the program through the year 2005 to be \$1.1 billion. The Arrow system is being co-funded by the

United States, which has to date provided more than \$450 million of the project's costs.

Israel, which began developing the Arrow in 1988 with the United States, will reportedly assume the bulk of the project's future costs.

Cafe Tamar

AKSE's Cafe Tamar celebration of Jerusalem 3000 will have Israeli music and dancing and Middle Eastern food from Jonathan's Glatt Kosher Caters. Adult tickets are \$8 and children's are \$4. Food is available at 6 p.m. and the program begins at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, May 27. Call 762-2705 for more information.

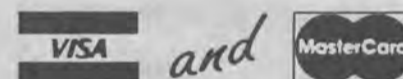
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