

Jewish Historical Society
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 505 Market Street Mall
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Peres outlines changes needed in Middle East

By JOSEPH POLAKOFF

WASHINGTON (PNR) — In three major speeches during his week-long American visit in mid-February following the change of Israeli ambassadors in Washington, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres outlined changes needed in the Middle East and in world affairs to meet new problems following collapse of the Soviet Union and Communism.

In the first address in New York before the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, Peres called for a "new global agenda" with multilateral answers to security and economic development. Israel, he said, can no longer focus on its own security without regard of regional security.

Joining President Clinton's emphasis on democracy's spread world-wide, Peres said "democracy among the majority of nations in the world is necessary for a successful economy and peace." He saw modern media assisting with television offering daily comparison between political and economic standards in the democracies and dictator-led Arab states.

To the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council at its national conference here February 14, Peres observed "unfortunately, most people prefer to remember rather than to think" and "the time has come" to leave the subjects of yesterday and face entire different matters of which security and economy are most important. "The only answer to missiles and non-conventional warheads all over the world," he said, and that also applies to the Middle East, is a "political understanding not to use and not to build them."

Regarding the economy, he said, in the 17 years from today, in the year 2010 the Middle East will have 500 million Arabs, double the current population. Seventy percent will be below the age of 18. The Arabs have one-twelfth of the world's land surface but which 89 percent is desert or semi-desert. In the seven years to come, a quarter of their arable land will be lost, meaning "more and more poverty."

"There is no way to fight the desert but by distributing the existing water saving water in irrigation and urban life and by producing water," he said. "Water is totally a-political. And even if we shall agree (with Arab neighbors) on territory and not on water, we may discover that we don't have a real agreement."

In his closing address at the National Press Club, Peres reiterated those views and added the problem "how to meet the Saddams of the world." Speaking of "the fanatic" elements in Islam combined with modern arms, "particularly the Iranian one," Peres saw the root of the Arab fundamentalist movement, that is troubling Arab countries as well as Israel, is "primarily economic."

Under some harsh questioning from the large attendance at the Press Club, to which he was accompanied by the new ambassador, Itamar Rabinovich, Peres responded to a call for a Palestinian state by noting the Palestinians have agreed not to inject demand for a permanent solution in the bilateral talks but negotiate steps for an interim agreement for

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Dedication of University's Hillel Center March 11

Dedication ceremonies of the Abe and Pearl Kristol Hillel Center at 47 West Delaware Avenue, Newark, will be held on Thursday, March 11, at 7 p.m.

The program which will be conducted in an adjacent University of Delaware building, 140 Smith Hall, will be followed with a reception and mezuzot fixing in the new Hillel building.



Richard M. Joel

The featured speaker, Richard M. Joel, international director of Hillel will give a talk entitled "Towards a 21st Century Jewish Community: Building the Foundation."

Joel, an attorney, was associate dean and professor of law at the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law at Yeshiva University. Along with his current position as International Hillel Director, Joel is a consultant to a variety of Jewish communal organizations and a Senior Policy Advisor the Council for Initiatives in Jewish Education.

Hillel, named for a 1st Century BCE sage and teacher known for his dedica-

tion to the Jewish spirit, was founded at the University of Illinois in 1923 under the sponsorship of B'nai B'rith to serve the religious, counselling, cultural and social needs of Jewish college students.

At the University of Delaware, Hillel which serves a Jewish student body of 1800 was started in 1948 and has grown from 30 to 250 students. Meeting over the years in a variety of temporary, and sometimes makeshift headquarters, it has long been a dream of the Jewish students and advisory board, to have a house they could call home.

Pearl Kristol, a former Wilmington resident now residing in Florida, contributed the major funding which made the dream come true. Mrs. Kristol's generous gift was made in honor of her late husband, Abe, a former Wilmington businessman.

Frank Chaiken of Wilmington, another major contributor who co-chaired the fundraising with his wife Yetta, observes that "This house will establish the Jewish presence at the University of Delaware. We hope that an increased number of Jewish students will be attracted to participate in Hillel's activities."

For further information about the dedication, please call 453-0479.

Jewish community greets Clinton plan with delight and uncertainty

By DEBORAH KALB

State News Service

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The organized Jewish community is greeting President Clinton's economic plan, with expressions of delight tinged with a bit of uncertainty.

Jewish organizational leaders are hailing Clinton's support for various social services and other domestic programs that were gutted during the Reagan and Bush administrations.

But they are concerned about the future of foreign aid to countries such as Israel and Russia, in a political climate geared more toward helping those at home than those abroad.

Figures released by the White House indicate that foreign aid programs will be cut back sharply. At the State Department, spokesman Joe Snyder said Thursday that the budget for fiscal years 1994 through 1997 would include over \$2.3 billion in "outlay savings" in international affairs programs.

Sources in the pro-Israel community point out that Clinton and Vice President Al Gore have gone on record supporting a continuation of the \$3 billion in aid given annually to Israel. But they also note that proposed foreign aid cutbacks make the entire foreign aid program more vulnerable.

Also unclear is the future of the new Voice of America radio transmitter planned for Israel's

Negev desert. Funding for the Board for International Broadcasting will be cut by \$644 million over the next five years, which leads some to believe that the transmitter could be among the items eliminated.

The transmitter has been controversial because some in Israel and in the U.S. Congress have expressed concern over its environmental impact.

On the domestic side, however, the economic plan calls for a greater focus on many programs supported by the Jewish community, such as full funding for the Head Start educational program and the Women, Infants and Children nutrition program, as well as an

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Saperstein at Beth Shalom... See Page 16

Arab deportees remain obstacle to peace talks

By DAVID LANDAU

JERUSALEM (JTA) — The Arab states all want to resume the suspended Middle East peace talks, but the fate of the Palestinians deported to Lebanon is still a major obstacle, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher told Israeli leaders here.

Amid demonstrations staged by both Israelis and Palestinians, Christopher met Tuesday with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, as well as with a Palestinian delegation led by Faisal Husseini, who is a senior adviser to the Palestinian team negotiating with Israel.

Israeli officials were disconcerted to learn from Christopher that Egypt still sees the deportee issue as unresolved and an obstacle to resuming the peace process, despite the compromise deal worked out by Christopher and Rabin earlier this month.

Israel Television reported that Christopher urged Rabin to agree in practice, if not formally, to a more accelerated return of the deportees than first proposed.

At the same time, Christopher reportedly took a firm stand in his meeting with Palestinians, urging them to join in the resumption of the talks.

According to reports, which significantly were not denied in the American camp, Israel would come under pressure to bring back two-thirds of the deportees before the talks are slated to resume and the final third before the end of the summer.

Under the deal worked out with Washington earlier this month, Israel agreed to accept back 101 of the 415 Palestinian activists deported to Lebanon in December. The rest would be returned by the end of the year.

News reports said Christopher believes there is fair chance of resuming the talks as early as next month, rather than the April date that had been bandied about.

But the deportation crisis still looms. Husseini is said to have told Christopher of the near-unanimity of Palestinian opinion in the territories that resumption of the peace talks be conditioned on the prior return of all the deportees.

Indeed, Palestinians interviewed at random by both Israeli and foreign journalists here seemed united in their conviction that the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian negotiators from the territories must not agree to return to the talks under any other condition.

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Opinion



Quotes of Note

"We won't rest until we give Palestine back to the Palestinians."

Kwame Ture (Stokely Carmichael) speaking to students at the University of Delaware February 9

"It's not enough just to get all of the participants (in the Middle East Peace talks) into the same room. They need a strong mediator. I think the United States needs to be aggressive as the mediator."

Former President Jimmy Carter speaking at a press conference prior to receiving the Karl W. Boer Solar Energy Medal of Merit at the University of Delaware February 16

"I've always admired Jewish culture and traditions — the painter Chagall, who used Hasidim in his works; the writer Isaac Bashevis Singer and (Martin) Buber's stories. I admire and relate to the ascetic simplicity of their dress."

Italian designer Fabio Inghirami upon unveiling a Hasidic-themed men's collection in New York recently

"How the World Council of Churches programs have become politicized can be seen most clearly in the Program to Combat Racism (PCR). Since 1970, PCR has distributed over \$10 million to more than 130 organizations in some 30 countries — about half to revolutionary Marxist movements in Africa. It does not check to see that funds are actually used for humanitarian purposes."

From a Reader's Digest ad in the January 19 issue of The New York Times

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Guest Editorial Federation needs to raise Jews, not just money

By GARY ROSENBLATT

Editor, Baltimore Jewish Times

Jewish leaders are a driven bunch. What other group would meet for several days in winter in sunny Arizona by huddling in endless committees inside a hotel from early morning until late evening, with suits and ties the standard attire for men?

But then, the 150 or so professional and volunteer leaders of the Council of Jewish Federations who came to Phoenix last week for their annual leadership board institute had some serious issues to deal with. Most notably, they felt the need to jump-start a special commission on Jewish identity, announced at the General Assembly in New York last November as an effort to counter the increasing trend of assimilation in American Jewish life.

This is new ground for federations, who have been extremely successful in raising large sums of money to provide for social service needs for Jews in Israel and here at home but have not been in the business of trying to make Jews more Jewish.

I was honored, and a bit unnerved, when asked to address last week's board institute at a session called, "The State of Federations: A Dialogue." I was asked, no doubt, because I had written several columns in the last few months dealing with problems facing federation.

To their credit, the leaders of the CJF, the umbrella group of some 200 federations throughout the U.S. and Canada, were willing to invite an "outsider" to critique them, and the resultant two-hour session was, I think, not only lively but productive.

In my remarks, I sought to explain that though I am an outsider in the sense that I do not work for federation or sit on its board, I consider myself an "insider" in the sense that I am a caring Jew, struggling to transmit my proud Jewish heritage to my own three children. And I care deeply about the success of the enterprise we know as federation.

I suggested that if the main goal of federation is to raise money, then the current system, an oligarchy, where power is in the hands of a few, should not be changed. But if the primary goal is truly to build and strengthen and ensure the survival of the Jewish people and the Jewish community, then major changes are in order.

Today, the language of federation is of consensus and committee and process. But to move from the world of social work to the world of Judaism, the vocabulary should include words like Torah and mitzvot and covenant. Because the role of federation has changed. For decades it took care of the financially poor and needy, but today we have a community that is Jewishly and spiritually impoverished, and federation needs to not only raise money but raise Jews.

I submitted that federation can no longer, in an effort to maintain community consensus, avoid controversial issues dealing with religion (like assimilation and intermarriage). Instead, it must be more bold and take the path that is most effective rather than the path of least resistance.

My premise was that there is a hungering out there among American Jews for authenticity, for more Jewish knowledge and a deeper understanding of our history and heritage — as long as it is presented in a thoughtful, caring, nonthreatening way.

In practical terms, I suggested that Jewish textual study become a part of every CJF function, from the General Assembly, which successfully introduced such a study session last November, to CJF quarterly and board

High school graduates should be encouraged to spend a year before college studying in Israel, as has become the norm in the Orthodox community, providing young people with a commitment to Israel and Jewish values that will last them their whole lives.

Here at home, federation needs to forge a new relationship with what should be its strongest ally: the synagogue. Historically, synagogues and federations have seen each other as competitors rather than allies, going after potential leaders and donors. Federation felt it had eclipsed the synagogue as the central address of the Jewish community. But the synagogues are where the Jews are, and it is imperative that synagogues and federations work more closely together in sharing resources, personnel and a philosophy of strengthening Jewish life.

To rabbis, that does not mean simply being incorporated into the federation process. They resent the idea of being co-opted now that federation has discovered that it needs them to keep the Jewish enterprise afloat. The leaders of the synagogue community want to be treated as equal partners, and that requires a new model. I suggested that more rabbis be given slots on boards of federations and that federations help fund synagogue projects such as providing family educators to work with congregations.

In sum, I called for a greater sense of urgency for federations to deal with the crisis of Jewish continuity. Blue-ribbon task forces move too slowly and tell us what we already know: that we are losing a generation of young Jews to indifference.

I suspect that we know the solutions, and have known them, but were too timid to act because it involves grappling with religion and working through a religious framework.

Closing my remarks, I recalled the weekly Torah portion and Moses' encounter with Pharaoh, and his charge to carry out God's command to Let My People Go, to take the Jewish people from slavery to freedom. Today, that theme still resonates for us. Because though we live in a land of freedom, we are bound up by the chains of religious apathy.

Perhaps today our slogan should be Let My People Know, I suggested, concentrating our efforts on liberating American Jewry from the slavery of Jewish ignorance to the freedom of awareness and appreciation of our Jewish heritage.

How did my presentation go over? It's hard for me to assess. One of the respondents, an executive of a federation in a major city, disagreed with most of what I had to say, asserting that my message was a more accurate assessment of problems a decade or two ago than today. He said that in recent years federations have funded Jewish education like never before, have spent great sums on Soviet Jewish acculturation, and have, in general, responded boldly to the issues of the day by raising Jews as well as money.

I respect what he had to say but he didn't change my mind. I don't think adding up the dollars spent is an accurate measure of a program's success or failure. And I'm sure I didn't change his mind, either.

I sensed from the ensuing discussion and give-and-take with the audience, though, that there is a deep sense of concern among the leaders of the federation movement about the crisis of Jewish continuity.

They have the ability and compassion to effect change. But whether or not they have the courage to act, rather than just assess and worry, remains to be seen.

Opinion

Christopher uses skillful diplomacy

FROM THE NEAR EAST REPORT

The U.S. agreement with Israel, which will permit some of the ousted Islamic radicals to return to the territories, is a credit to Secretary of State Warren Christopher and the Clinton Administration. Christopher's success in working with the Rabin Government to forge a fair compromise on a difficult and complex issue bodes well for the future of the peace process and the U.S.-Israel relationship.

Israel agreed to send home immediately 100 of the Hamas and Islamic Jihad activists it temporarily removed from the territories after the murder of Nissim Toledano. Israel also

agreed to cut in half to up to one year the removal period for the other 300. In return, the Administration has assured Israel that it will block any UN sanctions, which were being pressed for by the PLO and the Arab League.

"As a consequence of the steps Israel will take, we believe that further action by the Security Council is unnecessary, and could even undercut the process which is underway," Christopher noted.

Israel's action against Islamic terrorism never constituted a "threat to the peace, breach of the peace, or act of aggression" that would warrant Security Council action under the UN Charter. At the UN, attempts were made to

equate Israel's efforts to protect Israelis and Palestinians from terrorist violence with the depravations of renegade states such as Iraq, Libya, and Serbia. These grotesque equations cannot stand up even to the most perfunctory scrutiny.

By agreeing to the return of 100 Islamic radicals, Israel has taken a serious security risk for the sake of the peace process and the U.S.-Israel relationship. All of the returnees would be members of violent groups opposed to Israel's existence.

Christopher's skillful diplomacy has isolated the PLO and Hamas. Defying Security Council members, Nabil Shaath, political advisor to

Yasir Arafat, denounced the Christopher plan, and vowed to continue to press for UN sanctions against Israel. The Islamic radicals encamped in Lebanon condemned the plan as well, and vowed to remain where they were until Israel capitulated and agreed to take them all back. A spokesman, Hamas representative Abdul Aziz al-Rantisi, accused Washington of engaging in a "psychological war" against his confederates.

By working with Israel to avert more harmful UN actions, the new Administration has laid the groundwork for a warm relationship with Jerusalem for years to come.

Washington Watch

Messages and threats

By DOUGLAS M. BLOOMFIELD

In the season's newest hit film, *The Crying Game*, a doomed British soldier tells his IRA captor the story of the frog and the scorpion.

The scorpion asks a frog for a ride across the river, but the frog refuses. "You'll sting me and I'll die," he says. "That doesn't make sense," argues the scorpion, "because I can't swim and if I kill you I'll die, too." The frog thought about it and decided it made sense so he agreed. But half-way across, the frog felt the sharp stab of the scorpion's tail. "Why? Why?" he gasped with his last breath. "It's my nature," responded the scorpion.

Anyone who has traveled to the Israel or the Arab world has heard that story for many years to illustrate how the region appears devoid of logic. The punch line is slightly different, though. In that version, the scorpion replies, "This is the Middle East."

In the Middle East today it symbolizes the seeming eagerness of the moderate and secular Palestinians to risk killing the peace talks in exchange for an opportunity to embarrass Israel. Even if it means siding with the same Moslem extremists who are the moderates' greatest threat.

Jordan, Syria and Egypt all have called for resumption of the peace talks and have warned against letting Hamas and Islamic Jihad derail what President Clinton has aptly called "the best chance for peace in a decade." The Palestinians once again saw their Arab brethren distancing themselves. It happened in Lebanon in 1982 and more recently in the Gulf War.

Were it not for the persistent questions from the news media putting Arab governments on the spot over the expelled fundamentalists, one has to wonder how much attention they would give the issue at all.

Palestinian spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi was making the rounds in Washington in recent days telling all who would listen that there must be "a serious reassessment of the peace process and U.S.-Palestinian relations." She rejected the US-Israeli compromise, endorsed by Egyptian, Jordanian and other Arab leaders, for resolving the issue of the Islamic extremists expelled by Israel in December. Instead, she insisted on boycotting the peace talks until Israel gives in totally.

State Department officials privately expressed frustration with Ashrawi's tactics and were quietly saying they wished she would shut up and go home before doing any serious damage to the Administration's attempts to restart the peace talks.

Although declaring the agreement "unacceptable," Ashrawi "had to be aware that the PLO leadership had already acquiesced to the deal," said another administration source.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher made no secret during his trip to the region in the

past week that the United States is only as serious as the parties themselves. If they want to play games, he has other things to do.

When Christopher said he wanted to measure how serious the Israelis and Arabs really are about the peace process, many compared it to a similar statement by Margaret Tutwiler, spokeswoman for then-Secretary of State James A. Baker III. A State Department official who has been involved in the peace process since Camp David warned against drawing similarities between the two secretaries. "There is not an imperial bone in Warren Christopher's body," he said.

Christopher, he added, has already shown he wants to and can work closely and amicably with Israel. When Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres came to Washington this month, there were no pre-visit leaks full of veiled warnings from the administration. From the top (especially) down, there is a new attitude towards Israel. To be sure, it helps to have in Israel a government that (usually) knows how to talk to Washington and deal with Americans and is serious about making peace.

The secretary's trip seeks to capitalize on a growing recognition in much of the Arab world that Islamic fundamentalism is a greater threat than Zionism.

That is evident in Morocco's leadership, as president of the United Nations Security Council this month, to broker unanimous approval of the US-Israel compromise over the expulsions. All three Moslem members of the Security Council—Morocco, Pakistan and Djibouti—gave it their support over PLO calls for sanctions on Israel and more condemning resolutions.

Egypt, Jordan and Syria have made it clear in public and private that they feel the peace talks are too important and too promising to be abandoned on a frosty Lebanese hillside. The choice facing the Palestinians is clear. Israel, the United States and the Arab states will help them get there if they are serious.

The fundamentalist threat is a very real and growing one. "There is a great fear throughout the moderate Arab world that what they're seeing in Algeria can happen elsewhere," said an American diplomat intimately familiar with the region. "The Zionist threat is passe because negotiations are going on."

Algeria held parliamentary elections last year but canceled them when fundamentalist candidates did better than expected in the first round. Since then the fundamentalists turned to violence and terror, and the government began a crackdown.

Egypt is having similar experiences. Tourism, a leading industry and source of foreign exchange, is drastically off over the past year because of fundamentalist terrorism. Of course, Syria a decade ago virtually wiped out the city of Hamas and killed as many as 20,000 people

in an effort to wipe out the Moslem Brotherhood.

Crackdowns on fundamentalist extremists by Arab government have not been getting the publicity that Israel's actions have, although they are generally tougher, according to U.S. experts.

Mrs. Ashrawi and others are fond of attributing Palestinian violence in Israel and the occupied territories to frustration over the lack of progress in the peace talks. But it was pointed out to her (and she conceded the truth) that Hamas and Islamic Jihad terrorism is motivated by the fear that too much progress is being made and more could come. After all,

the goal of those expelled by Israel, like those responsible for the latest wave of murder and terror, is to kill Jews and replace Israel with a Palestinian Islamic Republic. Their model and their inspiration can be found in Iran and the Sudan. Now they want to add Palestine, Algeria, Egypt, Jordan and no one knows where they will stop.

The secular, nationalist Arab world recognizes that its future lies in being a part of the new world order led by the United States, not the medieval old world order led by Tehran. And the road to Washington for many of them, as Anwar Sadat learned, leads through Jerusalem.

Germans haven't been taught

By SIGMUND "ZIGGY" GORSON

Why are the American people so utterly shocked of the violent re-birth of Nazism in today's Germany?

The people of Germany—especially the young, have never been taught about the true evils of Nazism and the widespread complicity of the German people in Hitler's genocidal programs.

As the noted philosopher George Santayana once wrote: "Those who fail to remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

At the end of World War II, there were some show trials throughout Germany. Some notorious Nazi murderers were convicted, and some of these killers were able to escape "due justice" by paying off in precious stones some "prosecuting German officials" then escaping on false passports to Latin America and to some Middle East countries.

They escaped with the help of the ultra-secret Odessa organization which consisted of high Nazi military ex-officers and other high Nazi notables, who were mainly operating from around the Munich and Frankfurt A/M area.

The followers—the tens of millions of Germans who avidly supported Hitler and the tens of thousands who actively implemented his genocidal programs—were let off the hook. Even some of the most complicitous, for example: the Krups, who had thousands of slave workers laboring under the most inhumane and starving conditions were pardoned and eventually restored to positions of honor

and great wealth. Some of the others were: I.G. Farben, Mercedes Benz, V.W. Continental Auto Reifen, Siemens, etc., etc.

The so-called German "denazification" was largely cosmetic and deceitful. For example, in the late 1950s, a book was published in Germany which documented nearly 1000 Nazi judges who "today occupy positions of responsibility in the German judicial system." These former Nazi judges were instrumental in filling their concentration and death camps with Jews, Poles, Gypsies, German political dissidents and other "enemies of the German super-race."

Little was done to bring these criminals to justice after the war, and so the vast majority of these Nazi officials lived honored lives in both East and West Germany with full German government pensions and other luxury benefits, not available to the rest of the German populace.

German President Richard Van Weizsacker, who has asked Germans to accept responsibility for the Holocaust, has denied the responsibility of his own father, who had been Hitler's state secretary and an important member of Himmler's personal staff. Despite evidence of the contrary, Weizsacker declared: "I really believe that my father did not know about the existence of the gas chambers and the systematic mass killings."

In the "Cold War" less visible Nazi officials were found to be useful for U.S. national security interests in a variety of ways—

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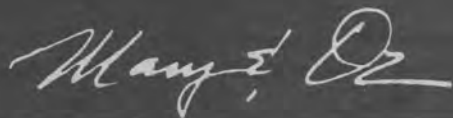
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LOCAL



10th Annual Snowball Run

Runners and walkers alike took advantage of a beautiful winter morning, as they participated in the Jewish Community Center's 10th Annual Snowball Run on Sunday, January 31. The Annual Event consisted of a 5 mile run, 5K walk and a 1 mile family "fun run." The overall winners for the 5 mile race were David Brown of Philadelphia with a time of 25:30 and Denise Metzgar from Jacksonville, Florida with a time of 29:50. The overall winners for the 5K walk were Ron Morra from Dover with a time of 30:30 and Tammy Havik of Wilmington with a time of 32:35.

Senator Roth at Einstein Gala

Delaware's U.S. Senator William V. Roth, Jr. will be the featured speaker at Albert Einstein Academy's fourth annual Gala Dinner-Dance.

Senator Roth is currently the ranking Republican on the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee and the Permanent Subcommittee on

Investigations. He also serves on the Senate Finance Committee; Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs; and The Joint Economic Committee.

The Gala will be held at the Delaware Art Museum on Saturday, March 13, at 7:30 p.m. A donation of \$200 per couple or \$100 per person pro-

vides cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, dinner and dancing to "The Generations."

The Gala is held each year to support Albert Einstein Academy, Delaware's only Jewish Day School. For reservations call Sharon Rosen, 479-0766. Black tie is optional.

Choices and Conflicts - Jewish families in the 90's

Women's Division of Jewish Federation of Delaware, Sisterhood of Temple Beth El and Newark Chapter of Hadassah announce a joint program to discuss "Jewish Families in the 90's" on Wednesday, March 10 at 7:30 p.m. at Temple Beth El, 301 Postum Park Road, Newark.

The speakers for the symposium will include Lana Dorman, psycho-

logical assistant; demographer Vivian Klaff, associate professor, Department of Sociology, University of Delaware; Gerald Oster, clinical psychologist; and Myrna Ryder, social worker and family life educator at Jewish Family Service. Frankie Klaff, a clinical psychologist, will be the moderator.

Topics to be addressed include: current demographic changes; mar-

riage and relationships; sex and the 90's; healthcare and AIDS; special pressures for interfaith families and others.

The program is free and open to the community. Refreshments will be served. For further information call Ann Herman at Temple Beth El, 366-8330 or Lelaine Nemser at Jewish Federation of Delaware, 478-6200.

Report on Bosnia

Mohamed Soliman of the Islamic Center of Delaware will give a slide/lecture presentation on the current situation in Bosnia on Monday, March 1st, at 7:00 p.m. in Memorial Hall, First & Central Presbyterian Church, 1101 Market Street, Wilmington.

Soliman travelled throughout Bosnia in December, observing and gathering information from Bosnia

in December, observing and gathering information from Bosnian Muslims and Croats about conditions in Bosnia-Herzegovina and their ideas about the prospects for peace.

The program, sponsored by Pacem in Terris, is free and open to the public. For more information, call 656-2721.

JCC plans tournament

The Jewish Community Center of Wilmington, will hold its First Annual Golf, Tennis and Lawn Bowling Tournament on Thursday, June 24 at the DuPont Country Club.

Dan Klein and Richard A. Levine are the co-chairpersons of the Tournament Steering Committee. Charlotte Balick, Gordon Honig and Larry Zutz are the co-chairpersons for the Golf Tournament and Elliot Golinkoff is the chairperson of the Tennis Tournament. Tournament committees are

now forming.

Beneficial National Bank will be the overall sponsor for this year's tournament. Other major sponsors (as of February 19) include the Zutz Insurance Company and DuPont De Nemours E I & Company.

Tournament sponsorship inquiries can be directed to Dan Klein, 651-7638 or Richard A. Levine, 571-6640. Future articles and publications will include other sponsors.

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Panim El Panim

Face to Face with JFD

Job search for new Americans

By LINDA VODOVIS

Almost every Wednesday evening a small group of very interesting people meet for what we call the Job Club. Everybody has been out there, one time or another, looking for a job. However, these people are doing it for the first time, in a new country, with new rules.

As Acculturation and Employment Coordinator of the Jewish Family Service, I met these newcomers for the first time with much apprehension. I do not speak Russian and their levels of English vary. Of course, culturally there was much to be shared and learned.

Their former Soviet Union experience taught them nothing of an ag-

gressive and independent search for employment. They had all been placed in work, and seldom would any change be made to alter that arrangement.

Here we began with what a resume is and how it should look and read. I must say that community volunteers have helped our new Americans develop very professional resumes. But, now that you have a resume, what do you do with it?

We discussed cover letters, classified advertisements, reference books, applications, and are now learning how to best represent oneself in an interview. The "cold call" is the most difficult for a new English speaker,

because all you have on the telephone are the words, with no body language to help. Nevertheless, this must also be practiced.

A few of our Job Club members have been lucky enough to have already experienced an interview and have learned from that opportunity.

So now that we have exchanged the basics of job searching and have gotten to know each other, we are all working very hard at trying to find a position. Although, with times like these, our friends are having a very difficult time, despite their education and experience.

We will continue to diligently work on our language and job search skills, but need volunteers from our community to sit and share ideas. Please do not hesitate and call in any work opportunities that may help. The direct line to Refugee Resettlement is 478-3906. Thank you.



From left to right Vladimir Shutov, Mikhail Mazin, Yelena Shutov, Leonid Petlyuk, and Alla Petlyuk. Not shown are Lillian and George Shifrin.



Dimitriy Petlyuk, recent emigree from Russia, receives award from Milton and Thelma Levenson. Shown with his parents, Dimitriy plans to begin at the U. of D. this spring.

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Congress is looking for revenue

All revenue sources will be examined thoroughly as Congress seeks to prepare budgets that reduce the deficit and fund job programs, universal health care and other priorities of the Clinton Administration.

One course surely to be studied is gift and estate exemptions. The last Congress introduced legislation which proposed to reduce tax free gifts and bequests. This reduction would have affected virtually all lifetime gifts and estates with assets in excess of \$200,000. If the bill had been passed an estate of \$500,000 that now pays no taxes could owe federal taxes of up to \$101,000.

Many believe that this concept will reappear in future bills. You may wish to consider taking actions to insure that you will benefit from the current \$600,000 gift and estate exemption. Now may be the time to make tax free transfers including endowment gifts to the Federation and other community institutions.

The Jewish Community of Delaware Endowment Fund was established to assist donors with the implementation of their charitable plans. For information call Connie Kreshtool, 478-6200.

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Editor of Jewish community bi-weekly newspaper. Responsible for editing, layout, some writing, supervising of advertisement staff, and working with Editorial Committee. Desktop publishing experience preferred. Send resume, writing samples, salary requirements, and references to S. Bloom, Jewish Federation of Delaware, 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington, DE 19803.

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ELTZALTZNE

NATIONAL • INTERNATIONAL

Absorption of Moslem refugees stirs up debate in Israel

By GIL SEDAN

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israel's absorption of 83 Moslem refugees from war-torn Bosnia-Herzegovina has stirred up debate among Israelis originally from the various former republics of Yugoslavia.

Jews from Serbian regions have pointed to the Croatian government's behavior during World War II to make their case that the Serbs treated Jews better than the Bosnians and Croats. They feel the current conflict has unfairly maligned the reputation of the Serbian people.

Jews from Bosnia have countered by making similar statements against Serbian treatment of Jews.

Rabbi Zvi Azariya, chairman of the Association of Jewish Warriors in Yugoslavia, has said that Israel's decision to absorb only Bosnian refugees is an affront.

In taking that action, Azariya told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, the Israeli government failed to recognize the fact that the Croatian-Bosnian government collaborated with the Nazi occupation army and was directly responsible for the extermination of Yugoslav Jews in World War II.

"We Jews are known as merciful," said Azariya, "and therefore one cannot come out against the absorption of Bosnians who were rescued from the present chaos in former Yugoslavia. However, Israel should have at least absorbed an equal number of Serb refugees," he said.

Azariya, who served as an officer in the Yugoslav army during World War II, charged that the local Croatian-Bosnian government helped round up the Jews of Bosnia and Croatia and transport them to the Jasenovac concentration camp

in Croatia, where many of them were murdered.

But Shlomit Lussic, a Bosnian Jew who is a member of the Association of Yugoslav Immigrants in Israel, told JTA she was highly offended by such comments.

Lussic said that Azariya and other pro-Serbian voices are ignoring the fact that some of the Bosnians absorbed in Israel were virtually rescued out of concentration camps operated by the Serbs.

Furthermore, Lussic said that just as evidence existed regarding Bosnian and Croatian collaboration with the Nazis, there was similar evidence of Serbs who had done the same.

Lussic warned that bickering and accusations among the different factions in the Yugoslav Jewish commu-

nity in Israel would ruin the positive effect of Israel's humanitarian act.

The history behind Germany's 1941 invasion of Yugoslavia and the behavior of its local population toward Jews has been a sensitive subject since the crisis first erupted in Croatia, Bosnia and Serbia.

According to Azariya, the Serbs, unlike the Bosnians and the Croats, protected the Jews during the war and absorbed them into the Serb army.

According to historian Jenny Leibel, there were conflicting reports about how many Jews were killed in Yugoslavia, but there was no doubt that the local Bosnian and Croatian authorities fully collaborated with the occupation army both against the Jews and the Serbs.

Gays Controversy



JERUSALEM — Yael Dayan, a Labour Party member of Israel's parliament seen here, sparked an uproar in the Knesset February 10 when she said King David and several great Jews were gay. She made the comments during a speech on the status of homosexuals and lesbians in the Israeli army. Dayan is the daughter of Israeli General Moshe Dayan. RNS PHOTO/Reuters.

Ceremony at Museum

WASHINGTON (JTA) — In a moving ceremony at the still-incomplete U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, soil from 39 Holocaust sites was interred this week in the museum's Hall of Remembrance, where it will rest beneath an eternal flame.

The hour-long soil dedication ceremony Monday, attended by several

hundred people, including Holocaust survivors and U.S. military personnel, is part of a series of events leading up to the museum's long-awaited opening April 26.

Soil from concentration camp sites was mingled in Monday's ceremony with soil from the gravesites of U.S. military liberators of the camps, including Arlington National Cemetery, in a literal and symbolic joining of survivors with liberators.

The ceremony was dedicated to "the memory of those without graves."

Over the past year, survivors and others traveled to sites in Eastern and Western Europe to gather the soil. It was placed in urns, one for each site. On Monday, the names of the sites were read out as people reverently spilled the ashes into the spot over which the eternal flame will burn.

The last set of ashes, from Arlington cemetery, was spread over the ashes from the other sites.

Briefs

Israel combats Hamas terrorist network

PLO leader Yasir Arafat, visiting Iraq last week, hailed "the greatness of the Iraqi people and their leader," Saddam Hussein. Arafat, who met with Saddam, Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz, and Foreign Minister Mohammed Saeed al-Sahaf, praised Baghdad's "peace" overtures to Washington. Arafat said this could "enable us all as an Arab nation to face up to the challenges in the new world order" (Reuter, Feb. 2, reprinted from Near East Report, Feb. 8).

Israel accepts 100 Bosnian Moslems

WASHINGTON (PNR) — Israel's Government has responded to requests by the Committee of Heads of Local Arab Councils in Israel by agreeing to absorb 100 Moslem refugees from war-torn Bosnia, according to Yediot Ahront newspaper February 11. Barring last-minute delays, the refugees will arrive in Israel during the coming week. The Housing Ministry will provide dwelling units in two villages. The French Government with assistance from Jewish organizations will provide air transport to Israel. (From Joseph Polakoff)

Warsaw Ghetto Uprising Day in NY

Declaring that "we must rededicate ourselves to the conviction that mankind will never know another Holocaust," New York Governor Mario Cuomo has proclaimed Sunday, April 18 "Warsaw Ghetto Uprising Day." On that day, thousands of members of the Jewish community, including survivors of Nazi concentration camps, members of resistance groups and their families, will gather at the Paramount in Madison Square Garden at 1 p.m. to observe Yom Hashoah — Holocaust Remembrance Day. Co-sponsors of the commemoration are the United Commemoration Committee of Metropolitan New York, New York Holocaust Memorial Commission, New York Jewish Community Relations Council, American Gathering/Federation of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, WAGRO and Workmen's Circle.

First Israeli named to U.N. Force

TEL AVIV (JTA) — The first Israeli to join a United Nations peacekeeping force has been named by the international agency's New York headquarters and is to serve in the former Yugoslavia. Albert Ben-Abu, 46, an immigrant from Morocco, is to serve as a civilian peace negotiator in talks between the warring factions in Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina. The United Nations had never invited Israel to contribute to any peacekeeping forces until last October, when it solicited all U.N. missions to contribute personnel to the U.N. forces in Yugoslavia.

Oldest olives found near Haifa

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Traces of what are believed to be the oldest olives in the world, and indications of their early use for industrial purposes some 7,000 years ago, have been found in underwater archaeological digs off the Israeli coast, south of Haifa. The turbulent waters in recent storms have helped to uncover the remains of several primitive villages. According to Israel Antiquities Authority official Ehud Galili, the containers in which the olives were found, and what appears to have been primitive equipment for treating or working with the olives, indicate that the villagers, recently turned from an earlier hunting existence to living by farming and primitive agriculture, were already evolving a "cottage industry."

Jews from former Soviet Union stay in Germany

BONN (JTA) — Most Jews from the former Soviet Union who immigrated to Germany during the past few years plan to stay here, according to a poll taken by the Moses Mendelssohn Institute in Potsdam. Although 90 percent of the immigrants polled said they were concerned about the recent wave of right-wing extremism and neo-Nazi violence in Germany; only 12.5 percent said they would consider the possibility of returning to their former countries or moving to a third country, including Israel. The institute, a center of Jewish studies, released the results last week and said the study clearly showed that the foundation of an enlarged Jewish community in Germany was emerging. At present, there are an estimated 30,000 Jews in this country.

Israel's court asked to recognize conversions

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israel's Reform movement filed a petition with the nation's Supreme Court on Tuesday in the hope of winning state recognition of Reform conversions to Judaism performed in Israel. The Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism and the Association for Civil Rights in Israel joined forces to challenge the Interior Ministry's refusal to accept the validity of such conversions. "What is at stake is whether Orthodoxy is going to have a monopoly over the definition of Judaism and Jewish status in Israel," said Uri Regev, head of the Reform movement's Religious Action Center here. The same parties won a landmark Supreme Court appeal in 1989 that required the government to grant citizenship under the Law of Return to non-Orthodox converts who immigrating to Israel.

South African Jews fast after tragedies

JOHANNESBURG (JTA) — Thousands of Johannesburg Jews fasted for 24 hours last week, following a number of tragedies involving local Jews. The fast, called for by religious leaders, with prayers led by Chief Rabbi Cyril Harris, was held to show solidarity with members of the community who had suffered loss through unnatural deaths and accidents. The Sunday Times reported that the South African Ambassador to the United States, Harry Schwarz, joined in the fast. The tragedies included several young people who were killed or seriously injured in road accidents, a boating accident which claimed the lives of three Jewish yachtsmen, a young medical student who fell to his death while bird-watching, a fatal accidental shooting and four Jewish racehorse owners who were victimized in their homes by gunmen. Prayers were also said for the future of South Africa.

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NATIONAL • INTERNATIONAL

The high cost of Jewish living

By L.E. SCOTT

Philadelphia Jewish Exponent

The Jewish community has developed resources to deal with the external threat of anti-Semitism but now it faces an internal crisis: the high cost of Jewish living. That's the finding of a 1992 national report commissioned by the American Jewish Committee and released in Philadelphia.

The report estimates that living a fully involved Jewish life will cost a family of five \$18,000 to \$25,000 annually. That includes the price of a day school, memberships in a synagogue and Jewish community center, tuition for Jewish summer camp, and a contribution to a Jewish federation.

"To generate that amount of discretionary income, a family must earn an annual \$80,000 to \$125,000 per year," says Lisa Hostein, co-author of the report and news editor of the Philadelphia Jewish Exponent. "In 1990, the median annual income for Jewish families was \$39,000."

It hasn't gone up much since then. Murray Friedman, executive director of the AJCommittee's middle Atlantic region, charges that the Jewish community is being weakened by the cost of Jewish living, coupled with a low birthrate, intermarriage, assimilation and indifference among

young people.

"This is a quiet crisis," says Friedman. "It's not as flamboyant as rescuing Soviet Jews or as anti-Semitism in this country or that country."

And the crisis is exacerbated by the recession, according to Hostein, whose co-author on the 12-page AJCommittee report, "The High Cost of Jewish Living," was Rabbi Aryeh Meir, program specialist in the organization's Jewish communal affairs department.

The report focuses on three segments of the American Jewish population: those Jews who may be opting out of Jewish life because they believe they cannot afford to belong; those whose involvement in the organized Jewish community is limited by their economic circumstances; and those who are highly affiliated but who have been forced to lower their standard of living to pay for that involvement.

The cost of living Jewishly, Hostein says, forces people to confront some difficult questions:

"Is living Jewishly beyond the reach of a significant segment of American Jewry? Has exclusion because of cost led to alienation from the Jewish community and Jewish causes? Does this exclusion portend a potential loss of future Jewish leaders and a weakened Jewish community? Is the

organized Jewish community, so successful at rescuing troubled Jews around the world and so involved in the upbuilding of Israel, ignoring its own at home?"

Friedman says the crisis in the cost of Jewish living has not been generally recognized by the Jewish community.

"It's left to cocktail-party conversation, rather than in terms of organizing resources in attempting the admittedly very difficult task of grappling with these issues," he says.

In an attempt to prompt Jewish communities to address those questions, the report has been sent to Jewish federations throughout the nation, as well as to the various officers of AJCommittee.

The report recommends developing what it calls a "Superfund for Jewish Living," supported by venture capital to provide grants to institutions and low-interest loans for families who want to participate in Jewish educational programs.

It also suggests convening national and local task forces on the affordability of Jewish living; sensitizing communal leaders to the economic realities of Jewish affiliation and education; and encouraging every board member of Jewish organizations to take out a life-insurance policy naming a Jewish organization as beneficiary.

Referring to what he sees as the internal threats to the community, Friedman dramatically quotes philosopher Emil Fackenheim, saying, "Jews in the world are in danger of

providing Adolf Hitler with a posthumous victory?"

Reprinted with permission from the Philadelphia Jewish Exponent.

Israel Combats Hamas

Israel security forces appear to have won several important victories in their war against the Islamic terrorist group Hamas.

On January 6, the Government announced it had uncovered a major Hamas terrorist cell based in the Hebron area of the West Bank, and had arrested 22 of its members. The men, members of Hamas' Izza-Din al-Kassam military wing, are believed responsible for at least five armed attacks on IDF targets in Hebron between October and December. Two Israeli servicemen were killed and six others injured in the attacks. Some of those arrested are also accused of participating in the beatings and murders of fellow Palestinians.

On January 12, Israeli officials announced that they had arrested two Hamas activists for the murder nine days earlier of Israeli intelligence agent Haim Nahmani. One of the suspects reenacted the crime for investigators. He and two accom-

plices — one an informer whom Nahmani had been scheduled to see — drove to meet Nahmani at a west Jerusalem apartment, bringing with them a knife, hammer, and club. Although Nahmani, 25, put up a fierce struggle, he was stabbed repeatedly and beaten to death with the hammer. The informer is still at large (Jerusalem Post, Jan. 13).

While the arrests constitute a severe blow to Hamas' terror network, Brigadier Gen. Moshe Alon, the IDF commander in the West Bank, sounded a cautionary note. He said Hamas would likely try to rebuild its infrastructure.

Israel announced January 31 that it is holding three American Arabs it says were sent by Hamas leaders abroad to deliver money and instructions to organization members in the West Bank and Gaza.

Reprinted from the Near East Report, February 8.

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The following stories in Russian are about (1) applications for HIAS, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, 1993 Scholarship Awards, (2) the Jewish senators and representatives sworn into Congress, and (3) aliyah from the former USSR. These articles are provided by Jewish Family Service, an agency of the Jewish Federation of Delaware.

НОВОСТИ И ПЕРСПЕКТИВЫ

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ХИАС ОБЪЯВЛЯЕТ СТИПЕНДИИ НА 1993 ГОД

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ЕВРЕИ ПРИНИМАЮТ ПРИСЯГУ В СЕНАТЕ И ПАЛАТЕ ПРЕДСТАВИТЕЛЕЙ

Вашингтон (JTA). Еще три сенатора-еврея и 11 новых конгрессменов были приведены к присяге в Конгрессе США на прошлой неделе. Теперь количество евреев в сенате составляет 10 человек, наибольшее число за все время.

Двое из трех новых сенаторов-евреев — это представительницы демократической партии из Калифорнии, Барбара Боксер и Дайана Файнстайн. Теперь штаты Калифорнию и Висконсин представляют по два сенатора-еврея. Вновь избранный сенатор Рассел Файнгольд из Висконсина был приведен к присяге в прошедший вторник, присоединившись таким образом к своему коллеге по партии демократу Герберту Колю. Боксер и Файнстайн получили свои места в результате широко освещаемой кампании под знаком "года женщины", которая открыла двери сената еще двум женщинам-демократам, Кэрл Мосли Браун из Иллинойса и Пэтти Мюррей из штата Вашингтон.

В Палате представителей, насчитывающей 110 новых членов, сейчас находится рекордное число женщин и представительниц национальных меньшинств, включающих 33 еврея, т. е. то же количество, что и в составе конгресса прошлого года.

Из 11 новых членов-евреев только один, Дэвид Леви из Нью-Йорка является республиканцем. Теперь имеется пять еврейских представителей-республиканцев, 27 демократов и один независимый представитель, Берни Сандерс из штата Вермонт. Из 10 евреев, находящихся на службе в Сенате, только один, Арлен Спектер из Пенсильвании, является республиканцем.

Среди новых еврейских членов конгресса демократы Эрик Фингерхат, шт Огайо, и Питер Дойн, шт. Флорида, входят в состав комиссии конгресса по иностранным делам вместе с ветераном-республиканцем Чарльзом Шумером, давним другом Израиля.

Еще одним еврейским представителем, пришедшим в состав конгресса, является Марджори Марголис - Мезвински, в прошлом автор и ведущая телевизионных репортажей. От штата Калифорния в состав представителей вошли четыре новых демократа-еврея: Боб Фильнер, Дэн Хамбург, Джейн Харман и Линн Шенк, от Аризоны — один Сэм Копперсмит.

Двое других членов Конгресса из Нью-Йорка — это Дэвид Леви, республиканец, и Джерольд Надлер, демократ. Штат Нью-Джерси будет представлять демократ Херберт Клайн, прокурор.

ПРОДОЛЖАЕТСЯ АЛИЯ ИЗ БЫВШЕГО СССР

Нью-Йорк (JTA). По данным, полученным на прошлой неделе от Национальной конференции в защиту советских евреев, в прошлом году из республик бывшего СССР выехало 64057 человек.

В это число вошли 6745 иммигрантов, приехавших в Израиль в декабре 1992 года, что несколько превысило ноябрьскую цифру — 6544 человека.

Кроме того, 4044 еврея из бывших советских республик были приняты в США в декабре прошлого года в рамках программы американского правительства по приему беженцев, что по данным ХИАСа на 40% больше, чем в предыдущем месяце. По тем же данным иммиграция в США в 1992 году составила 45303 человека.

В 1992 году количество прибывших в Израиль составило меньше половины иммигрантов 1991 года — 147839 — и всего одну треть уровня 1990 года, то есть 185227 человек. Тем не менее, в течение последних шести месяцев иммиграция в Израиль постепенно возрастала.

Inside Israel

Israelis greet Christopher

By MICHELE CHABIN

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Israelis reacted to U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's visit here this week with a mixture of hopeful anticipation and trepidation.

In calls to radio talk shows and in overheated conversations among friends sipping cappuccino on Ben-Yehuda Street, ordinary Israelis said

"Middle East," said David Hornstein, a real-estate broker in Jerusalem.

"I believe that Baker was very pro-Arab and that he personally didn't like Jews very much. This came across in his dealings with the various governments in the region," Hornstein said.

"Christopher, on the other hand, is pretty much a blank," he said.

we need the Golan for security reasons."

Golan resident Zehavah Shatsky said she was convinced the U.S. administration has already made up its mind on the issue of territorial compromise.

"I'm very worried that Christopher will put pressure on the Israeli government to give back the Golan," she said. "Now more than ever, I feel as if the ground under my feet is shaky."

"With a new government both here and in the U.S., there is a change in the air, politically speaking. I just pray that the Golan doesn't turn into another Yamit," she said, referring to the Jewish town in Sinai that was dismantled and handed over to Egypt.

Tel Aviv book publisher Sarit Tinari was not quite as pessimistic.

"I'm glad Christopher has come," she said, "because Israelis need to get to know the person behind the title. There's a new American administration, so perhaps the relationship between Israel and the U.S. will improve."

"I hope that Clinton and Christopher will be more responsive to Israel's needs than Bush and Baker were in the past," she said.

Still, she said, "I can't help but be concerned about the future role America will play in the peace process. I'm afraid that instead of acting in its traditional role as facilitator in the peace talks, it will try to interfere in the negotiations."

"While we can't expect America to be our guardian angel," Tinari said, "it doesn't own us either. We're an independent country, and only Israelis can know what is good for Israel."



they are looking forward to a new, improved chapter in U.S.-Israel relations.

Yet while people here are excited about the possibility of starting a "clean slate" with the Clinton administration, they are wary about the unknown.

"Now that George Bush and James Baker are out of the picture, it will be interesting to see what the new administration will offer vis-a-vis the

"We'll find out soon enough where he stands."

While Hornstein assumed a "wait and see" attitude toward Christopher's visit, he argued that "Israelis have to stand strong on the issue of the Golan Heights."

Referring to a mass demonstration by Golan Heights residents and supporters, Hornstein said, "We need to show Clinton and Christopher that our security needs come first and that

Rabin shocked by poverty

By GIL SEDAN

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, returning shocked from a visit to an impoverished Tel Aviv neighborhood, has expressed concern about deteriorating social and economic conditions.

Rabin, who toured the poorer areas of southern Tel Aviv last week, said he was surprised at the high rate of unemployment, the lack of medi-

cal services and the high use of drugs.

Rabin painted a gloomy picture of Israel's economic situation and compared the country to a family in a state of bankruptcy.

"At times during the tour," Rabin recalled, "I did not know whether I was in Khan Yunis, the Jabalya refugee camp in Gaza, or in Tel Aviv."

He charged that no new housing

was built in the southern neighborhoods of Tel Aviv during the Likud-led government because so much of its budget had gone to the administered territories.

Rabin also said that Israel needs to drastically reduce the number of Arabs from the territories working in Israel proper in order to fight the growing unemployment among the Jewish population.

New attractions in the Old City

By NECHEMIA MEYERS

Tourism to Jerusalem has staged an impressive comeback after being badly hit by the intifada.

To be sure, there remain large sections of the picturesque Old City where visitors seldom venture for fear of being attacked. But additional places of interest have been created elsewhere in Jerusalem, and they largely compensate for sites that are virtually off limits at the moment.

Of particular interest are the new buildings in the "national section" of the city, where the museums and Government institutions are concentrated. The attractions there include the recently opened Bible Lands Museum, which houses a 3,000-piece collection of Biblical-era artifacts amassed by Polish-born Torontonian Elie Borowski (who provided funds

for the building as well.)

The Museum's various sections are devoted not to individual cultures, but to themes such as agriculture, warfare, language and religion. Thus you see, side by side, Assyrian, Egyptian, Babylonian and Israelite artifacts, arranged so that the interaction between those cultures is self-evident.

While the Museum is very handsome in its own modest way, it cannot compare with the nearby Supreme Court Building, another recent addition to the Jerusalem scene. Financed by the Rothschild family — which also paid for the Knesset — the Supreme Court is starkly modern and yet very much part of its ancient architectural environment. Much of the soaring structure is lined, for instance, with stone resembling that in the Western Wall, while the court-

rooms themselves include architectural elements clearly "stolen" from the alleyways and synagogues of the Old City.

Not all visitors come to Jerusalem in order to look at ancient artifacts and new buildings; some come primarily to relax, which is easy to do at the Hyatt Regency, a prospering resort hotel.

The Hyatt opened at the worst possible time — just at the onset of the intifada. Lacking an established clientele and somewhat distant from the center of Jewish West Jerusalem, the Hyatt was hard put, at that juncture, to reach an occupancy rate of 20 or 25 percent. Now, most of the year, its midweek rate is 80%, and its weekend rate close to 100%.

While the great majority of guests

Continued on 19

CAMP GUIDE



JCC Camp plans underway

By **MICHAEL GROSSMAN, MSW**
Youth Family and Camping Services Director

Many families are now making their plans for summer. When choosing a summer camp, parents and campers must make several decisions. The primary concerns of most parents are safety, quality/experience of staff, quality/variety of program and quality/variety of facility. The Wilmington Jewish Community Center's Camp JCC is constantly striving to meet high standards in each of these areas, and our past campers attest to this by coming back each summer.

Attention to safety is always a top concern at Camp JCC. Staff orientation sessions stress the importance of safety awareness, health hazards and standard camp procedures which insure the health and well-being of campers. Under the leadership of a nurse (or paramedic), staff are trained to handle emergencies which may arise during the day.

Parents play an important role in insuring that the system works. All campers must have a completed medical record (including a current physical) on file and parents must communicate any particular health needs to the camp.

Jewish Community Center pro-
Continued on 10

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(For entering 10th graders)
 Four Week Program: June 28 - July 23, 1993



Professional staff members provide top leadership at Camp JCC. Camp Director Michael Grossman has over eight years of JCC and camping experience. Susan Gentry, Early Childhood Program Director, supervises the K'Ton Ton Camps. Elyse Greer, Youth Services Coordinator, supervises CIT'S and Teen Camps. Maccabi Camps are supervised by Victor Buono, Recreational Services Director.

Sharon Kass-Moldover, our Administrative Assistant, returns to coordinate the Camp Office and much of the behind-the-scenes details. This year's Traditional Camp staff include Joe Consiglio, Program Director and Unit Heads Staci Berger, Susan Howe-Consiglio, Dawn Gregg and Jeff Clouser are all returning Camp JCC staff.

These administrative staff are all teachers who have many years of education and experience working with children and in the camp environment. The sports, arts and crafts, drama, nature, aquatics and Judaics staff are chosen from professionals in their respective fields. The senior counselor staff is selected from college students who have past counselor experience and/or other child care experience. Many counselors are returning staff from previous summers. Junior counselors are juniors or seniors in High School who have completed a counselor-in-training (CIT) program or have significant experience working with children.

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Lee Horowitz, Director
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Camp JCC program continues to improve. Camp JCC offers one of the most diverse programs in the area and is able to weave a Jewish atmosphere throughout. All of the specialist staff share their expertise with each K'Ton Ton and Traditional Camp group to impart new skills. Campers in Traditional Camp will be creating a new "electives" program which will enable them to choose activities which interest them. Maccabi Specialty Camps offer specializations in horseback riding, gymnastics, biking, tennis and outdoor adventure, while teenagers can travel to various points of interest through our Teen Travel Camp.

New this year is a two-week dance camp being offered in conjunction with the Anna Marie Dance Studio. All Camp JCC programs are age-appropriate and emphasize the development of a child's skills as well as fun. The Jewish flavor of Camp JCC comes through music, a weekly Oneg Shabbat program, dance, storytelling and other programs which tie together the weekly themes. The

themes create a sense of Jewish tradition and values which the Camp experience transmits to each camper.

The Camp JCC site is complete with an outdoor pool complex, amphitheater, arts, crafts and nature pavilions, ball fields, a ropes course, sand volleyball court, access to the indoor JCC facilities, several playgrounds, badminton courts, archery range, a picnic area and acres of space for campers to explore. The site borders the Brandywine Creek State Park, which Camp JCC utilizes for nature hikes, orienteering and general exploration.

The attention to safety, the experience of the staff, the diversity of the program and the excellence of the facility are the qualities which made Camp JCC a model program. When making summer Camp plans this year, look closely at each of these areas.

For more information about Camp JCC, contact Sharon Kass-Moldover, administrative assistant or Michael Grossman, camp director at 478-5660.

HOTLINE



HOMES

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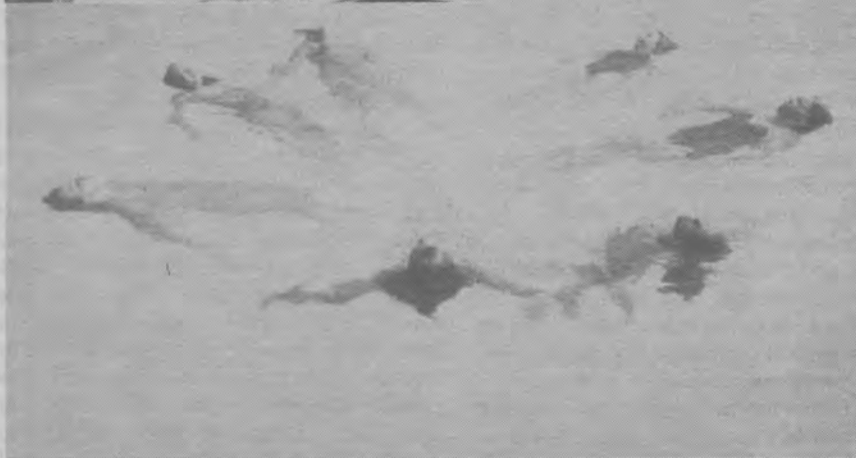
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NATIONAL • INTERNATIONAL

The children of Nazis and Holocaust survivors

By SALLY BERKOVIC

I thought I was a chameleon. I can smile when I am sad, I can be angry when I would rather laugh, and I can be patient when I would rather be curt. I also thought that I could not like a German, and I surely could not trust one.

Or so I thought until a few months ago when I saw a magazine ad scouting for children of Nazis and children of Holocaust victims to participate in a joint meeting. What could such a meeting possibly achieve? What would they expect us to do? What would be my first words to the child of a Nazi? What would they say to me? What could possibly be the point of it all?

The answers to these questions came very slowly and painfully during four intensive days recently at the Harvard Medical Education Center in Cambridge, Mass. For almost a year, Mona Weissmark, 38, a lecturer in psychology at Harvard Medical School and the University of Connecticut and a daughter of Auschwitz survivors, and Ilona Kuphal, 46, of Cambridge businesswoman and actress whose father was a Waffen SS officer, worked to bring children of perpetrators and children of victims into the same room.

"These two estranged groups of people are both affected by the after-effects of the Holocaust," explained Ms. Weissmark. "Each is engaged in fantasies of a conversation with the 'other side.' Could they handle their emotions when meeting people from that side?"

I wanted to attend the conference for different and, at times, conflicting reasons. As a journalist, the conference was about "getting a good story." As the daughter of survivors, it was about trying to understand the German psyche and overcome my innate prejudices. As a Jew, it was about defining my Jewish identity and correlating this with my "human" identity.

The ambivalence with which I entered the meeting did not subside as questions begat questions which begat more questions.

As the elevator door opened on the fourth floor of the Harvard Medical Center, I took a nervous breath and entered the conference room. I saw people fumbling nervously with their coffee cups. Who was German? Who was Jewish? There was no way, I thought, that I would be nice to these Germans. Let them grovel first and introduce themselves.

As we took our seats, there was a hush of trepidation and extremely awkward expectation. Around the room sat 10 Germans and 11 children of Holocaust survivors (including two non-Jews). All of us were frightened — to some extent — about what we might hear or say over the next four days.

Among the Germans were Gertrud, 55, an intensely political woman who works in the international peace movement; Karl, 48, a sensitive, reflective journalist who brought the American mini-series, "Holocaust," to German television; and Wolf, a family therapist who was the quintessential German intellectual.

Also attending were six other children of Nazis who were born in Germany and now live in the United States. These included Betsy, 61, who belonged to the Hitler Youth, and married a Jewish GI after the war; Jorg, 32, a look-alike of a poster boy for the Aryan Race who is now a doctoral student at Boston University and has seriously dated Jewish women; and Natalie, 41, a freelance graphic designer based in New York who desperately needed to be liked by the Jews in the group.

The Jews included Dennis, a post-graduate student at Harvard who said he attended the conference to "break through" his family's silence regarding the Holocaust; Helen, 39, a

family doctor from Santa Cruz whose laid-back, self-possessed manner masked painful indignation; and Monica, 42, a Paris-born psychologist who has been in the U.S. since 1976 and who confronted the conference's organizers with refreshing honesty when she sensed discomfort in the group.

And then there was me. My parents were born in Czechoslovakia. My father had survived Auschwitz and my mother had spent the war hidden in various parts of Czechoslovakia. They moved to Australia in the late 1940s. I was born there, but currently work in New York as a foreign correspondent. I am 32, and was the only Orthodox Jew in the conference. That did not disturb me at all. Rather, I noted how many Jews at the conference were in interfaith relationships, and how the Holocaust, rather than Judaism itself, seemed to be the primary focus of their Jewish identity.

The conference was the first of its type in the world. Such researchers as the German Peter Sichrovsky, the American Gerald Posner, and the Israeli Dan Bar-On have interviewed children of Nazis or children of survivors separately, but no one had brought these two groups together before.

Intellectually, I knew that these Germans were not responsible for what their parents had done, but emotionally it was very difficult to disentangle them from their mothers and fathers. I needed a sign that they were different than other Germans. Karl began to convince me that they were when he said, "It is not difficult for me to betray my father...we have no choice about our inheritance. It happens to us, and we have to deal with it. Because of that, our responsibility to come to this conference was absolutely clear." (Karl's father was a friend of Hitler, and the chief of the technical department in Albert Speer's armaments ministry.)

Natalie admitted that she had found pictures of her family "sitting at the same table as Goebbels, Goering and Hitler. My family was in industry. It profited from the war."

She expressed the same ambivalence as some of the other Germans: "I love my father as a father, but not for what he did. It would be self-sabotage if I told my parents that I was at this conference...I wish that I could hate my father."

I was moved by her admission, and especially by her revelations about emotional and sexual abuse in her family. But wait, I thought, such empathy would humanize the German, and this emotion I could not afford if I wanted to maintain both my distance and my integrity as a Jew. I needed to keep a certain distance from the Germans to keep my guard attuned and my ambivalence honed. Anything less could be misconstrued as a semblance of reconciliation. This would only fulfill the Germans' fantasies that forgiveness of the past is possible, and it might make me confront the possibility of betrayal. But meeting with the seed of the enemy, I wondered, did I cheat on my father and on my mother and negate — or, at least, somehow diminish — their pain?

It was harder for the Germans to accept that the children of their victims could have compassion for them. "When I learned the horrible past of my father, I had nightmares that the Jews would kill me. But, I knew I had to overcome this," said Helga, the daughter of the chief of Gestapo in White Russia. And when Gertrud said that she feared she might be killed if she came to the conference, there was a nod of recognition from other Germans. As Helen said, "These people have become humanized...We have to treat each other as individuals, and break down stereotypes and assumptions."

The conference's two children of non-Jewish participants were in their own category. Ramona did not smile until the last day of the conference. Her Polish father, who was in a

concentration camp, and her mother, a German, married after the war. Her fury embodied these conflicting allegiances.

Christina also struggled with a dual identity. Her mother is a German non-Jew whose father was a Nazi; her father is a non-Jewish Polish survivor who had fought in the resistance. She had been rejected from two groups of Jewish children of survivors.

"I always felt a tie to the Jews," she said. "This was fostered by history books, novels, and movies. To have that thrown back at me when I tried to join these groups was very painful. Here at the conference, I want to talk with other children who have been through a similar life. Now, for the first time in my life, I no longer feel isolated."

During the four days of the conference, there were moments when compassion knew no boundaries from most of the Jews. Karen, a 45-year-old part-time actress, echoed a common sentiment when she said, "I am very moved and touched by what the Germans have to say...I am beginning to understand their psyche. They are very frustrated with their parents."

As for me, I felt no need to make these adult-children feel better. While Ilona Kuphal complained about the emotional inaccessibility of her father, these children do not bear the names of their murdered grandparents, nor do they cling to the last remaining photos of the almost-vanished world of European Jewry.

Dennis challenged the Germans to remind other Germans of the past in very concrete ways: "When Karl said, 'The six million dead are just a statistic to the Germans,' he was saying that there must be a Jewish voice for this to be a reality in German society. But the perpetrators are still with us, and their stories would make it anything but a statistic. What he is speaking to is a consequence of Germans not being responsible. These people must tell the stories of their parents."

Jorg noted the paradox that many Germans need to leave their own country to properly question German society. "It is easier to live in the U.S.A.," he explained. "In Germany, I confronted silences all the time. This was a silence of shame that I had to pierce. It's a hard truth, but the fact is that my parents voted for the Nazis."

Both Jorg and Natalie wondered whether they will return to Germany. "I have always feared," she confessed, "that if I returned to Germany I would fall asleep. I would join the sleepwalking. Now, I don't think this is going to happen. This conference has given me much strength."

During the conference, Germany decided to deport Rumanian gypsies asking for asylum, anti-foreigner riots erupted in Rostock, Germany, and Jewish graves were desecrated throughout Europe. Meanwhile, in our Harvard cocoon, even as we shared a vision of a better future, I was gripped with a sense that hope was futile in a world overshadowed by such dark, sinister forces. It only reminded me that any attempt to collapse the differences of our past was offensive and destructive. At the same time, I am grateful that others refuse to succumb to this darkness, and I wish them well.

Since the conference, more violence and neo-Nazi activity has surfaced in Germany, and I've wondered what my new friends in Germany — Karl, Gertrud, Helga, Wolf — are doing. Have they tried to quell the hatred? Did our meeting give them strength to do this?

An image of Helga on the last day of the conference often comes to my mind. "My mother gave me a beautiful bracelet when I was a teenager," she said. "When I found out about my father, I thought it was from one of his victims. I wanted to throw it away, but I couldn't do it." She was sobbing quietly. "Now I will wear this bracelet for all of you."

Helga, are you wearing this bracelet now?

AN APPEAL TO AMERICAN JEWS



Photo by Fione McDougal for The New York Times

This is not the first time the world ignored a cry for help.

Help us build a humane refugee center for 20,000 Somalis.

As Jews, we cannot stand silent in the face of Somali suffering. Our own history cries out to us to do all we can to save these people before it's too late. To recognize their pain with the compassion of a fellow victim. To respond to it with the passion and fellowship of a friend.

The U.S. Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance calls Somalia the worst humanitarian crisis in the world today. A member of the U.S. Committee for Refugees describes his Somali travels as a journey to hell. And so, leading American Jewish

organizations have joined with Israel's world-renowned humanitarian, Abie Nathan, to build a tent city for refugees on the Kenya/Somalia border. There, 20,000 starving, displaced and dying refugees will receive the food, shelter and medical care they so desperately need.

Plans call for a truly humane 2000-tent operation with food distribution and cooking facilities, a medical center, electricity and sanitation. This whole refugee center can be built in less than six weeks. And every tent will carry the words

"From Jerusalem with love."

The project has the support of the U.N. and the Kenyan government. It will be built by Israeli and U.S. Jewish volunteers, and supervised by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. On completion, this city will be handed over to the U.N. High Commissioner on Refugees as a gift from the Jewish people.

It is hoped that American Jews and the people of Israel will provide the funds needed. The U.S. Agency for International Development (AID) has also been approached. And if the tent

city should prove unfeasible, all funds will go to other Somali assistance.

Even with the support of major Jewish organizations, this project cannot happen without your help. We call upon all our people to reach into our collective memory and reach out to a nation in torment. To pit our strength against their suffering. Our love against their lives.

To literally make the difference between life and death.

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Arts • Entertainment • Books

Words & Music

Immigrants, Symphony and La Boheme

By STEVE COHEN

The Immigrant is a family album; it is a play written by Mark Harelik about his own grandparents who came over from Russia in 1906. The story is a familiar and predictable one of rags to riches. But, despite this, it works.

As staged by the Delaware Theatre Company for the past two weeks, *The Immigrant* presented a story of assimilation and adaptation that gave audiences a little humor and some new insights into relationships.

This achievement is due partly to the fact that the Hareliks went to Texas instead of New York. So we got a different viewpoint than the normal. Also, the playwright cleverly limited the cast to the Hareliks and the one Christian couple who reluctantly helped them.

The changes in that Christian couple through the years are the most revelatory thing in the play.

Flashing real family pictures on a screen emphasized the fact that these were real people. Mark Harelik played the part of his own grandfather when the play ran in Los Angeles, but he could not have been any better in the part than Michael Oberlander in this new production. John Sterling Arnold, Frances Tucker Kemp and Deborah McArthur were outstand-

ingly good in the other roles.

The Delaware Theatre Company is Delaware's only not-for-profit regional professional theater company. Its downtown Wilmington home is an attractive modern theater with thrust stage. Its next production is *The Cocktail Hour* by A.R. Gurney, Jr. opening March 18.

.....
Columbus 500th-Anniversary movies and TV specials have come and gone, but the musical celebration of Columbus continues throughout the Delaware Symphony season.

I'm glad that it does, because the February concerts were so interesting and exciting.

Michele Marvulli, from Columbus's native country, was guest conductor of a program that included two Italian compositions plus a German symphony using Italian rhythms and a Russian tone poem based on an Italian story.

Charles Holdeman, principal bassoonist of the orchestra since 1980, soloed in Antonio Vivaldi's *Concert in A Minor*. It is a beautiful little piece, and Holdeman gave a magnificent performance of it. He was accompanied by Marvulli, 16 members of the orchestra and a harpsichord.

Vivaldi's concerto is intimate, warm

and lyrical. Many parts of it are scored for only the bassoon, harpsichord and a solo cello. The remainder is for bassoon with a chamber-sized string section. Sprightly skipping passages alternate with gentle ones, and — too quickly — the piece is over.

Holdeman's playing was dazzling in dexterity and, beyond that, sensuous in tone. The accompaniment was perfectly matched.

Marvulli conducted one of Giuseppe Verdi's best overtures, *I Vespri Siciliani*, emphasizing its lyric more than its dramatic side. The beautiful playing of the cello section lingers in my memory.

Felix Mendelssohn's "Italian" *Symphony No. 4*, features saltarello and tarantella dance rhythms and a sunny, Italianate sound. It received a graceful, mellow rendition.

Peter Tchaikovsky's "Francesca da Rimini" *Orchestral Fantasy* brought the program to a bombastic conclusion. This is a formula piece that Tchaikovsky did better when he wrote his *Romeo and Juliet* and *Hamlet*. I wish that the composer had shortened this piece by half, to allow time for us to hear another Vivaldi bassoon concerto.

While Marvulli was guesting here, the Delaware Symphony's Stephen Gunzenhauser was conducting American music in Italy as part of the exchange program. Gunzenhauser returns here to conduct Verdi's *Requiem* the first week of April.

.....

Those thoughts about Italian music bring us to a discussion of Puccini's *La Boheme* as presented by the Opera Company of Philadelphia.

This opera was originally chosen by Luciano Pavarotti as a vehicle for himself and the young winners of the voice competition that he sponsors. Then the 59-year-old star was hospitalized for problems connected with his weight. This left the opera company with the problem of presenting a star vehicle without a star.

Instead of bringing in a Domingo

Continued on 19

TV 12 highlights

ISRAEL: A NATION IS BORN — A PERSONAL WITNESS WITH ABBA EBAN

Conceived as the successor to "Heritage: Civilization and the Jews," ISRAEL: A NATION IS BORN — A PERSONAL WITNESS WITH ABBA EBAN captures the dramatic story of the modern state of Israel through the recollections and personal commentary of Abba Eban, distinguished Israeli statesman and participant in many of the momentous events that forged Israel's 44-year history. His narrative is complemented by on-location footage, rare film clips of political and military events, and interviews with people who witnessed or participated in them. The series of five one-hour programs will run in its entirety on Sunday, March 14, beginning at 1:30 p.m. on TV12.

PAUL SIMON: BORN AT THE RIGHT TIME

This first full-length biography of Paul Simon's career is set against the backdrop of his recent world tour. In 1992, he completed the most ambitious concert tour of his career, traveling with an international band of 17 musicians to the source of many of his musical influences. The sold-out tour left no doubt that Simon is currently making some of his boldest musical statements, spanning generations and cultures with music that sounds like nothing else in contemporary pop. PAUL SIMON: BORN AT THE RIGHT TIME, airing Monday, March 15, at 9:20 p.m. on TV12, uses extensive footage of that tour to follow Simon on a rich and intimate journey, from the streets of 1950s New York, where he first fell in love with music, to the birth of a new freedom in South Africa.

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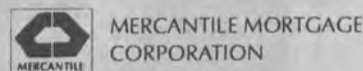


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NEW YORK — Some Jewish groups are protesting the cover of the latest edition of the New Yorker magazine. In an editor's note, the artist, Art Spiegelman, says: "This metaphoric embrace is my Valentine card to New York, a wish for the reconciliation of seemingly unbridgeable differences in the form of a symbolic kiss." Hasidic Jews are proscribed from embracing women outside their sect. The artist's reference is to recent troubles between blacks and Jews in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn. RNS Photo 1993.

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Synagogue Life

Purim ~ a serious lesson

By **RABBI JEROME M. EPSTEIN**
Megillat Esther, read each year during the holiday Purim, is a won-

derful adventure story — full of suspense, political intrigue, and clear divisions among the heroes and the villains. Yet, upon closer examination, we find as many questions as we do answers, and not everything is as straightforward as it seems.

For many years, commentators have struggled with one particularly vexing problem: Nowhere in the Book of Esther is God mentioned. Was God hiding his face from the Jews at this time? Was this, in fact, a strictly "secular" story? If so, why is it part of our sacred liturgy, to be read again and again, year after year? Ironically, God's absence — or, at least, lack of visibility — may serve to teach us a serious lesson about the nature of Judaism itself.

According to the Rabbis, Jewish values teach that people have the freedom to choose their particular course of behavior. God has allowed us free will in the hope that we will choose to embrace His commandments and complete the task of im-

proving the world. If we stray from this path, we are nevertheless free to return to it through *teshuvah*, or repentance, followed by a commitment to mend our ways.

Because of this — the right to choose — we are held responsible for our actions. On Yom Kippur, for example, we are excused from unfulfilled vows made to God; but we are *not* excused from promises made to our fellow man, or freed from the obligation to right any wrongs we have committed against our neighbor.

The teaching that individuals must take responsibility for their own actions and strive to improve their own situation is reinforced in Megillat Esther, where it is the action of two people, Mordecai and Esther, that ultimately saves the Jewish people — not the direct intervention of God.

To me, the message is clear. Waiting for miracles is not acceptable. Rather, we are bound to take action against injustice if we are to improve

our world and ensure our survival. Today, as a community, we have spoken out against the atrocities being perpetrated in Bosnia and have urged governmental intervention to bring about an end to the acts of inhumanity occurring there on so large a scale. Similarly, we have decried the civil wars in Somalia that have impoverished so many people and brought about widespread starvation.

These are not "optional" protests — just as the giving of *tzedakah* is not an optional activity. Rather, they are mandated by our religious tradition. Crying alone, or fasting, or putting on sackcloth would not have saved the Jews of Shushan. It was the direct and forceful action of Jewish leaders (in this case, Esther and Mordecai) which reversed the edict sanctioning destruction of the Jewish community.

Similarly, we cannot expect God to improve our personal lives unless we, as individuals, undertake those

courses of action prescribed for spiritual growth. Simply declaring that one is a Jew, while simultaneously ignoring those behaviors that a Jew is meant to follow, does not confer a heightened spiritual awareness on an individual or work to perpetuate the goals and ideals of the Jewish people as a whole.

Being Jewish is a wholehearted commitment, and the survival of Judaism depends on the work we are willing to put into it. The God of Israel is standing by, hoping that we will succeed — and He has given us the tools with which to do just that. But unless we are willing to stand up and take the first step (as Nachshon demonstrated his faith in our destiny and in God by taking the first step into the Sea of Reeds), we will not realize our dream and fulfill our historic mission.

The author is the Executive Vice-President of The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, the association of 800 Conservative congregations in North America.

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For some, jail is preferable

By **HUGH ORGEL**

TEL AVIV (JTA) — An 80-year-old man who has already spent 30 years in prison for refusing to grant his wife a religious bill of divorce has ignored fresh appeals made by a panel of seven rabbis to reverse his position.

The man, Yihye Avraham, told the

rabbis this week that he would rather stay in jail than free his wife from marriage by granting her a get, or religious divorce.

"Can't do it, can't do it. Go away," Avraham told the rabbis, according to the Yediot Achronot newspaper.

Jewish law stipulates that both husband and wife must agree to a

divorce, although only a man can actually give the get. Jewish law allows imprisonment as a method of last resort to put pressure on a stubborn spouse.

Avraham's 64-year-old wife, Ora, first applied for a divorce after 12 years of marriage. "His behavior was abhorrent. He treated me like chattel," Ora said in an interview published in Yediot.

The couple were married in their native country of Yemen when Ora was 12 and Yihye was 28. She bore him two daughters, but he berated her and abused her for not bearing sons.

When Ora left her husband at age 24, the couple was already living in Israel. Yihye consistently refused to grant her a divorce and was sent to prison in 1962.

Israel follows religious law in mat-

ters of marriage and divorce and Yihye was duly ordered to remain behind bars until he granted his wife the get.

Avraham has refused all these years and, due to his age, he is now being held in the hospital wing of the Ayalon prison in Ramla.

According to Yediot, the panel of seven rabbis who called at the prison hospital this week promised Avraham his freedom, a fancy apartment and religious blessings.

One of them even sang melancholy Yemeni songs to soften the old man's heart. But to no avail.

"Go away. Leave me alone," he said.

His wife commented afterwards: "He's destroyed my life. May his name be destroyed. I haven't seen his ugly face since 1967, and I hope to never see him again."

Cast of Characters



An excerpt from the new Animated Megilla which will be distributed to 13,000 Jewish school children throughout the former Soviet Union by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. The Animated Megilla is a scroll in Hebrew and Russian decorated with full-color photographs of three-dimensional clay figures depicting the Purim story. Credit: Scopus Productions.

Mohel

Continued from 15

"Mazel Tov!" I yelled. "Mazel Tov!" the group responded.

Grasping a glass, I raised it toward the sky and quickly began to recite the traditional blessing over the wine. Whereupon all gathered immediately and sipped deeply from their glasses. Another blessing and the ceremony was over. Within seconds, bottle caps were being popped off more bottles of Bud. Someone passed around a tray of sandwiches. I took one, peeled back the white bread and discovered a slice of ham.

"Just a little joke, Doc!" someone shouted. Then the room erupted into laughter.

On the long ride back to Los Angeles, I thought to myself how the *berit milah* is God's promise that the Jewish people will continue to exist. Even in the Mojave Desert, in the middle of nowhere, one couple felt it was important to keep the lineage

intact. With so many mixed marriages, a dwindling Jewish population, families feeling separated and isolated from their community, it is imperative that the message not be lost.

I imagined Andrew all grown up. If he's lucky, I thought, he'll appreciate his faith. I had a funny notion of a young biker screaming across the desert wearing black leather — and a beanie.

Fred R. Kogan, M.D., was trained as a mohel under the auspices of the Berit Milah Board of Reform Judaism, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the Central Conference of American Rabbis. He is secretary of the National Organization of American Mohelim (NOAM) and lives in Santa Monica, Cal.

Synagogue Life

The Saga of a Reform Mohel

By FRED R. KOGEN

EDITOR'S NOTE: Reprinted with permission from Reform Judaism magazine.)

I am a doctor and a *mohel*, which means I make a living doing the two things I enjoy the most: practicing medicine and celebrating the Jewish faith. For me, *brit milah*, or ritual circumcision, is the medicine of pure joy, preserving a centuries-old tradition and sending a young child into today's world with the happy blessing of family and friends.

I have performed *brit milah* in poor and rich homes, in Beverly Hills mansions and in spare apartments. I circumcised the child of a lesbian couple, one of whom was artificially inseminated. But the strangest experience of my career happened in a most unlikely place.

"Fred, this one's a little different," said the rabbi on the telephone.

"Different how?" I asked. "You'll see," he replied and gave me the father's number.

Joseph was a first-time dad. Raised in a Reform Jewish household, he had done little to keep up with the tenets of the faith, but said he felt very strongly that his son be raised as a Jew. His wife, who was considering converting to Judaism, agreed that ritual circumcision was a must.

"I don't know much about the

ceremony, Doc," Joseph said, "but it's something that should be done. See you Sunday."

Joseph lived "in the middle of nowhere," three hours outside of Los Angeles. I was to stop at a certain liquor store and call him from the phone booth outside.

On the appointed day I drove through Mojave Desert, cursing the dust and sweltering temperature until I spotted the liquor store and a pay phone. I my dark suit and yarmulke I fumbled for the number as a group of leathery field hands eyed me menacingly.

"That you, Doc? Don't go nowhere. Someone'll be right on down."

"Hurry," I thought, as the redneck toughs loomed closer.

"What's that pretty boy wearin' on his head? Looks like some kinda beanie to me. You know what we do to guys wearin' beanies, don't ya?"

Just in time came the sound of a honking horn as a bright, red Ford pickup truck skidded to a stop a few yards in front of me, spraying more dust on my freshly-shined shoes. The door swung open and out stepped an enormous man with shoulder-length hair and sideburns. He was wearing blue jeans and a yellow tee-shirt that stopped about six inches above a huge, hairy belly.

"You the Doc?" he grinned.

"Howdy," I gulped. "Follow me," he ordered.

Off he sped down the highway and onto an unmarked dirt road — my sports car, by now with a permanently clogged carburetor, sputtering behind. Finally he screeched to a halt in front of a small brown trailer home next door to a metal storage shack. Scraggly chickens scratched the dirt outside. In front of a rickety wooden porch stood a line of gleaming Harley Davidson motorcycles. My escort pried open the door to the trailer and we stepped inside.

"Here we are," he said.

I looked around. The room was filled with bikers, a sea of black leather and shiny chrome. There were 10 men, all extra large, wearing black engineer boots, frayed and ripped Levis and belts with large silver buckles. One was readable from 10 feet away: "The Grim Reaper."

Six women wore similar torn jeans and tee-shirts. One had a tattoo of a hissing snake that ran the length of her arm. Everyone in the room was puffing cigarettes and guzzling beer.

As my eyes darted about, I spotted knives attached to belts, wallets linked to bodies with chains. A tattoo covering the bicep of a particularly hairy man proclaimed: "Mama Loves You." I envisioned the headline: "Missing Doctor in Desert, Caught in Middle

of a Biker Brawl."

A hand reached out. "Hey Doc, I'm Joe, Joseph. Thanks for coming out."

Joseph had a beard and long, dark hair tied in a pony tail. He was shirtless and had a huge hairy chest. He wore a red bandanna, a gold earring and a chain around his neck. Hanging from the chain was a small Hebrew symbol of life, a *Chai*.

"Well," I gulped, "shall we get started?"

In the tiny kitchen sat his wife Susan holding Andrew, an adorable, round-faced, 10-pound child wearing a shirt marked Honda. "Thanks for coming," she said. "Joe really wanted to do this. We don't go to temple or anything. That's kinda hard way out here. But we know this is important. I was just wondering, well, will it hurt?"

"Only a little," I said. "Try not to be nervous. And Joe," I added, "can you find a shirt?"

I placed my instruments, two candles and four glasses of wine on a small wooden table in the living room. The guests gathered around.

"*Beruchim Ha-baim b'sheym Adonai*. Blessed are you who come in the name of God. The rite of circumcision has been enjoined upon us as a sign of our covenant with God."

I introduced the godmother, godfather and the *sandek*, usually the baby's grandfather, but in this case, an older friend of the family. He was a strapping man with a dark bearded face, which began to grow softer and gentler, I thought, as my words filtered through the room.

"Blessed is *Adonai*, our God, Ruler of the universe, by whose *mitzvot* we are hallowed."

The child was passed from godmother to godfather to *sandek* to me, and the room fell silent as I prepared for the critical moment. I gently placed the child in a restraint and asked the father to stroke his head. Two enormous men, who probably see blood in the local bar every Friday night, were breathing heavily. They looked white with anticipation. It is a common reaction; the queasiness soon disappears.

Working quickly, I placed the small stainless steel clamp in position and shut it tight. Then, with one precise surgical stroke, I removed the foreskin.

A collective gasp broke the silence.

I removed the clamp. A tiny drop of blood appeared. Quite normal. Young Andrew didn't even cry. I dressed the cut with sterile gauze.

Continued on 14

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Announcements • Events

AIPAC Convention in Washington, D.C.

Over two thousand members of the nation's pro-Israel community, including delegates from Delaware, are expected to gather in Washington, March 21-23, for the 34th Annual Policy Conference of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee.

Participants will join members of Congress, administration policy makers, and Israeli Prime Minister Rabin in examining the current status of the U.S.-Israel relationship and formulating goals for the future. AIPAC is the lobby of the American pro-Israel community.

Highlighting the conference will be the opening address by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, on Sunday, March 21. House Minority

Leader Robert Michel will also address the opening session on Congress' role in U.S.-Israel relations. AIPAC's Executive Director, Thomas A. Dine, will present "The State of AIPAC" report on Sunday evening.

The delegate banquet will feature Senators Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) and Don Nickles (R-OK). The banquet brings together a large number of members of Congress, administration officials, and dignitaries of foreign embassies, and affords delegates the chance to talk with both Washington political insiders and newcomers alike.

The new chairmen of the Democratic and Republican parties have been invited to address the plenum

on Monday and other prominent speakers are being scheduled. Conference delegates will meet with their members of Congress on Capitol Hill before the conference closes on Tuesday afternoon with remarks by noted radio personality and author Dennis Prager.

"The AIPAC Policy Conference is a golden opportunity for pro-Israel activists to express their views directly to their Senators and Representatives," said AIPAC's Executive Director Tom Dine.

This year's conference will feature an outstanding Young Leadership Program which will take place Friday, March 19 and Saturday, March 20. This gathering, now in its third

year, was specifically designed for people between ages 25 and 40, the future leaders of the pro-Israel community. The program includes additional briefings with leading officials of the new Administration, Congress, and the Israeli Embassy, in addition to special receptions and social events.

The conference will be held at the Sheraton Washington Hotel. To register or to receive more information on the conference, please contact AIPAC's Washington, DC office, at (202) 639-5200.

Beth El Men Meet March 21

Temple Beth El Men's Club announces a special presentation entitled "Crime of the Century: The Trial and Execution of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg and the End of the Cold War." The guest speaker is Robert Meeropol, the younger son of the Rosenbergs.

The program will take place on Sunday, March 21 at 9:30 a.m. for breakfast and 10:15 a.m. for the speaker. There is a \$5 fee for breakfast. The main presentation is free to all.

The event will be held at Temple Beth El, 301 Possum Park Road, Newark. Call the temple at 302-366-8330 for breakfast reservations by Wednesday, March 17.

Robert Meeropol was six years old when his parents were executed for stealing the "secret of the atomic bomb." For over twenty years, Meeropol has been a political activist, author and speaker. In 1974, he and his brother Michael initiated a public campaign to vindicate their parents and co-authored a book on the case, "We Are Your Sons."

Meeropol is the executive director of the Rosenberg Fund for Children, a public foundation to provide for the education and emotional needs of today's children who suffer a similar fate.

Day for the Jewish Woman

Chabad-Lubavitch of Delaware announces the upcoming Day for the Jewish Woman, the annual women's event now in its sixth year. The title of this year's program is "Jewish Women Through The Ages," and will take place Sunday, March 21, at the Wilmington Jewish Community Center, 12:30 p.m.

This year's guest speaker, Miriam Swerdlow of Brooklyn, New York, was born in the former Soviet Union and fled with her family to Paris soon after World War II. She received her early education in Paris and in Canada, continuing her secondary education at the Beth Jacob Teacher's

Seminary in N.Y.

Swerdlow is currently professor of Jewish History in three New York colleges. A past president of the Nshei Women's Organization, she continues to be a vocal community activist in Brooklyn where she currently resides.

The program will begin at 12:30 p.m. with a buffet luncheon followed by the guest presentation. The event will be moderated by Myrna Ryder, the Jewish Family Service Lifecycle educator.

Initiated in 1988, Delaware's Day for The Jewish Woman has brought together single and married women

of all ages and backgrounds and is timed to coincide with the International Week of the Jewish Woman sponsored by the Chabad movement. This year, more than 250,000 women are expected to participate in a week long series of events and programs in over 270 cities worldwide.

Reservations must be made by March 10, and the cost of the program is \$15, prepaid. For reservation call Audrey Katz, 478-7785; Connie Sugarman, 529-1177; Roni Sneiderman, 455-1800; Sandye Turnauer, 571-1168; or Oryah Vogel at the Chabad office, 478-4400.

Beth Shalom lecture on history

The Adult Education Committee of Congregation Beth Shalom announces the fourth lecture in its 1992-93 guest lecture series, "ASHKENAZ, The World of Our Ancestors."

Professor Marc Eli Saperstein will speak on Sunday, March 7, at 7 p.m. His lecture is entitled, "Moments of Crisis in Ashkenazic History." He will compare and contrast the responses of Jewish communities and Jewish leaders to major crises in Jewish-Christian relations, beginning with the First Crusades and ending with the Holocaust.

Marc Saperstein holds the Gloria

Goldstein Professorship in Jewish History and Thought at Washington University, St. Louis. He is also Chairman of the Program in Jewish and Near Eastern Studies. He was previously Professor of Jewish Studies at Harvard Divinity School. Dr. Saperstein has earned B.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Harvard University, an M.A. degree from Hebrew University, and is an ordained Rabbi from the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

Dr. Saperstein's areas of expertise are medieval Jewish history and Rabbinic literature and thought. He has

authored four books: *Jewish Preaching 1200-1800*, which won a National Jewish Book Award; *Decoding the Rabbis; Moments of Crisis in Jewish-Christian Relations*; and *Essential Papers on Messianic Movements and Personalities in Jewish History*. He has written more than 30 scholarly articles on Jewish history, literature and thought.

The lecture will take place at Congregation Beth Shalom, 18th and Baynard Boulevard, Wilmington, on Sunday, March 7, at 7 p.m. Admission is \$5 at the door or \$15 for the entire lecture series.

Member Shabbat

On March 5, Beth Shalom Congregation, 18th and Baynard Blvd., will hold a new member's Shabbat at 8 p.m.

Many new members will participate in the service. The community is invited to attend. An Oneg Shabbat will follow.

JCC business

The Jewish Community Center of Wilmington is offering "A Bite of the Big Apple," a bus trip to New York City, on Wednesday, March 31.

The day will be open for visiting museums and galleries, shopping, seeing plays or other activities of choice. The bus will make several stops at places of interest.

The bus will depart from the JCC at 8 a.m. and return at approxi-

mately 7:30 p.m. The fee for the trip is \$42/members and \$52/non members.

For additional information or reservations call the JCC at 478-5660.

Maccabi Meeting

The North American Maccabi Youth Games 1993 Regionals are scheduled for August 22 through August 26 and will be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The Wilmington Jewish Community Center is holding a meeting for all interested participants and their parents on Tuesday, March 9 at 7 p.m. at the JCC.

The games are open to all Jewish athletes between the ages of 12 and 16. The various sports include basketball (boys and girls), track and field, tennis, swimming, table tennis, bowling, racquetball and softball

(girls).

For more information about participating in this year's Maccabi Games or the March 9 meeting, contact Victor Buono, Sports and Recreation Coordinator at 478-5660.

Guys and Dolls

The Jewish Community Center of Wilmington is offering a trip to Broadway on Wednesday, April 28, to see "Guys & Dolls" — Frank Loesser's musical tribute to gamblers and their dolls at the Martin Beck Theatre in New York City.

The bus will depart from the JCC at 7:30 a.m.

Cultural Caravan fees are \$102/members, \$115/non members.

For more information and reservations call the JCC at 478-5660.

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Calendar of Events

Dear Rachel

The Calendar of Events is a community service of The Jewish Voice. The Calendar of Events is an expanded version of the monthly Community Calendar for events between publication dates of nonprofit organizations and agencies whose meetings or events are open to the general public. Entries are due on the Copy Deadline, published in each edition of The Jewish Voice. Copy should be typed and double spaced. Please include day and date, time, place, brief description and contact person.

FEBRUARY

Saturday 27

The Fitness Center of the Wilmington Jewish Community Center Family Fun and Fitness Night, 7 to 11 p.m. This fitness-designed night will include parent/child step aerobics classes, volleyball matches, circuit training, open family swim, chair massages, health snacks and drinks. The cost is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children, \$15 per family. Pre-registration is required at the Control Desk. For more information call A.J. Lipstein at 478-5660.

Sunday 28

Young Jewish Adults of Delaware brunch and afternoon ice skating. Brunch is at Denny's, Route 273, Newark, at 11 a.m. Skating, 1 p.m. University of Delaware rink, Route 896, Newark. Skating cost: \$4.00; rental: \$2.00. RSVP requested by February 26. Contact Sandi Bernstein at (609) 678-8190.

Wilmington Jewish Community Center Ski Trip to Camelback, bus departs at 6:30 a.m. and returns at approximately 7:30 p.m. Cost for JCC members is transportation and full package - \$89.50, transportation and lift - \$63.50, transportation, lift and rental - \$81.50, transportation, lift and lesson - \$79.50. Prices for non-members slightly higher. Muffins and coffee served prior to departure from JCC and a boxed dinner served during trip home. For information or reservations call the JCC at 478-5660.

Recreational Services Department of the Wilmington Jewish Community Center - Member/Guest "4 on 4" Basketball Tournament, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Teams consisting of six players formed for this "4 on 4" cross-court tournament. At least one member of each team must be a JCC member. All teams will play at least two games each. Trophies will be awarded. The cost is \$60 per team. For more information call Victor Buono at 478-5660.

Senior Center of the Wilmington Jewish Community Center - Trip to Taj Mahal Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City, depart from JCC at 10 a.m. and depart from Atlantic City at 6 p.m. Trip includes round-trip transportation, show ticket to see "Shalom," an Israeli Revue. Cost is \$18. Advance reservations are required. For more information call Ray Freshman at 478-5660.

Youth and Family Department of the Wilmington Jewish Community Center - SAT Preparation Course for March Exam begins. As college

admission boards continue to become more selective, SAT scores remain one of the most important criteria for consideration. TestSmart, Inc., has a preparation course designed to increase students' test scores. Math and verbal sections are reviewed each week. The SAT Prep Course fees are \$240 for JCC members and \$325 for non-members. Pre-registration is required. For more information call TestSmart at 1-800-525-2807.

MARCH Thursday 4

Jewish Community Center of Wilmington - Love and Sex in the 90's, 7:30 p.m. Myrna Ryder, Director of Family Life Education at Jewish Service will explore love and sex relationships, expectations, the Jewish perspective and current trends. Free of charge and open to the community. Pre-registration is required by March 1. For more information call Sharon Richman at 478-5660.

Tuesday 9

Recreational Services Department of the JCC - Maccabi Youth Games Meeting, 7 p.m. A meeting for Jewish athletes, ages 12 - 16 who are interested in participating in the 1993 Maccabi Youth Games and their parents. For more information, call Victor Buono at 478-5660.

Wednesday 10

Senior Center of the Wilmington Jewish Community Center - Candlelight Dinner and Purim Celebration, 5:30 p.m. Following our Candlelight Dinner, we will enjoy music and a funny hat contest with prizes. Transportation is available and advance reservations are required. For more information call Ray Freshman at 478-5660.

Thursday 11

Senior Center of the Wilmington Jewish Community Center - Tax Assistance for Seniors. Leon Chambers, A.A.R.P., Tax Coordinator will be available to help seniors prepare their 1992 tax returns. This service is free of charge and pre-registration is required. For more information call Ray Freshman at 478-5660.

Sunday 14

Craft Show sponsored by Newark Chapter of Hadassah, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at Aetna Fire Hall, Rt. 273 across from Newark Post Office & Dannemann Fabric Store. Admission free. For more information call 239-2270.

Young Jewish Adults of Delaware YHAD Jazz Brunch at 11 a.m. at Cavanaugh's Restaurant, 703 N. Market Street, Wilmington. Here is your opportunity to network with a diverse group of Jewish Singles (ages 35-55) for educational and entertaining events, who also share a number of values, interests and concerns. For inclusion on our mailing list, information and reservations, call Barbara (302) 475-3376 or Harriette (302) 654-3626.

Sunday 21

Cantors Institute Alumni Association will sponsor a concert in honor of faculty member Miriam Gideon at the Jewish Theological Seminar of America, Broadway & 122nd St. in Manhattan, beginning

at 4 p.m. Concert consists entirely of music by Dr. Gideon, long acknowledged as one of America's foremost woman composers. Performers include tenor Constantine Cassolis, soprano Renee Coleson, pianists Dennis Helfrich and Walter Hilse, and the Cantors Institute Chorus under the direction of Jo Ann Rice. Admission is \$10.00 and is tax deductible; tickets available at the door. For further information, contact the Cantors Institute at (212) 678-8000.

Thursday 25

Jewish Community Center - Newly Retired or Soon to be Retired, 7:30 p.m. Join us as we explore the idea of retirement, time management and personal growth during one of the most exciting periods in our lives. Led by Myrna Ryder, Director of Family Life Education at Jewish Family Service. Pre-registration required by March 22. For more information, call Sharon Richman at 478-5660.

Saturday 27

Jewish Community Center, Wilmington, Belt Cafe, 8 to 11 p.m. in celebration of Jewish Music Season, Israeli Dancing with Michelle Wiener and Middle Eastern Desserts will be served. Cost is \$9 per person in advance and \$12 per person at the door. Tickets available at the JCC Front Desk. This program is being co-sponsored by the Young Jewish Adults of Delaware and the JCC Adult Cultural Arts Committee. For more information, contact Sharon Richman at 478-5660.

Wednesday 31

Jewish Community Center - New York Day Trip, depart at 8:00 a.m. "A Bite of the Big Apple," a bus trip to New York City. The day is open for visiting museums, galleries, shopping, attending plays or any activity of your choice. The cost is \$42 for members and \$52 for non-members. Make your advance reservations at the JCC Front Desk. For more information, call Amalia Snyderman at 478-5660.

Ongoing

Lower East Side Tenement Museum, 97 Orchard Street, New York City, walking tours include Peddler's Pack: A Jewish Heritage Tour. Chartered in 1988, the Tenement Museum seeks to promote tolerance and historical perspective through the presentation and interpretation of immigrant experiences on Manhattan's Lower East Side, a gateway to America. For dates and times call 212-431-0233.

National Museum of American Jewish History, 55 N. 5th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 215-923-5984, exhibit through March 15: "From Salonika to Curacao: A Sephardic Odyssey." Prepared by Gratz College focusing on the archives of Isaac Emmanuel (1899-1972), a Sephardic scholar and rabbi who authored works on the history of the Jewish communities of Curaca, the Caribbean, and his native Salnika, Greece.

Young Jewish Adults of Delaware coed Volleyball on Wednesdays in the Wilmington Jewish Community Center gym beginning at 6 p.m. Games are non-competitive. Admission is \$1 for JCC members, \$2 for non-members.

Dear Rachel,

My grad school roommate and I parted ways after graduation, when she moved to New York to make it in the big apple, and I got married. I recently got a beautiful invitation for her wedding, obviously a very glitzy affair. I was really excited, because I never thought "Julie" would risk her career for any man, so of course I called her. I asked the obvious questions: who he was, where they met, etc. It turns out he is a wealthy businessman. It was how they met that really threw me. When Julie realized her biological clock was ticking, she sat down and made a list (I kid you not) of her requirements in a husband. The bottom line was the bottom line: he had to be rich and at least marginally presentable. Age, looks, religion, personality were less than secondary. Then she put together a marketing campaign. She packaged herself in the right designer clothes, haircut and nails. She was seen in the right places three times a week. She went into hock to go on cruises and take all the right vacations. It took two and a half years to make the sale. Her parents are pleased that she lucked into a Jewish man, and everyone is overlooking his kids and an ex-wife.

My marriage has ten years of wear and tear on it, but I have the satisfaction of knowing that my MBA was used to sell products and services. She used hers to sell herself (I'm not sure if she sees herself as goods or services). I'm not silly enough to believe in "love conquers all", but reducing marriage to a commodity exchange seems pretty crass. There's got to be a better way.

Married for Love

Dear Married,

With a fifty percent divorce rate, I don't think anyone has the answer. Your friend seems to have taken over where traditional shadchanim left off. The shadchan took care of the dirty work of inspecting wealth and credentials, while the parents packaged their children to sell. That system was short on romance, but long (and clear) on expectations and roles. It worked as well as anything else.

Then there was the system of romantic love, the one which gave us the 50% divorce rate. Enough said.

Tradition has it that God created the world, and since then has been occupied with making matches. If it were such an easy task, it wouldn't take so long.

When you dance at her wedding, remember this: not only did Julie choose her fiance, he chose her. Maybe they are a good match after all.

Rachel

Send letters to "Rachel, c/o Jewish Voice, 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington, DE 19803." Names and details will be altered to protect your privacy.

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Obituaries

Dora Eisenstat, community organizer dies

Dora T. Eisenstat, 86, of Martins Run, Media, Pa., formerly of Wilmington, died February 23 of complications from a stroke in Martins Run Care Center.

Mrs. Eisenstat, born in Russia, immigrated to the United States in 1912 with her family, coming through Ellis Island, N.Y. She lived in Pittsburgh and attended Carnegie-Mellon University. She and her husband, Sam, who died in 1977, moved to Trenton, N.J., in 1930. She moved to Wilmington in 1945.

She was a president of Wilmington

Chapter of Hadassah and a regional board member. She was a campaign chairwoman of Jewish Federation of Delaware and president of its women's division. She was a founder and president of Delaware Bureau of Jewish Women's Organizations and chairman of Delaware Israel Bond Campaign for many years.

She and her husband received a Community Leadership Award from the Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Synagogue. She was a member of Beth Shalom Congregation, its Sisterhood and Jewish Community Center.

She is survived by three daughters, Sally E. Lebowitz of Pittsburgh, and Barbara E. Yalisove and Ruth E. Weinstein, both of Wilmington; two sisters, Rose Morgan and Libby Landy, both of Pittsburgh; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Hadassah, care of Ruth Goodman, 2806 Bodine Drive, Wilmington, or Jewish Federation of Delaware, 101 Garden of Eden Road, Wilmington 19803.

Ruth R. Fineberg

Ruth R. Fineberg, 63, of Wilmington, died February 8 of cancer in Christiana Hospital near Stanton, where she was a patient.

Mrs. Fineberg, a homemaker, was a member of Congregation Beth Shalom, its Sisterhood and the Senior Center of the Jewish Community Center.

She is survived by her husband, Louis; a son, Gary of Philadelphia; a daughter, Stacy Brody of Virginia Beach, Virginia; two sisters, Claire Cohen of Twin Oaks and Cele Nathans of Deerfield, Florida; a brother, Joseph Garber of Presidential Towers; and a grandson.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Congregation Beth Shalom, Wilmington.

Martin Balick

Martin Balick, 75, of Wilmington, died February 5 of kidney failure in Riverside Extended Care Pavilion.

Mr. Balick was a purchasing agent for the state of Delaware, retiring in 1982 after 20 years.

He was a member of Congregation Beth Shalom.

He was in the first graduating class of Pierre S. du Pont High School.

He served in the Army's 47th Infantry Regiment of the 9th Division. He received the Silver Star, the nation's third-highest medal for gallantry in combat.

He also fought in Sicily and Italy, rising to the rank of sergeant and earning five major battle stars for his campaign ribbon.

He was a member of the Harry Fineman Post of Jewish War Veterans.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Lillian; a son, Leslie of Wilmington; two daughters, Susan Shaffer of Huntingdon Valley, Pennsylvania; Isabelle Mead of Wilmington; his mother, Adele R. Seidel of Wilmington; a brother, Jacob of Norristown, Pennsylvania; and six grandchildren.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Congregation Beth Shalom, Wilmington, 19802.

Sadie Gold

Sadie Gold, 86, of Norristown, Pennsylvania, died February 7 at Plymouth House, Norristown, where she was a resident.

Mrs. Gold owned Sally Ann Shop, a lingerie store in Philadelphia, for 10 years in the 1940s.

She is survived by a son, Howard of Norristown; a brother, Harry Gold of Wilmington; a sister, Bertha Barr

of Lakewood, Florida; eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

The family suggests contributions to Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children, in care of 5140 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting.

Lillian Blum

Lillian Blum, 86, died February 20 of heart disease at The Kutz Home, where she was a patient.

Mrs. Blum was a salesperson at the Jewish Federation's Resale Shop, Wilmington.

Her husband, Herbert T., died in 1965. She is survived by a son, Gerald of Wilmington; a brother, Abe Cotler of Philadelphia; a sister, Dorothy Romansky of Wilmington; three grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to The Kutz Home.

Gertrude Jacobs Zakin

Gertrude Jacobs Zakin, 74, of Hallandale, Florida, died February 22 of cancer in Vitas Hospital at Universal Medical Center, Fort Lauderdale.

Snyders

Mrs. Zakin, born in Odessa, Delaware, and her first husband, Fred Jacobs, who died in 1978, owned Jacobs & Sons Auto Repair, Wilmington, for 25 years. She retired in 1979 and moved to Florida about three years ago.

She was a former member of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation and its Sisterhood and Jewish Community Center Senior Center.

She is survived by her husband, Solomon; two sons, Steven Jacobs of Syracuse, N.Y., and Donald Jacobs of Wilmington; and three grandchildren.

The family suggests contributions to Hospice House, Hollywood Medical Center, 3600 Washington St., Hollywood, Fla. 33021.

Naches



Lipschultz-Kolchinsky

Molly and William Lipschultz of Delray Beach, Florida, formerly of Wilmington, Delaware, and Kennett Square, Pa., and Frances and Leonard Kolchinsky, of Northeast Philadelphia, announce the engagement of their children, Jan Susan to Allen Marc.

Jan, a graduate of the University of Maryland, and Allen, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, plan an August wedding.

Schlecker

Dr. Morris Snyder and Dr. Eileen Fishman Snyder of Wilmington celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on February 21.

The Snyders, both dentists, were married in Philadelphia February 21, 1943.

They have four children: Dr. Elliott H. Snyder of Dallas, Texas; Lt. Stuart A. Snyder of Hockessin; Jeffrey B. Snyder of Newark; and Marla D. Faman of Ocean City, Maryland. They also have one grandson.

Business

Schlecker

Barry Schlecker of Network Personnel was recently re-elected president of the Delaware Business Executives, a business lead networking organization.

Briefs

Jan Gies, who risked his life to bring food to the family of Anne Frank and to members of the Dutch Resistance during World War II, died in Amsterdam on January 26. He was 87.

Mr. Gies and in particular his wife, Miep, gained international renown after Anne Frank's "Diary of a Young Girl," first published in 1947, was

translated into several languages in the 1950's.

Hans Jonas, who fled Nazi Germany and became an influential philosopher, died February 5 at his home in New Rochelle, N.Y. He was 89.

Professor Jonas drew wide attention in 1964 when he repudiated an early mentor, the German thinker Martin Heidegger, for being pro-Hitler in the Nazi era.

Words & Music

Continued from 13

or a Carreras to substitute, the company chose to go with an entirely young cast, and I think this decision was wise. There's no doubt that hearing Pavarotti sing one of his most famous roles would have been exciting. But no one can seriously get into the story when such a mature man is palling around with young Bohemians. With a young tenor, the story

became believable for a change.

American tenor Martin Thompson sang the poet Rodolfo in an unassuming manner, with a sweet if not thrilling voice. I've been trying to remember when I last heard a tenor sing a soft low E at the end of Act I, the way Puccini wrote it, instead of a loud high C (or, even worse, a loud high B when the tenor can't quite make a high C). Thompson did it the right way.

His roommates were exceptionally well-played and sung by Martin Babjak, Hernan Iturralde and Andrea Silvestrelli. Silvestrelli stands out. He has a tall, imposing presence and a deep, smooth, rolling bass voice. He is the one to watch: a probable star of tomorrow.

The female leads were Cristina Barbieri as the tubercular Mimi who didn't look very sickly, and Cristina Gallardo-Domas as the coquettish Musetta. Louis Salemno conducted a

nicely idiomatic reading of the music.

The stage sets were a distraction. They were clumsy and unattractive and forced the cast to sometimes separate unnecessarily to the two sides of the stage. Rumor has it that it was the only set they could find that had no stairs. The choice was made when Pavarotti was expected to be the star. His condition had reached the point where he couldn't see his feet and was afraid of steps.

This was an earnest and mostly successful performance, presented

under difficult circumstances, but I don't think it was The Opera Company of Philadelphia at its best. I look forward to the challenging *La Favorita* by Donizetti next week. And I await word about when we can expect the return of a slender and healthier Pavarotti.

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Economic Plan

Continued from 1

expansion of the earned income tax credit plan that assists poor working families.

Many Jewish federations around the country are active in social service programs that would benefit from these Clinton proposals.

Sammic Moshenberg, Washington representative for the National Council of Jewish Women, proclaimed herself "delighted" with Clinton's support of the three social service programs.

"We've worked on this for many years," she said, adding that the programs are "very important. We're very excited about the whole thing."

She said she was eager to see the list of the 150 specific budget cuts that Clinton said he would make. But, she added, "what we've heard, we like."

Similarly, the American Jewish Congress issued a statement applaud-

ing what it called "Clinton's comprehensive proposals to revitalize the economy through investments to serve the needy, tax increases and spending cuts."

"The new direction proposed by President Clinton is a significant attempt to attack basic problems long affecting American society," the group said.

"We especially appreciate the president's reaffirmation of the notion that government must be an active force for helping the poor and near-poor."

The National Jewish Coalition, a Republican group, was decidedly less enthusiastic.

In a statement, the group's executive director, Matt Brooks, said that "like all of America," the coalition is "prepared to give President Clinton the benefit of the doubt on his economic program."

But he added, "This program seems like nothing else but a traditional Democratic tax and spend economic program."

"Clearly, the American people may be prepared to spend more in additional taxes," he said. "But the real movement towards responsible government must come in the way of spending cuts."

However, the National Jewish Democratic Council, a group that encourages Jewish participation in Democratic politics, argued that the plan as a whole is "balanced, reasonable and forward looking."

Steve Gutow, the group's executive director, said in a statement that Clinton "has shown us how he would realistically trim the budget deficit in the long run, while combating unemployment in the short run."

Lewis Roth, a spokesman for the Democratic council, noted that Democratic National Committee Chairman David Wilhelm had dis-

cussed the economic plan with key members of the Jewish community in a telephone conference call Wednesday.

"The Jewish community has been very important in the outreach" on the plan, he said.

Old City

Continued from 8

at the Hyatt are Jews, the hotel makes great efforts to attract groups of Christian pilgrims, which are offered particularly low rates.

The intifada notwithstanding, there

are also Arab guests at the Hyatt. Some, from neighboring countries, stay there while their relatives are being operated upon at the neighboring Hadassah Hospital on Mount Scopus. But there are also Arabs from East Jerusalem and Bethlehem.

Peres

Continued from 1

five years.

Urging them to have free elections, he said Palestinians don't have the authority that "naturally" goes with an elected majority. "If they will do that, we'll have a partner and negotiate the first part" (interim rule), he said.

Regarding the Golan Heights, Peres observed Syria wants Israel to withdraw completely but to have a peace without embassies, meaning no relations. Since Israel was attacked four times on the Golan, he said, "withdrawal will be solved by the nature of peace and security."

Asked to invite Yasir Arafat to the peace talks, Peres replied that is "a Palestinian decision, not ours." Arafat, he said, doesn't deny Palestinians should use violence. He also represents the Palestinian diaspora. Israel has no relations with that diaspora but with residents of the territories. "Let the Palestinians elect their own people. We shall not intervene. The Palestinians can consult with whomever they want."

To the question why should the U.S. continue to grant Israel with an annual grant of \$3 billion in foreign aid while Clinton is asking

sacrifice from Americans, Peres noted the U.S. is spending \$90 billion annually in Europe and Japan for military purpose and neither has an economic situation like Israel.

Israel is buying arms from the U.S. since 1985, the purchasing power of the \$3 billion has dropped 30 percent. Yet, in that time, the cost of U.S. arms has risen. The Arab boycott costs Israel \$2 to \$3 billion a year. Israel also is paying for the cost of emigrants from the Soviet Union and Ethiopia.

"We also are paying the costs of peace by trying to halt the killing of our people," he said. "The minute we will have peace, we'll stop asking for aid."

Regarding two Americans of Palestinian origin arrested in Israel on suspicion of bringing funds for Hamas/Islamic Jihad activists, Peres said they were arrested "not for what they are but for what they were doing." He noted they will have a court trial and the right for an attorney, American or Israeli. "The only difference is the price," he remarked evoking laughter.

Asked in the final question what will the map of Israel look ten years from now, Peres retorted, to more laughter, "scientifically universal, economically regional, and otherwise Jewish."

Germany

Continued from 3

intelligence agents in Europe (Klaus Barbie), rocket scientists in the American space program (Werner Von Braun) or complaint officials in postwar Europe governments (Kurt Waldheim).

As long as the new German leaders do not accept the full responsibilities for their horrible past and educate the young people or Germany to be more tolerant towards those other than Germans, the crisis of modern Germany will continue to be a grave malignancy.

Several years ago while visiting Frankfurt A/

M, I noticed in their airport lobby the virulent "anti-Semitic German newspaper: (Deutsche National Zeitung) with its front page headline: (translation) Holocaust Swindle Exposed.

I have that certain nagging feeling in my heart that mankind will someday regret the reunification of East and West Germany, because after the American troops pull completely out from Germany, they, the Germans, will not hesitate but goose-step once again, against their peaceful neighbors for more "lebensraum." I hope that my feelings are wrong. Perhaps, instead, I will live to see a more flexible, peaceful and kinder Germany.



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Museum of Tolerance opens in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES — The Simon Wiesenthal Center's Beit Hashoah — Museum of Tolerance, a \$50 million world class educational center, founded to challenge visitors to confront bigotry and racism, and to understand the Holocaust in both historic and contemporary contexts, opened to the public on February 9.

Through technologically advanced exhibitry, hands-on computer stations, interactive displays, graphics, films and video monitors, this unique experiential museum will focus on two central themes: the history of racism and prejudice in the American experience and the story of the most monumental example of man's inhumanity to man — the Nazi Holocaust.

The 165,000 sq. ft. museum includes a 28,000 sq. ft. permanent exhibition level; an 8,400 sq. ft. Multimedia Learning Center, with more than 30 individual work stations where visitors will be able to access extensive historical and information data on the Holocaust, World War II and Anti-semitism; and the Wiesenthal Center extensive archival collection. A dramatic Tower of Witness rises from the floor of the main museum to the top of the dome and is embedded with 2,480 photographs originally brought to Auschwitz by its victims (courtesy of Anne Weiss and the State Museum of Auschwitz-Birkenau). The Tower bears witness to the sanctity of life and the endurance of the human spirit.

An interactive exhibit on the Los Angeles Riots first queries participants on their personal profiles — age, gender, ethnicity — then challenges them on questions about social justice and responsible citizenship. At "The Other America" exhibit, visitors will be able to access a hate map of the United States which pinpoints over 250 racist groups, updated on a regular basis by researchers of the Wiesenthal Center. The Global Situation Room monitors contemporary human rights violations and serves as a crucial reminder that threats to human rights, tolerance and the specter of genocide remain a central challenge to everyone.

The facility will also house 6,700 sq. ft. of temporary exhibit space and a 16,000 sq. ft. Memorial Plaza, dedicated to the victims of the Holocaust. A 324-seat theater and a 150-seat auditorium will preview films, lectures and seminars, and two museum shops containing a full range of gifts, books and educational materials on the museum's themes.

The concept for the Museum of Tolerance — the first of its kind — was originated by the Wiesenthal Center's Founder and Dean, Rabbi Marvin Hier, and the leadership of the Simon Wiesenthal Center. Heading the museum design effort are James Gardner of London and Karl Katz of New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art.

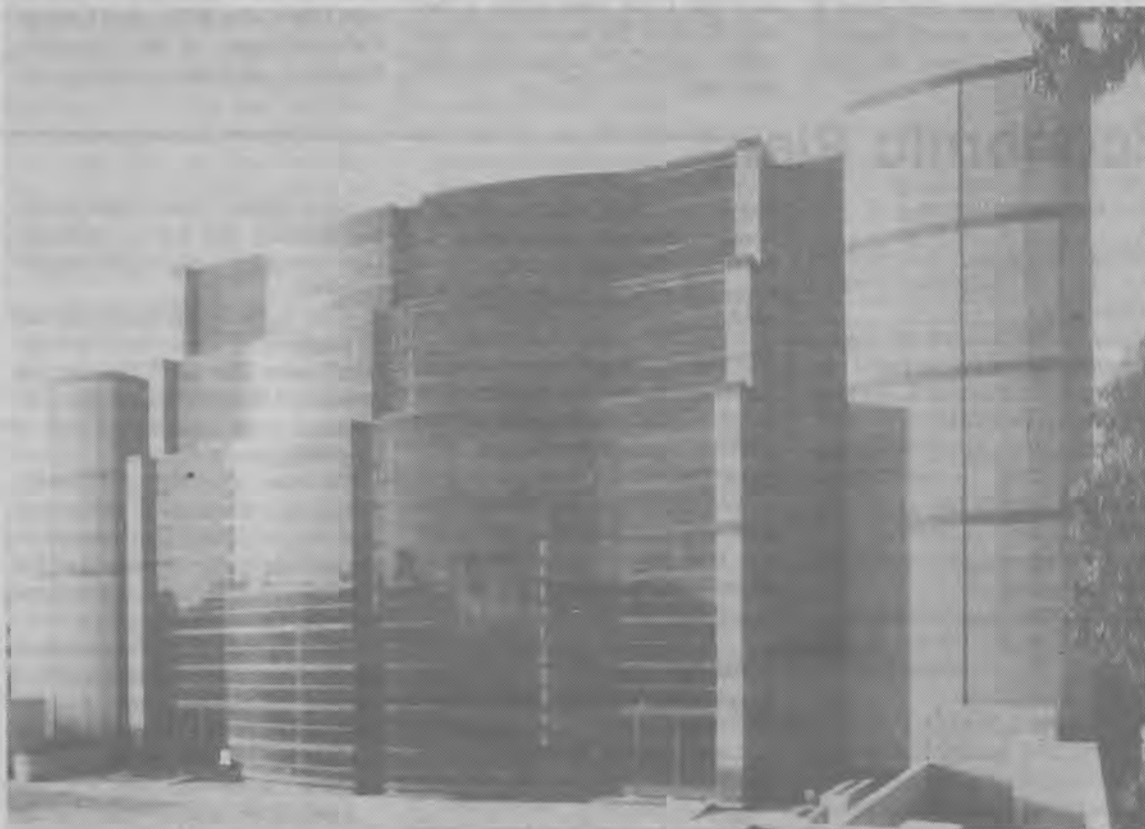
California Governor Pete Wilson has heralded the Museum as a place

where those who visit "leave knowing that they can and must make a difference and thus keep alive the hope that agony suffered by the just could yet bring victory."

Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) said that, "There is no greater lesson

in all history than the need for tolerance, and the Museum of Tolerance will be a great beacon that will ensure that the message is spread worldwide. The horrors of the past compel all mankind to seek the end of bigotry and hate."

The Beit Hashoah — Museum of Tolerance is located at the Simon Wiesenthal Plaza, 9786 West Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, California 90035. For more information, contact the Wiesenthal Center's Public Relations Department at (310) 553-9036.



Museum of Tolerance

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