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Delaware Jewish Community Rallies to aid of Local Family

By Lynn B. Edelman, Editor

This Saturday night, Rabbi Chuni Vogel will preside over the Community Menorah Lighting Ceremony at the Christiana Mall. Among the many people participating in this public celebration of the Chanukah miracle will be Mona Dobrich and her son, Alex.

Last year, Mona and Alex drove two hours round-trip from their home in Georgetown to marvel at this open and honest affirmation of the Jewish faith. Mona took pleasure in watching her son's excitement at the large groups of young people wearing kipot and loudly singing Chanukah songs. For a brief, yet poignant time, she felt connected to her heritage and it felt good.

Rabbi Vogel, director of the Chabad Center in Wilmington, recalls that mother and son stayed for several hours after the ceremony talking about the challenges of being the only Jewish family in their community. "They were hungry for opportunities to learn about and celebrate

their faith," he said, adding that they sated that hunger by subscribing to Chabad's weekly Torah fax and traveling to Wilmington to participate in every holiday event that the Delaware Jewish community had to offer.

The family's growing enthusiasm about their Jewishness transformed them and created some problems with their neighbors. Mona nervously played with the Jewish star she wore under her clothes every time she was wished a Merry Christmas. Alex decided to wear his yarmulke to school everyday and was teased by children who called him "Jew Boy".

By June, 2004, their situation had gone from bad to worse. At her daughter's graduation from high school, a local minister admonished the students to "seek the truth which can be found only through acceptance of Jesus Christ." The horrified look on her daughter's face convinced Mona that she had to intervene with the local school board. She made what she thought was a reasonable request to the school superintendent-use a more

inclusive prayer in upcoming school events.

The uproar that ensued was monumental. At a summer meeting, several school board members defended the minister's speech. Protesters

stood outside the meeting singing Christian hymns and carrying posters which claimed that Mona's request would violate their religious rights.

On local Conservative radio talk shows and in letters to Sussex County newspapers she was lambasted and ridiculed. In the community where she has lived all of her life, she was shunned by people she thought were friends.

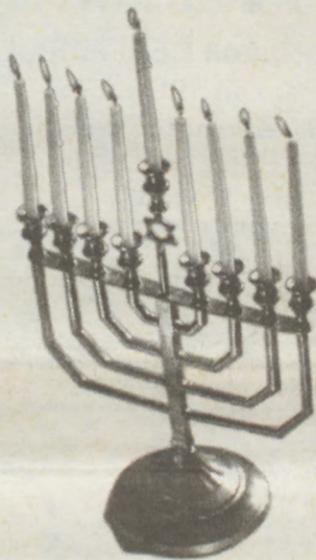
After much soul-searching and long conversations with her husband, Marco, Mona made the difficult decision to move to Wilmington with her son. Marco would remain in Georgetown where he runs a family business and help care for Mona's aging and ailing parents.

She turned to the Delaware Jewish community for assistance. Jack Zigon, director of the Jewish Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Delaware met with Mona to help assess her needs and put her in touch with organizations and individuals that could help her find employment, housing and schooling for her son.

Mona is grateful to Federation and to Rabbi Vogel for their assistance in helping her create a new life. Her son spent a full month last summer at a Jewish camp and is enjoying his studies at Torah Academy in Philadelphia. She lives in an apartment near the Chabad Center and loves attending synagogue functions. "I sat through an entire day of services during the High Holidays and couldn't believe how quickly the time had passed," she said.

Center members have welcomed her with open arms, inviting her and Alex to their homes for Shabbat dinners and holiday celebrations. One member, David Margules, asked her to join the staff of his law firm. "She is a hard-working, excellent employee," he said.

Rabbi Vogel has the greatest respect for Mona's efforts to transform her life. "She is truly a heroine in this Jewish saga of strength, commitment and faith," he said, adding that "Mona is an inspiration to us all."



DELAWARE RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS CAMPAIGN HONOR

The Jewish Federation of Delaware was one of 15 Jewish federations and independent Jewish communities throughout North America to receive the United Jewish Communities (UJC) 2003 Sapir Award for Campaign Achievement. The award was presented during the 2004 UJC General Assembly in Cleveland last month.

The Sapir Award, named for Israel's third Minister of Finance, Pinhas Sapir, is UJC's primary recognition for outstanding annual campaigns among the 155 Jewish federations and 400 independent Jewish communities across North America.

"I was thrilled and very honored that Federation received this prestigious award," said The Honorable Donald Parsons, Vice Chancellor, Court of Chancery, State of Delaware. Parsons, who co-chaired the 2003 Federation Annual Campaign along with Carol Rothschild, was particularly pleased that the Jewish Federation of Delaware received recognition for its "significant achievement in maintaining a strong annual campaign in the midst of a very successful capital campaign." He also expressed grati-

tude for the strong efforts made by the Women's Philanthropy initiative on behalf of the 2003 JFD Annual Campaign. "By making campaign contributions in their own names, these women have built a solid foundation for the future," he commented.

Carol Rothschild also credits the Women's Philanthropy efforts under the staff leadership of Jennifer Young for the success of the 2003 Annual Campaign. "This dynamic group of very charitable women greatly contributed to the positive outcome of the campaign," she said. Like Parsons, Rothschild gives credit to all the campaign contributors who "stepped up to the plate" to help this community realize its goals.

"I am very proud to be part of a community that cares about those less fortunate and gives of themselves to Jews in need here in Delaware, in Israel and around the world," she concluded.

The 2003 Sapir Award Committee selected the winning communities by city size, recognizing them for their campaign achievement and innovation. "The annual campaign enables us to fulfill our global mission of car-

ing for Jews around the world," said Robert Naboicheck, chairman of the Award Committee. "The Sapir Award honors exemplary Jewish communities that have responded to this critical mission through their campaign efforts. By addressing the needs of Jews at home and abroad in an awe-inspiring way, their achievements serve as a model for others."

Federation President Barry S. Kayne commented that "This plaque - the highest honor conferred by United Jewish Communities for outstanding campaign achievements - will hang proudly beside the 1993 William J. Shroder Award presented to the Jewish Federation of Delaware by the Council of Jewish Federations. This award recognized the success of "Campaign Week"-a program designed to energize the Annual Campaign by mobilizing the community.

United Jewish Communities (UJC) represents 155 Jewish federations and 400 independent communities across North America. Through the UJA Federation Campaign, UJC provides life-saving and life-enhancing humanitarian assistance to those in need, and translates Jewish values

into social action on behalf of millions of Jews in hundreds of communities in North America, in towns and

villages throughout Israel, in the former Soviet Union, and 60 countries around the world.



Members of the delegation from the Jewish Federation of Delaware receive the United Jewish Communities (UJC) 2003 Sapir Award for Campaign Achievement, presented during the 2004 UJC General Assembly in Cleveland. Celebrating this achievement are: (from left) Ruth Rosenberg, JFD Annual Campaign Director; Bob Pincus, 2005 JFD Annual Campaign Co-Chair along with Suzanne B. Grant; S. Stephen Selig III, chair of the UJC Campaign/Financial Resource Development Pillar; Barry S. Kayne, JFD President; Samuel H. Asher, Executive Vice President, JFD; Lauren Schultz, JFD Annual Campaign Associate; and Mark Wilf, national chair of the 2005 UJA Federation Campaign. Photo Credit: Robert A. Cumins

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FEATURED LISTINGS



110 Woodridge Drive - Smithridge

Nearly new 5-Bedroom, 5.1 bath home on a beautiful 1-acre lot in Smithridge. This Thompson built home includes a front-to-back foyer, granite kitchen, decorative mouldings throughout, finished lower level, and 3-car garage.



1022 Weldin Circle, Weldin Woods

Spacious 5 BR home in great North Wilmington location. Situated on over a half acre, this home offers many custom features including a Giorgi kitchen, 1st floor Study, and 3-car garage. Home has been freshly painted.



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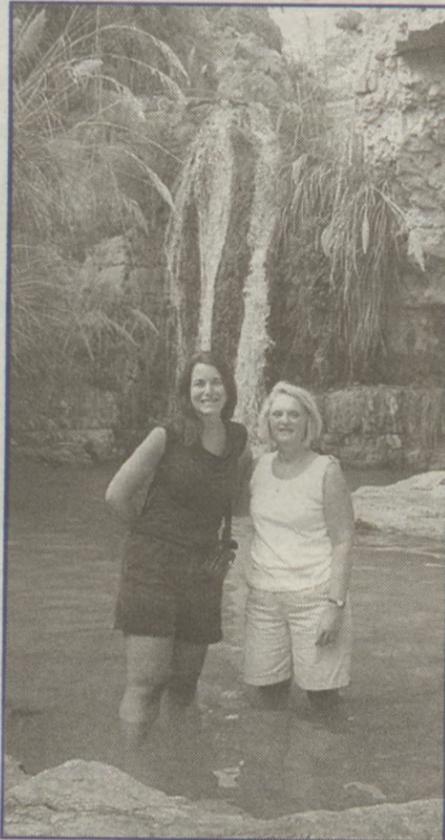
Israel here and now

by **Lelaine Nemser**
Special to the Jewish Voice

On our recent trip to Israel I was shocked to find very few American Jews traveling there. Prior to our trip, we read that indicators revealed an upsurge in tourism for Israel. A small group of us traveled to attend meetings in our sister city of Arad (and others visiting other Partnership 2000 sites). Of course, we interacted with other North American Federation volunteers and professionals visiting Israel for the same purpose. However, outside of these groups, all English speakers we met in hotels or tourist sites hailed from Britain or other European nations. In fact, during the three days we spent in Eilat, a city on the Red Sea known for its "sand and surf" recreational resort qualities, the beaches were crowded with people from Europe, judging from the variety of languages spoken. French in particular was widely spoken. However, we also heard German, Spanish, and assorted Slavic languages. (Russian is spoken by so many Israelis that it is difficult to know who is a resident and who is a visitor).

Why were we the only Americans? Are we all too afraid to travel to Israel? Are the Europeans braver than we are? Are we getting the correct information about what is happening in Israel? Are the acts of terrorism being over-hyped here in America?

Certainly it is obvious that our Israeli friends and family are living with generalized threat conditions every day. Is their threat higher than ours? The CDC has estimated that we have a 1 in 55,000,000 chance of dying in a terrorist caused plane disaster, but a 1 in 55,928 chance of death from a lightning strike. We have a 1 in 30,000 chance of dying in a terrorist attack while a visitor to Israel, but a 1 in 19,000 chance of suffering a fatal car accident in the United States. Keep in mind



Jennifer Young (Director, Jewish Fund for the Future & Women's Philanthropy) and Lelaine Nemser (Delaware Partnership 2000 chair) cool off at the Ein Gedi National Park. Our Partnership 2000 region of Arad-Tamar encompasses lush nature reserves & botanical gardens in Ein Gedi and desert regions near Arad and the Dead Sea.



Students work on art projects at the Ein Tamar elementary school. Partnership 2000 allocations from the Annual Campaign support student enrichment programs & teacher training in our partner regions.

that we have a 1 in 197 chance of dying from a homicide or a 1 in 299 chance of dying in an assault from a firearm here in America.

Would the Israelis like to see us in Israel—you bet they would! Our supportive relationship with them is so vital in so many ways. General travel boosts the economy while specific trips to fund improvements in social services in the municipalities of our Partnership communities is vital. Delaware's Partnership areas of Arad and Tamar have recently suffered some severe blows from decreased government funding as well as two "plagues"—severe destructive flooding and clouds of locusts!

Delaware and New Jersey continue to fund both new and existing programs in the areas

of Planning, Education, Community, Regional Development and Tourism and Living Bridge. This means that we will continue such popular programs such as the Maccabi Games as well as launching a new initiative. A "Young Emissary" from Israel will be assigned to Delaware and Cherry Hill. He or she will develop Israel-oriented programs as well as provide assistance and the "spirit of Israel" to other existing programming. We look forward to having this fantastic resource at our disposal and to welcoming this young person into our community.

If you are interested in getting involved in any Israel or Partnership programs, please call Jennifer Young at the Jewish Federation of Delaware at 302-427-2100 x 19.

Chanukah Oh Chanukah!



Ruth Rosenberg

Tis the season: Our festival of lights, Chanukah, celebrating the "great miracle happened there" (nes gadol haya sham—the letters on the dreidel). Some debate as to exactly what miracle we're celebrating. Was it the small bit of oil that lasted eight nights when wisdom of the day expected just one? Or was it Judah and the Macabees' extraordinary success in defeating a seemingly undefeatable foe? Actually, either of these triumphs of spirit and fortitude is worthy of centuries of celebration.

How does your family join Jews around the world in honoring this festival? Growing up, my brother, sister and I looked forward to eight nights filled with Chanukah gelt, playing dreidel, lighting the family menorah, and of course, presents every night. When I became a parent, I wanted to continue the traditions I grew up with so I made sure to have gift for

each of my kids for each night of Chanukah. We also light many chanukiot, (not just one—after all, it is the Festival of Lights) make latkes, share gifts and give tzedakah.

Tzedakah was added to the festivities when after struggling to come up with eight gifts, it became apparent (duh) that my kids had more than enough stuff and it was time to give some of it away. The next Chanukah, at the first candle, my kids each were given some wonderful toy. Each subsequent night, they were given money to contribute to the charity of their choice. As the years progressed, they sometimes gave many small donations or they may have given all the funds for the week to a single cause. They've even pooled their money to make a bigger, more significant gift. We gather the many requests that come at the end of each year and the kids decide on the recipient(s). They've given to Jewish and non-Jewish causes—whatever moves them at the time. They even include a brief note that is always, as you can imagine, very well received.

The lessons learned are obvious. My kids celebrate the spirit of the holiday while developing a joy of giving. My home has been momentarily spared from unnecessary excess and a couple of junior philanthropists are born. This has become part of our family tradition that I hope will continue when my kids make their own choices on how to celebrate Chanukah.

Many of you choose to make your charitable contributions at the end of the calendar year. Why not tie it to a holiday tradition? I invite you as always, to consider Federation a priority in your giving. As the umbrella organization for the Jewish community, local and overseas, Federation is uniquely positioned to maximize the impact of your gift. You're invited to call me at (302) 427-2100 or e-mail at ruth.rosenberg@shalomdel.org. I'd love to hear your family traditions for Chanukah! Chag Sameach!

Holocaust Education Committee honors war crimes archivist

The Brandywine Hundred Library hosted Willard Allen Fletcher's presentation on how he helped inventory tens of thousands of Nazi documents after World War II. The retired archivist and UDEL professor explained how the documents filled a former submarine factory near Alexandria, Va, allowing prosecutors to access evidence for some war criminals' trials.

In honor of his work, shared publicly for the first time at the session on November 14th, the Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Committee gave Professor Fletcher a certificate of appreciation for his efforts on behalf of Holocaust Education world-wide.



Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Chair Regina Alonzo gives a certificate of appreciation to Willard Allen Fletcher.



Holocaust education chair Regina Alonzo, war crimes archivist Willard Allen Fletcher, and event chair, Connie Kreshtool

EDITORIALS AND OPINIONS

Make Sunday Super!

It's Chanukah, the season of miracles! What a wonderful time for a Super Sunday celebration. **This Sunday**, your friends and neighbors will kick-off the 2005 Federation Annual Campaign in super style at the Bernard and Ruth Siegel Jewish Community Center. Their determination to beat the \$290,000 pledged during last year's successful phone-a-thon is fueled by the steady infusion of sugar and carbohydrate-laden latkes, jelly donuts and chocolate gelt. Super Sunday Co-Chairs Felisha Alderson, Dorothy Bobman and Debra Kimless-Garber promise to keep volunteers' metabolisms stoked throughout the day and evening phone shifts with a steady supply of food and beverages.

In the spirit of the holiday, all volunteers will receive a first edition Live Generously bracelet and an official Super Sunday T-shirt. Movie passes and restaurant gift certificates will be awarded throughout the day to those lending a hand at the phone-a-thon. One I-Pod Mini will be presented to the person who gets the most increases over prior year pledges.

Several special guests have announced their intent to stop by and help motivate

Super Sunday volunteers. Congressman Mike Castle, Senator Tom Carper and Delaware State Treasurer Jack Markell are scheduled to make appearances.

It's not too late to sign-up to make calls during the morning-9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; early afternoon-10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or evening-6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (leaving time to catch the Eagles-Redskins kick-off) shifts. Simply stop by the registration desk at the JCC and check in with Lauren Schultz or Ruth Rosenberg.

If you can't make calls during Super Sunday or the Super Week telephone sessions slated for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, December 13th through December 15th, then give generously when you are asked to make a campaign commitment.

Jews across the street and around the world are depending on our success! Happy Chanukah!

Lynn B. Edelman

Lynn B. Edelman
Editor

SHABBAT Candle Lighting

DECEMBER 17TH - 4:21 PM

DECEMBER 24TH - 4:25 PM

DECEMBER 31ST - 4:30 PM



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This Week in Jewish History



Celebrate 350
 Jewish Life in America
 1654 - 2004

DECEMBER 6, 1855

Nina Morais Cohen, born on December 6, 1855, published many articles on the rights of Jewish women and became an active suffragist and Jewish communal leader in Minneapolis.

DECEMBER 8, 2003

The Empire State Building marked the 110th Anniversary of the founding of The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) on December 8 and 9, 2003 with NCJW-inspired illumination.

DECEMBER 10, 1947

Dr. Gerty Theresa Radnitz Cori became the

first American woman to receive a Nobel prize in science on December 10, 1947.

DECEMBER 11, 1922

Grace Paley, author, feminist and "somewhat combative pacifist and cooperative anarchist," was born on December 11, 1922 in the Bronx.

DECEMBER 12, 1950

On December 12, 1950, Paula Ackerman became the interim "spiritual leader" of Temple Beth Israel in Meridian, Mississippi, demonstrating that a woman could serve in a rabbinical role.

This Week in History is a compelling introduction to 350 years of American Jewish history, brought to you by the Jewish Women's Archive. More information about each of the events described below can be found on JWA's website at http://www.jwa.org/this_week/week45.html

PARSHA PLACE

Week of December 11 Parashat Miketz Genesis 41:1-44:17

The Path to Perfection isn't perfect?

Today's Torah portion focuses on one human being who is able to grow to accept his own humanity. After spending time in an Egyptian jail, Pharaoh's chief cupbearer had a dream that only Joseph, the lonely Hebrew slave, was able to interpret. Joseph told him that his dream was a portent of good tidings that he would soon be liberated from jail and that Pharaoh would restore him to his position of prominence at court. In exchange for bringing such good news, all Joseph asked in return was "to think of me when all is well with you again, and do me the kindness of mentioning me to Pharaoh, so as to free me from this place."

Of course, once he was liberated, the cupbearer was so taken with his own good fortune that he forgot Joseph and his jailhouse promise. He didn't fulfill his promise to Joseph, with the result that Joseph continued to languish in prison.

Then, one day in court, Pharaoh had a dream that filled him with fright. None of the magicians or sages of Egypt were able to interpret his dream, none could tell the king what his vision meant. As he saw the anguish on his sovereign's face, the desperate cupbearer suddenly remembered his own brush with dream interpretation, and suddenly recalled the Hebrew boy in jail.

"The cupbearer then spoke up and said to Pharaoh, 'I must make mention today of my offenses. Once Pharaoh was angry with his servants, and placed me in custody in the house of the chief steward ... We had dreams ... A Hebrew youth was there with us ... and when we told him our dreams, he interpreted them for us.'

Midrash Bereshit Rabbah understands his mentioning his own offenses as "I have been guilty of two faults, he confessed: One, that I did not deal kindly with Joseph and mention him to you; the other, that I saw you troubled about the interpretation of a dream, yet did not reveal to you that he knows its interpretation."

Imagine his courage, when he could have simply continued his silence, in speaking out to Pharaoh, in confessing his own shortcoming. In doing so, he took a tremendous risk: The anger of Pharaoh, the scorn of the court. And yet his courageous stand, admitting his own fault publicly, was the necessary first step in correcting his error.

That first step is necessary for every one of us. Only after we acknowledge our errors and denounce them, can we hope to transcend and correct them.

Our salvation, as always, lies in honestly admitting our imperfections and then seeking the assistance of God, our families, friends, and communities in overcoming those same flaws.

The path to perfection begins with the admission that we are not perfect.

Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson (<http://www.bradartson.com>) is the Dean of the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies at the University of Judaism in Los Angeles.

Save the Date

**Jewish Federation of Delaware Announces
 Summer 2005 Family Mission to Israel
 July 24 to August 3, 2005**

Next summer, give your family the gift of a lifetime — the ultimate Israel experience. Enjoy action and adventure. See history come alive. Feel the warmth of community and build lasting connections. Share the legacy of Jewish values that unite all Jewish people — and have fun doing it - together!

If you are interested, call Ruth Rosenberg, JFD Campaign Director at (302) 427-2100 ext. or e-mail at ruth.rosenberg@shalomdel.org.

EDITORIALS AND OPINIONS

Memorial quilts for terror victims

By Nechemia Meyers

Memorial quilts, sewn by Americans in memory of AIDS victims and later of those people killed on 9/11, are now making their first appearance in Israel. They were created by people who lost loved ones in a suicide bombing that took place almost nine years ago.

The person most involved in this project is Marlyn Butchins of Hod Hasharon, a Tel Aviv suburb, whose mother and sister were murdered in that terror attack at Dizengoff Center in Tel Aviv on the eve of Purim, 1996. It occurred when the family was near the Center, where Marlyn's niece, Lauren, had gone to try on a wedding gown. Altogether 13 people were killed and several more wounded.

Every March there is a memorial ceremony at the spot where the tragedy took place, a ceremony attended, of course, by Marlyn and other members of bereaved families. She always appreciates the remarks made by Tel Aviv Mayor Ron Huldai and other dignitaries, but she has long felt that something is missing, a concrete reminder of the victims. And when she became a quilter, she decided that



A wedding canopy made by an enthusiastic quilter for her daughter's marriage.

future ceremonies—beginning with the one next March—should take place against the backdrop of 13 memorial quilts—each representing one victim. And they are now being sewn by Marlyn and a number of her friends.

Marlyn is among the thousands of Israeli women who have taken up quilting in recent years, making it one of Israel's fastest growing hobbies. Though started in China thousands of years ago and having been popular in Europe since the Middle Ages, quilting was brought here primarily by American immigrants and Israelis who spent some time in the States.

However, as it happens, the person running Israel's first quilt shop, Nurit Kapara, picked up the quilting bug in Australia, where she lived for several years while her husband worked as a Jewish Agency emissary. Nurit's shop, in Moshav Kidron south of Tel Aviv, stocks hundreds of imported fabrics and a full range of quilting tools. In addition, it hosts classes for new quilters, and such classes are also held in various other parts of the country. All the participants in these classes are women, unlike the situation in the States, presumably because Israeli men don't think it is sufficiently macho.

Nurit sees the growing interest in quilting here as part of a world-wide trend towards do-it-yourself crafts. In addition Israeli quilters often get together on a social basis, holding quilting bees. They also take on projects that will help the community. A case in point is a group of English-speaking ladies in a Tel Aviv suburb who make quilts for distribution to children who themselves, or members of their family, have been victims of terrorism. These quilts apparently serve to comfort the youngsters.

Quilters can let their imaginations run wild as the fabrics in Nurit's shop can be used to depict almost anything. Among others, she stocks fabrics that incorporate traditional Japanese motifs, designs based on the folklore of the Australian aborigines and, of course, Jewish themes. They include the menorah, Sabbath candles and Israel's national colors. Quilters are apt to use them for covers to keep Sabbath foods warm, matza holders or Torah coverings.

Nurit is pleased to see the variety of themes her quilters dream up. She only hopes that the day will come when none will be linked to terror and its consequences.

Stopping the ultimate suicide bomb

By Dr. Mitchell H. Bard

Though both presidential candidates were asked about Iran during the first debate, neither gave very detailed or reassuring answers about how they planned to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons. It increasingly appears that the world will sit back and allow the Iranians to join the nuclear club and then the strategic picture in the Middle East will dramatically change for the worse.

People around the world who opposed the war in Iraq placed great faith in UN inspectors to monitor Saddam Hussein and insure that he would not develop weapons of mass destruction (WMD). Though these folks may feel vindicated that no weapons have been found, the reality is the inspectors did not prevent Saddam from developing a nuclear capability before Israel's strike on Osirak in 1981. They also failed to prevent his buildup of WMD that was discovered in the 1990s.

Thanks to the campaign in Iraq, Libya decided to disclose that it had a very highly developed WMD program that included a nuclear component. That is being dismantled, no thanks to the UN or international community.

North Korea, of course, developed their bomb under the nose of the UN and now we know that

for more than a decade the Iranians have been deceiving those intrepid inspectors.

We have seen from the cases of North Korea, India, and Pakistan that once a nation is in the nuclear club, there's not much we can do about it. This is why it is imperative to stop the Iranians before they reach the point of no return.

To this point, the U.S. has tried the international diplomatic route favored by John Kerry and so many others who object to Bush's unilateralism. Predictably, our European allies oppose any sanctions that might impede the Iranian weapons program. The Europeans want to rely on UN weapons inspectors, and, as in Iraq, we see these intrepid watchdogs are easily deceived.

For months, the Iranians have lied about their actions and intentions, and there have been no repercussions. They're not stupid. The Iranians see how impotent the world has been in the face of North Korea's defiance. They watched the Europeans, led by the appeasers in Paris, allow Saddam to literally get away with murder. The Iranians understand that the most important components of European foreign policy in the Middle East are trade and oil and that the British are the only ones who are willing to risk Arab/Muslim anger for global security.

Bush appears to be hoping the allies will sud-

denly be persuaded by U.S. arguments to impose draconian UN sanctions on Iran — and comply with them. This hasn't happened to date, and it's unlikely it ever will. The Iranians understand this and have accelerated their program to insure that should the UN kibitzers ever pass a resolution, it will be too little, too late.

Part of the problem with Iran has been the reliable old State Department, which has consistently argued that reform is on the way because the people are tired of the ayatollahs. It has now been a quarter of a century since the Iranian revolution and the nation remains firmly in the grip of the fundamentalists. Worse, the so-called reformers have made clear they are just as committed to making Iran a nuclear power!

Bush has demonstrated he isn't afraid to use force, but the Iranians see what's happening in Afghanistan and Iraq (and are doing all they can to make the situation worse), so they know it will be difficult for Bush to initiate another military campaign anytime soon.

That leaves Israel as the only nation that has the will and capability to attack Iran. It may be impossible to take military action at this point since the Iranians learned from the raid on Osirak and have taken precautions to protect their installations. Iran is also making dire

threats of retaliation to discourage Israeli action. If Israel does hit Iran, it will be internationally condemned, as it was in 1981, though the current administration would (privately) be happy.

Bush agreed with Kerry during their debate that nuclear proliferation is the gravest threat to the United States, but neither was very convincing when it came to explaining how they will prevent Iran and other rogue nations from becoming nuclear powers. The experts are now saying Iran could have a bomb in 2-5 years (some say less). This is worrisome, but we should be even more concerned about the long-term. Does anyone really believe that no Muslim state in the region will have nuclear weapons within the next 50 years? They don't need an arsenal like the old Soviet Union; they only need three bombs — one for Tel Aviv, one for Haifa, and one for Jerusalem, and it's goodbye Israel.

In the old days, we might have found some comfort in the notion of deterrence and the doctrine of Mutual Assured Destruction, but in the age of suicide bombings, can we trust Islamic leaders not to use nuclear weapons for the ultimate act of martyrdom?

Dr. Mitchell G. Bard is a foreign policy analyst and author of 17 books including *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Middle East Conflict*.

Saving Jewish souls

By Carl Alpert

Missionary activity is not forbidden under Israel law unless it is carried on with offers of financial gifts or other inducements, or if it is directed at minors. As a result, the Christian missionaries carry on their program with proper discretion. They sometimes disguise their initial approaches, but in confrontation do not hesitate to acknowledge that they are seeking to save Jewish souls.

From time to time the press here carries small, innocuous ads offering free literature to those interested in spiritual problems, or concerned with the way the world is heading. The brochures that are received in response lead up to their subject gradually, but quietly make the point that Jews can be saved only if they accept Jesus. We realize that similar activity is conducted among Jewish communities everywhere, but Israel is made a key point in the program because the return of Jews to this country is heralded as an indication of the early return of the messiah.

The situation here, as well as overseas, is complicated by political factors. Support of Israel by evangelical Christians constitutes a

problem for many Jews who are prepared to overlook the ultimate intentions of their friends and accept such support which does indeed have political and public relations value. A small group of Knesset members has even organized a caucus which is prepared to cooperate with evangelical Christians in pro-Israel activity. Many of the latter emphasize Israel's biblical rights to the whole of the country, and even oppose withdrawal from Gaza. Among the several groups which campaign actively here are Jehovah's Witnesses, the Christadelphians and groups of Messianic Jews, known also as Jews for Jesus.

At the same time, it is true that there are large numbers of Christians, not organized, who have no missionary intentions, but support Israel on purely moral grounds.

The growth of poverty in Israel has left large numbers of Jews in Israel weakened spiritually as well as economically, and many of them succumb to the alluring message of the missionaries. It is estimated that there are many hundreds of missionaries in Israel today.

While it is not possible to gauge the degree of success of the missionaries, it is true that the Jews for Jesus movement has been gain-

ing publicity. Last year an open convention of that movement was held in Jerusalem and claims were made that it represented 450 such congregations in the United States.

A more recent event occurred in Tel Aviv. For many days the Israel press, in Hebrew, Russian and English, carried large (expensive) advertisements inviting the public to a "Worship Celebration" at which the "message of God's saving and healing power to the world" would be discussed. There was no mention of Christianity or Jesus, and some of the publicity, translated into Hebrew, could almost be read as propaganda for Orthodox Judaism. To thinking readers, the intention was obvious.

The event was conducted by the Rev. Benny Hinn, a name hitherto unknown in Israel. The large Yad Eliahu stadium in Tel Aviv was engaged, and while the session was given almost no additional publicity, the daily Haaretz reported that thousands packed the place. Who were they? Many spiritually lost Jews, seeking "salvation", were undoubtedly in the audience. Also included were foreign workers far from home, Christian Arabs, messianic Jews already organized, and Christian

Russians who had been admitted to the country as immigrants under the terms of a broad program to rescue Russian Jews. To what extent were the curious Israelis present impressed by the religious frenzy with which Hinn imbued his audience?

"I'm here to announce to the whole house of Israel that Jesus the messiah is coming back to earth," Hinn announced to his audience, many of whom responded with near hysterical excitement. Though rejected by more conservative evangelists, Hinn obviously has a charismatic power that can influence vulnerable masses. How much of such influence will remain in Israel after his appearance here remains to be seen.

Missionary activity is technically ignored by the government. A small group under Orthodox auspices, known as Yad L'Achim, counters such activity and seeks to win back young people who may have succumbed to the soul snatchers. The international Jews for Judaism organization is also active in Israel, but both lack the resources to combat the evangelist organizations which are said to spend about \$250 million annually, internationally, to target the Jews.



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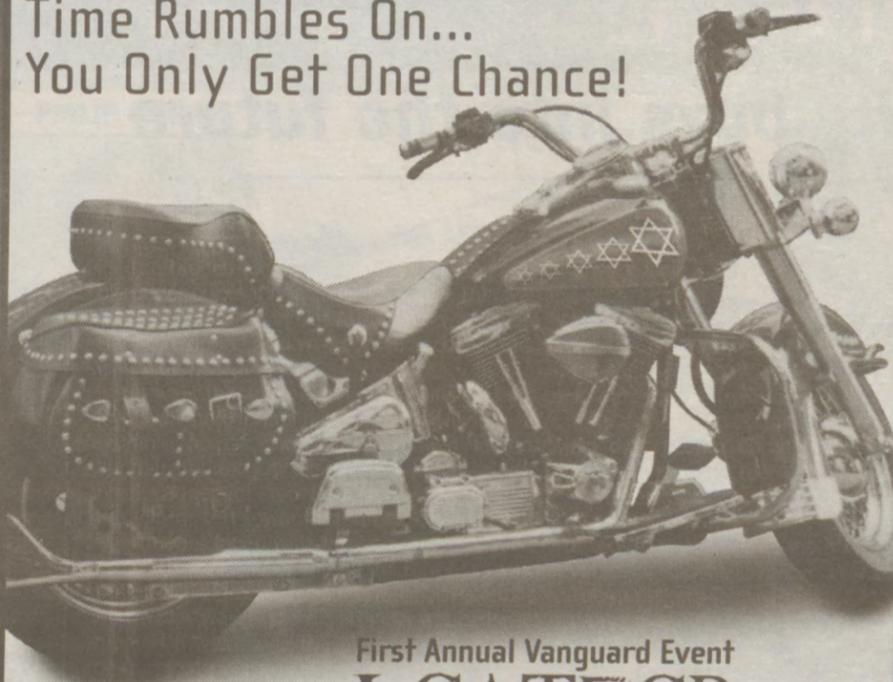
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The Vanguard Event has a minimum contribution level of \$1,000 per household to the 2005 Annual Campaign.



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Winter Film Series
at Theatre N at Nemours



This is a major fundraiser for Congregation Beth Shalom

Dates:	Movie:	Showtime:
December 26 th	Broken Wings	7:00pm
January 2 nd	G-d is Great, I m Not	7:00pm
January 9 th	The Holy Land	7:00pm
January 23 rd	Gloomy Sunday	8:00pm

Tickets are an \$11.00 donation for each film or \$40.00 for the series. Theatre N at Nemours is located at 11th & Tatnall Streets in the Nemours Building. Advance tickets are available for purchase by credit card by calling (302) 571-4699 or online at www.theatren.org. Tickets can be purchased at the theater starting one hour before each show.

Validated parking is available in the City Center garage on 11th Street between West and Tatnall Streets. Bring in your parking ticket and we ll validate it so it s \$1.00 to park. Parking at meters is free all weekend too!

A discussion will follow each film. Refreshments will be available. Keep your ticket stub for your tax deduction. For further information call Beth Shalom at (302) 654-4462

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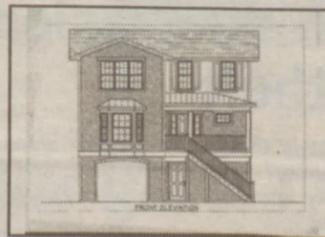
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INSIDE DELAWARE

Seaside Jewish Community buys into the future

By Joel F. Glazier

"We are the future of Judaism, non affiliated, egalitarian, and cross generational," remarked Dr. Jeff Hawtof, President of The Seaside Jewish Community, at a November 21st meeting convened to decide whether to buy the building and 1.4 acre plot of land on which the Ocean Wave Lodge sits, off of Rte. One in Rehoboth. The Seaside membership voted overwhelmingly to purchase and the 8-year history of the growing Jewish Community took a decisive step into the future.

"It's exciting to be starting a capital campaign and I've been so impressed with the upfront commitments we've gotten from our Board and members," said Miriam Zadek, Building Fundraising Chairperson. The extra land will provide room for parking and perhaps expansion and there was some discussion about a small portion of the plot becoming a Jewish cemetery in the future. The small building, formerly home to the Odd Fellows Lodge, recently had a metal Yahrtzeit wall donated and installed with memorial plaques.

"We [Seaside] are more than just a congregation. It's more like a philosophy here," said Hawtof as the meeting progressed with no less than 10 committee reports, and a report that membership is now over 175. "Membership belled this year and it marked our biggest yearly gain in members," reported Hawtof.

Activity in and out of the Community

Since leasing the Ocean Wave Lodge for the past 3 years, Seaside has been able to hold monthly Shabbat Services on Friday night and Saturday. Holidays now are celebrated

and a Religious School operates on Sundays. One Thursday a month is a Bible study class and another Thursday finds members involved in a Monthly Topical Discussion group.

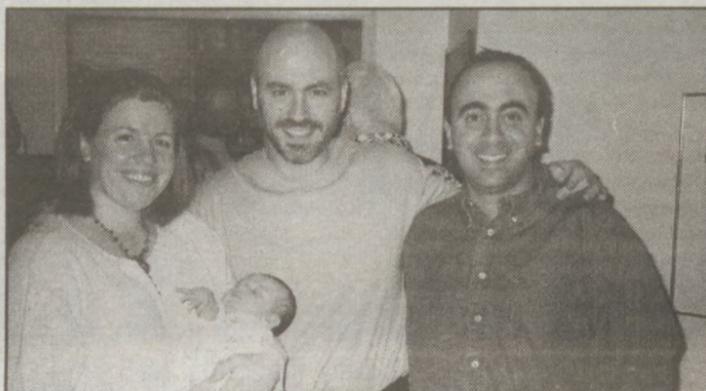
Earlier this year, when Mel Gibson's "Passion of The Christ" movie was released there were some acts of vandalism reported in Sussex County. "I approached Christian clergy in the area and told them Anti-Semitism is a Christian problem and we would like to help them learn how to deal with it," says Hawtof. The result was the community wide "Coalition for Tolerance and Justice", which now sponsors programs and public discussion meetings. Seaside also had some non-Jewish clergy and a Muslim family attend some of the High Holy Day services as awareness of the new Jewish community has grown in the area.

No one gets paid for his or her work at Seaside. Its active Social Action program provides needed clothes, etc. to an abused women shelter in Sussex County. The Religious School has grown into 2 separate classes and this year there were 2 baby-naming ceremonies held at Seaside. Holiday celebrations play a big part for Seaside. "We started after 100 unaffiliated Jews in the Beach communities responded to an ad for a seder," comments Board Member Cheryl Fruchtman. "Now we have built a Sukkah, host an annual Hanukkah Play and Party and our seders have grown so large we must find larger halls."

Membership at Seaside includes both seasonal and year round residents. Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Gold are not unusual in "always being members of a synagogue when we lived in Maryland. It was an easy decision to also join



New home of the Seaside Jewish Community, sits on 1.4 acres of land on Holland Glade Road in Rehoboth Beach.



Seaside President Dr. Jeff Hawtof (c) with new parents Gwen and Jacob Aboutboul and Seaside's newest member, Noa, after a baby naming ceremony in Rehoboth. The proud papa is a native Israeli.

Seaside as they needed early support and now we've met wonderful people here." Shabbat Services are led by different members and vary in the amount of Hebrew used depending on the leader.

The next holiday celebration will be a Tu B'Shevat seder in January. Information about Seaside currently is available at www.calsnet.net/seasidejewish or by phone (302) 226-8977.

Beth Shalom sponsors winter film series at Theatre N

The Rabbi Jacob Kraft Educational Foundation of Congregation Beth Shalom presents its inaugural "Winter Film Series" at Theatre N in Wilmington. "This series of four Sunday flicks of Jewish interest is indicative of the types of quality educational, informative, and entertaining programming for the entire community made possible by Foundation funding," said synagogue Treasurer Jeffrey Lewis.

The films begin Sunday, December 26 at 7:00 PM with the acclaimed "Broken Wings."

This is the contemporary story of an ordinary Israeli family and the trials of their lives. Next, on Sunday, January 2 at 7:00 PM is the French comedy "G-d is Great, I'm Not" starring Audrey Tautou ("Amelie") as a non-Jew who makes her Jewish love become more observant.

On Sunday, January 9 at 7:00 PM "The Holy Land" will be shown. This is a mystery with dark political and criminal undercurrents that takes a look at the seamier side of Israeli life. The final show will be Sunday,

January 23 at 8:00 PM. "Gloomy Sunday" is a romantic melodrama set in pre-World War II Budapest that features an agreed upon love triangle and international intrigue as the Nazis occupy Hungary.

As the series is a fundraiser for Congregation Beth Shalom, donations are \$11.00 per ticket or \$40.00 for the entire series. Advance tickets are available for purchase by credit card by calling 302 571 4699 or online at www.theatren.org. Tickets can be purchased at the theater starting one

hour before each show. Validated parking is available in the City Center garage on 11th Street between West and Tatnall Streets. Bring in your parking ticket and we'll validate it so it's \$1.00 to park. Parking meters are free all weekend too!

A discussion will follow each film and refreshments will be available. Keep your ticket stub for your tax deduction. For further information call Beth Shalom at 302 654 4462.

See you at the movies!

Beth Shalom brunch discussion on identity theft



What is the fastest growing crime in the country? It is identity theft, and you probably know someone who has been affected.

Beth Moskow-Schnoll, Assistant U.S. Attorney, U.S. Dept. of Justice, will speak on this very timely topic at Congregation Beth Shalom on Sunday, December 19 at 10:00 a.m.

The brunch/program is open to the entire community. The cost of the brunch is \$5.00.

Come learn about different scams and how to protect yourself. Call the synagogue office at 654-4462 to make your reservation.

Countdown to sleep-over fun

On Friday December 17 through Sunday, December 19th the Ruth and Bernard Siegel JCC will be the site of the Sixth Annual Mega Lockdown Conclave Sleepover. This special event for all area teens features a full Shabbaton, use of the gym and swimming pool and a limo ride to DAVE AND BUSTERS Saturday Night

The event is open to young people in

grades 5-7 and 8-12 (They will be in two separate groups).

Meet at the JCC Senior Center for registration beginning at 3:00pm and ending at 4:00pm. The cost is \$75 which includes food, prizes, accommodations at the JCC and limo ride and games at Dave & Busters. For more information, call 610-399-3257 or 484-753-3700 ask for Leonard.

Smoke detectors for Shabbat observant

By Joel Glazier

Twice a year, when clocks are changed to/from Daylight Savings Time, the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association has made free batteries and smoke detectors available for those in need. The distribution has always been on Saturday mornings, the most recent give away being on Saturday, October 30. Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Cantor Joel Kessler was concerned that many at Shabbat services on those Saturday mornings could not take advantage of this good will gesture.

In cooperation with the Delaware Volunteer Fireman's Association, Cantor Kessler has arranged for a December distribution for those who are in need.

The 9-volt batteries and/or smoke detectors will be delivered to Adas Kodesch (Washington Street Ext. in Wilmington) and anyone can arrange to have one delivered there for pick up. Interested people MUST order them thru the Adas Kodesch office.

The deadline for ordering is December 15. AKSE can be contacted at 762-2705 and all battery/detector requests must be made by December 15. Pick up will be at AKSE.

The First Annual Vanguard Event,

The Leather and Lace Ball will be held Saturday night, January 29, 2005 at Mike's Famous Harley Davidson.

This event replaces the Jewish Federation of Delaware Chai Event and is open to all members of the community whose households make a minimum contribution of \$1,000 to the Jewish Federation of Delaware's 2005 Annual Campaign. Event Co-Chairs Annette & Bob Aerson and Jodi & Benjie Cohen invite you to what's sure to be a fantastic party! Watch your mail for your invitation or call Ruth Rosenberg, Annual Campaign Director, at (302) 427-2100 ext. 17 for more information.



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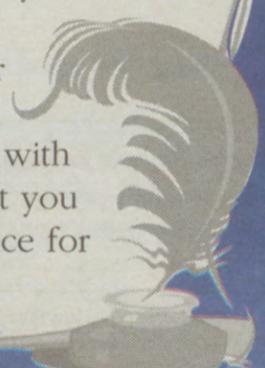


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INSIDE DELAWARE

December's dessert dilemma?

By Joel F. Glazier

"Where's the cake? It's Hanukkah's birthday, isn't it?" This question came from an 11 year old adopted into a Jewish family. Impressed with the candles and gifts, he assumed it must be a birthday, based on his previous experiences in a non-Jewish world. Cake is not usually associated with Hanukkah, either.

This story was one shared at a recent program sponsored by Beth Emeth's Outreach Committee, a group that holds regular programs of special concern to interfaith couples and families and those new to Judaism, that often includes extended family members who are not Jewish. Memories of holiday foods and desserts were addressed at a pre-Hanukkah meeting.

Special guest Dr. Robin Karol-Eng, child of Holocaust survivors and a person with in-laws that include Christmas celebrating Buddhists. She pointed out that "cookies (and not cake) have become more of a Hanukkah treat, as Jewish families have used the holiday to bake their own special cookies as many Christian families have done for Christmas sharing." Dr. Karol-Eng brought along some of her own creations shaped like dreidels and the Hebrew letters found on them. Her daughter, now in college "who loves being Jewish" found a set of



A hungry hand eagerly reaches for home made Hanukkah cookies!

cookie cutters of the entire Hebrew alphabet and remembers fondly the times she and her mother made their own cookie paint to decorate home made cookies, Jewishly.

"Latkes used to be the food for Hanukkah," explained Karol-Eng, but holiday customs evolve, and Hanukkah cookies are one such

evolution. "No one thinks it odd to have such things today" and Jewish parents can have their own family cookie baking parties. She is proud that a special role of Jewish mothers is to provide a Jewish, Kosher home and that includes desserts. Some Chanukah recipes were distributed including one for a unique "Chanukah Candle Salad".

Lem Davis, Jewish by choice, commented, "We have to remember we're not turning our backs on family traditions. My mother had a real 'I don't bake at Christmas time' tradition of her own, so even today, I find myself buying the special holiday cookies put out by Tastykake, like she used to." But Lem smiles that he notices, the "O U" certifies the seasonal treats Kosher.

"Food is always provided for good occasions and for sad," said Karol-Eng, and remembering old family traditions is important even if some extended family does not share the same holidays. Steve Davis added, "Food memories are one of the best things about being Jewish," and most attending the program agreed there is no dilemma for them as they have learned to respect old traditions while building new Jewish traditions strong for their own children. All discussion was held in a non judgmental and open way, which is part of Outreach's rules for any of their programs.

In January, the Beth Emeth Outreach



Dr. Robin Karol-Eng explained how special cookies have become a recent tradition for Hanukkah celebrations.

Committee will sponsor an Interfaith Family Potluck Lunch. Extended family members, Jewish and non-Jewish, are invited to attend. All will eat and discuss the challenges and rewards of being in families with diverse religious traditions and belief systems.

Information about Outreach is available at www.bethemethoutreach.com or by phone (302) 764-2393.



Hanukah, Oh Hanukah, Come Light The Menorah

Photos courtesy of Brad Glazier

Albert Einstein Academy's Annual Family Hanukah Celebration was held the first night of Hanukah at the JCC Auditorium.

An overflow crowd of students, parents and guests enjoyed a night of music, performances, Hanukah food and a mass lighting of family menorahs brought from homes.



First grader Noah Haines watches his Menorah glow.



Alison Weiss and her Einstein Enrichment students light the Menorah.

Dance Israeli style

Open Israeli-dancing is now held at the Wilmington JCC on the second Sunday of each month (except December, canceled due to Super Sunday) from 3-5 p.m., in the JCC auditorium. All ages are welcome.

Sessions already scheduled for 2005 are: January 9, February 13, March 13 and April 10. The suggested donation is \$3 for students and JCC members, \$5 for others.

Israeli dancing continues to be popular with the Arden Folk Gild on the FOURTH WEDNESDAYS at the historic Arden Gild Hall from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Upcoming sessions there are December 22, January 26, February 23, March 23 and April 27. The Arden Gild Hall is located at 2126 The Highway in Arden (off Harvey Rd. between I-95 and Marsh Rd), (302) 475-3126.

See www.ardenclub.com for directions.

The first hour of both is beginning and teaching, the second hour includes requests and more intermediate teaching. Leaders are Sharon Kleban and Howard Wachtel, experienced dancers with Don Schillinger's RAK DAN.

For further information, please contact Elaine Schmerling at (302) 475-3708.

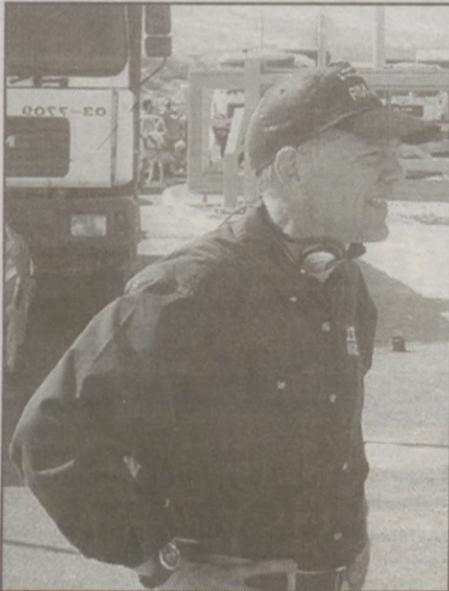


A Hanukkah Menorah found in the ruins of the Warsaw Ghetto. The menorah, exhibited at the Historical Museum at Yad Vashem in Israel, recently underwent a preservation process to enable its exhibition in the new Holocaust History Museum, now under construction. The new Museum will open in March 2005.

Photo courtesy Yad Vashem

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

Israel musings



Rick Jensen

By Rick Jensen
Special to the Jewish Voice

The broken rocks of sand that fail to crumble under our feet nearly roll us over. This was not the painted sand of Arizona or windswept Saharan dunes you've seen in movies. This was Israel.

To walk these broken Judean hills and valleys was hard enough in modern Nikes. To stumble across them in sun-baked leather sandals for forty years is unthinkable. The black adder of four-lane highways writhes through desert towns of tan block homes and apartments faced with Jerusalem stone.

North to Kalkilya; home to terrorists who targeted children in the name of a Palestine that never was a state. This is where Israel erected a wall along the highway that is engineered just high enough so sniper bullets will never again end the life of a nine year-old girl riding home from a wedding with her parents. A wall whose cement was purchased by Palestinians from Egyptians to build homes and instead profited by selling that cement to

the Israelis. The adjoining fence casts its barbed wire spine for miles, broken by the checkpoint. Approaching the checkpoint, we drive over a tunnel through which Palestinian farmers reach their crops from Kalkilya. It's a two million dollar testimony to the care Israelis take to protect lives from terror while respecting the people who were abandoned by their Jordanian countrymen.

Cars and trucks are backed up for a mile. No drivers care about the two men walking toward them with recording equipment; not the drivers with green Israeli license plates who are whisked through the checkpoint nor the anxious men behind the wheels of crawling vehicles sporting yellow Palestinian plates. The questions to the Palestinians are as same as the answers. I ask, "Who do you blame for the fence?" They answer, "We know why it is here. We understand. It shouldn't take so long. I've been here for an hour." One driver yells, screams and argues with the Israeli Defense Forces soldiers, telling them they should just let him through because he drives through four times a day and they know him.

The soldiers smile, nod and pretend each time like they are explaining it all to him for the very first time. Their rifles never even shift from resting on their shoulders.

These people have nothing to fear from the Israeli soldiers. Their eyes only betray fear when I ask, "Do you blame the terrorists for this fence? Hamas? Islamic Jihad?" Before any words are spoken to my translator, the drivers' eyes look downward, dart right and left, aim their gaze at any place other than the eyes of my translator or myself. None of them answers the question directly. The common response is always, "We understand why it's here." One driver responds by putting his truck into gear, saying, "I must go." He drives two feet; still three cars behind the Subaru where soldiers inspect the contents of the trunk.

Rick Jensen of WDEL Radio broadcast live from Israel in October on a trip organized by the Jewish Federation of Delaware. He was accompanied by JFD President Barry S. Kayne and his wife, Reiko and Jack Zigon, director of Federation's Jewish Community Relations Committee.

Federations fight for Falash Mura

By Rachel Pomerance, JTA

An Israeli Supreme Court ruling postponing a decision to expedite the aliyah of some 17,000 Ethiopians who claim Jewish ancestry has enraged the Jewish Agency for Israel — and given American Jewry time to mobilize its troops.

Proponents of the Falash Mura, Ethiopians whose Jewish ancestors converted to Christianity but who now have returned to Orthodox practice, have gained steam in the American Jewish federation movement.

A handful of federations created special funds last year that raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to aid Falash Mura in Ethiopia awaiting immigration.

The United Jewish Communities, the federation system's coordinating body, recently formed a committee to determine how to assist the Falash Mura. The group held its first meeting at the UJC General Assembly in mid-November to discuss building broader backing for the Falash Mura among local federations.

Meanwhile, Israel's Supreme Court decided Monday to postpone a ruling on the issue until after a Dec. 26 meeting between Sallai Meridor, chairman of the executive of the Jewish Agency, which runs aliyah, and Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon.

In a landmark resolution in February 2003, Israel's Cabinet voted to immediately check the eligibility of some 19,000 Falash Mura remaining in Ethiopian compounds and bring over those that could prove maternal Jewish descent.

But the government has dragged its feet, citing budget constraints. Immigration from Ethiopia is far more costly than from other places due to the tremendous social gap between the new Ethiopian immigrants and the rest of Israeli society.

A representative of the State Prosecutor's Office told the high court that the rate of Falash Mura aliyah was determined by budgetary and human resource constraints, adding that it was "unacceptable for Jewish organizations to force Israel to increase the rate through the court," according to Ha'aretz.

After the court decision, Meridor charged Israel with causing "unnecessary suffering"



Falash Mura, delegate to UJC General Assembly.

to the Falash Mura, and called the economic arguments against their immigration "baseless."

"It is not right to hamper the pace of immigration from any country in the world; this is the only case of this happening in the history of the State of Israel," Meridor said in a statement.

After the meeting with Meridor, the Israeli government is required to report its progress on the issue, followed by a response by the plaintiffs — families of Falash Mura who are living in Israel awaiting their relatives' arrival.

The government expects that most of the Falash Mura will be eligible for aliyah, but it's only inspecting 100 families per month for eligibility. With just one person to handle inspections in Ethiopia, the Interior Ministry expects inspections to take another three years.

Last month, the Jewish Agency asked the Israeli government to double the rate of Falash Mura aliyah from 300 to 600 per month.

The UJC has agreed to advocate for that figure as well, said John Fishel, president of the Jewish Federation of Los Angeles and co-chairman of the UJC committee on the Falash Mura.

The committee will use the time between now and Dec. 26 to "get more of the federated communities up to speed," Fishel said.

Fishel hopes additional communities will become financially involved and will lobby on the Falash Mura's behalf with Knesset members.

Some officials, like John Ruskey, executive vice president and CEO of the UJA-Federation of New York, have made Falash Mura aliyah a priority.

But the UJC appears to be facing some resistance.

"What the meeting in Cleveland did was illustrate that we've got a long way to go to build that consensus," Fishel said. Unlike the Los Angeles and New York federations, whose representatives visited Ethiopia last year, many communities do not understand the Falash Mura issue, Fishel said.

It's "very hard with something like this to really understand it if it hasn't been on your radar screen" amid the slew of issues facing federations, Fishel said. "Sometimes the process is slow and laborious, but sometimes it's really necessary."

Jewish Fund for the Future

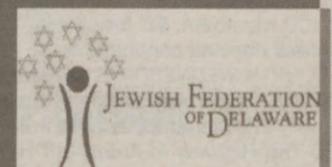
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Women's Philanthropy Night during Super Week is Wednesday December 15- 6:30-9 pm

sign-up to volunteer at www.shalomdelaware.org or call 302-427-2100 x 19

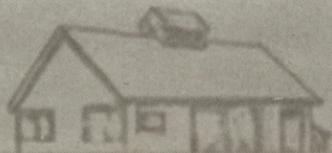


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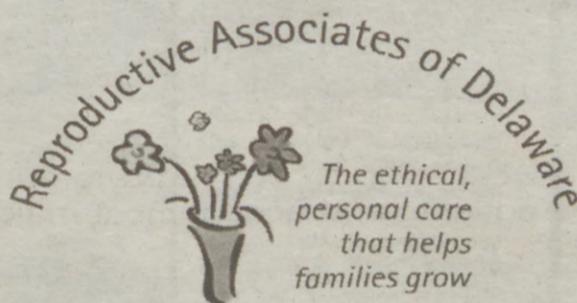


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MILESTONES

In Memoriam

DRUKKER

Alexander E. Drukker, 81, a native of The Netherlands, passed away on December 4th after a long battle with Parkinson's Disease. A Holocaust survivor, he married his wife of 56 years, Hana in 1948. Together, the couple emigrated to the United States in 1953 and settled in Milwaukee, WI. They moved to Wilmington in 1975 and lived here for 16 years while Dr. Drukker, an organic chemist, worked for ICI Americas.

Professionally, he was a long-time member of the American Chemical Society. His personal interests included: reading, gardening and collecting Dutch and Israeli stamps. He also enjoyed Israeli culture and studying Hebrew.

In addition to his wife, Hanna, Dr. Drukker is survived by his daughters and sons-in-law, Harriet and Richard Tobin, Carla and Alan Jaffey, Deborah and Ohad Vered and Shifrah and Martin Markiewitz.

He also is survived by nine grandchildren, Jordan and Eliot Tobin, Aaron and Ilana Jaffey, Shira and Aaron Vered and Jacob, Rachel and Michelle Markiewitz.

Funeral services were held on December 6th at Schoenberg Memorial Chapel with interment in Beth Emeth Memorial Park in Wilmington.

The family requests that contributions in his memory be made to the Magen David Adom (The Israeli Red Cross), 8930 Gross Point Road, Suite 800, Skokie, IL 60077.

KUPFERMAN

Lillian Kupferman died in her sleep on December 2nd at Foulk Manor South in Wilmington. She was born in the Bronx to Polish émigrés Adolph and Feleica Ponch Anish. She was the youngest of six children.

She met her late husband, Alex while attending school at the City College of New York. The two mar-

ried in 1938. After Alex returned from World War II, the couple ultimately settled in Wilmington where Mrs. Kupferman worked for many years with the Department of Labor.

She retired in 1980 and enjoyed traveling internationally with her sister, Frances and spending time with her children and grandchildren. Survivors include her son, Ira Kupferman of Wilmington and Ronni Nowakowski of Newark, DE. Also mourning her passing are grandchildren, Mr. and Mrs. Scott Kupferman, Ms. Laura Kupferman, Mr. Jamie Nowakowski and Ms. Wendy Nowakowski and two step great-grandchildren. She also is survived by close friends, Mrs. Hannah Bryman, Mrs. Mary Ann Lohr and Mr. and Mrs. Willie Sharpe.

Services were held at the Schoenberg Memorial Chapel on December 5th. Contributions in her memory may be made to the American Heart Association.

PACKER

Gloria Packer, nee Weisberg, a resident of Broomall, PA, died December 1st. She was the beloved wife of Marvin and devoted mother to Joyce Ann Packer, Jonathan Packer and Elaine Packer; sister to Alma Handelman and grandmother to Alexi Packer.

Graveside services were held on December 5th in Haym Salomon Memorial Park in Frazer, PA. Contributions in her memory may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

RANDALL

Terri Denise Randall, age 45, of Exton, PA, died December 1. She had been an independent sales director for The Pampered Chef for the past 10 years.

She was the loving wife of Alan Randall; beloved mother of Nicole, Julie and Brent; cherished daughter of Ellen Kodish Stevenetti and dear sister of Wendy Shlossman, Pamela Wise, Susan Schoenberger

and Nancy Koerner.

Funeral services were held on December 3rd at Beth Israel Congregation, 385 Pottstown Pike, Eagle, PA

Contributions in her memory may be directed to either The Rena Rowan Breast Center, 3400 Spruce Street, 14th Floor, Penn Tower Building, Philadelphia, PA 19104 or to Caring Hospice Services, 400 Commerce Drive, Suite C, Fort Washington, PA 19034.

ROSENBERG

Joseph Rosenberg died on November 27th. The husband of the late Gladys Rosenberg, he is survived by his daughters and sons-in-law, Barbara and Marc Reitzes and Dale and Hub Tubler and his grandchildren, David, Peter, Rebecca and Brandon.

Services and interment were private. Contributions in his memory would be appreciated to either the Wilmington Chapter of Hadassah, Delaware Hospice or ARMDI.

NACHAS NOOK

A New Daughter of Israel is born



Carol and Steven Rothschild and Vivian and Dr. Eddie Mamberg of Wilmington announce with great joy the arrival of their granddaughter, Sydney Eva Rothschild. Sydney, the daughter of Elana Mamberg Rothschild and Peter Eliot Rothschild, was born on December 3rd in Santa Monica, California. The raven-haired beauty arrived in the world at 6 lbs., 9 oz and 19 1/2 inches long.

Sharing in this simcha are great-grandparents, Otto and Lolo Heitlinger of Wilmington and Mrs. Nora Schick of New York City.

Rappaport and Fieldman to wed

Dr. Jay and Bryna Rappaport joyfully announce the engagement of their daughter Alyson Dara to Matthew Lee Fieldman, son of Steven and Barbara Fieldman of Winter Park, Florida.

Alyson is the granddaughter of Harry and Lillie Rappaport and Louis and Edwyna Klasterin (all of beloved memory).

Matthew's grandparents are Max (of beloved memory) and Esther Fieldman of Park Rapids, Minnesota, and Al and Audrey Kaufman of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Alyson graduated from The George Washington University in 1999 with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and in 2001 with an MBA with a marketing concentration. She is currently employed as an Account Manager at Greenfield/Belser Brand Design in Washington, DC.

Matthew graduated from the University of Florida in 2000 with a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and is expected to receive his MBA from The George Washington University in May 2005. He is currently a Senior Associate in Financial Resource



Alyson Rappaport and Matthew Fieldman

Development at The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington. The couple met at a Shabbat dinner sponsored by the DC Minyan. A July 3, 2005 wedding in Wilmington is planned.

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Schiff and Friedman are wed

Stevie Schiff and Daniel Friedman were married Sept. 6th in Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Synagogue, Wilmington.

Their parents are Cheryl and Ken Kamm of Wilmington, Evelyn and Herbert Friedman of Skokie, IL, and the late Harvey and Sally Schiff.

The bride, a graduate of Mt. Pleasant High School, University of Delaware and George Washington University, is Director of Conference and Event Planning for Hillel International in Washington, DC. A graduate of University of Illinois-Chicago and MS and PhD degrees in electrical engineering from University of Maryland, the groom works at Hughes Network Systems in Germantown, MD. The couple reside in Silver Spring, MD.



Stevie Schiff and Daniel Friedman

COMING EVENTS

JUDAISM FOR INTERFAITH FAMILIES & MORE

Congregation Beth Emeth Outreach invites you to join interfaith couples and those new to, or curious about Judaism for its special 6 week interactive course. All questions on Judaism will be answered and discussed in a friendly, supportive atmosphere. The course starts Thursday, 1/27/05 @ 7PM and meets weekly through 3/3/05. The instructor is Dr. Henry Schenker. Space is limited! Please pre-register by calling the temple office at (302) 764-2393 or email beout2@minque.com. Visit www.bethemethoutreach.com for more info.

ALSO AT BETH EMETH, A PICTORIAL HISTORY OF WILMINGTON...

In celebration of the synagogue's 50th year in its current building, Beth Emeth's Outreach Committee invites community members to get out their pictures and memories and join the Delaware Historical Society in a trip down memory lane with Dr. Ellen Rendle, Curator of Books of Photographs for the Historical Society of Delaware. Meet at Congregation Beth Emeth, on Monday 12/13 @ 7PM. Program is free and open to the

general public. For info call 302-764-2393.

PLAN AHEAD FOR DELAWARE GRATZ SPRING SEMESTER

Registration is now underway for the second semester at Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School. New courses, which begin in January, are:

THURSDAYS
500 Israel Advocacy - Designed to empower high school students to respond to anti-Israel/anti-Jewish acts and rhetoric in an intelligent and informed manner when they arrive at college. Taught by Dr. Mark Wagman and the Jewish Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Delaware.

607 Mishna - Teaching the Law orally was considered the best way to learn, as it encouraged close relationships between students and teachers. Learn about Judah the Prince and experience Mishna. Taught by Rabbi Chuni Vogel

SUNDAYS
10* Biblical Interpretation - Gratz College credit course where students will use traditional commentary to analyze the interpretations of various Biblical texts. Students will learn to develop and present a D'var Torah including their

analysis of the passage and traditional commentary on it, and a current event illuminated by the passage. Taught by University of Pennsylvania Scholar-In-Residence Tamar Jacobowitz.

606 Jewish Potpourri - What students should know as they prepare for college. Discussion of Israel, major religions, response to Holocaust deniers, key points about Judaism and whatever relevant current event is "hot." Taught by John Elzufon, Esq.

Contact Marlene Milunsky, Principal, for more information: marlene@delawaregratz.org or call (302) 478-8100.

SUMMER SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

The Sylvia & Isadore N. Silverman Scholarship Fund will be awarding its 16th annual Scholarship to a deserving youth for a Jewish summer experience in camp or Israel. Applications may be picked up at the Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth office, Washington Street Ext. and Torah Way, Wilmington, DE 19802, and must be returned by the deadline on March 1, 2005.

The Fund was established in 1989 to honor the Silverman's 55th wedding anniversary by their four daughters and many friends.

YOUTH PHILANTHROPY BOARD INVITES GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Delaware Community Foundation's (DCF) Youth Philanthropy Board will award a total of \$10,000 in grants in 2005 for youth programs to schools and qualified 501 (c)(3) organizations in New Castle County. Applications will be accepted from schools, clubs and civic/community organizations for (1) programs that support pregnant teens or teen parents and (2) programs that support physically disabled youth ages 12-18. Individual grant requests must not exceed \$2,500.

Each grant request must be submitted on a 2005 Youth Philanthropy Board Grant Application Form, which can be printed from the DCF Web site, www.delcf.org, or by contacting Beth Bouchelle, Director of Grants Administration, at 504-5239 or bbouchelle@delcf.org. Completed applications must be postmarked or delivered to the Foundation by January 7, 2005. Grant recipients will be announced in May 2005. Please contact Beth Bouchelle for more information.

EXPERIENCE THE NER TAMID TU BI'SHVAT RETREAT

Spend an inspirational weekend with Rebbetzin Esther Jungreis, Rabbi Tovia Singer, Rabbi Bergstein, Rabbi Millstein, Rabbi Unger, Rabbi Feldheim, Rabbi Eliezer Abrahamson and other spiritual leaders Friday, January 21st through Sunday, January 23rd at a Tu Bi'Shvat Discovery Retreat Weekend sponsored by Congregation Ner Tamid in Chester County, PA. The setting is the Double Tree Hotel and Convention Center in Wilmington where workshops will focus on such topics as bible codes, Kabbalah and spirituality, the roles of women in Jewish life, traditional and mystical aspects of Tu Bi'Shvat and much more. Transportation will be provided to the special day long Tu Bi'Shvat celebration at Longwood Gardens. This special family Festival of Trees will include a Jewish music concert, Israeli dancing, NCSY Teen programs and a wide-range of programs for children. Glatt Kosher food will be available throughout the day. Register before December 1st and receive an early-bird discount. Call 1-800-SHABBAT for more information or visit www.ntjc.homestead.com

WANTED: HOLIDAY HELPERS!

Volunteer for ORT's December Fundraiser on Friday, December 24th, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Borders.

Help wrap holiday gifts for friends and neighbors. To assist, call Susan at 302-478-5660 or Lynn at 302-475-6787.

DESIGN A STAMP FOR ISRAEL CONTEST LAUNCHES IN BABAGANEWZ

Students in grades 1 through 8 are invited to design a stamp for Israel as part of a contest sponsored by BABAGANEWZ, the Jewish values classroom magazine, and the Israel Postal Authority. Conceived around the idea of "Sticking Together," entries are being solicited to depict Israel's symbols, history, people, holidays, places, or nature. Complete rules, tips, and entry form are posted at www.babaganewz.com/stampcontest.

BABAGANEWZ is a nonprofit project of The AVI CHAI Foundation and Jewish Family & Life!, serving 38,000 students and teachers (grades 4 through 7) in more than 1,200 day and congregational schools across North America.

Designs created by up to four Grand Prize winners will be issued in Israel as real domestic and international postal stamps during the course of 2005-2006. Says Jacob Vidas, Acting Director of the Israel Philatelic Service, "Israel's stamps are usually designed by Israeli artists. The idea of children in the United States and Canada creating a stamp for Israel is a great way to express Israel's connection with the Diaspora."

The contest starts now in time for Hanukkah and deadlines January 28, 2005.

For more information about BABAGANEWZ, please call 1-800-434-3934 or visit www.babaganewz.com. For information about Israel's stamps, please call the Israel Philatelic Agency of North America at 1-800-607-2799 or visit <http://www.postil.com/newmail.nsf/eng/discov-erstamps?opendocument>



Tu B'shvat Retreat in Brandywine Valley

Featuring world-famous speakers: Rebbetzin Esther Jungreis, Rabbi Tovia Singer, and more!



Lodging at Double Tree Hotel & Convention Center

Fine Kosher Dining provided by Prime Events.

Experience a relaxing and inspiring family weekend:
Explore the beauty of the Historic Brandywine Valley.
Celebrate Tu B'shvat at the captivating Longwood Gardens.
Participate in workshops designed to nurture your Jewish soul.
Inspire your children to enjoy our rich heritage.

The Ner Tamid Tu B'shvat ~ Discovery Retreat
Friday, Jan 21st - Sunday, Jan 23rd, 2005

Early Bird Specials* (rates increase after 12-20-04)
CALL 1-800-SHABBAT

For a complete itinerary: www.ntjc.homestead.com
or call (610) 399-1265.

Celebrate the holidays at Longwood Gardens



Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, PA invites the Jewish community to celebrate Chanukah and Tu Bi'Shevat amidst its 1,050 acres of gardens, woodlands and meadows.

On Saturday, Dec-ber 11th, Longwood's Festival of Lights commemoration begins at 6:30 p.m. with a community menorah lighting ceremony.

The Chopped Liver Band of Congregation Shaarai Shomayim will perform half-hour klezmer concerts at 7 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Tu Bi'Shevat, a New Year for Trees, will be celebrated on January 23rd with an entire day of entertainment, fun and kosher food prepared under Orthodox supervision and provided by NCSY and the Ner Tamid Jewish Center.

For more information about either of these community events, please call 610-388-1000 or visit www.longwoodgardens.org.

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SPEECH-LANGUAGE THERAPY

The Speech Clinic, Inc. is now in its 18th year of serving the community. Services are provided to children and adults; after school and evening hours are offered for your convenience.

During the present school year, we will again be sending therapists right to participating private schools.

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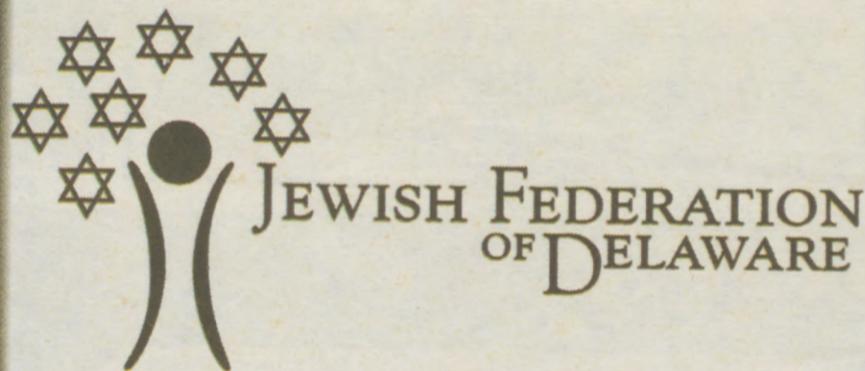
Federation is committed to securing the future of the Jewish community, through advocacy and education. Federation scholarships, subsidies and special programs help Jews of all ages and affiliations engage in Jewish life. You can help children, teens, adults and the elderly here in North America and around the world.

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