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16 Pages

# Thousands Mourn Passing Of The Lubavitcher Rebbe

By YOSEF I. ABRAMOWITZ

Special To The Jewish Voice

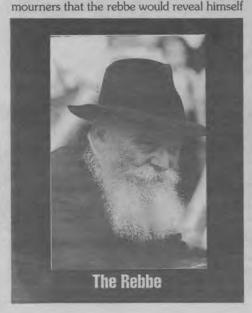
Sirens wailed, beepers went off, and phones rang in the predawn hours on Sunday morning last week, stirring to life the Lubavitch community of Crown Heights with the news of the death of their leader and hoped-for messiah, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, the Lubavitcher rebbe.

At 1:50 a.m. on Sunday, June 12, Rabbi Schneerson, 92, died at the Beth Israel Medical Center in Manhattan, three months after suffering his second stroke in two years. The news quickly spread on CNN around the world, and tens of thousands of his followers rushed to New York to attend the funeral, which took place that afternoon. Two El Al 747s were chartered from Israel, where thousands of Lubavitchers desperately tried to get to the funeral

As the sun rose on Sunday, bearded men in black coats walked past the worn yellow banners proclaiming Schneerson the messiah and gathered outside the Lubavitch world headquarters on Eastern Parkway to pray and tear their clothing in the traditional mourning ceremony. Dozens of New York City police set up a maze of blue barriers outside the headquarters, where the body of the rebbe was brought, ritually cleansed, and placed in a simple wooden casket that sat in his room until the funeral began.

Television trucks began popping up and helicopters circled above as the crowd swelled. Thousands of mourners were allowed into the headquarters to stream past the casket and pay their respects as tens of thousands gathered quietly outside trying to secure a good view. Delegations of distinguished rabbis, often from other ultra-Orthodox sects, were shepherded into the headquarters and often left in tears. Men and women stood separately outside, as is the Lubavitch custom, many of them reciting Psalms.

Inside the headquarters, in the main prayer hall, several thousand young men gathered to defiantly sing "Long live our master, teacher and rabbi, the King Messiah forever and ever." Several of them worked the crowd, assuring





Here the Rebbe leads a farbrengen at 770. A farbrengen was a gathering in which the Rebbe would offer insights into Torah. His followers would share in learning, melodies and drink. (Jewish Voice Photo By Josh Levine)

today to be the messiah. "His body will rise. He won't be buried," said one man joyously. "Our redemption is upon us."

Outside old women clutching the hands of young children wept openly. Most people, however, were calm and relatively unemotional until the casket was carried out of the head-quarters, made its way through part of the crowd and placed in a gray Chevy Suburban. A loud, collective cry engulfed the mourners at the sight of the casket, and many rushed forward against the police barriers to try to get closer. Even though it was suddenly sunny, rain, which had been threatening all day, poured down when the casket was brought out.

As the car with the casket began to move, mourners raced after it for several blocks, holding onto their black hats, many pushing baby strollers and gripping prayer sheets that were handed out. It took 27 minutes for all the thousands of mourners to pass by the headquarters. Someone in the crowd said it looked like the beginning of a marathon race, where it takes awhile for runners in the back to actually begin their trek. The motorcade, causing traffic jams for miles, snaked to the Old Montefiore Cemetery in Queens, which had earlier been sealed off and secured by hundreds of police officers, who ringed the parameter every 20 feet.

At the cemetery, the casket was placed beside a gray, concrete mausoleum, which houses the grave of the previous Lubavitcher rebbe and father-in-law of Rabbi Schneerson. A dozen boys stood on the perimeter of the roof of the Mausoleum, which is open in the center so that someone visiting the grave can

see the sky. It was here over two years ago that the rebbe collapsed during his first stroke. Several dozen mourners, mostly Lubavitch dignitaries, squeezed into the Mausoleum for the lowering of the casket into the ground and the recitation of the Mourner's Kaddish.

Police had trouble containing the crowd outside the cemetery gates, who wanted to pay their respects. Several people fainted and had to be rushed away in ambulances. Streams of Lubavitchers kept gathering outside the cemetery and police started letting in groups of 20. Most waited over four hours before they had the chance to briefly pass before the grave. Many left small notes on the grave, often last minute personal appeals for the rebbe to bring before the God he so fervently worshipped and was now meeting in Heaven.

Politicians paid their respects at the headquarters prior to the funeral procession. New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, Gov. Mario Cuomo, Israeli Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu and others donned black yarmulkes and expressed their condolences. President Clinton faxed a condolence letter.

Israeli prime minister Yitzhak Rabin said from Jerusalem that "the rebbe's death is a loss for all of the Jewish people. A great sage is gone, a distinguished leader." Israeli foreign minister Shimon Peres issued an official announcement of condolences to the Lubavitch movement and said, "the rebbe was a leader of stature, a principled man who worked for the deepening of the heritage of Israel throughout the Jewish people." [Editor's Note: Israel's Ashkenazic Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau represented Rabin at the funeral.]

Lubavitch funerals do not include eulogies, so no speeches were given. It is traditional that after 30 days of mourning there will be public lectures and teachings in honor of the rebbe. The rebbe, who has no clear successors, leaves more than 300,000 followers but has no immediate family. He is buried near his wife and his father-in-law.

Yosef I. Abramowitz is a journalist, consultant, and lecturer who has reported extensively on the Lubavitch movement.

SPECIAL REPORT ON DELAWARE'S SCHOOL PRAYER CONTROVERSY.

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## NATIONAL • INTERNATIONAL

# Israelis And PLO To Resume Talks Despite Their Differences Over Agenda

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Although some differences remain regarding the substance of their talks, Israeli and Palestinian officials have agreed to resume negotiations on Monday.

First word of the new date for negotiations came early in the week from Nabil Sha'ath, chief Palestinian negotiator at the Cairo talks for implementing Palestinian self-rule.

The Palestinian side says it expects the talks to focus on the next stages of the peace process, including expanding self-rule to the rest of the West Bank.

But Israeli sources say there are issues in the current implementation of self-rule in Gaza and Jericho that still need to be resolved.

Sources say Israeli officials regard the Gaza-Jericho phase is still in its testing stage and that Israel wants to see greater stability in the two autonomous zones before embarking

on further progress

Under the terms of the declaration of principles signed by Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization last September in Washington, negotiations for the next stage of the Israeli-Palestinian peace initiative will fall under three phases.

First, negotiators will focus on what has been termed "early empowerment," the expansion of Palestinian self-rule to the rest of the West Bank in a number of key areas of civil administration.

Second, there will be discussions regarding elections for a Palestinian governing council.

Finally, there will be negotiations on the "interim agreement" that would extend full Palestinian self-government throughout the West Bank.

According to the declaration of principles, the two sides also will have to begin negotiations on the permanent status of the territories within two years after the start of self-rule in Gaza and Jericho, both of which gained autonomy in mid-May.

According to Israeli officials, unresolved issues from the initial autonomy phase include arrangements for providing secure passage on roads between Gaza and Jericho, prisoner releases and financial relations between Israel and the Palestinians.

Heedful of the potential for violence from the Israeli right and from the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement, Israeli officials sent Shahak to make it clear to Sha'ath that a visit by a high ranking PLO official to Jerusalem was not in the cards unless Israel was given sufficient notice to make the necessary security arrangements.

Sha'ath responded that he would temporarily postpone his visit to Jerusalem for another 10 days.

#### Wilmington Hadassah Is Going To The Theatre

On Wednesday, July 20, at 8:00 p.m., Wilmington Hadassah is going to see the Russian Ballet Theater of Delaware in performance at the Playhouse Theater. The program features excerpts from Don Quixote, Swan Lake, Giselle, Raymonda, Medea, Light Rain, Adagio for Two, and more. Tickets are \$40 for orchestra and \$20 for front balcony. Reservations may be made by sending a check, payable to Wilmington Hadassah, to Lois Calawsky, 1013 Timberwyck Dr., Wilmington 19810 or Dina Lipschultz, 116 Weldin Park Drive, Wilmington 19803. For information, contact Dina at 762-4341. Tickets are limited and will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis.

# FARRAKHANISM = ANTI-SEMITISM SL. NO TO BIGOTRY FARRAKHANISM = ANTI-SEMITISM ANACCINC ANACCIST:

PROTEST... BALTIMORE, Md, - Rabbi Avi Weiss (R) leads protesters outside the World Trade Center in June 13, where the NAACP African-American Leadership Summit breakfast was being held. Along with Michael Lerner, Editor of *Tikkun*, and civil rights leaders, the group was protesting the presence of Louis Farrakhan at the meeting, claiming his presence legitimizes and mainstreams Farrakhan's Nation of Islam. The Nation of Islam is known for its anti-Semitic and anti-white rhetoric. CREDIT: RNS PHOTO/Reuters.



MOURNING... BROOKLYN, N.Y. -- Followers of ultra-Orthodox Jew-Ish Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson weep as the coffin containing their leader is carried from the World Lubavitch Headquarters June 12. Many Hasidic Jews consider Schneerson, 92, to be this generation's candidate to be chosen as the messiah, although the rabbi never officially revealed himself as such. The Rebbe, as Schneerson was known in the Lubavitch movement, died early June 12 after lying comatose in a Manhattan hospital since a March 10 stroke. The Lubavitch movement has about 200,000 members world-wide. CREDIT: RNS PHOTO/Reuters.

#### **Biblical Archaeology At Hebrew University**

JERUSALEM — Silver ingots, pottery, burial caskets, figurines, wine filtering utensils, cult objects and other unusual archaeological findings from Biblical era excavations carried out under the auspices of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem Institute of Archaeology are displayed in a new exhibit that was opened to the public today at the exhibition hall of the Institute on Mount Scopus. The items can be traced to the ancient

Canaanite, Egyptian, Phoenician and Israelite peoples who lived in the Land of Israel.

The exhibit, featuring some items never before seen by the public, such as ancient Canaanite cuneiform tablets, encompasses findings from excavations at Tel Dor, TelMiqne (Ekron), Beit She'an, Tel Batash, Tel Hazor, Gesher and other digs conducted by the Institute.

# Donations sought by Jewish Historical Society

The Jewish Historical Society of Delaware is seeking donations of materials relating to Delaware's many Jewish-owned businesses; past and present. The Society is also interested in receiving materials relating to Delaware's synagogues - especially Beth Sholom of Dover and Machzikey Hadas Congregation. If you have items of interest that you wish to donate, please contact: Julian H. Preisler, JHSD Archivist at 655-0365 (evenings.)

#### JHSD Video

The Jewish Historical Society of Delaware is pleased to offer for sale copies of the video: DELAWARE JEWS IN AMERICAN WARS. This informative and interesting video will make a welcome addition to your home library. The cost is \$12.50 prepaid. Please send your name and address along with payment to: JEW-ISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF DELAWARE, 505 Market Street Mall, Wilmington, DE 19801. For further information call Julian Preisler, 655-0365.

## BRIEFS

#### King Hussein Seeks Additional Aid As Jordan Pursues Talks With Israel

WASHINGTON (JTA) - Two weeks after Jordan and Israel signed a broad agreement to pursue bilateral negotiations, Jordan's King Hussein is in town seeking additional aid from the Clinton administration.

Administration officials here expect President Clinton to announce an increase in military and humanitarian aid to Jordan after a White House meeting between the two leaders on Wednesday.

Jordan currently receives \$30 million a year from the United States in

combined military and economic assistance.

Adam Garfinkle, director of the Middle East Council of the Foreign Policy Research Institute in Philadelphia said that Jordan is looking for as much political support from the United States as possible as the two sides resume their bilateral talks. [Editor's Note: Garfinkle was a guest speaker in Delaware in recent months at an event sponsored by the JCRC of the JFD).

According to the Israeli-Jordanian agreement signed June 7, diplomats from both countries will, for the first time, cross into each others' country to negotiate a peace treaty.

During the meetings, scheduled for next month, the parties will delineate borders, outline the future of economic relations, discuss plans for a national park spanning the Israeli-Jordanian border, and for a road linking Jordan, Egypt and Israel near Aqaba and Eilat.

Hussein said that he hopes to meet openly with Israeli leaders in the near

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said in Jerusalem that he was "ready to meet with King Hussein whenever and wherever he wants in an attempt to further peace between Jordan and Israel.

#### Jewish Athletes At Gay Games Connect Their Judaism With Sports

NEW YORK (JTA) - Along with about 100 other Jewish athletes from the games, runner David Steinberg spent last Shabbat at Congregation Beth Simchat Torah, New York's gay and lesbian synagogue. The synagogue sponsored a "Gay Games Shabbat" aimed at giving Jewish athletes a place to feel at home

The week-long Gay Games being held here - part of the nationwide Gay Pride Month - are the largest amateur athletic event in spirits history, attracting an estimated 11,000 athletes from more than 40 countries, including some professional and Olympic athletes, competing in 31 sports. Included in the competition are two Israeli athletes

Jewish participants in the games also include American softball player Roz Quarto and American tennis player Ellen Markowitz.

#### Clinton's Welfare Reform Proposal Sparks Worry Among Jewish Activists

WASHINGTON (JTA) — Jewish organizations are preparing a vigorous campaign against President Clinton's proposal to help fund welfare reform by reducing benefits to immigrants.

At the same time, Russian emigre communities around the country are reportedly in a panic, with new immigrants scrambling to figure out what the changes will mean for them.

This is a horrific proposal that undermines immigration policy as a way to fund welfare reform," said Diana Aviv, director of the Council of Jewish Federation's Washington Action Office.

"This would create an undue burden and hardship that's impossible to

Jewish activists say that it is misleading to think that Jews arriving from the former Soviet Union, most of whom arrive on refugee status, will not be affected by Clinton's proposals.

Thus Jewish organizations are gearing up for grass-roots lobbying efforts to oppose the plan.



This photo is from the exhibit "A Day In The Warsaw Ghetto: A Birthday Trip in Hell," now at Penn's University Museum through July 9. Call (215) 898-4000.

## **News Commentary**

## News Analysis: What Delaware **Jews Should Know About The State** Legislature's New School Prayer Bill

By MATTHEW DENN Member of The Jewish Voice Editorial

Committee

"I will always uphold and defend the Constitutions of my Country and my State, so help me God."

-Closing words of the constitutional oath of office taken by Delaware state legislators

"I do think [the school prayer bill] is unconstitutional, but I could give a damn."

-State Rep. Bruce Reynolds, The News Journal, June 15, 1994.

On June 14th, 1994 the Delaware House of Representatives passed H.B. 499, a bill which would inject religious ceremonies into almost every facet of a public school student's school day, by a 38-0 vote. The bill was passed in spite of a statement from the Governor's office, and an open acknowledgment by some legislators, that the bill was unconstitutional. At press time, the bill was pending in the State Senate but was thought likely to pass.

What is the law on school prayer in Delaware without this new legislation?

Delaware, like most states, has no written laws regarding religious ceremonies in public schools. Aside from a law allowing for two minutes of silence at the beginning of each school day Delaware's statute books are silent on this issue. As a result, the law in Delaware is governed only by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution and Article I, Section 1 of the Delaware

How would the new legislation change the law on school prayer in Delaware?

The legislation pending in the Delaware State Senate would give Delaware public schools sweeping authority to permit religious activity at school events. Three different types of religious activities would be allowed: (1) invocations, (2) benedictions, and (3) "nonsectarian, nonproselytizing student-initiated voluntary prayer." These religious activities would be permitted at any student assembly, whether or not students were forced to attend.

It would allow students to lead prayer ceremonies during mandatory school assemblies. Because the bill does not state which students are permitted to select the prayer, students could be subjected to Catholic prayer services one day, Muslim services the next day, and Bhuddist services on the third day. The lack of any specific rules as to how prayers will be chosen and performed virtually guarantees strife within the schools, as parents struggle to ensure that their children are praying to the same God at school as they do at home.

The sponsors of this legislation claim that the Delaware bill is "pretty much modeled after" legislation from Tennessee and Mississippi, but there are critical differences between those states' laws and Delaware's proposed

Is the bill really unconstitu-

Yes. The bill violates the First Amendment to the United States Constitution as that amendment is interpreted in Delaware's federal courts and the United States Supreme Court, and the bill also violates Article I, Section 1 of Delaware's state constitution. Both of those amendments are designed to keep the state from becoming involved in the religious lives of its citi-

The First Amendment to the United States Constitution states that Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." The term "Congress" also encompasses state governments. The United States Supreme Court has held that any school prayer law passed by a government whose actual purpose is to endorse religion is unconstitutional, even if that law does nothing more than create a moment of silence for "voluntary prayer" at the start of the school day or required that the Ten Commandments be posted in classrooms. States are not allowed to pass school legislation whose purpose is to endorse religion, and that is what Delaware did.

Most of the proposed bill also violates the First Amendment for a separate reason: it subjects a captive audience to religious ceremonies in which school officials are involved. What can I do?

Take two minutes to call the Governor and your State Senator. The governor's phone number is 577-3210.

### The Talmud and Rambam on Wife Abuse

Commentary By RABBI LEONARD B. GEWIRTZ

Special To The Jewish Voice With the O.J. Simpson story on T.V. and front pages of our newspapers, it is the incident that everybody is discussing. Related to the deaths of Mrs. Simpson and friend is the serious problem of wife abuse and wife beatings over the years. Mrs. Simpson called the L.A.P.D. eight times about the beatings she received from her husband. The latest F.B.I. statistics available on wife and women's abuse (1992), told this sad story: 1,432 of the 4,936 women murdered were killed by their husbands or boy friends (N.Y. Times, 6/ 19/94). "The criminal-justice system does not take wife abuse seriously," said Gil Garcetti, L.A. County District Attorney. Others said, the criminal justice was often lenient in cases of domestic violence, even where the

man was not a celebrity (ibid). It is most important for us to know what Judaism says in its classic sources, in the Talmud and Halachah in Rambam Maimonides about wife abuse and wife beating.

The Rambam in his authoritative Halachic code, "Mighty Arm," Book of Torts, section on "Wounding and Damaging, Chapter IV, par. 16, says: "If a husband wounds his wife, he must pay her immediately for the

whole of the injury, and the whole of humiliation and pain. The entire compensation belongs to her, and her husband has no right to the fruits...The Geonim, also, have ruled in this manner. The husband must also pay for medical treatment in the same manner he pays for treatment of any of her ailments.

In the next paragraph, the code says: "If one injures his wife during marital intercourse, he is liable for the injury done to her (chapter IV. par. 17; based upon the Talmud in Bava Kamma 32b). The husband must pay for damages, pain, medical treatment, enforced idleness, and humiliation (see chapter I, par. 1). A man who behaves in this illegal and unethical manner is called a rusha, a wicked man.

The Rambam is scrupulous about violence to any human being. He says: "It is forbidden even to lift a hand against another, and if one does lift a hand against another, he is deemed wicked (rashan) even if he does not actually strike him." (ibid), chapter I, par. 2). This Sanhedrin law is based upon the Talmud in Sanhedrin, 58b. "He who lifts his hand against his neighbor, even if he did not smite him is called a wicked man (rashah)." The rabbis in the Talmud believe that a husband who lifts his hand against his wife, even if

he did not smite her, is called a wicked man.

Thus far in our essay, we covered the halachic-legal sources which treat the husband-wife relationship that is not harmonious. Now, let us examine some Talmudic sources on a happy and loving relationship.

Every Jew that has no wife lives without joy, without blessing, without goodness and without peace.' (Yevamot 62b)

"He who loves his wife as himself and honors her more than himself, about him the Torah says, (Job 5:24) 'And thou shalt know that thy tent is in peace" (ibid).

"A person should always be respectful of his wife's honor because blessing is found in his home only because of his wife." (Bava Metziah

"Your wife is part of yourself." (Berachot 34b)

The Rabbis believed that a wife brings blessing and happiness and therefore he should report her and love her and never raise his hand against her. Historically, Jewish family life was a "tent of peace."

(Rabbi Leonard B. Gewirtz is Rabbi Emeritus of Congregation Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth)

## May His Soul Be Bound In The Bond Of Life - תנצב"ה

By DOV SEIDEL

Member of The Jewish Voice Editorial Committee The sirens in Crown Heights sounded at

about 3:00 a.m. Sunday, June 12, 1994 (ב תמוז 1) announcing the death of Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, the leader of the Lubavitch movement. Schneerson, who was known to his followers as the rebbe, was the seventh in line of leaders of the movement, which was founded in the 18th century by Rabbi Schneur Zalman of Liadi.

He was born in 1902, on the 11th day of Nisan, in the Ukrainian city of Nikolaev. His father was a renowned kabbalist and Talmudic scholar. His mother was herself from a prestigious rabbinic family. As a child he showed prodigious mental acuity and, by the time he reached his bar mitzvah, was already considered an עלוי, a Torah prodigy.

In 1929, he married Chaya Moussia Schneersohn, a daughter of the Lubavitcher rebbe at the time, Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak Schneersohn, who was Menachem Schneerson's distant cousin.

In 1950, upon the death of Rabbi Yosef Yitzchak Schneersohn, he became the seventh Lubavitcher rebbe

His wife died in 1988

His work was described in the New York Times of June 13: "Rabbi Schneerson...took an insular Hasidic group that almost came to an end with the Holocaust and turned it into one of the most influential and controversial forces in world Jewry...44 years...he battled assimilation, a trend of modern Jewish life that his followers consider "a spiritual holocaust."

He emphasized education, and often said 'We dare not rest until every Jewish child receives an education." Approximately a halfmillion Jewish children, many of them not Lubavitch, study in Lubavitch schools world-

The rebbe was responsible for making Chabad-Lubavitch an organization serving all Jews, regardless of their background or level

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin described the rebbe as a great scholar who had made a vast contribution to the entire Jewish people: "The rebbe's loss is a loss for all of the Jewish

people. A great sage is gone, a distinguished

We strive to honor his memory by reprinting "Eight Steps to Increase Jewish Identity and Stimulate Jewish Awareness," from the Chabad House of Cleveland:

Study Torah every day and every night . Every home should have basic Jewish holy books (at least a Chumash, Siddur, Tehillim,

3. Men and boys, 13 years and over, put on tefillin every weekday.

4. All women, including young girls from about the age of 3 and up, should light candles every shabbos and Yom Tov eve, at the proper time and recite the appropriate blessing(s).

5. Affix a mezuzah on every right doorpost in every Jewish home.

6. Observe kashruth at home and away. 7. Give tzedokah every weekday.

8. For a happy, healthy, and united family, keep the tradition of family purity.



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## THURSDAY NOON DEADLINE

DEADLINE	FOCUS	ISSUE
July 7	Summer Reading & Entertainment	July 15
August 4	Back To School & Newcomer's Guide	August 12
August 25	Rosh Hashanah/Yom Kippur	Sept. 2

All submissions due 12 noon downstairs at JFD front desk eight days before publication.

#### LETTERS

#### School Prayer Should Be Defeated

The Jewish Community Relations Committee opposes the school prayer bill currently before the Delaware Senate. We hope the members of our community share this view and will communicate with their state senators immediately. (Contact the JCRC at 478-6200 for phone numbers.) If the bill passes the Senate, you can contact the Governor directly at 577-3210. In our correspondence with Governor Carper, we urged him to veto the bill and made the following points:

-As a religious community, we believe prayer is a very important, private matter and does not belong in the public schools.

-We do not oppose voluntary acts of prayer in public schools. We do oppose impermis-sible prayer which is sanctioned by school au-

thorities and thereby has the effect of coercing students to participate.

-Public schools have a role in shaping the moral character of our youth. However, they should do so based on shared American values, such as democracy, liberty and pluralism, rather than using religion to drive a wedge between members of the community. Mandated school prayer is no panacea for the social ills which afflict our community.

-Our students have a Constitutional right to attend public schools without being forced to participate in the religious practices of others.

Let your representatives know what you think!

Rabbi Marla J. Feldman

#### Nixon Was Good, Lerner Is Bad

One does not have to be a fervent admirer of the Nixon presidency to be appalled at the vicious attack on Nixon published in the May 13 Voice, "Nixon's Crimes, America's Amne-

If Nixon really were a "Jew-hater" as Michael Lerner, editor of the left-wing "Tikkun" magazine, claims, how is it that such a principled person as William Safire would have written speeches for him, or that Victor Lasky would have defended him in "It Didn't Start With Watergate" demonstrating that Nixon was judged by a double-standard, or that Rabbi Baruch Korth would have defended him to the end?

Lerner conveniently ignores these names while only referring to "the court Jew Henry Kissinger," an insult that is of a piece with Lerner's 60's style rant.

Lerner can't name a single thing that Nixon ever did to harm Jews per se. While fending off the Evil Empire and ending a war, Nixon saw himself besieged at home by political enemies who were disproportionately Jewish. Among them were Bernstein of the Washington Post and Watergate prosecutor Richard Ben Veniste.

An Israeli tells me that Nixon is regarded there as that country's best friend.

Because most people didn't dance on Nixon's grave, as Lerner would have liked, he writes that "it is appropriate to mourn the slow death of the remnants of public morality in American society." I suggest that if public morality is truly his concern that Lerner should focus on that of his big fans, the Clintons.

Henry Rosin

### Nixon Was Bad, Lerner Is Good

To the Editor:

How informative for its readers that THE JEWISH VOICE includes periodic pieces from the likes of Michael Lerner. It was particularly refreshing to read his perspectives on the crimes and anti-Semitic ravings of the late Ri-

While reluctantly but effectively aiding "a strategic ally" Israel in the 1973 War, the revelations in the recently published "Haldeman's Diaries" show the late President was quick to withhold arms out of anger toward American Jews. When Presidents Carter and Reagan embargoed aircraft deliveries to Israel, it was because of disagreement with Israel's policies. American Jews then protested.

When American Jews protested against the visiting French President Pompidou in 1970

because he had cut off arm sales to Israel in 1967, President Nixon railed against any Jewish Middle East advisors and withheld arms to Israel. Demonstrating and protesting in the Nixon years could be held against Israel, no matter that our own constitution gives Jews and all Americans that right.

Since Mr. Lerner, editor of Tikkun, is often mentioned as a trusted friend of President (and Mrs.) Clinton, it is revealing to read his opinions and perhaps not coincidentally, it is nice to hear no rabid anti-Israel or anti-Jewish sentiments from our current President.

May our 37th President's anti-Jewish quotes and attitudes be buried along with him in

Joel F. Glazier



## Delaware's Representative Of Chabad Lubavitch Writes **About The Rebbe**

By RABBI CHUNI VOGEL

Chabad Lubavitch of Delaware It is obviously impossible to aptly describe the Rebbe's personality or achievements.

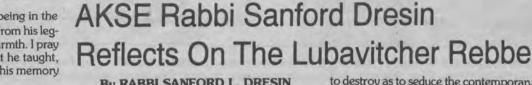
The world is a different place today because literally millions of Jews from every level and background, in every corner of the earth have been touched and affected by the Rebbe's inspiration, vision, warmth, and direction. The Rebbe's leadership spans the post Holocaust generation, one which the world was sure would be devoid of religious meaning and direction. He transformed a small community of survivors into the massive movement that Chabad-Lubavitch is and always will be; over fifteen hundred communal institutions and growing. He taught by personal example that no Jew is small or insignificant and this concern for the physical and spiritual well being of Jews and Judaism knew no bounds. The ability to understand each person and situation and relate to them individually, drew thousands for personal audiences. From the scholar to the simple, the statesman to the school child, he shared his intellect and experience. There are over fifty volumes of his correspondences and close to two hundred volumes of public addresses and scholarly writings, a testimony to the conceptual thinker, innovator and genius that he was.

But his genius was not limited to the written word and was apparent in every facet of life. Before it became popular, the Rebbe was there for the Jews in the former U.S.S.R. with real assistance for body and soul. For the Israeli war orphan and widow, the child in Chernobyl and the countless forlorn, he will always be loved and thanked. Somehow, he maintained focus on the individual trees and the forest si- to G-d that I be able to teach what he taught, multaneously. The Rebbe in his more than live and inspire, and be a credit to his memory forty years of leadership never took a day off. always.

He could not rest or relax because there were needs unfulfilled. (My father's first audience with the Rebbe was at 6:00 a.m. after the Rebbe had spent a whole night of listening and counseling). He was a human generator that constantly initiated and pushed for more, reaching ever higher and never satisfied with the past. In the battle against assimilation, to him, one Jew lost was one Jew too many. He broke down the barriers between modern Jews and Jewish tradition, constantly encouraging that everyone find a commitment to Judaism on any level. The revolutionary Mitzvah campaigns have made Judaism a possibility and a reality for countless people who didn't know how to begin.

The Jewish world today defies the prognosis of historians years ago because of the Rebbe's determination and belief in the individual's power to shape our destiny. He radiated these qualities and beliefs and was a source of hope and courage in every situation. The flame that he ignited in those difficult times after the holocaust continues to constantly grow and burn bright in the far flung ends of the world. The rejuvenation of the faith of Israel and passion for the people was his life. It was a totally selfless one of commitment and concern which we have to continue. The Rebbe's inspiration was, and will continue to be, the catalyst for goodness and G-dliness. The man and his message lives on in the hearts, souls, and actions of Am Yisrael.

I thank G-d for the privilege of being in the Rebbe's generation, of benefiting from his legendary leadership, wisdom, and warmth. I pray



By RABBI SANFORD L. DRESIN

I am somewhat reluctant to comment on the life and accomplishments of the Lubavitcher Rebbe in keeping with the reluctance on the part of his movement to eulogize him for fear of either understating or overstating his accomplishments. However, it would be indeed difficult to overstate the enor mous impact that his dynamic leadership had upon Chabad and world Jewry. The Rebbe himself was the personification of the concept of Torah, Umadah, — Torah blended with secular knowledge which is so critical to Jewish survival in a society that no longer seeks so much

He was therefore a great admirer of Maimonides. The Rebbe's wisdom differentiated him from such historic and maligned figures as Moses Mendelsohn in that he recognized in all humility that few people have his genius and can therefore function unthreatened in a secular world without an extra dose of Torah. It would indeed be unfortunate were all the prattlings about his being the Messiah to reduce and devalue his accomplishments and rightful place in history as a giant among the Jewish people.

to destroy as to seduce the contemporary Jew.

(Rabbi Dressin is the spiritual leader of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth).



Delaware's David Margules receives a dollar for Tzedukah from the Rebbe, as Delaware's Lubavitcher Rabbi Chuni Vogel (center) looks on. (Approximately 1991).

#### Delaware's Margules Remembers The Rebbe

By DAVID MARGULES

While I fear trivializing the life of a man as I have is of personal loss. Although I met the Mobile was a tangible reminder keeping Judaism before my eyes. As an adult and a father example. seeking to define myself spiritually, the Rebbe's (David Margules is an attorney who lives in emissary here, Rabbi Vogel, has been a Delawarel.

teacher, a friend and an example. Rabbi Judah, who committed the Talmud to writing, said his merit was because in his great as the Rebbe, the overwhelming feeling lifetime, he glimpsed the back of Rabbi Meir. I understand that sentiment because whatever Rebbe only once, he has had a power ful im- merit I have as a Jew is in large part due bepact on my life. In college, the Rebbe's Mitzvah cause I glimpsed the Rebbe's back. It pains me that my children will not have his living

## All In The Family

By DAN WEINTRAUB

Editor of The Jewish Voice

"La Bubba Sha-Ruv" was how it sounded to me as a child hearing my mother's Brooklyn accent. The running family joke was that followers of my maternal Grandmother's cousin, the Lubavitcher Rebbe, had contacted my parents at the time of my birth to take me away to be groomed as his replacement. The Rebbe was childless they told me and the successors were usually related. "But of course you would have had to study all day and you could never watch Batman" my parents explained. It was the kind of harmless story that loving parents might tell to make their child feel special.

I first understood my distant relative Rebbe Menachem Mandel Schneerson to be something like a Pope of the Jews but not all Jews. I could not contemplate a childhood dressed in dark clothing, wearing payes, the curly side locks of hair worn by Hasidic Jews, and never going to see a Phillies game. Believing the story made me feel honored to have but happier still with the choice I thought my parents had made.

Of course I later learned that I had never been sought by the Rebbe's followers.

I also learned that my late grandfather Michael Levine, Esq. donated to the Rebbe's synagogue the manuscript of either "Kav Noki" or "Shar Hacolel." Both works were written by Rabbi Avraham David Lavut in the 1800s. Lavut was the great-grandfather of both the Rebbe and my late Grandmother Dorothy Levine (Nee Lavut). The first, I am told, concerns the laws of divorce and the second is on the Siddur. I have a copy of a thank you note

that Schneerson sent my Grandfather.

He wrote that the enclosure "will certainly late Father-in-law of blessed memory." Encouraging traditional observance he added, "I trust that the tradition of your Father-in-law is continued in your home and, like all good things, is kept on the ascendancy." Before closing the letter he wrote, "You surely also recall the dictum 'our Jewish people is a nation only by' virtue of the Torah.

As a young man I attended Hebrew school, became a Bar Mitzvah and was confirmed all at a Reform congregation in Pennsylvania. Over the years I have been a participant in discussions concerning the Lubavitch position on questions of Israeli politics, the role of women, the legitimacy of non-Orthodox movements or questions of who is a Jew. I often found myself holding a different point of view that my esteemed distant relation and his followers. Nonetheless I always felt a certain. emotional pride in the countless good works performed by adherents of Lubavitch.

A few years ago in Israel I remember seeing photo of Rebbe Schneerson hanging in Tiberias restaurant. It seemed to be a symbol of his widespread positive influence.

Perhaps it is in God's plan that different groups of Jews should go about trying to repair the world each in different ways. Perhaps although Jews are divided into a variety of traditions, Ashkenazi or Sephardic, Orthodox or Reform, conservative or Reconstructionist, Hasidic or Humanistic, Religious or Ethnic, we are all in some way a family.

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#### More Letters

#### Come To Israel

It is not my usual practice to make a direct appeal to you, but I am doing so now.

As you are aware, the Government of the State of Israel is committed to the peace process, one that will allow our children and grandchildren a secure life in the land of our for efathers, even though we fully appreciate the fact that the road to peace is not an easy one.

The violence expressed in the vile Hebror massacre, the callous Hedera and Afula attacks and all the deeds of extremists, have been a great source of grief and sorrow. In their aftermath many canceled their tours and the violence made people hesitant to come to Israel.

We were, however, especially hurt by the fact that many of our own brethren in the Diaspora choose to stay away. As your support for Israel has always been unwavering, we expected to see you all here, more than ever, when it is so important to stand together in strength and solidarity.

We gather that many Americans feel concerned for their safety while visiting Israel, and if perhaps there are vacation spots in the world that are virtually problem-free, nowadays such destinations are very few in number. Every nation in the world has some problem of its own. Unfortunately, even the United States is not always an easy and safe place in which to

We also believe that by leading your communities and organizations for a visit to Israel now, you will be demonstrating your faith that this particular time too shall pass and a new era of peace will begin. Thus you will show how much you care for this land which belongs to you just as it belongs to all of us.

I urge you to encourage the people of your organization, synagogue or temple, to come to Israel. I assure you that a trip to Israel now is as enjoyable as always and not less secure. We really feel that no one belongs here more than you.

> Yours sincerely, Uzi Baram Israeli Minister Of Tourism



# PANIM EL PANIM Face to Face with JFD People

## **Ernest Michel Captivates** 59th Annual JFD Meeting

By DAN WEINTRAUB

Editor of The Jewish Voice On Monday, June 6, 1994 the Jewish Federation of Delaware (JFD) met for its 59th Annual Meeting at Congregation Beth Emeth synagogue. Extra chairs were set up for the overflow crowd in the main auditorium. Members of the community had come out to hear an inspiring speaker and to reflect on the United Jewish Appeal Federation positive momentum of the past year. Ms. Toni Young, the President of JFD, and Ms. Judy Wortman, Executive Vice-President of JFD, spoke of the successes and challenges of the past year under the theme of "Live Jewish." Ernest Michel, author, humanitarian, Holocaust survivor, and Executive Vice-President Emeritus of

of New York, gave a wide ranging talk concerning everything from D-Day to Israel-Diaspora relations.

At a small reception prior to the meeting, Ernest Michel met with Holocaust survivors who are now Delaware residents. Several of these survivors shared their memories with Michel. The survivors who broke bread with Michel were Leo Brenner, Terri Dannemann, Dorothy Finger, Arnold Kerr, and George Preston.

At the meeting the following new members of the Board of The Jewish Federation of Delaware (JFD) were installed: Eileen Connor, Rabbi Sanford Dresin, John Elzufon, Gloria Fine, Sue Herst, Michael Joseph, Harriet Kalin, Barbara S. Keil, David Krigstein, Amy Leviton and Daniel Tanzer. Also honored were retiring members of the Board of The Jewish Federation of Delaware, as follows: Steven Bernhardt, Debra Kattler, Nan Lipstein and Dove

Rabbi Peter Grumbacher of Congregation Beth Emeth presented a d'var Torah which stressed the importance of unity among the Delaware Jewish community's Federation, synagogues, agencies and individuals. Toni Young recognized the efforts of the Executive Committee: Cas Anolick, David Margules and Barbara Schoenberg, Leslie Newman, Al Green, Bob Coonin, Steven Dombchik, Ellen Koniver, and Lanie Gordon. Ms. Young praised the campaign team noting "we are in the midst of the most successful campaign the community has ever had." She singled out Campaign Chair Barbara Schoenberg, along with team captains Cas Anolick, Deanne Katler, Kevin Grose, Fred DeVries and Connie Sugarman.

Young also cited our community's success in meeting Operation Continuing Exodus Campaign goals under the leadership of Dr. Garth and Ellen Koniver and Howard and Arlene Simon. The first Operation Exodus campaign was chaired by and Ruth and Sheldon Weinstein, Bill and Judy Topkis, Karen and Dick Venetzky, and Stuart Young.

Ms. Young spoke thoughtfully about Dov Seidel, who has served with distinction as chair of The Jewish Voice Editorial Committee. He is stepping down from the Chair but continuing as a leading member of that committee.

Toni Young acknowledged the JFD staff, led by "the person who has really turned things around this year,' Executive Vice-President Judy Wortman.

Barbara Speigel Friedman pre-sented the Gil Speigel Award, which was named for her late father. The Gil Speigel Award for Young Leadership was given to Sharon Mittleman who has been active with the Young Leadership Committee of

Ms. Wortman remarked how the historic 50th anniversary of D-Day was the beginning of the end for Hitler "and foreshadowed the miraculous rebirth of Eretz Yitzrael." She described how the theme "Live Jewish, Remember Our Past, Insure Our Future" reflected the past year. She expressed the importance of partnerships between "volunteers, staff, Rabbis, lay leaders, synagogues, and Federation." She spoke of her

(Continued on page 15)



New Federation Board Members (Standing L to R) Michael Joseph, Eileen Connor, John Elzufon, Rabbi Sanford Dresin, Gloria Fine, Daniel Tanzer, David Krigstein. Seated: Sue Horst, Barbara S. Keil, Amy Leviton, Harriet Kalin.



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(Standing L to R) Arnold Kerr, George Preston, Ernest Michel, Leo Brenner (Seated) Terri Danneman, Dorothy Finger.



Retiring Board Members (L to R) Debra Kattler, Dov Seidel, Nan Lipstein, Steven Bernhardt.





#### PANIM EL PANIM

Jessie Cohen Neighborhood is sup-

#### Delaware Plays Role In Black-**Jewish Friendship Initiative**

By DAN WEINTRAUB

Editor of The Jewish Voice In our last issue we highlighted an academic and cultural exchange program between Israeli educational institutions and traditionally Black colleges. The United Negro College Fund (UNCF, along with the World Jewish Congress (WJC), the World

Zionist Organization and The State

of Israel's Office of Academic Affairs

One aspect of this wide ranging program is an enhanced effort by the Institute of African American/Israel Exchange at Wilberforce University in Ohio. The traditionally Black Wilburforce University has students involved at the project renewal Jessie Cohen Neighborhood in Israel. The local connection to this story of friendship between the Africanin the USA have cooperated to in- American community is that the

ported by the Federations of Delaware, Columbus and Dayton.

#### **Expert On Elderly** Speaks At JFS Meeting

**By DAN WEINTRAUB** 

Editor of The Jewish Voice Rabbi Richard R. Address, Director of the Union of American He-

Older Adults was an informative experience. main speaker for the Jewish Family Service (JFS) 1994 Annual Meeting which was held on Tuesday, June 7 at the Brandywine Country Club. Rabbi Address gave an energetic presentation concerning the potential for cooperation between JFS and synagogues in meeting the chal-Jews. Address regards older members of our community as tremen- Jewish Federation of Delaware (JFD).

brew Congregations, Committee on dous resources of knowledge and

Joan Wachstein completed her distinguished service as the agency President. David Krigstein was installed as agency President. The agency honored volunteers for their service to the agency.

The Jewish Family Service provides a variety of social services to lenges and opportunities posed by a our community. The JFS is a benefigraying population of Delaware ciary of the ongoing 1994 "Live Jewish" Campaign administered by the

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The students at Albert Einstein Academy completed the pilot IMAGINITIS unit and have presented the team book to the library.

The finished Imaginitis In Action book was celebrated Thursday, June 16, 1994 at 7:00 p.m. at the Board Room at the Jewish Community



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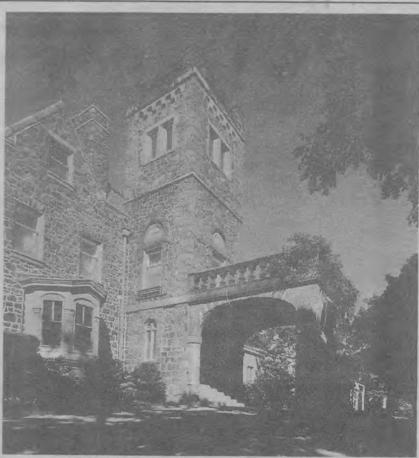
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# SUNNIBIR Weddings

## k At Two Jewish Jugglers

By JORDAN SOPINSKY

Jewish Voice Intern

Some people juggle jobs. Others juggle lovers. Michael Rosman juggles torches while standing on a wood beam which is precariously balanced on top of a bowling ball.

When I recently pinned him down for an interview, he explained how helpful the education he received at the University of Delaware has been in running his career as a juggler. Michael has a degree in Business Administration and Finance.

Getting an interview with this guy was no easy task, let me tell you. After the third time he promised to return my call but didn't, I asked him why. Did he not want to talk to me? "Well," he said, "I can't just drop everything.

He said the university also fostered his interest in juggling through a club made up of similarly interested peers. He has traveled in Europe and gone to Ringling Brothers' Clown College since his days at Delaware. Residing in Baltimore, he's now planning a trip to Japan.

It wasn't any easier to get Ben Tolpin, a recent graduate of Mount Pleasant High School, to talk to me. School, juggling jobs, and juggling competitions take all his time. It pays off though. He won the silver medal at the International Jugglers Competition in 1992. He's headed to Marymount Manhatten College in the fall where he'll be studying act-

Ben first caught the juggling fever when he was twelve. He had just learned how to devil-stick, which entails flipping a stick in the air and catching it with two other sticks, both held in your hands. He took lessons from a neighbor and a clown to discipline his talents.

If you want to see Michael Roseman's "Amazing Feats of Com-edy," he'll be performing at Harbor Place in Baltimore during the summer. And if you're headed to Clemington Amusement Park in New Jersey, don't forget to look for Ben Tolpin where, throughout the summer, he'll be performing.



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## laches

#### Hoppman Birth

Barbara and Myron Golin are happy to announce the birth of a grandson, Joseph Daniel Hoppman, brother of Samantha Hoppman, June 12th. The parents are Stacey and Michael Hoppman of Hockessin.

#### Meyer Awarded Fellowship

Matthew Stephen Meyer, son of Robert and Ellen Meyer, graduated with honors from Brown University and was awarded a Samuel Huntington Fellowship, which he will use to establish a program for street children in Nairobi, Kenya. He will be in Kenya for one year, beginning mid-September, 1994.

There's no charge to print your Naches announcement as space allows in The Jewish Voice. Send your typewritten Naches announcements and photographs

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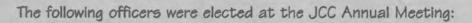
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# A Celebration of Israel...









President - Robert B. Coonin

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Treasurer - Michael Weiss

Assistant Treasurer - Deane Kattler

Secretary - Amy Leviton

Assistant Secretary - Connie Sugarman









The following were elected to the Board of Directors:

Annette Aerenson
Buddy Berger
Steven Bernhardt
David Bernstein
Rona Caplan
Richard A. Levine
David Margules
Michelle Margules
Karen Morris
Harriette Nadler

Sharon Mittelman served as the Chairperson for the 60th Annual Meeting.

60th Annual Meeting Award Receipients:

The Harry Cohen Leadership Award was presented to Richard A. Levine

The Barbara Weiner Young Leaderhip Award was presented to Ellen Hexter and Amy Leviton

The President's Award was presented to Richard Stat

JCC 60th Annual Meeting



#### A Torah With A History Presented By Beth Shalom To Hillel

By PRISCILLA W. SIEGEL

Special To The Jewish Voice

After forty-odd years Hillel at the University of Delaware is no longer in exodus. In recognition of Hillel's landed status, Beth Shalom, at its June 8 meeting, presented the Jewish student organization with a To-

Like most Torahs, this Torah has a history which imbues it with an added special quality. In the possession of the Shari Tzadek Synagogue of Penns Grove, New Jersey since 1923, the Torah was given to Beth Shalom in Wilmington in 1991, when the New Jersey synagogue closed.

Wilmington resident, Irving Wagenschnur, who grew up in Penns Grove, attended the Torah presentation ceremony. He recalled that Shari Tzadek started with a membership of about 25-30 families in a Catholic church purchased by the small congregation. "It was a Jewish community comprised mainly of merchants, and after the building of the Delaware Memorial Bridge, the businesses declined."

Since there was no rabbi, Mr. Wagenschnur studied for his Bar Mitzvah with a businessman. He had fond remembrances about the Torah presented to Hillel. "It was my Bar Mitzvah Torah - I carried and tied it years," reminisced Wagenschnur.

The permanent loan of the Torah was made possible through the dedicated efforts of Barbara B. Keil, a Beth Shalom congregant and a longstanding Hillel board member. [Editor's Note: Barbara is the sister-in-law of Barbara S. Keil, Chair of The Jewish Voice Editorial Committeel Jeffrey Drowos, president of Congregation Beth Shalom, trans-ferred the Torah to Hillel's directorrabbi Steven Booth, who, in turn, transferred it to Hillel student member, Staci Levin, and Hillel student president, Ariane Mamberg. Expressing gratitude for the gift, Levin commented that "it's wonderful for Hillel to have a Torah of its own.

When it comes to Hillel, tzedaka seems to abound. The newly acquired Torah, along with other ritual objects, will be housed in the Abe and Pearl Kristol Hillel Student Center in a handcrafted cabinet donated by friends of Yetta and Frank Chaiken in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary. A celebratory ceremony for the Torah will be held at the Hillel house during Simchas To-



Beth Shalom president Jeffrey Drowos looks on as Barbara B. Keil hands Torah to Hillel's Rabbi Stephen Booth.

#### The Possibilities of Prayer

Commentary By RABBI DAVID B. KAPLAN

In Psalm 145, toward the end we read, "The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth." In an age in which so many people have trouble believing in any idea of a Divine Being, it seems strange to read these words. How can God be so near, if for so many people, god is so far?

A clue to part of the answer may lie in a reading from the Gates of Prayer. On page 170 is a prayer by Rabbi Chaim Stern, which interprets the Kedusha. It reads, "Days pass and

the years vanish, and we walk sightless among miracles. Lord, fill our eyes with seeing and our minds with knowing; let there be moments when Your Presence, like lightening, illumines the darkness in which we walk. Help us to see, wherever we gaze, that the bush burns unconsumed. And we, clay, touched by God, will reach out for holiness, and exclaim in wonder: How filled with awe is this place, and we did not know it! Blessed is the Eternal One, the holy

The Torah portion for June 25 is Balak. Balak is an enemy of Israel.

He hires a non-Jewish prophet, named Balaam to curse Israel. Generally, Balaam follows that which he understands to be God's will. But in this case, Balaam becomes a prophet for hire. He becomes so intent in profit that he loses touch with his spiritual senses.

Because Balaam has ceased fol-lowing the divine impulse, God sends an angel to impede his progress. Focused on his own desires he fails to see the angel. His donkey, however, is not blinded by personal ambition so is able to see the angel. The donkey, therefore, moves to avoid the angel. Blind to what is really happening, Balaam strikes the animal This beast of burden is then given the ability to speak. It is only after an interchange with his donkey that Balaam's eyes are opened.

So often our spiritual eyes are closed. We know that there is no God and nothing will change our minds. The story is told of a man who came to see a rabbi.

"Rabbi," he said, "I do not believe in God!

Queried the Rabbi, "What is it that you do not believe?"

"Well," replied the man, "I cannot believe in a god that totally controls our lives, who pulls the strings that makes us dance as puppets! I will not worship a deity who keeps a score card, rejoicing at our every mistake! will have no part of a divine entity who for the fun of it causes calamities to fall upon human beings!

Great," replied the rabbi, "I also (Continued on page 13)

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Your recent gift to the 1994 Federation COM-MUNITY Campaign was very much appreciated. Thanks to your support the Jewish Federation of Delaware and its agencies will be able to continue our efforts to sustain Jewish Life throughout Delaware. Your generosity will enable the United Jewish Appeal and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee to improve the lives of Jewish people in Israel and in Jewish communities throughout the world.

Thank you for Living Jewish! Help our cup overflow.

Sincerely Barbara H. Schoenberg, Chair 1994 COMMUNITY Campaign

#### EVENTS CALENDAR

Entries for the Calendar of Events 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.

JULY Sunday

Young Jewish Adults of Delaware (Y.J.A.D.) Annual Cookout and Olympics. 12:30 p.m. at the JCC Family Campus. \$12.00 includes lunch. For info call either Michele (302) 892-4255, or Dave (609) 678-8029 [h] (302) 992-0400

Friday

Beth Emeth '94 Summer Series, 8 p.m. at Beth Emeth. Speaker Dr.

Go See This Shlemiel

By DAN WEINTRAUB Editor of The Jewish Voice

Don't walk, don't run, hora to see the new AMTF production of 'Shlemiel The First' at the Walnut Street theater at 9th and Walnut streets in nearby Philadelphia. This zany English language musical farce combines Isaac Bashevis Singer's tales of Chelm — a fictional town of fools, an energetic Klezmer score, inventive staging and madcap slap-stick comedy. Charles Levin, a veteran guest star on the most notable

dramas of the last dozen years, is wonderful as perhaps the foremost fool. Larry Block is no shlepper in his portrayal as the hapless Shlemiel. Rosalie Gerut has a pleasing voice and provides an emotional subtext to the circus-like comedy. The European-klezmer flavor will delight grandparents and the broad comedy will leave grandchildren giggling. Parents and singles also should not miss out on this wacky crowd-pleaser. 'Shlemiel The First' runs through July 2. For tickets call (215) 567-0670.

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Henry Schenker. Topic "My God Doesn't Have an '800' Number." (610) 558-3781

Ongoing

Protection From Abuse Seminars. The Project For Domestic Violence Reform, Inc. will sponsor monthly seminars on the use, filing and hearing of Protection From Abuse Petitions by victims of domestic violence. The seminars will be conducted by an attorney trained and experienced in family law. It will be the fourth Wednesday of every month from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Delaware Technical and Community College, Wilmington Campus, Fourth and Orange St., and is open to the public without charge.

On Wednesday nights during the summer Y.J.A.D. Weekly,

Non-Competitive Volleyball, 6:00 p.m. at the JCC Family Campus. \$1 for JCC Members, \$2 for

Snowmaking at the Sunday River

payment schedule for \$150 per month beginning July 13. There is

Non-Members. For info call Mike

A Day in the Warsaw Ghetto: A Birthday Trip in Hell, a collection of 84 photos taken by a German army sergeant in 1941 is on display at Penn's University Museum, 33d and Spruce streets in Philadelphia, through July 9.

hibit, in the first-floor Sharpe Gallery, may be seen for free, the regular museum admission is \$5 (215-898-

1ST — 8:16 PM While the Warsaw ghetto ex-8TH - 8:14 PM

AKSE Plans Kosher Ski Retreat

By DAN WEINTRAUB

Editor of The Jewish Voice From Sunday, December 18 through Thursday, December 22, 1994, Delaware Jews are invited to participate in a retreat-vacation in Main sponsored by AKSE and its Men's Club. Along with skiing participants can partake of kosher food and Jewish inspirational classes offered by Rabbi Sanford Dresin and Cantor Daniel Leeman, both of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth congregation. The cost is \$675 per person.

Ski Resort, where the retreat will be held, has been rated #1 in the East by SKI Magazine readers for five years. The hotel in Maine features a health club, a heated pool, saunas and jacuzzis. On-site child care is also

Trip leaders Bob Weiner and Barbara Leeman have suggested an easy

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to Bob Weiner at 11 Tenby Drive, Wilmington DE 19803.

For more information call Bob Weiner at (302) 479-5088 or (302) 658-8700. Barbara Leeman can be reached at (302) 762-6229.

under 5 stay free. Checks should be

made payable to AKSE and mailed

Fellowship Grant Recipient To Exhibit Art

In January of this year, Riva Brown received a State of Delaware Fellowship Grant for her work as a Ketubah Artist. One of the stipulations for receiving this grant was a public exhibition of grant-related work.

On July 7th from 5-8 p.m. there will be an opening at the Carvel State Building, Gallery I (Mezanine Level) of Riva's ketubot. This exhibit will run through the end of August. The variety on display is notable. Pieces run the gamut from traditional to modern. This exhibit should be of special interest to the Jewish community and members of the non-Jewish public interest in Jewish culture. Also, this exhibit will be of interest

to the Calligraphy community. Special thanks are due to all those couples who so generously parted with their Ketubot so that this exhibit could be possible.

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#### Prayer-

(Continued from page 11)

do not believe in such a god."

"But rabbi," stammered the man, "that is god, so I do not believe in him!

It may have been that the above man had some bad experiences or had been given incorrect informa-

tion. Our understanding of God will affect our ability to relate to a Divine Entity. A negative view, such as that held by the man in the above story, may keep us from relating to the Divine impulse. Similarly, if our expectations of God are unrealistic, we also will not have a healthy relationship with God. If we expect God to

be at our beck and call, granting our every wish, then we have missed the point of what our connection with God is supposed to be. In Likrat Shabbat on page 13, is a short reading by Ferdinand M. Isserman. "Prayer cannot mend a broken bridge, rebuild a ruined city, or bring water to parched fields. Prayer can mend a broken heart, lift up a discouraged soul, and strengthen a weakened will."

There are many qualities which we may receive from God, including, but not limited to, hope, courage, knowledge, and peace. Millions of rational people have partaken of the miracles

that can occur from prayer. However, one must be open to the possibility of prayer having an effect on our lives. As the Baal Shem Tov said, "This world is full of wonders and miracles, but we each take our hands and cover our eyes and see nothing." We become like Balaam, so occupied in the direction we believe is proper, that we have no time to direct our-selves toward God.

ward the Holy One that we discover whole heart and a willing mind; for that the above verse has two parts. It begins, "The Lord is near to all who understands the impulse behind evcall upon Him," but then stresses, "to ery thought. If you seek Him, He will all who call upon Him in truth." We allow you to find Him."

do not have to understand who or what God is. We need not know how the Divine One works. We must only be willing to remove our hands from before our eyes. Then we will begin to recognize the Divine Spiritual influences around us.

In the Gates of Prayer, on page 4 is a paraphrase of 1 Chronicles 28:9. In it, King David is addressing his son Solomon. "Know the God of your It is when we direct ourselves to- ancestors, and serve Him with a the Lord searches all hearts, and



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#### **RUTH BERGER**

Ruth Euster Berger, who lived in Delaware for many years, died June 6 at home. She was 79.

Mrs. Berger was a professional artist whose works have been exhibited widely in galleries and museums in the area.

Her most recent exhibition was in October at the University of Delaware, part of a four-generation family retrospective. It included the artwork of Mrs. Berger, her sister, Maura Euster Golin, daughter Carol Berger Hershman, cousin Norman Cannon, and granddaughter Carla Hershman, and impressionistic painting and sculptures by Mrs. Berger's late aunt, Clara Finkelstein.

Mrs. Berger's artwork at the exhibit included bright oils and appliquéed wall hangings of Egyptian-like figures.

A University of Delaware graduate in 1935, Mrs. Berger taught art in Wilmingtonfrom 1935 to 1936, when she and her husband, Dr. Simon Berger, moved to Selbyville,

During World War II, Mrs. Berger was part of a resident artist group at the Corcoran Art Gallery. After the war, she lived in the artist colony of Arden, Del. She left in 1949 and moved to Philadelphia.

She enjoyed gardening. She supported human rights and was active in social injustice issues.

Besides her husband, Mrs. Berger is survived by two daughters, Betsy Berger of Philadelphia and Carol

Berger Hershman of Seattle: a brother, Edgar Euster of Wilmington; a sister, Maura Golin of Wilmington; and two grandchildren.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Amnesty Inter-

#### MORRIS F. BERKOWITZ

Morris F. Berkowitz, 82, of 5450 Wissahickon Ave., Philadelphia, died June 17 at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Berkowitz owned and operated School Lane House Pharmacy in Philadelphia.

He was a member of Temple Beth Tovim, Philadelphia.

His wife, Rose Berkowitz, died in 1972. He is survived by two sons, Dr. Irvin M. of Avondale, Pa., and Dr. Steven H. of Wilmington; four sisters, Esther Reichek and Toby Kanefield, both of Philadelphia, and Sudie Frank and Elizabeth Norman, both of Los Angeles; and seven grandchildren.

#### SIGMUND GORSON

Nazi death camp survivor, Nazi hunter, local businessman, and radio and TV talk show personality Sigmund "Ziggy" Gorson, died June 14 from diabetes at Arbors at New Castle Nursing home. He was 69.

Born Zygmunt Gruszkowski in Lodz, Poland, he spent six years in Nazi death camps including Bergen-Belsen, where he joined the Jewish underground, Auschwitz and Birkenau. He was shot twice during escape attempts.

In 1945, he was drafted by U.S. Army Intelligence, and assigned as a specialist working with the Poles. with the Poles

He immigrated to Wilmington in 1949 with his wife, Jean, whom he met and married at Bergen-Belsen

He lobbied to bring his remaining relatives, all concentration camp survivors, to the United States. One uncle remained in the former East Germany.

He and his wife picketed the West German Consulate in Philadelphia in 1965, protesting the expiration of the German statute of limitations on World War II crimes.

He testified in Germany against a man accused of injecting poison into hundreds of Jews under the guise of a medical experiment. He found the man in Munich and notified German police, giving them information that led to a life sentence.

Mr. Gorson tracked down his grandfather's murderer in Israel in 1971, where he was arrested, tried and convicted.

Mr. Gorson was founder and president of Wilmington Boneless Beef Co., Wilmington, later renamed Ziggy Gorson's Beef Village USA. He sold beef to restaurants, hotels, institutions and other volume buyers.

He was director of Several Delaware corporations and was a board member of Brandywine College, Wilmington, now Widener Univer-

Mr. Gorson spoke about the defense of Poland and the Polish people and received numerous hon-

He broadcast the International Radio Hour for more than 20 years on WTUX. He had a talk show on Rollins Cablevision. He was a member of Delaware Human Relations Commission.

He enjoyed Democratic politics, writing letters to the editor, and opera. He spoke several languages.

Mrs. Gorson died in 1973. He is survived by two sons, Allen and Carl, both of California; a companion and friend, Jean, who cared for him; and two granddaughters.

#### ANNE M. LEVENSON

Anne M. Levenson, 58, of 552 N. Neville St., the Oakland section of Pittsburgh, died June 10 of cancer at home

Mrs. Levenson was associate dean

the University of Pittsburgh, where she worked for 20 years.

She is survived by a son, Alan Levenson of Surrey Park, Brandywine Hundred, Del.; two daughters, Peggy Arnold of Gaithersburg, Md., and Janet Levenson Witkin of Arlington, Mass.; a brother, Robert Markowitz of Pensacola, Fla.; and four grandchil-

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to Pittsburgh Cancer Institute/Anne Levenson Breast Cancer Research Fund, 200 Meyran Ave., Pittsburgh 15213.

#### SYLVIA RIEBMAN

Sylvia Riebman, 80, former president of Penn-Del Salvage Inc., Wilmington, died June 16 at her home at 726 Foxdale Road, Edenridge, Talleyville

In the 1960s, Mrs. Riebman and her husband, Isidor, opened the salvage yard on Market Street. Mrs. Riebman retired in 1978, several years after her husband died. Her son, Ronald, of Chatham, Brandywine Hundred, now operates the yard.

She was a member of Congregation Beth Shalom, Wilmington, and B'nai B'rith Women and enjoyed spending winters in Delray Beach,

An Army veteran of World War II, she served as a telephone operator.

At 18, she immigrated to Brooklyn, N.Y. from her native Poland to join her mother. She worked in a factory and attended night school to learn English.

She moved to Wilmington when she married in the mid-1940s. She raised her family in Coatesville, Pa., and in the Old Ninth Ward section of Wilmington before moving to Chalfonte in Brandywine Hundred in the 1960s. In the mid-1980s, Mrs. Riebman moved to an apartment in the Edenridge home of her daughter, Harriet Sachs.

In addition to her son and daughter, she is survived by another son,

of the College of General Studies at Barry of Silver Spring, Md., another daughter, Tina Coleman of Highlands, Calif., a brother, Mark August of Ottowa, Ottawa, and 10 grand-

Instead of flowers, the family suggests contributions to charity.

#### HENRY L. WEINSTEIN

Retired Wilmington developer Henry L. Weinstein, of 1707 Consulate Place, died June 15 of cancer in Good Samaritan Hospital, West Palm Beach. He was 66.

As a builder and developer, Mr. Weinstein renovated a number of historic properties in Wilmington. His firm demolished the old Wilmington High School on Delaware Avenue, and owned and renovated the Medical Arts Building at Delaware Avenue and Jefferson Streets, the Pennsylvania Railroad office building on Front Street and Monroe Park Apartments in Greenville.

He frequently spoke to civic groups about the decay of cities, the slow progress of urban renewal and the need for adequate health care for urbanites.

Mr. Weinstein long ago advocated a metropolitan government in New Castle County; and in the 1960s, he predicted the use of computer-aided design in architecture.

He also owned the former Hermine's Tavern at 706 Delaware

Mr. Weinstein, a native of Wilmington, graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and New York University Institute of Real Estate. He served in the Navy during World War II.

He is survived by his wife, Hermine Weinstein; a son, Stewart of West Palm Beach; two daughters, Gail Weinstein of West Palm Beach and Terry Gehertz of Potomac, Md.; a brother, Seymour, and a sister, Rita Kraft, both of Wilmington; and two grandchildren.

Instead of flowers, the family suggests donations to the American Cancer Society.

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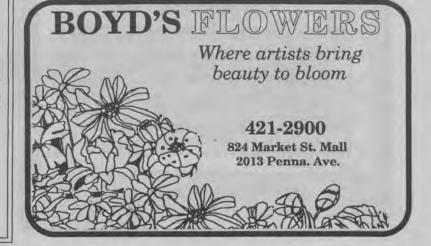
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#### JFD meeting

(Continued from page 6)

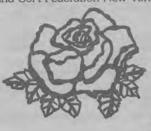
partner, Ms. Toni Young, and described her as "a woman of extraordinary vision, courage, dedication and talent." The Executive Vice-President recalled how living Jewish included kashering the JFC kitchen, studying Jewish texts at Board meetings, and welcoming shabbat with Friday afternoon kiddush and Torah study. She described numerous proud accomplishments. Ms. Wortman led the singing of Shehechianu at the completion of her remarks.

Ms. Young then outlined the challenge of building a Jewish world for the 21st century. Her insightful comments paralleled a special column titled Thoughts On The Future Of The JFD which appeared in the last issue of The Jewish Voice newspaper (June 10, 1994 - Page 5).

Ernest Michel discussed his special relationship with Delaware, a result of becoming a pen pal with former Delaware resident Dr. Robert Lindsay while both were teenagers. This connection was made prior to World War II and Delaware's Lindsay family made substantial efforts to free Michel from Nazi Germany. Julian Preisler, of the Jewish Historical Society of Delaware, located letters documenting the efforts of predecessors of the JFD to help Ernest Michel leave Nazi Germany. Michel thanked Preisler for locating these previously unknown artifacts of his personal

Ernest Michel admonished against underestimating the threat posed to Russian Jews and others by the extremist Vladimir Zhironoysky. He noted that Israelis pay 90% of the cost of resettling Jews from the former Soviet Union, and other parts of the world. Michel said that American Jewry, as the strongest Jewish community in history is not doing its "fair share." He predicted the peace process and "that region's transformation" may take a generation or two. He spoke favorably for the Vatican's recent Holocaust memorial concert. He encouraged members of the Delaware Jewish community to visit Israel and for their children to

Copies of Ernest Michel's dramatic autobiography Promises To Keep are available for \$33 at the JFD (302) 478-6200; proceeds support JFD and UJA-Federation New York.



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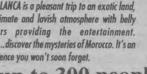
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