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## IN U.S. TO LAY GROUNDW

By Matthew E. Berger, JTA

As the pace of diplomatic activity increases again in the Middle East, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres is in Washington this week to "create the groundwork for future negotiations.'

Speaking via satellite to the Anti-Defamation League's annual leadership meeting, Sharon said a "full cessation of hostility" was necessary before Israel could resume negotiations with the Palestinians. "It should be quiet," Sharon said, reiterating a favorite theme. "This government will not negotiate under pressure of terrorism and violence.

Sharon said Jerusalem is "under siege" and that his main goal is to restore safety and security to Israel. Remembered in the international community for his wartime experiences, Sharon said he understands the importance of peace.

"For me, peace is something serious," he said. "Peace should last generations

former prime minister and the elder but has reserved the right to expand statesman of Sharon's government, arrived in Washington this week for a series of meetings with U.S. officials, including President Bush and Secretary of State Colin Powell. He also will meet with congressional leaders and give speeches to Middle East think tanks and the American Israel Public Affairs Committee.

"I see the beginning of a possibility of getting out of the present deadlock, Peres said in an interview with Israeli Television.

The Egyptian-Jordanian plan, drafted with the aid of the Palestinians, calls on Israel to ease restrictions it has imposed on Palestinians since their violent uprising against Israel began in late September, including pulling back Israeli troops from positions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and releasing tax money that has been withheld.

Most controversially, however, the plan demands that Israel completely cease settlement construction in the West Bank and Gaza. Sharon has agreed not to build any new settlements,

existing communities to accommodate "natural growth."

If Israel agrees to the plan, negotiations would resume after the cease-fire holds for a still-to-be determined amount of time.

That the plan was produced by Middle East leaders represents a contrast from recent years, when the United States served as the main mediator.

'Most of the negotiations and talks should be bilateral," Sharon said. "Let the sides solve bilaterally the complicated problems that exist.

When asked what Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat needs to do to receive an invitation to the White House, Sharon said Arafat "should stop terror, because Arafat is playing with terror." "Most of the terror which is carried against Israel at the present time is done by military or intelligence organizations which are under the direct control of Arafat," Sharon said.

Arafat should not be invited to the White House now because it would



Young settlers from Gush Katif in the Gaza Strip hold signs and shout slogans about security during a rally outsde Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's office in Jerusalem on Sunday. In an interview broadcast Sunday Sharon referred to Foreign Minister Shimon Peres' trip to Egypt and Jordan to discuss an Arab plan aimed at ending seven months of fighting, and its purpose is to concentrate on reducing the tensions and ending the terror and violence in the region. (Brian Hendler/JTA)

'postpone the peace," Sharon said. Israel will not "interfere" in any decision Rather, he said, heavy pressure should the United States makes in the matter, be placed on Arafat to stop terror — but Sharon said.

40

By Julie Wiener, JTA

Jewish women who intermarried create much more Jewishly identified households than do Jewish men married to non-Jews.

But regardless of whether the mother is Jewish, most interfaith families — even those raising their children as Jews — incorporate substantial Christian celebrations into their lives, often including more Christian aspects as the couple and their children age.

And despite the conventional wisdom that intermarriage is inevitable in an open society, Jews whose parents encourage them to marry within the faith are more likely to do so than those whose parents did not express an opinion on intermarriage.

These are some of the assertions of a new American Jewish Committee study on intermarried families in which the non-Jewish spouse has not converted.

Based on extensive interviews with 254 people from 127 households, the study offers a glimpse into how intermarried families - particularly ones that are raising their children exclusively as Jews - balance Jewishness with the competing pull of the non-Jewish spouse's background and family.

The study was officially released at the AJCommittee's board meeting yesterday.

The AJCommittee says the study proves that "the dynamics of Jewish identity within mixed marriage are particularly ominous for Jewish continuity," and that the Jewish community needs to be more aggressive in promoting in-marriage.

Months before the study was completed, the AJCommittee formed its coalition promoting in-marriage, and one of its members - Jack Wertheimer, the provost of the Conservative movement's Jewish Theological Seminary —published an essay critiquing outreach to the intermarried in the March issue of Commentary magazine.

For years, Jewish leaders have divided into "inreach" and "outreach" camps on intermarriage — those who say scarce resources should be used to strengthen the Jewish commitments of people already engaged in Jewish life as opposed to those who support efforts welcoming intermarried families and encouraging their involvement in the Jewish community.

Ten years ago the National Jewish Population Survey reported that approximately half of American Jews rying non-Jews.

found that half of American Jews believe opposition to intermarriage is racist," while 78 percent think rabbis should officiate at weddings between Jews and non-Jews.

The majority of rabbis do not

officiate at such weddings: Orthodox and Conservative rabbis are forbidden to do so, and — according to a 1999 survey by the Rabbinic Center for Research and Counseling - 57 percent of Reform and Reconstructionist rabbis refuse to do

According to the study, those families often send more diluted messages about Jewishness as the children age. For example, many Jewish parents initially refuse to celebrate Christmas or Easter in the home, but eventually compromise out of a desire to be fair to their spouses or because aging in-laws are no longer able to host Christian holiday celebrations.

The study also found that many non-Jewish parents eventually grew to resent their children's upbringing, though they initially had agreed to the concept. The resentment stemmed from a feeling of exclusion particularly when the child learned unfamiliar rituals and language - as well as a general discomfort with organized

In addition to reporting on the family dynamics of the intermarried, This fall, an AJCommittee survey the study also looks at the influence of parents on whether their children intermarry. It reports that 62 percent of the intermarried Jews said their parents had made no comments discouraging them from marrying outside the faith.

Roughly the same percentage of Jews married to Jews — or to gentiles who had converted - said their parents had discouraged them from intermarrying.

In addition, intermarried Jews who had grown up with several years of Jewish education, celebrating many Jewish holidays and having some Shabbat observance were more likely to raise their children exclusively as

Some of the other findings:

\* Approximately three-fourths of

Jewish women married to non-Jews say they are exclusively raising their children as Jews, compared to slightly less than half of intermarried Jewish men.

\* While the majority of interfaith families, except those raising their children as Christian, celebrated Chanukah and Passover, other holidays were observed less frequently.

\* Interfaith couples discussed the religion of the household and potential children when the relationship got "serious," rather than waiting until they had married.

#### THIS SUNDAY, DELAWAREANS FACE THE REALITY **CONFERENCE ADDRESSES** INTERMARRIAGE IN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

The entire community is urged to attend this important program featuring Dr. Egon Mayer, Director, Jewish Outreach Institute. Participate in workshops including: Challenges faced by interfaith couples; conversion; interfaith dating; raising children; celebrating life-cycle events and much much mach mach

Region of Hadassah, this event is supported and sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Delaware, its constituent agencies, Delaware synagogues and Jewish philanthropic funds. Admission is \$10 at the door.

Join us on Sunday, May 6, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Clayton Hall on the University of Delaware campus.

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## DELAWAREANS IN ACTION

## Lighting The Spark For Freedom Along The Riverfront

On December 7, 1787, Delaware became America's first state for freedom-the first state to ratify the constitution. Perhaps less well known is the fact that, as catalysts for democracy, many people and events along the Christina riverfront contributed greatly to several international freedom struggles. One of these contributions helped to launch a nation—the State of Israel.

On February 6, 1928, the Pusey &

Jones Corporation, which was located on the banks of the Christina River, launched the SS. *President Warfield*, the ship that later became known as *Exodus 1947*. According to David C. Holly, author of *Exodus, 1947*, "The Exodus shook the conscience of the world and brought forth the state of Israel."

More information about this amazing fact and other stories of common and uncommon events in Delaware's history will be commemorated in a series of twenty-one interpretive exhibits that will be located along the Riverwalk at Riverfront Wilmington. Residents of the First State should be extremely proud of its ethnic and cultural diversity and the people and industries that helped to light the spark for freedom along the Christina River.

The public is invited to attend the installa-

tion ceremony for the exhibits – Heritage of a Great City, on Wednesday, May 23, 2001, at 10:00 a.m. The event will take place at Dravo Plaza, which is located next to Shipyard Shops, 900 South Madison Street, Riverfront Wilmington.

For More Information contact, Margaret J. Owens, Government and Cultural Affairs Representative, Riverfront Development Corporation, 302-425-4890.

## Make Mother's Day A Time To Rally For Gun Safety



By Lynn Edelman

What a difference a year makes! Just one year ago, 750,000 mothers and their loved ones marched in Washington, D.C. on Mother's Day to protest gun violence and garner support for sensible gun laws. Today, the Million Mom March is a national movement with 236 chapters throughout the United States. Two chapters – one in New Castle and the other in Sussex – have already been formed in the State of Delaware. Another, in Kent County, is in formation.

Modeled after MADD – Mothers Against Drunk Driving, the Million Mom March is a grassroots operation. Its members actively support legislation and candidates throughout the country in an effort to stem the rising tide

309 Branmar Plaza

1812 Marsh Road

Phone: 475-3101

of gun violence in America's schools, streets and workplaces.

Marci Aerenson, an active member of the 100-strong New Castle County Chapter, is excited about her role as chairperson of the 2001 Mother's Day Rally planned for Sunday, May 13th, from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Wilmington's Rodney Square. Cosponsored by the Delaware Chapters of the Million Mom March and the City of Wilmington Department of Cultural Affairs, the rally will feature family entertainment, speakers on gun violence and educational materials to promote gun safety.

Aerenson explains that "we are not only seeking to implement no nonsense gun legislation but we want to educate families about gun safety," adding that "We want parents to know how to keep their children safe from gun violence.

Speakers will include Attorney General Jane Brady addressing the issue of bullying, Dickson Whitmer, emergency room physician

410 Eden Circle

Eden Square Shopping Ctr.

Bear, DE 19701

Phone: 836-9745

on gun trauma and Joey Jaskolka, a young survivor of gun violence. Jaskolka, an athletic child now wheelchair-bound, was tragically shot on New Year's Day.

Wilmington Mayor James Baker will bring

greetings

Face painting and food vendors should entice entire families to come out and show their support. Adults and children are encouraged to visit art tables at the rally and create squares reflecting their feelings about gun violence. These squares will create a huge wall of expression.

The rally has been endorsed by Hadassah, ORT and the NCJW. All of these organizations will sponsor tables during the event.

ns will sponsor tables during the event. Aerenson urges the Delaware Jewish Community to attend this rally. "The Million Mom March movement was spawned by one woman's reaction to the senseless shootings at the California Jewish Community Center. Therefore, it is incumbent upon us to support these efforts," she said.

In the days following the rally, concerned Delawareans will lobby the stat legislature to pass SB 100, a bill that will require all gun purchases to be made from a licensed gun dealer and would mandate a background check.

For additional information about the rally and chapter activities throughout the year, please call Marci Aerenson at 652-7778 or visit the organization's website at <a href="https://www.millionMomMarch.org">www.MillionMomMarch.org</a>.

#### Inside Delaware

Cafe Tamar -

# A Community Celebration Of Israel's 53rd Birthday

Celebrate Israel's 53rd birthday at Café Tamar in the Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth social hall on Sunday, May 20th, 7:30 p.m. "Make a Joyful Noise!" pays tribute to the Jewish homeland through a community program of music and dance. Participants include the synagogue's choral and dance groups. Featured soloists include Cindy Goldstein, Beth Lattin, David Zussman, Sharon Berry and Jessica Moss, who will perform a duet with her mother, Karen. The choral group is directed by Faith Brown and will be accompanied by the Tamar Musicians, Sara Berman, Steve Marks, David Gesterak

and Dan Tanzer. Guest artist, 16 year old Ben Aaron, will present a medley of Israeli and Yiddish songs on the piano.

The AKSE Adult Dancers and Harokdim, a teen dance group, will perform during the program which will be narrated by Mollie Epstein-Makar.

Light refreshments will be included in the price of admission. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under the age of 13. Tickets are available in the synagogue office or can be purchased directly from the performers. For additional information, call AKSE at 762-2705.







4377 Kirkwood Hwy

Kirkwood Plaza

Wilmington, DE 19808

Phone: 999-9901

#### **EDITORIAL**

## The Diplomatic Dance

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres spent the past week in the United States dancing delicately around the issue of a possible cease-fire. Peres has ample cause for caution, having had his feet stepped on last Sunday by an overzealous Hofni Mubarak. The Egyptian President falsely announced to the world on Sunday that he and Jordan's King Abdullah II, had brokered a cease-fire between Israel and the Palestinians. In fact, while the two sides reached an "understanding" on a ceasefire, no written document was signed.

One really has to be fleet of foot when doing the diplomatic shuffle-particularly in the volatile Mid-East. Each intricate step must be mirrored by their partner. Both must set aside egos and personal agendas

to work together as one.

Peres and Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon have learned this lesson. Their common commitment to ending the intifada before it involves the entire region into full-fledged war is cause for cautious opti-

Another encouraging note is the Egyptian/Jordanian initiative. Although the Palestinian response is disconcerting, these talks represent the first significant movement on the diplomatic front since Sharon took office.

While neither Israel nor the Palestinians are yet ready to rumba, the orchestra is keeping their instruments in tune.

May G-d grant them the wisdom to learn to partner for peace.

#### elebrate Ou

"G-d couldn't be everywhere, so he created mothers" - Popular Jewish folk saying

This Mother's Day, thousands of Delaware moms and their loved ones will spend an afternoon in Wilmington's Rodney Square. In the spirit of family fun, they will enjoy entertainment, art projects and hear interesting speakers talk about national efforts to stem the rising tide of

Join them on Sunday, May 13 from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. and rally support for sensible gun control legislation!

Make Mother's Day meaningful!

## SHABBAT Candle Lighting

MAY 11TH - 7:47 PM

MAY 18TH - 7:54 PM

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Visit the Jewish Federation of Delaware website at www.shalomdel.org (currently under construction) your gateway to Delaware's Jewish community

#### Voice Box

"If a place is used as a military position, it becomes a military objective – if shots are fired at us - we have to fight back to protect ourselves.

- Israeli Lt. Col. Oliver Rafowicz on today's military operation in Rafah

"Such moves undermine efforts to defuse the situation and bring an end to the

- U.S. State Dept. spokesperson

#### PARSHA PLACE

Week of May 4

Achrei-Mot/Kedoshim

Leviticus 16:1-20:27

By Rabbi Moshe Frank

Our Sages offer several reasons for the fate of Aharon's two sons, Nadav and Avihu, who were killed "bekorvasam lifnei Hashem vayamusu, when they came close before Gd-and they died." This passage indicates that their fatal action reflected an unbridled quest for spirituality. They came too close.

A similar concept is introduced in the story of the Akeidah. On the morning that he was to offer his son, Yitzchak, as a sacrifice to G-d, Avraham, the pasuk tells us, rose early and saddled his donkey for the journey. This is notable because Avraham had many servants who could have done this for him, yet he chose to saddle his own donkey in order to personally tend to every detail of his Divinely ordained mission.

Under normal circumstances, Avraham ought not to have occupied himself with the animal, for it was beneath his stature to do so. But our sages deemed Avraham's love and enthusiasm for the mitzvah great and praiseworthy. "Love [of G-d] rescinds the rules of dignified conduct.

Nonetheless, such unchecked emotion is sometimes inappropriate. If we overlook the fine, yet important, halachic details in our quest for spirituality, no matter how genuine our intentions, our behavior is unacceptable.

Though some may argue that only the goal is important, and how one gets there is secondary (for example, encouraging people to come to shul on Shabbos even if it means condoning their driving there), the Torah does not approve of such priorities

In Nadav and Avihu's noble quest to reach the heavens, their service went up in smoke. In their desire to come very close to G-d, they overstepped their bounds. By not consulting Moshe and Aharon to see whether, in fact, their exuberance was acceptable, they brought about death and destruction.

Though Pinchas is praised in the Torah for upholding G-d's honor by slaying publicly two individuals who compromised the sanctity of the Jewish people, Shimon and Levi are criticized for a similar action, killing the people of Shechem after the rape of their sister. The difference? Shimon and Levi reacted without consulting their father, Yaakov, to determine if their actions were acceptable before G-d. Pinchas, on the other hand, did consult with Moshe, his teacher.

Even fighting for G-d's glory requires deliberation.

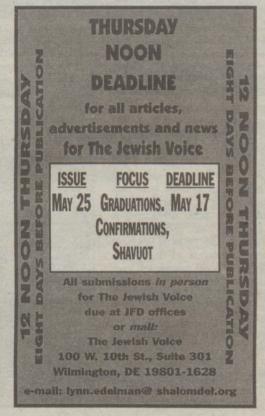
The story is told that Rav Chaim Volozhiner received a dubious response from his teacher, the Vilna Gaon, when he proposed opening a yeshiva in Volozhin. Consequently, Rav Chaim did not move ahead with the project.

The next time Rav Chaim visited, the Vilna Gaon asked him if the yeshiva had opened. Rav Chaim told the Gaon that it had not, since his impression was that the Gaon was not

The Vilna Gaon responded, "When you came to me the first time, you were so excited about the idea that I wasn't certain as to the motive and origin of your fervor. Now that I see that you have harnessed your fire in anticipation of your Rebbeis approval, I know that your exuberance is authentic. You have my blessings for a successful venture

Emotional highs are acceptable only if they are unadulterated, only if one's feelings are tempered by a total commitment to tradition in all its detail. We must strive every day to come closer and closer to G-d-by following the time-tested methods of the Torah.

Rabbi Frank is rabbi of Congregation Ezrath Israel Ellenville, NY





## FEDERATION FOCUS

#### **News From The Joint**

#### By Rhea Glassman Jerusalem

I am working as Missions Coordinator for the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, otherwise known as JDC or the Joint. JDC is the American Jewish community's overseas arm to help Jews in need around the world. In Israel, we work with the marginal populations: children-at-risk, immigrants, and elderly. We also work with disabled, Arabs, and women.

I help people to see where their overseas money goes once it leaves their community's Jewish Federation. I schedule site visits to Joint programs, during which I hope to create an interactive visit between the mission participants and the Israelis. I want to emotionally evoke mission participants so that they remember the kids, elderly and immigrants they meet, understand what the Joint is all about and want to partake in JDC's mission.

Last week, a special solidarity mission came in honor of Israel's Independence Day. The mission is a 4-day mission and packed very tight. In planning the short visit for the three buses that participated, the only time for them to see a JDC site was during the memorial siren of today's Israel's National Memorial Day for the Fallen. I arranged for

each bus to attend a memorial service at different JDC sites which take place during the time of the siren.

I was a bit anxious about the success of the mission, knowing that sitting in on a memorial service in a language unknown to you could be quite boring. But, I provided translations of the texts that were read and sung at the services.

I was quite nervous schlepping 37 people - with 12 teenagers from Connecticut and a group from Philadelphia-into a school already crowded with tons of kids on such a solemn day.

The ceremony took place inside a big gymnasium, donated by the Lottery Association in Israel. (It's quite fascinating to see where the lottery money goes.) The school set up 37 chairs in the front center (in front of the cement bleachers) for the American group. The principal started the ceremony by thanking everyone for being there. While he was explaining about the group of Americans, the memorial siren went off. Suddenly there was silence amongst the crowded gym. For 2 minutes, no one spoke. Everyone rose to their feet, along with the rest of the country, to remember those who have fallen on behalf of Israel.

The wail of the sirens calmed down, and everyone took their seats to begin the ceremony. A disabled child in a wheelchair lit the memorial candle which began the service. A mission participant thanked the students and teachers for allowing him to participate in their school cere-

One of the children got up and read off the seemingly endless list of alumnae who lost their lives on behalf of the country. It was especially moving for me, being that I had never before attended one of these services in an elementary school setting. Seeing these young kids' awareness and, perhaps, understanding of the death that is so close to them was horrific and chill-

JDC helps bring together disabled kids and abled kids in classrooms. They jointly participate in drama, art, music, and computer classes. The program's goal is that these kids-raised without prejudices against the disabled ñ will grow up thinking of them as an integral part of Israeli society.

One of the special schools served by this program is a school for the deaf. While these children were not at the Memorial Day service, their classmates made them a part of the tribute by signing the words of the special song that they prepared.

These kids put on a phenomenal

show, reading poetry, singing songs, and dancing to the music. All the songs carried the promise of no future wars. I think that all of us were deeply moved.

Happy Independence Day to you all. And, for those of you who don't know this, in Israel, Memorial Day is a day before our Independence Day. Quite a difficult transition for the country from one day to the next. But, this ability to turn around so fast is, I guess, one of our ways of sur-

Below is a taste of some of the poetry read.

#### Prayer by Tirtza Bar-Gal

"A State is not handed to a people on a silver platter" - Chaim Weizmann, first president of Israel

Give us the strength to carry again in our hands, trembling, the silver platter - our children's glory.

Give us the strength - to be happy and to cry endlessly.

Give us the strength to contain in one heart the great, happy drunkenness and the thousand sorrows.

Give us the strength to look into the eves of bereaving widows, to stand opposite their infinite sorrow.

Give us the strength to forget the revenge and the blood.

Give us the strength to return from the tank to holidays and daily

living.

To plant tomorrow's wheat in yesterday's battlefield.'

#### In the Name by Chaim Chefer

In the name of all the tankists and their dusty faces who underwent the fire and burnout,

In the name of the seamen who raided the ports and their eyes heavy with salt and waves,

In the name of all the pilots who burst into raging battle and were refined in missile fire and anti-plane

In the name of the paratroopers amongst lead and smoke they saw you, like an angel, above their heads - I promise you, my little girl, that this will be the last war.

In the name of the artillery men who are amongst the crushed shells they were the pillar of fire along the frontier, In the name of the paramedics who with their souls and hearts restored spirit and life, restored blood.

In the name of the signalers whose voices tore through the

In the name of all the corps and the armies, in the name of all the fathers who went to horrid battle and want to return to you

I promise you, my little girl, that this will be the last war.

## ENDOWMENT FOR THE FUTURE

## Tzedakah - A Word Of Charity And Justice



By Guest Columnist Jordon Rosen, CPA In Hebrew, the words for charity and justice

are the same, tzedakah. Thus, giving to charity is giving justice to those in need. But how much is enough? The

Rabbis of the Talmud warn us not to be overgenerous to the extent that the donor himself becomes impoverished as to require charity from others. Is there a way to have our cake and eat it too?

As mentioned in my previous article, most people don't care to part with a large portion of their investments during their lifetime since they rely on the income generated by those assets at retirement. They are also concerned that if they give up the assets to charity at death they would be depriving their children of an inheritance. But what if you can make a bequest to charity, retain the income on those same investments for life, while not depriving your heirs of their inheritance? A splitinterest trust can provide the

With a charitable remainder trust you contribute assets to an irrevocable trust that pays out a stream of income to you and your spouse or other individuals for life or for a stated period of time. At the end of the trust term the remainder is distributed to the char-

ity(ies) of your choice. You can also have the trust created at your death, with income paid to your heirs for life, and the remainder going to charity.

There are two types of charitable remainder trusts; an annuity trust and a unitrust. A charitable remainder annuity trust (CRAT) generally pays you each year a fixed percentage (not less than 5%) of the original value of the assets contributed to the trust. This may be beneficial for someone looking for a guaranteed annual stream of income. A charitable remainder unitrust (CRUT) generally pays out each year a fixed percentage of the value of the trust's assets, which are revalued annually. Thus, if the value of the assets in the trust appreciates the annual payout will increase accordingly.

The tax benefits of both types of trusts include an upfront charitable deduction in the year the assets are contributed to the trust based on current IRS interest rates, your age and the amount of the annual payout. In short, your deduction equal to the amount contributed to the trust less the present value of the income interest of the donor (or other income beneficiary). If cash is contributed to the trust the contribution deduction limitation is 50% of adjusted gross income. If appreciated property is contributed, the contribution deduction is 30% of AGI. In both cases, any unused contribution deduction can be carried over for five years. Examples of those that would

greatly benefit from setting up a charitable remainder trust include those with large annual tax liabilities from the sale of a business, real estate or the exercise of options.

If appreciated assets such as stock or real estate are contributed, the trust can sell the asset without incurring a capital gain tax since the trust is a tax-exempt entity. This allows the trust to diversify its investments which you otherwise could not do tax-free outside of the trust. By diversifying, the trust can produce a greater annual stream of income to you.

Another benefit of funding a charitable remainder trust is the estate tax savings. By transferring appreciated assets to a trust you lower your taxable estate by both the value of the assets contributed in addition to all future appreciation.

Since the assets going into the trust will ultimately pass to a charity rather than your heirs, you can replace the value of the "lost inheritance" with an insurance policy (commonly referred to as a wealth replacement policy) naming your heirs as beneficiaries. The trust can be purchased either by your heirs directly or through an irrevocable trust. In both cases the face value of the policy can be excluded from your estate. You can also contribute an existing policy to the trust, which would be excluded from your estate if you survive the transfer by more than 3 years.

A charitable lead trust is just the opposite of a remainder trust. In this situation the charity would receive the income from the trust each year. At the end of the trust term the assets would go to a noncharitable beneficiary (e.g. you, your spouse, a child or grandchild) designated by you. Again, there can be significant tax savings using this technique. The trust can be created either during your lifetime or at your death.

Both types of charitable remainder trusts can be established through and administered by the Jewish Fund for the Future. They also provide a wonderful opportunity to create a legacy for yourself or a loved one while also providing for the continuity of the Delaware Jewish community for generations to come.

The author, Jordon Rosen, is a principal at the Wilmington CPA firm of Belfint, Lyons & Shuman, P.A., specializing in income and estate planning. He is also a board member of the Wilmington JCC.

#### **Delaware Goes to Israel**

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Join JFD for a once in a lifetime experience.

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## COMMUNITY FOCUS

#### Carol Hoffecker To Speak At The Jewish Historical Society of DE Annual Meeting

By Nancy Sherr The Jewish Historical Society of Delaware is fortunate to have prominent Delaware historian.

Carol Hoffecker, speak at its annual meeting on Tuesday, May 9th at 7:30 pm. The meeting will be held at Temple Beth Emeth, 300 W.

Lea Blvd., Wilmington. Dr. Hoffecker will speak on 'The Role of Delaware's Jewish Historical Society in Perspective. Dr. Hoffecker became familiar with JHSD papers some 20 years ago when she wrote an article on the Jews in Delaware. She believes that the relationship between the Jewish Historical Society of Delaware and the Delaware Historical Society demonstrates how a group interested in its own history can maintain its own independence and unique role in the community while collaborating with other historical groups with broader missions. She believes that JHS provides a model which other organizations would be wise to fol-

Hoffecker was named the Delaware 1999 Professor of the Year. Currently the Richards Professor of History at the University of Delaware, She began work on a history of Delaware in 1968. In the years that followed, she wrote several books on Wilmington and a bicentennial history of the state. She also wrote Federal Justice in the First State, a history of the judges and significant cases that have come before the federal court in Delaware.

Discussion and a question and answer period will follow Dr. Hoffecker's speech. Refreshments will be served. This event is open to the community.

The Jewish Historical Society of Delaware was founded in 1974 for the purpose of acquiring, preserving and publishing material pertaining to the history of Jewish settlement and Jewish life in the State of Delaware. Its archives are housed in the Delaware Historical Society's library at 505 Market Street Mall. For more information, or to research the archives, call 655-6232.

Give to the 2001 JFD **Annual Campaign** 

#### THE KUTZ HOME

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#### JEWISH HISTORICAL **SOCIETY OF DELAWARE**

ANNUAL MEETING Wed., May 9, 2001 7:30 PM at Congregation Beth Emeth

Speaker: Dr. Carol Hoffecker, Richards Prof. of History at U of D Topic: "The Role of Delaware's Jewish Historical Society in Perspective"

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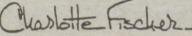
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## Inside Delaware

#### **AKSE Plans Silverman Tribute**



The late Isadore and Sylvia Silverman

In June, 2000, the Delaware Jewish community lost an extraordinary individual, Isadore Silverman.

During his 90 years of life, Mr. Silverman touched the lives of countless men, women and children through his involvement in numerous community organizations. On Sunday, May 27th from 10 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth, the Wilmington synagogue where Mr. Silverman served for many years as "gabbai", will stage A Tribute to Izzy: A Celebration of the Life of Isadore Silverman. The program will include an honor guard of Boy Scouts Troop 18, a presentation by the AKSE Choral Group and reminiscences from community leaders who have known the honoree through the years.

The entire community is invited to

## Grunden To Direct JFS Older Adults Program



Elton G. Grunden

Elton G. Grunden, MSW, LCSW will serve as director of Jewish Family Service of Delaware's Services for

Older Adults program. In this role, Gruden will coordinate a comprehensive variety of counseling, consultation and educational outreach services which empower older adults to control their own lives and maintain the highest possible level of health and independence.

Grunden served as director of psychosocial services for Delaware Hospice, where he developed and implemented the initial social work component for Delaware's first hospice program. He also served as vice president for client services for Family Services Association, supervising clinical programs and employee relations.

To find out more information about JFS' Services for Older Adults, call Grunden at 478-7411.

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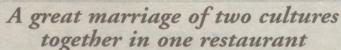
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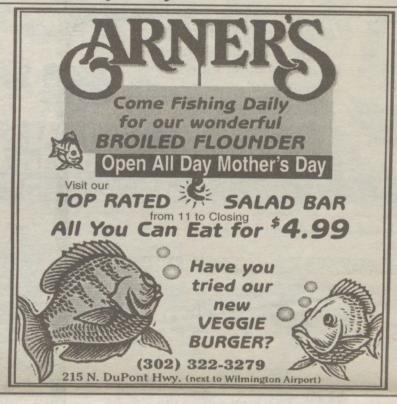
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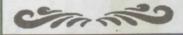
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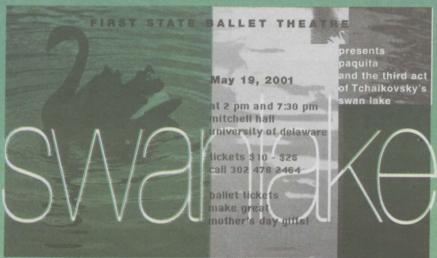
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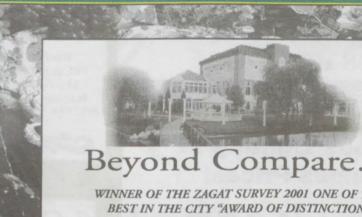


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## Inside Delaware

#### Jewish Women International Honors Battered Women

to those mother's who must spend the holiday in shelters for battered

Jewish Women International, (formerly B'nai B'rith Women), will deliver flowers to shelters through-

out the nation on Sunday, May 13th to support victims of domestic violence. Two Delaware shelters, Martha's Carriage House and Sarah's House, will receive flower

A contribution of \$18 or more

to the Flower Project supports JWI's ongoing domestic violence programming, eases the isolation and loneliness of shelter residents and honors a loved one on Mother's Day with an organization tribute card acknowledging a dona-

tion to the project in her name. To visit JWI's website at HYPERLINK make a donation, contact Jennifer Karotkin at 1-800-343-2823 or

http://www.jewishwomen.org www.jewishwomen.org.

#### **Kudos To Herman Cohen**



Herman Cohen

Cohen Brothers Furniture LLC, was honored by the Better Business Bureau of Delaware during its 36th anniversary dinner at the Du Pont Country Club.

Cohen received the 2001 Edward M. Rush Sr. Memorial Award. This honor is conferred upon the family-owned and operated company which best exemplifies the values of community and civil

Jewish Voice advertiser Connie Cecil also accepted an award at the BBB dinner. Cecil Vault and Memorial Company, which she serves as vice president, was honored as the family-owned business in the 1-10 employee category.

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#### **Shtofman Receives Delaware Press Association Awards**

By Judge Charles Keil George Shtofman, a resident of Retirement Ingleside Apartments, recently received two 2nd place category awards at the Delaware Press Association Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner held at the Dupont Country Club. Not bad for an almost 94 year old "youngster" who once covered Legislative Hall for the News-Journal and who contributed political pieces to the old Every Evening Journal during the 1920s, '30s and '40s.

George has used his newspaper talents to resurrect the dormant Ingleside newsletter. Residents now enjoy reading human interest stories as well as George's own tales of interviews with such luminaries as Clarence Darrow, with whom he corresponded for many

He is proud of the letters he has received through the years from political figures like former U.S. Congressman J. Caleb Boggs, whose assistance George has sought in arranging for a speaker at the Avoda Club in Wilmington. Avoda was one of the professional business clubs that once served Delaware's Jewish community. Congressman Boggs wrote that "a newly elected colleague from New York had great potential and would be a wonderful speaker for the Avoda Club." His name? The Honorable Jacob Javits.

George served as Avoda Club president while employed as secretary for former Wilmington Mayor Albert W. James. He virtually ran the entire office. (Government wasn't quite as large as it is now).

George reminds me of the Energizer Bunny-He keeps going and going and going! Now retired, he has begun a second career as a professional volunteer. He is very active with Ingleside's CareVan program. This unique mobile



George Shtofman

information and referral office links at-risk older adults with services they need. To determine what indeed is needed, specially trained volunteers like George go into the community and meet with clients in their homes, perform evaluations and help them to access appropriate service providers. In appreciation, George has been named Resident of the Year.

His picture on Wilmington High School's "Wall of Fame" gives testament to his considerable achieve-

A die-hard Phillies baseball fan, George used his writing acumen to win the award of Phillies "Fan of the Century" for the 1900-1910 decade. He traveled to Veteran's Stadium last year and stepped up to home plate to receive the award. He enjoyed the attention he received from Channel 35 Television and WDEL Radio who interviewed him during the award presentation.

## Inside Delaware

## **Gratz Teacher Shares Her Story**

By Linda Vodonis Every Tuesday night, after a full day of work, I muster up just

enough energy to head out again to teach Hebrew at Gratz Hebrew High School. I am keenly aware

of the sacrifice these children make to come out to class in the evening, because my daughter is among them. But every one of us finds that little bit of extra something to attend because it means being a special part of this Jewish It means being community. among other Jewish children and

values, language, and much more. Although I am specifically engaged to teach the language of Hebrew, I find the students to be interested in much more. They are inquisitive and I sometimes find myself talking with them about a multitude of subjects rang-

learning Jewish traditions, laws,

ing from modern day social issues, the Holocaust, Jewish values and Israeli politics. It also has opened my eyes to the variety of Jewish families within our com-

I am an active member of my synagogue, but am often disappointed that I rarely get to know neighbor congregants of other synagogues in Wilmington. At Delaware Gratz, we are all part of the same family and I feel at home with everyone.

I have grown to care for each

one of my students and always leave feeling that I have accomplished something important. It is rewarding to teach Hebrew grammar and to serve as a positive role model to these extremely intelligent, active future leaders of our community

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Dory Zatuchni, JFS executive director, explains that the program is interactive and helps employees discover the sources of stress and practice methods of stress reduction.

To receive a brochure about the Productivity Booster Program or to schedule a session, call JFS at 286-1402.

#### Important Community Event

Facing The Realty: Intermarriage In The Jewish Community

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#### AGENCY SPOTLIGHT

## Meet The Delaware Gratz High School Class Of 2001

Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School is pleased to announce its GRADUATING CLASS OF 2001. This year's class will honor eight seniors. Graduation exercises will be held at the Delaware JCC on Tuesday, May 22, 7:30 p.m.

Brian Bernstein is a senior at Brandywine High School. He is an active member of BBYO and is chapter secretary this year. Brian works as a DJ at a high school-run radio station and has worked at McDonald's since 1999. The son of Joseph and Robin Bernstein, he plans to attend the University of Delaware and major in business administration

Emily Cohen is a senior at Tower Hill School where she has been an honors students throughout upper school. She is a National Merit Commended Scholar, an AP Scholar, and a candidate for the Presidential Scholarship. At school, she is a member of the Cultural Diversity Club, Yearbook, Acapella Chorus, Volleyball and Environmental Club. A member of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation, she has served as President of Chavarot and is a participating member of the Women's Tefillah

Group and Harokdim Dance Group. She is currently the regional Prsident of Central Region East BBYO and has also served as chapter President. Emily, the daughter of Howard and Eileen Cohen, would like to spend a year in Israel before beginning col-

Elana Grumbacher is a senior at Mount Pleasant High School where she has been a member of S.A.D.D./Y.E.L.L., vearbook, Marching Band and Planned Parenthood. At Congregation Beth Emeth, she has participated in Youth Group and Youth Choir. She also works at the Delaware JCC with Kidspace, an after-school program. Elana, the daughter of Rabbi Peter and Suzanne Grumbacher, plans a career in social work.

Erica Imber is a senior at The Tatnall School, where she serves as 2000-2001 captain of the Cheerleading Squad. A varsity cheerleader for four years, she has also been involved in Tatnall's Concert Choir and Concert Band. An active member of B'nai Bírith Girls, she has served the organization as Secretary and as Vice President. Erica has attended Camp Ramah for seven summers, spending the past summer in Israel. She has

volunteered at the Milton and Hattie Kutz Home and works part-time for a veterinarian. The daughter of Dr. Paul and Cynthia Imber, Erica plans to attend college in Florida.

**Andrew Kaufmann** is a senior at Brandywine High School where he has been a member of the Wrestling Team. Andrew is also involved with the Boys Scouts and would like to become an Eagle Scout. A member of Congregation Beth Shalom, he participated in the synagogue's Confirmation program. The son of Charles and Joyce Kaufmann, Andrew plans to attend the University of Delaware Honors Program.

Judah Milunsky is a junior at Brandywine High School where he is on the Varsity Lacrosse team and is a member of the Key Club and Debate Club and works as an aide in the school nurse's office. He enjoys anatomy, physiology and chemistry and aspires to a career in the medical field. Judah served as Moreh and also as chapter President of AZA-BBYO. He attended CLTC and Panim el Panim, was a HOBY Ambassador, and performed community service in Guadaloupe. He is the son of Cyril and Marlene Milunsky.

Jason Rosenberg is a senior at Brandywine High School. He is a member of the National Honor Society, Math League, Web Team and Theatre Appreciation Club and ran Cross Country and Track. Jason volunteers at the school library and as an aide at the Bush Early Education Center and works part-time at Happy Harry's. At Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth, he serves as President of Minyonaires. A National Merit Commended Scholar, he has attended Summer College at the University of Delaware. The son of Max and Judy Rosenberg, Jason plans a career in biochemistry and immunology.

**Michael Weinberg** is a senior at Brandywine High School where he has been a member of the Web Team and Math League for the past four years. He is a member of the National Honor Society and has volunteered many hours at the Edgemoor Community Center teaching senior citizens how to operate computers. He works parttime as a computer salesperson at Circuit City. The son of Mark and Gail Weinberg, Michael plans to study computer/electrical engineering in college.



Brian Bernstein



**Emily Cohen** 



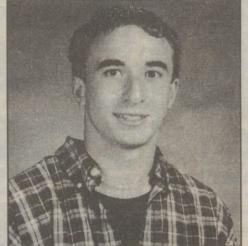
Elana Grumbacher



Erica Imber



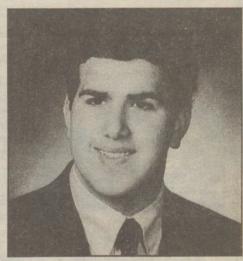




Judah Milunsky



Jason Rosenberg



Michael Weinberg



## JEWISH PERSPECTIVES

## **New Hope For Canavan Sufferers**

By Ruth Gesmer Silverman, JTA

The mother of a 3-year-old boy with a "Jewish genetic disease" still hasn't caught her breath after reading an e-mail containing news that could help her son.

"My heart's still pounding, I'm so excited," said llyce Randell, 34, of Palatine, Ill.

She and her husband, Mike, 38, learned on April 19 that their year of intense effort to convince the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to allow an experimental gene transplant have finally come to fruition.

Their son, Max, suffers from Canavan disease, a genetic disorder in which the brain turns spongy, leading to progressive, profound disability and death. It can occur in any ethnic group, but it is most prevalent in Ashkenazi Jews — about one in 40 Jews of Eastern and Central European heritage is a carrier of the gene.

Of the total number of children who have it, 50 percent are Jewish. Available genetic testing is most sensitive for couples who are of 100 percent Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry, but many physicians don't routinely test for it.

don't routinely test for it.

In May, Max and selected others will travel to Philadelphia's Thomas Jefferson Medical Center, where his second gene transplant will take place. At 11 months, Max was the youngest person in the world to receive his first gene transplant, to equip his body to produce myelin, a protective sheath around the nerves.

"We all saw changes: He was making myelin and his sight was restored; he began to move around, to grasp, and even to speak a few words," said Randell, who heads Canavan Research Illinois, a national nonprofit organization she founded to raise funds for medical research, educate the public, work with lawmakers and provide information to other families

The entire Randell family recently traveled to Washington. There, they joined with a dozen other Canavan families and testified before Congress to convince legislators to ask the FDA to lift the hold on the trial, which was imposed after a transplant resulted in the death of a recipient who suf-



Make Mother's Day meaningful Support the Million Moms March Rally May 13

12:30-2:30 Rodney Square, Wilmington fered from liver disease.

Among others who were in Washington with the Canavan delegation was Sardinia-born researcher Dr. Paola Leone, associate director of the Gene Therapy Center of the department of neurosurgery at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia.

"I'm so excited and anxious at the same time to use this drug with this delivery system in patients," Leone said of Max's upcoming second gene transplant.

The drug, adeno-associated viral vector, carries the missing enzyme, aspartoacyclase, into the

brain where it can "definitely prevent new damage, and also can reverse myelin degradation," Leone said. To inject the drug, she developed a system of six thin injectors that leave no mark on the brain.

"As a scientist, I do not need to touch my patients to be moved and to understand their brain degradation," she added. "I see the changes, the brain atrophy, the muscle stiffness; it puts me under extra pressure to find a cure as soon as possible."

Some legislators are apparently equally motivated. Sen. Richard

Durbin (D-III.) called the acting commissioner of the FDA to enlist help.

"This is a story of courage. If nothing else, she will know she's done everything that could possibly be done for this child, and for others who will benefit from her efforts," Durbin said.

On May 7, the Randell family, Leone and some of their supporters are expected to meet with Mary Kay Mantho, senior policy adviser to Tommy Thompson, U.S. secretary of health and human services, to discuss their situation.

While the Randells wait for

Max's second treatment, they have turned their living room and bedroom into "Canavan Central."

Thanks to an all-volunteer workforce, they say their not-for-profit gives 99 percent of all funds raised directly to research. This money, they say, will aid those who suffer from other neurological disorders, such as Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's disease, where gene transplants might prove helpful.

(For more information on Canavan disease, call 1-800-833-2194, or on the Web go to canavanresearch.org or canavanfoundation.org.)

LEGAL NOTICE BY ORDER OF THE COURT

## The plan to distribute the \$1.25 billion Swiss Banks legal settlement has been approved. This notice describes the claims process.

The United States Court that approved the proposed Settlement between Holocaust Survivors and Swiss Banks has now approved the "Plan of Allocation" to distribute the money. If you already submitted an Initial Questionnaire, you will automatically get a claim form or information about the claims process in the mail. There is no cost to submit a claim.

If you were persecuted by the Nazi Regime because you were or were believed to be Jewish, Romani, Jehovah's Witness, homosexual, or physically or mentally disabled or handicapped, you may be in one of the first five groups below. The sixth group, Slave Labor II Claims, is not limited to these "Victims or Targets of Nazi Persecution."

1. Deposited Assets Claims - If you had assets deposited with any Swiss bank, investment fund or other custodian prior to May 9, 1945 and your claim is approved, you will receive payment. A list of names is available to help you determine your eligibility. You can submit a claim even if your name is not on the list. Certain heirs of original depositors are also eligible.

2. Slave Labor I Claims - If you performed forced or slave labor anywhere for an entity which operated under Nazi authority, you are eligible for payment. Certain heirs of former laborers who died after February 15, 1999 are eligible.

3. Looted Assets Group - Because all survivors had assets taken by the Nazis, there is no claims process for this group. Instead, needy survivors may be eligible for services such as food packages, medical assistance and emergency cash grants to be distributed through Court-approved humanitarian relief

4. Refugee Claims - If you plausibly demonstrate that, while seeking to avoid Nazi persecution, you were denied entry into or expelled from Switzerland, or admitted into Switzerland as a refugee but were detained, mistreated or abused, you will receive payment. A partial list of names is available. You can submit a claim even if your name is not on the list. Certain heirs of refugees who died after February 15, 1999 are eligible.

5. Swiss Insurance Claims - The Court has approved a claims process to resolve any Naziera insurance claim you have involving Swiss Reinsurance Company, Swiss Life Insurance and Pension Company, and certain affiliates. You may exclude yourself solely from the insurance provisions of the Settlement, if you act before August 5, 2001. If you do not exclude yourself, you will be bound by the insurance provisions of the Settlement.

6. Slave Labor II Claims - If you plausibly demonstrate that you performed slave labor anywhere for a Swiss-run company appearing on a list issued by the Court, you will receive payment. Certain heirs of former slave laborers who died after February 15, 1999 are eligible.

There were also improvements and amendments to the Settlement Agreement, including: artwork looted during the Nazi era may be recovered in certain situations; and a list of names in Swiss Bank files relating to accounts that possibly belonged to victims of Nazi persecution has been published.

#### Get a claim form at www.swissbankclaims.com or call:

Type of Claim Claims Due Deposited Assets (All) 1-800-881-2736 August 5, 2001 Slave Labor I (Jewish) 1-800-697-6064 August 11, 2001 Slave Labor I (Non-Jewish) 1-877-691-2862 August 11, 2001 Looted Assets There is no claims process for this group. Refugee (Jewish) 1-800-564-2895 September 30, 2001 Refugee (Non-Jewish) 1-877-691-2862 September 30, 2001 Swiss Insurance (All) September 30, 2001 1-800-881-2736 Slave Labor II (All) 1-877-691-2862 September 30, 2001 For general information call 1-888-635-5483

United States District Court, Eastern District of New York, CV 96-4849

## AROUND OUR JEWISH WORLD

## New Bosnian Synagogue Unites Faiths

By Ruth E. Gruber JTA

In a country driven by ethnic violence during the past decade, leaders from Bosnia's three main religious communities joined this week with Jewish officials to lay the cornerstone for a synagogue and Jewish cultural center.

Bosnian Muslim, Croat and Serb religious leaders joined local Jews and international officials at Tuesday's ceremony in the Bosnian city of Mostar.

The project is believed to be the first synagogue built from the ground up in the Balkans since World War II. A new synagogue was inaugurated last year in Skopje, Macedonia, but it is located in the Jewish community building

"The Mostar synagogue is an important symbol of new life — not just for Jews, but for the whole country," said Jakob Finci, president of the Bosnian Jewish community.

"It is especially important that it is being built in a small town that was sharply divided between Muslims and Croats and heavily damaged during the war in the 1990s," he said.

Mostar's Jewish community has only about 45 members. Its leader, Zoran Mandlbaum, became a local hero during the Bosnian war for his non-sectarian humanitarian work. His efforts were crucial in getting the synagogue project off the

Construction of the three-story complex will be financed by Mostar municipal authorities, who pledge to complete the building next year.

The complex is located just 100 yards from the site of the famous 16th- century stone bridge at Mostar that was destroyed by Croat mortar fire in November 1993.

The bridge is to be rebuilt under the auspices of UNESCO. Mostar officials say they hope the synagogue and bridge can be inaugurated at the same time.

In addition to the synagogue, the Jewish complex will include a cultural center open to members of all faiths.

"A synagogue in itself is open one day a week," Finci said. "But the culture center will be open three days a week. We hope it will be a wonderful meeting point for Christians, Muslims and Jews to learn how similar and close we are, all children of one God."

Taking part in the cornerstonelaying ceremony were a Serbian Orthodox archbishop, the deputy Catholic bishop of Mostar and an Islamic official, the chief imam of Mostar

The ceremony was the first time in several months that senior officials of Bosnia's three main religions joined together, Finci said.

In addition, Mostar's Croat mayor and Muslim deputy mayor attended, along with a number of foreign ambassadors and other senior diplomats.

"It seems as if the Jews are the only glue that can bring together these groups," quipped one senior western official who attended.

American representatives did not attend, however. This was because of a travel ban to Mostar and surrounding areas that the



Jakob Finci, president of the Bosnian Jewish Community, standing in the historic Jewish Cemetery of Sarajevo overlooking the city. During the Bosnian war, the cemetery was on the front line and used by Serbs to shell the city below. *Credit: Ruth E. Gruber/JTA* 

United States imposed on American officials after violent riots by Croat extremists erupted there Earlier this month.

Ironically, the travel ban prevented a 10-member delegation of the American Jewish, Joint Distribution Committee currently

visiting Bosnia from attending the ceremony.

JDC officials said that, as an American delegation, the group had to bow to the security directives of the U.S. Embassy and State Department.

This month's riots were the

worst violence in Bosnia since the 1995 Dayton Accord ended the Bosnian civil war.

During the clashes, international officials were taken hostage, and up to two dozen international peacekeepers were injured in battles with Croat separatists.

## MATTER OF OPINION

## Who Represents The Russians?

By Nechemia Meyers

"Even though over 15% of those marking Israel Independence Day this year are Russian immigrants, their political clout is less than it should be because the parties for which most of them vote ignore their interests," says Victor Brailovsky, a Tel Aviv University professor of computer science and a knesset representative of Shinui, a liberal party hostile to the ultra-Orthodox.

"At the moment," he goes on, "the great majority of people from the former Soviet Union support one of two ethnic lists, Yisrael B'Aliya headed by Nathan Sharansky, or Yisrael Beitenu headed by Avigdor Lieberman. And both are subservient to the Orthodox, even though the great majority of their supporters are not religious and perhaps a third are not even Jewish from a halachaic viewpoint. And instead of fighting for the rights of these people in regard to personal status, Sharansky and Lieberman passively accept the Orthodox rules and regulations that make life hell for many newcomers from Russia."

Brailovsky is not a professional

politician and only agreed to take the 6th place on the Shinui list in the last Knesset elections because leaders of that strongly secularist party assured him that he had no chance of being elected. But they were wrong, and, truth to be told, he is not displeased. Being in the Israel legislature gives him an opportunity to fight for his ideals.

He began doing this in 1972, when he and his wife applied for permission to make aliyah. This was denied on the spurious basis that Brailovsky, a computer expert at the prestigious Soviet Academy of Sciences, had been privy to state secrets. In parallel he was dismissed by the Academy and sentenced to jail. He spent one year in the Butirsky Prison, followed by three years of internal exile in Kazakhstan.

Then he returned to Moscow, where he participated in the famous scientific seminars of the refuseniks and even managed to publish 15 papers. "Those gatherings, which were attended by many foreign scientists, kept us up to date," and, he added with a smile, "I met more Nobel Laureates at those seminars than I have since."

It was only in 1987, with the

onset of Perestroika, that he was allowed to leave for Israel and join the School of Computer Science at Tel Aviv University. There, he feels very much at home because many of his fellow professors are Russian immigrants, while a quarter of all the young people studying mathematics or computers at Tel Aviv University are also from the former Soviet Union. And, as Professor Brailovsky is proud to point out, an even larger percentage of Israeli high-tech personnel have the same background.

This obviously means that newcomers from Russia are, on the whole, an intelligent and talented group of people. Why then, Brailovsky was asked, do they go on supporting political parties that don't represent their interests?

He thinks it is linked to the fact that almost all the Russian-language media, on which they depend for information, are controlled by friends of Sharansky and Lieberman. So the kow-towing of those politicians to the Orthodox is downplayed or even ignored. "But", he adds, "I am sure that it won't be long before the olim wake up and transfer their allegiance to other parties."

#### A Case In Point

Ellis Adzhiashvili, an immigrant from the former Soviet Union whose father is Jewish but whose mother and wife are both Christians, is experiencing great difficulties-as are some 200,000 other mixed couples, particularly in regard to the status of their children.

Speaking about his own son's plight in a recent "Fla'aretz" interview, Adzhiashvili said, "He was born in Israel and this is the only homeland he knows. But his homeland doesn't recognize him. All of a sudden I see that all kinds of things forbidden to me in Russia because I was a Jew are off-limits to my son in Israel. He won't be able to be a pilot. He won't be able to get married here. It's humiliating."

Adzhiashvili points out that teenagers of this background are already beginning to cause problems. "These kids are walking dynamite. From an ethnic and cultural perspective, they feel Jewish, but they also feel rejected by Israel and Israeli society. So they create their own little world, full of hostility and aggression. They pick fights, drink a lot and make trouble in school. Unless something is done, they will grow up to become adults who are hostile to the state."

The Jewish Voice welcomes Matter of Opinion pieces from all of its readers. If you would like to share your views on a topical news story or would like to rebut an op/ed piece that has previously appeared in this newspaper, please email your submission to

lynn.edelman@shalomdel.org.

We reserve the right to edit all submissions for style and/or content.

#### JEWISH ARTS AND CULTURE

## **Author Philip Roth Receives Common Wealth Award**

by Joel F. Glazier

Philip Roth, one of America's most prolific post-war Jewish Writers, received the 2001 Common Wealth Award of Distinguished Service for Literature. Winners in six fields of endeavor attended the black-tie awards dinner last week at the Hotel duPont. PNC Bank, trustee for the awards, presented the prizes of \$50,000 to each winner.

"The Common Wealth Award winners are people who believe they can make a difference and do," said Calvert A. Morgan, president and CEO of PNC Bank. "PNC is privileged to honor these achievers for their grand talents and triumphs," added Mr. Morgan. Described as an author of conscience and comedy for 40 years, Roth now joins the ranks of other Jewish writers including Arthur Miller, Aharon Appelfeld and Saul Bellow as Common Wealth Awardees.

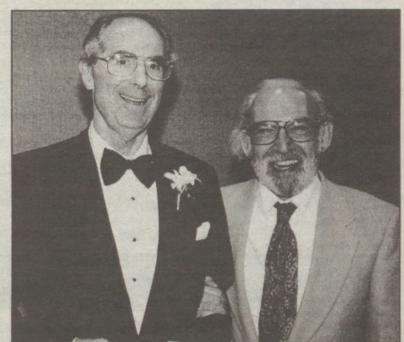
Roth was described at the ceremony as a writer who is renown for his masterful use of wit and humor; his comedies make readers think as well as laugh. Identity, rebellion and generational strife were acknowledged as being his themes in writing. His Jewish American upbringing in Newark, NJ was credited as being a well spring for his fresh and challenging fiction.

Roth's acceptance speech was short on humor but strong on pride. "I am part of the writing generation—possibly the last generation to be challenged by written words of fiction-I was born before WWII in the last pre-television generation," commented Roth to a hushed audience. There was none of the ironic or sarcastic humor that marks many of Roth's novels, as he added, "I am fortunate to have been born in 1933 in the USA, where schools were free from propaganda and ideologies and I was able to travel in literary individuality.

"My experiences in writing have been embracing, galvanizing and exhausting," said Roth, who in the last 32 years has earned a host of literary awards, including the 1997 Pulitzer Prize for this book, American Pastoral.

In a pre-ceremony chat with *The Voice*, Roth mentioned *Sabbath's Theater*, his 1995 novel that won a National Book Award, as his most "exhilarating book, one which provided me a wonderful experience of being free." Roth also acknowledged writer Saul Bellow as one who "allowed him to see that my neighbors and my own little world in Newark, New Jersey were stories of interest."

Roth also shared that "Writing is a job; it's work. I am nervous here today because I'm not doing something. I don't like to lose ideas by taking time off." Roth's twenty-first book, *The Dying Animal*, has been released just this week.



Philip Roth and University of Delaware Professor Dr. Jay Halio

## Local Dance Studio Celebrates 50 Years

By Paula S. Shulak

In September 1951, a Delaware tradition was born when Anna Marie's Dance Studio opened its doors. In May 2001, that occasion will be marked by a musical extravaganza at the Baby Grand to which the entire community is invited. Anna Marie Leo has touched the hearts of thousands of Delawareans during those fifty long years, including many in the Jewish community. Now, they will join together to honor her and the dancing school that so enriched their lives.

The show, entitled "The Best of Times," is written, directed and cho-

reographed by Sonny Leo, who runs the school with his mother, and will feature 20 of the earliest students, most of whom are still involved with dance and theater in our community.

People like Anita Dauphin (who teaches at Newark High School) and Diane Meyermann (well known local choreographer) are thrilled to be part of this tribute to a school which is now in its sixth location (on Naaman's Road). "We started on Market St.," reminisced Anna Marie, "and then spent some time in my house and at the Merchandise Mart. We've been all over but we

always kept in close touch with our students." At present there are 300-500 pupils every year and the majority still keep in touch. "Today we teach the children and grandchildren of former students. It's a real family affair."

Some of Anna Marie's students have gone on to fame and fortune. "There is Marcy Mackey who worked with the Beach Boys, Matthew Cipress who was with Carol Channing, Valerie Smith who has been in a number of Broadway shows and Jen Polish who appears in Philadelphia and has been on tour several times." In the script

which Sonny Leo wrote we will see a retrospective of the studio's history and many of the descendents of the original players will take the role of their forebears. Anna Marie's granddaughter will perform "How Much Is That Doggie In the Window," one of the first numbers taught to the studio and the great granddaughters of Sara Levy Stein (who ran a dance shoe store) will also play parts.

Fame is not new to Anna Marie's Dance Studio. Just last month, 33 dancers went to California to compete in the prestigious International Dance Festival and came home with

nine first place and three second place prizes. They also performed at Disneyland. While at the Festival Anna Marie was given a surprise lifetime achievement award by her peers. When asked it if had all been worthwhile Anna Marie replied without hesitation, "You touch their lives and it stays with them. It makes me so happy. I have always felt lucky to make a living doing what I love." And we are happy too for all that the Anna Marie Dance Studio has given to our state. For tickets to the May 25th and 26th performances, call the box office at the Grand 652-5577

## One Palestine Complete

Author Tom Segev Reviewed by Bob Meyer

Tom Segev, an Israeli journalist, wrote this history of the thirty years of British rule over Palestine. The period begins in 1917, when a British army fought its way from the Egyptian border to take Palestine from the Turks during World War I. It ends with the abandonment of Palestine by the British to war between the Jews and Arabs in 1948

The title of the book is taken from the receipt given by the first of the seven British high commissioners — as a sort of joke — to the British military governor when the civil administration began in 1922.

Oh, what colorful characters live on in this book! Many are historic: Lawrence of Arabia, General Sir Edmond Allenby (for whom the Allenby Bridge traversing the Jordan River is named), Chaim Weizman, Prime Minister David Lloyd George and his foreign secretary, Arthur James Balfour (whose name is affixed to the Balfour Declaration), Winston Churchill, David Ben-Gurion and the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, Haj Amin al Husseini. But there are also many common, obscure individuals whose stories are told: Khalil al Sakakini (an Arab intellectual who lived in Jerusalem), Alter Levine (a Jewish life insurance salesman), Yefim Gordin (an immigrant from Vilna, Lithuania, who changed his name to a Hebrew name and served in the Palmach).

When the Turks were expelled in 1917, Jews comprised approximately 10 percent of the 3/4 of a million in population in Palestine. When the British left in 1948, Jews made up over 30% of the population of approximately 1 1/2 million. Not only that, the Jews had during the 30-year period created the institutions which became the foundation of the Israeli state.

That the Jews had been so successful in creating an infrastructure under British rule really surprised me because I had always believed that the British had favored the Arabs over the Jews during their occupation of Palestine. However, to the contrary, Segev shows how from the beginning of their administration until the eve of World War II. when the British perceived the need to cultivate the good will of the Arabs as another world war became inevitable, the Jews were favored. For one thing, the British ruling classes accepted the anti-Semitic claim that Jews were in control of the world economy, drawing the conclusion that helping the Jews would benefit the British economy.

The British had set the tone early

on with the Balfour Declaration. Indeed, the first British high commissioner of Palestine was Herbert Samuel, an English Jew. The number of Jewish immigrants was, in the early years, determined by agreement between the British and the Jews, with the Zionists determining the individuals who would be legally permitted into the country.

The Zionists wanted young men who would work in agriculture, not tailors or other urban dwellers. Also, not counted against the annual quotas set by the Zionists (based on numbers of immigrants they felt they could absorb) were Jews with capital to invest in business in Palestine. The Zionists became the partners of the British in governing until the late 1930s.

The Arabs incessantly demanded a halt to the Jewish immigration, which they rightly perceived would change the demographics of the entire country. Arab unrest resulted in periodic anti-Jewish pogroms — Jerusalem in 1920, Jaffa in 1921, Hebron in 1929, etc. A broad spectrum of Arab society, according to eyewitness accounts including Arab policemen, were enthusiastic participants in these episodes of rape, mayhem and murder.

Finally, a full-scale Arab terrorist campaign was waged against the British and the Jews in the early

1930s, which the British tried forceably to suppress with troops and executions reminiscent of our Vietnam experience. This rebellion only stopped when the British halted Jewish immigration.

By the late 1930s many thoughtful Brits had concluded that the cost to the British of occupying Palestine in the face of the intractable conflict between the Arabs and the Jews exceeded any possible benefit the British could anticipate. Segev concludes that World War II only delayed the flight of the British.

Segev makes clear the hostility between Arabs and Jews. Many (most?) Jews viewed the Arabs an an inferior, primitive people; many (most?) Arabs viewed Jews as foreign interlopers in their country who should be ruled by Arabs or forced to return from whence they had come.

Nothing in this history provides optimism for any peaceful resolution of this conflict, which continues to rage today.

I found this book to be both informative and entertaining and recommend it to anyone with an interest in the creation of Israel.

(Bob Meyer, a resident of Wilmington, is a recently retired attorney. This is his first book review for The Jewish Voice.)

#### Holocaust Remembrance Play Comes To The Playhouse

The children who passed through the Terezin Concentration Camp between 1942 and 1944 left behind them a legacy. Their poems, narratives and drawings were found after World War II and have been assembled in a musical performance designed for young audiences, ages ten through young adulthood.

The Last, The Very Last – Butterfly, assembled by Ruth Fost, produced by the Pushcart Players and featuring music by Larry Hochman, will be performed on Thursday, May 10 at 9:30 a.m. and again at noon. The performance lasts 50 minutes and is followed by a tenminute question and answer period. Tickets are \$5.

For further information, contact Barbara Slavin at the Playhouse Theatre, Hotel du Pont, 302-594-3166.

#### **MILESTONES**

#### In Memoriam

DI GREGORIO

Betty DiGregorio, 66, of Newark died April 27. She is survived by her son, Jeffrey of Wilmington, her daughter, Phyllis Crain of Newark, grandchildren, Jason and Julie Crain and great grandchild, Lillian Kaufman. Interment was in Riverside Cemetery in Rochelle Park, NJ The family requests that contributions in her memory be made to the Jewish Charity for Children, Diabetes Foundation, American Cancer Society or the U.S. Figure Skating Association Memorial Fund.

GOLDSTEIN

Estelle Goldstein, 88, formerly of Brooklyn, NY, died April 22 in Wilmington. She was the beloved mother of Sy Goldstein and Renee Richard. She is also remembered with love by her grandchildren, Lee, Richard and Jerold Goldstein and Richard Roisman and by her great grandchildren, Dana, Wendy, Jared, Austin and Halle Goldstein. Donations in her memory may be made to the Milton and Hattie Kutz Home, 704 River Road, Wilmington, DE 19809.

PRATT
Ruth Pratt, 92, formerly of

Wilmington, died April 24 in Sunrise, FL. Mrs. Pratt grew up in Wilmington and worked as a manager at the Constance Store, a dress shop on Market Street. She also was employed by Cooper's Furniture. She married her husband, the late Sam Pratt, in 1939. They were together for 53 years before his death in September, 1999. The couple was active in Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation. Mrs. Pratt was a member of the AKSE Sisterhood.

She is survived by her daughters, Sue Pikus of Ft. Lauderdale, FL and Barbara Lessin of

Wilmington and her grandchildren, Jeff Pikus of New York City, Lisa and Laurie Lessin of Wilmington. The family requests that contributions in her memory be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

SCHWARTZ

Beatrice Schwartz, 89, of Ft. Lauderdale, FL, formerly of Wilmington, died April 20. She devoted her life to her family and is remembered fondly by Samuel Schwartz, her husband of 70 years. Survivors also include: son, Larry and his wife, Lois; daughter, Susan Cleveland; son-in-law, Herbert Keller; sisters, Louise Miller and

Blanche Bayer; brother, Jack Silverman; grandchildren, Cindy and Fred Marra, Bruce and Wendy Harvis, Lisa Keller, Shari and Hollie Pruitt, Jason and Allison Cleveland, Joshua and Gina Cleveland, Kevin and Karina Schwartz, Pam and Dan Czerny; and ten great-grandchildren. She was pre-deceased by a daughter, Norma Keller.

The family requests that contributions in her memory be made to either the American Cancer Society, 92 Reads Way, New Castle, DE 19720 or to Gilda's Club of South Florida, 119 Rose Drive, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33319

## NACHAS NOOK

#### Alexander And Bank Are Wed



Louise Alexander and Michael Bank

Louise Alexander, daughter of Michele Greene and David Kudish of Newark, DE, was married on April 14 to Michael Bank, son of Alan and Nancy Bank of Bensalem, PA. The wedding was held at Congregation Beth Emeth and was officiated by Rabbi Peter Grumbacher.

The bride is a program manager with the Executive Education branch of the Wharton Business School in Philadelphia, PA. She graduated from the University of Delaware with a BA in Music and is currently completing her Master's degree at the University of Pennsylvania. The groom is a school counselor and technology coordinator for Richardson Park Learning Center in the Red Clay school district. He also works with both Delaware Technical and Community College and Tech Connections. He received a BS degree in Psychology from the University of Florida and an MEd in Counseling Psychology from Temple University. The couple resides in North Wilmington.

Share your

life-cycle event! email: lynn.edelman@shalomdel.org

#### LaPorte Is Harvard Bound

Jacob LaPorte, son of Bruce and Maureen LaPorte of Fairfax has accepted a Departmental Scholarship and Teaching Fellowship from Harvard University to study towards a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry. Jake was also awarded a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Fellowship to pursue research while studying at Harvard. He was one of 12 individuals in the nation

to receive this fellowship in his field of study.

On Friday, May 4, at the University of Delaware's Honors Day, Jake received the Elizabeth Dyer Award for Excellence in Chemistry and Biochemistry and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa and Mortar Board.

On May 26, he will graduate with an Honors Bachelor of Science Degree with Distinction.

#### Lucas Is Maccabiah Bound!

Monica Lucas, granddaughter of Elva Levine, has qualified for the Maccabiah Games in Israel.

She is a gymnast and feels honored to be one of five girls chosen

to represent Jewish gymnasts from the US.

The games will open July 16th. Her mother, Marcy Lucas, was also in the games in 1997.

#### BIRTHS



Mazel Tov to Ruth and Sheldon Weinstein on the birth of their granddaughter, Shir Arielle Weinstein. Shir means song in Hebrew. Her name was inspired by the Biblical "Songs of Songs" which is read during Pesach week when she was born

Proud parents are Hila and Mick Weinstein

#### **Schoenberg Memorial Chapels**



In the hallowed tradition of our faith...

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## PLEASE JOIN US ON

Sunday, May 6, 2001 1:00 - 5:00

Clayton Hall at the University of Delaware

FACING THE REALITY:
INTERMARRIAGE IN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

Featuring Dr. Egon Mayer, Director, Jewish Outreach Institute Open To The Entire Community

Workshop topics include Challenges faced by an interfaith couple; Conversion – sharing our journeys; Interfaith dating; Raising children in an interfaith home; Holidays; Life-cycle events; and Expectations for parents and grandparents.

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Entries for the Calendar of Events are due on the Thursday deadline published in The Jewish Voice. Please provide entries in the same format as seen on this page. The Jewish Voice fax number is 427-2438.

#### RALLY ON MOTHER'S DAY!

On Motheris Day, May 13, 2001, the Million Moms will hold the second annual march for sensible gun laws and safe kids in cities around the nation. The Delaware members of the Million Mom March will hold a rally at Rodney Square in Wilmington at 12:30PM. Rally activities will include welcome remarks by Mayor Baker and family entertainers Two of a Kind, Sooz and John Flynn. There will be victim/Survivor resources available as well as education materials. In the days following the rally, the Delaware Moms will lobby the state legislature to pass SB100, a bill that will require all gun purchases to be made from a licensed gun dealer with a background check. Current law allows for purchases from unlicensed gun dealers with no background check. For more information contact Aerenson 652-7778.

#### CARDS THAT LET THE SUNSHINE IN

In the hallowed tradition of Women Jewish tzedakah.

International (formerly B'nai B'rith Women) invites everyone in the community to participate in their Philanthropy Program. By investing in sunshine cards, donors not only help "spread the light" and support JWI's projects, but also strengthen the organization's future. Cards are available to mark an important occasion, to honor someone special, or to remember a loved one. Acknowledgments are always sent to the person or family for whom the contribution was made.For more information, please call Rhea Levy at 425-4161.

#### LAST CALL FOR SHALOM **ALEICHEM PERFORMANCE**

Don't miss out on The World of Shalom Aleichem, on stage at Wilmington's Congregation Beth Shalom for two performances-Saturday, May 5th at 9 p.m. and Sunday, May 6th at 7:00 p.m. Directed by Newark resident Paula Shulak and featuring the Beth Shalom players, tickets are \$10 for adults, \$7.50 for students and seniors, \$5 for children ages 12 and under and \$30 for families. Tickets are available at the door. The synagogue is located at 1801 Baynard

#### **HOLOCAUST MUSEUM TRIP NOW BOARDING**

The Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Committee, working with the Delaware Teacher Center, is offering a trip to The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, Scheduled for Thursday,

August 16, 2001, the bus will pick up passengers at the Jewish Community Center and at the Interstate 95 rest stop near Newark. There will also be a bus leaving from Dover, if we have a sufficient number of riders interested in leaving from "downstate"

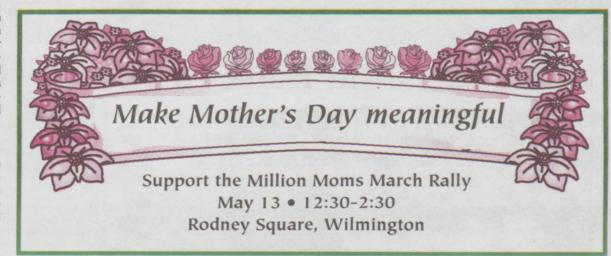
The \$28 trip fee includes roundtrip bus transportation, Museum admission (which is free), lecture by a Holocaust educator on the bus, and introductory group orientation at the Museum. Lunch is on your own, To register, send \$28 check, payable to the Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Committee, to Sue Shaffer, Jewish Federation of Delaware, 100 West 10th Street, Suite 301, Wilmington, DE, 19801-1628; details on pick-up and return times, and exact location will be mailed in early August

#### Plan Ahead For Summer

Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School will offer a Critical Reading, Thinking and Writing Skills Workshop for five intensive days this summer.

Designed for 9th through 12th graders, this program will be offered August 20th through August 24th, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Delaware Jewish Community Center on Garden of Eden Road in North Wilmington. Susan Coonin Kogon will teach this course. Registration is limited and is offered on a first come, first served basis. A \$325 course fee will be charged.

For additional information, please call Delaware Gratz at 478-8100.



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**Executive Director Search** 

Hillel at the University of Delaware is searching for an Executive Director. Position entails creating opportunities for Jewish life and expression, interacting with University community, serving as counselor, supervising staff, building and budgeting, fundraising, working with the Board and serving as liaison with various agencies and organizations. Visit us at http://copeland.udel.edu/stu-org/hillel/. We will

begin reviewing applications immediately and continue until the position is filled. Salary and benefits are competitive.

Forward resumes. references and salary requirements to Robert Denemark c/o Hillel Student Center, 47 West Delaware Avenue, Newark, DE 19711.

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Cost: \$2,899 if you register by May 15th
For more information or to request a brochure, please
call Kim Piper at (302) 478-5660, ext. 228.



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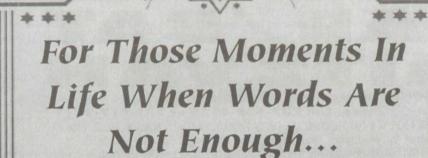
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CONSTITUENT AGENCY OF
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- \*Memorials
- \*Special Occasions

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#### Judaic Early Childhood Camp Coming to Newark

For Children 2 1/2 to 7 Years June 25 through August 7, 2001 7:15 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Our professional and committed staff offer an outstanding variety of programs to meet the needs of all campers. Children will enjoy a mix of indoor and outdoor activities.

Please contact Susan Gentry at (302) 478-5660 for registration and fee information.

The Delaware JCC offers a Preschool Camp at Temple Beth El in Newark. We also offer a full-service day camp for all ages in North Wilmington with bus transportation available. Please call (302) 478-5660.

