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Local Author Traces Wilmington's Jewish Roots

By Lynn Edelman, Editor

Wilmington author Toni Young relishes the role of detective. Like any good "gumshoe" Young did relentless research for her brand new book "Becoming American, Remaining Jewish"—combing through dusty library stacks and pouring through public records of births, deaths and marriages to "get the goods" on her subjects—the men, women and children who established Wilmington's first Jewish community.

This limited edition publication produced by the University of Delaware Press, tracks the amazing growth of a community begun by a mere hundred Jewish settlers in 1879. Wilmington's Jewish population would swell to more than 4000 individuals by 1924 when, according to Young, changes in immigration laws significantly stunted its growth.

While Wilmington never achieved the size or status of Jewish communities in neighboring Baltimore or Philadelphia, by 1918 it gained national recognition. "Wilmington was viewed as a shining example of the way that Jews in America could maintain their rich religious and cultural heritage while contributing their talents to the broader community," said Young.

She charts the community's growth from the date when its first Jewish organization was founded. Established in 1879, the Montefiore Society of Delaware pre-dated the growth of area synagogues. The Society sponsored weekly religious services for community members in downtown stores.

As the children of the original settlers approached school age, the Society expanded to offer a Sunday school and Hebrew school program.

By 1885, Adas Kodesch became Wilmington's first synagogue. It was established by Jewish immigrants who came from communities throughout Eastern Europe.

An outgoing "people person", Young most enjoyed her conversations with the 30 people she interviewed in preparation for the book. Particularly memorable were the recollections of Ben Cohen, who shared stories of his parents adventures in the earliest days of Wilmington's Jewish history.

Young also gleaned valuable information from Bill Topkis, a past President of the Jewish Federation of Delaware, who is a direct descendant of the Topkis family who settled here in the early 1880s.

Young's own affiliation with the Delaware Jewish community began 30 years ago when she moved here from her native Long Island, NY. Her husband, Stuart is a native Wilmingtonian. "Stuart's dad, the late H. Albert Young, immigrated to the United States in the early 1900 and traveled to Wilmington in his late teens."

She made up for her "greenhorn" status in this historic community by becoming "intensely involved" in the leadership of numerous community organizations. She was the first woman to serve as president of the Jewish Federation of Delaware and also served with distinction as president of the

Local Author Continued on Page 18



This Limited edition publication traces the history of the Wilmington Jewish community from 1874-1924. Pictured is the YMHA, an organization which met the social, recreational and cultural needs of these Jewish newcomers.



Toni Young, author of the soon to be released "Becoming American, Remaining Jewish" published by University of Delaware Press.

Weinberger Bombshell May Determine Pollard's Fate

By David Twersky

Caspar Weinberger has dropped a bombshell that could dramatically affect the fate of Jonathan Pollard.

In an interview in the September, 1999 issue of the Middle East Forum, the former defense secretary says that his still-secret memo to Judge Aubrey Robinson was written at the request of the presiding judge, who "made a formal, official request to me to supply" an assessment of the damage caused by Pollard's espionage. The Weinberger memorandum, which is still classified, has been withheld from the Pollard defense team.

The revelation is important because the Weinberger memo remains central to Robinson's decision to overturn Pollard's plea bargain agreement with the United States Justice Department, and it is routinely cited as evidence of the severity of Pollard's crime in passing classified information to Israel.

"The judge is allowed to read stuff from a relative saying 'this is a good guy,'" Harvard Law Professor Alan Dershowitz told the New Jersey Jewish News. But now judges routinely "put everything on the record. It is improper to secretly solicit information and then, on the record, imply that [U.S. Attorney Joseph] de Genova introduced it."

Although Dershowitz allowed that not all information is shared, "Anything the judge asks for has to be put on the record. For the judge to solicit a substantive memorandum and then to use it in this way raises fundamental questions."

In the interview with the Forum's Daniel Pipes, Weinberger repeats his statement about the involvement of Robinson five times.

"I said everything I knew about Pollard at the request of the United States District Court."

"I gave the judge an affidavit that was classified because it went into great detail

about the extent of the damage that was done and the number of lives of our people that were endangered."

"That covered a lot of sources and methods at the court's request."

"What I had to say, I said at the court's request in the classified affidavit."

"We were impacted very severely. That was the exact subject matter of the information that the judge wanted in the case, and he made a formal, official request to me to supply it to him, and I did." Robinson did not inform the defense that he had invited a submission from the secretary of defense and made no provision for the defense to see the submission in advance. Nor did he allow the defense counsel adequate time to study the submission and prepare a legal defense to challenge it.

In a Tuesday, Sept. 28, letter to the NJJN, Pollard spelled out what he saw as the consequences for his case. "If Weinberger is lying about the judge having solicited his

memorandum, then this seriously calls into question his credibility as an 'assessor' of my actions," Pollard writes.

"On the other hand, if he's telling the truth and the judge did, in fact, engage in such ex parte behavior, then somebody's going to have to stand up and call for a full-scale investigation of the judge's behavior. His apparent unethical actions in this matter were later compounded by his decision to uphold the government's refusal to share Weinberger's memorandum with my lawyers during the...appeal over which he presided."

In making the new revelation Weinberger does not back away from his assessment that Pollard caused significant damage to the United States.

"The whole case was a source of very considerable potential and actual danger and damage to the United States, primarily from the vantage point of information, intelligence sources, and methods that were

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MYRIAM'S WELL

Thoughts On Jewish Healing

By Rabbi Myriam Klotz

This week we celebrate the holiday of Simchat Torah, a joyful day of dancing with the Torah as we mark the eternal cycle of endings and beginnings. The annual reading from the scroll is completed and begun immediately after, in one continuous flow.

Accompanying this reading are several circular dances in which we carry the Torah in our arms and offer prayers of celebration and gratitude with our entire bodies through dance and song. One particular recollection repeatedly

announces itself in my thoughts as I reflect on this beautiful custom. While not occurring during Simchat Torah, the dance I am remembering is one of sweet, beautiful joy, and in its image lies the essence of what I believe that this holiday invites us to cultivate—a joyful approach to living in the face of our fragile, temporary lives.

Towards the end of 1997, I sat with about twenty people in the lobby of a synagogue in Philadelphia where I facilitated a monthly Jewish Healing Service. At a certain point in the service,

participants are invited to approach a bowl of water in the center of the room and, symbolically, wash their hands in the healing waters. This ritual is not intended to cure a particular illness but, rather, to produce a moment of joy and a sense of well being that such moments can engender. During this ritual, we sing songs to accompany our journeys towards the well. I looked up and saw Linda* making her way to the well. She was not simply walking—she was dancing! Amazingly, she was swaying her hips and snapping her fin-



Rabbi Myriam Klotz

gers to the sounds of "Wade In The Waters", an African-American spiritual.

Accompanying Linda to the well was her husband, George* who was carefully carrying Linda's oxygen tank. His beloved wife had been struggling with ovarian cancer for 12 years and her body was broken and in great pain. Although she died some three weeks after the Jewish Healing Service, I recall the strength of her spirit that day as she joyfully danced her way to the symbolic well of healing waters.

Rebbe Nachman, a well-known hasidic master, writes that it is a very sacred and joyful task to be joyful, always, no matter what. This season of Sukkot is called "The Season of our Joy", "zman simchateynu". I marvel at the presumptions made here. If things are going well in our lives, perhaps we can be coaxed and coached to feel some delight in the gifts that we have been given. Yet, how can someone who is ill, grieving or experiencing a sense of brokenness and fracture be compelled to feel and exude joy?

Initially, this seems an impossible and even cruel request. But the

image of Linda comes back to nudge me. Linda danced with simple praise for life, even in the face of death. Linda chose to dance when she might just as well have walked or stayed in her seat or even elected not to come to the service at all. However, Linda did come, did pray, and did rise from her seat. With her husband's help, she danced in a slow circle radiating great joy. How many times have I chosen not to dance when I might have been able to?

Perhaps the ritual symbols of the fragile outdoor dwelling of the Sukkah, and the circular dances with the Torah scroll — marking an ending which rolls seamlessly into a new beginning — can provide a context for the rhythm of our lives. We are asked to do what often seems impossible — cultivating the graceful art of moving through transition, suffering and loss in our lives with a sometimes exuberant and sometimes quiet joy.

My prayer this year at Simchat Torah is that the healing forces of joy can guide our steps, one at a time, as we proceed in the circle dance of life and death and life again.

Hag Sameach! My best wishes for a joyful holiday.

*A pseudonym.

Editor's Note: Rabbi Myriam Klotz staffs the Kimmel-Spiller Healing Center of Jewish Family Service. The Center provides pastoral care support, a resource library, and local programming. Jewish Healing Services are held the second Monday of each month, beginning October 11, from 7-8 p.m. at the JFS offices on Garden of Eden Road in North Wilmington. For more information about Jewish Healing Services or KSJHC programs, contact Rabbi Klotz at (302) 478-9411.



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Gerry McShane has 25 years of experience in the financial services industry. He studied finance and accounting at Widener University and attended the Cannon Trust School. He has several years of experience in investment management services. He is a member of the Delaware Estate Planning Council and Wilmington Tax Group.



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EDITORIAL

Politics Or Principles?

GOP Presidential candidate George W. Bush drew the wrath of numerous Jewish groups over his decision to ask Pat Buchanan to nix his plans for a Reform Party candidacy and remain in the Republican Party. While politics motivated Bush's offers to extend the olive branch to a man who Anti-Defamation League National President Abraham Foxman refers to as "an anti-Semite—a Hitler apologist and a racist on so many levels, many critics believe that the GOP front-runner sacrificed his own principles by not urging Buchanan to repudiate the views expressed in his book "A Republic, Not An Empire." Although he stated a fundamental disagreement with Buchanan's statement that Nazi Germany

posed no threat to the United States after 1940 and that our nation would have been better off it had stayed out of World War II, many believe that Bush should have rejected him outright.

Bush's GOP rivals, Senator John McCain (R-Arizona) and Elizabeth Dole, have gone on record as saying that Buchanan should be kicked out of the Republican "big tent" because of his extremist views.

Republican Jewish insiders understand Bush's strategy—Let Buchanan walk away if he wants but don't let him walk away angry at a Party that banished him for his fringe ideals—but few will wager how many Jewish votes the controversy might cost him.

Decoding Hebrew Is Not Enough

Dear Editor:

The article in the Sept. 17 issue, "High Holiday Kick-Off For Hebrew Literacy Campaign" describes the NJOP (National Jewish Outreach Program) effort to teach Hebrew "reading." I believe the title of the article misuses the word "literacy." I believe that this word means the ability to read and write, and certainly implies understanding, whereas the aim of the NJOP is to "decode," that is simply to pronounce the words.

While decoding is a necessary stop on the path to literacy, I think that there is too much self-satisfaction in the community, and

a feeling that decoding is enough. In my opinion, it is like telling college-bound engineering and science students that they should have the ability to add and subtract before beginning their college careers. We simply have set the bar too low.

As Prof. Paula Hyman, Chairperson of the Program in Judaic Studies at Yale University, has recently written (Hebrew College Today, Summer 1999/5759) "...to be educated Jewishly, one must be literate in Hebrew."

Sincerely,
Dov Seidel

The Parsha Place

Week of October 2

Deuteronomy 14:22-16:17

Shemini Atzeret —Tu Hebrayo, Yo Hebrayo
By Shlomo Riskin

Of all the festivals in the Jewish year, there is one which seems to have no cause or purpose. In the Torah we find no theological, historical or agricultural reason for its existence. Other festivals have their own character and commandments, but one remains obscure, mysterious — Shemini Atzeret. In Leviticus we are told that "...the eighth day is a sacred holiday when you shall bring a fire offering to G-d. It is a time of holy gathering when you may do no servile work." [25:35] But what, after all, is a holy gathering? What does one do at such gatherings?

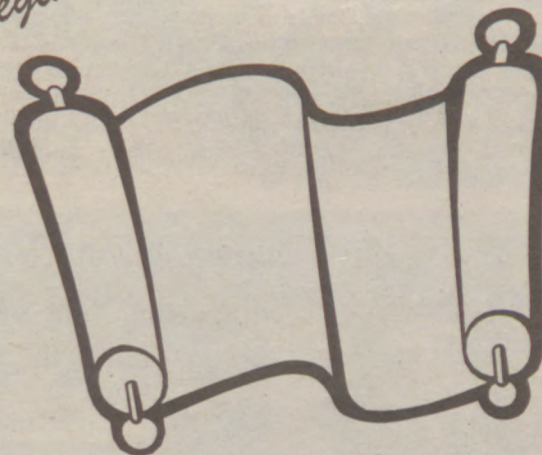
In its formal structure, Sukkot most closely resembles Pesach. Both are seven days long, and both arrive on the 15th of months exactly half a year apart. Yet Passover rates no post-Passover holiday, while the Eighth Day Gathering, (Shemini Atzeret) is a distinct, separate festival. For the first time in a week, we stop "living" in the sukkah and put away the four species until next year. At night, when we bless the candles and sanctify the wine, we add the Shehechyanu blessing, which is only said on first days of festivals. But what is the Eighth Day Gathering really about?

As we discussed earlier, the scope of Sukkot is universal; for seven days we leave the comfort of the home to live in temporary booths under the open sky while we bring the four species into the synagogue. With its unique relationship to nature, the nations, and the world at large, Sukkot is the most other-directed of all festivals. Even the sacrifices add up to seventy, the proverbial symbol of the nations of the world.

After Sukkot comes Shemini Atzeret. 'Atzeret' means assembly, but its root comes from the word 'atzor,' to stop, to hold back, to restrain. What Shemini Atzeret does is arrest the festival's end. This eighth day should really be a weekday, but G-d comes to tell us, Wait! Stop! Let's have one a day apart, separate, when we can be together. In a slight variation of Rashi's analogy it's as if a king is saying, 'I've just made a party for the entire kingdom, but now I want to be alone with my inner court, my closest servants, so let's hold back, Atzor, for one day.'

Now we see why Simchat Torah, the joyous celebration when we dance with the Torah scrolls, is the festival which flows effortlessly out of Shemini Atzeret. Not only because we've come to another end of the cycle of the Five Books, but what better expression is there to show the special relationship between the King and His inner court if not the Torah, our beloved gift! Certainly the nations of the world achieve religious rapture, but it's difficult to imagine them dancing ecstatically with copies of Gideon's Bible. And of course we are overjoyed that the Torah has been almost universally accepted as the heritage of Western culture in fulfillment of G-d's promise to Abraham, but at the same time we know that the children of Isaac and Jacob have a unique relationship to a holy scroll written in a language which only one people in the world calls its own.

SIMCHAT TORAH
Begins Sundown October 2nd



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12 NOON THURSDAY EIGHT DAYS BEFORE PUBLICATION

FEDERATION FOCUS

It Really Is A Small World After All Israeli Pavilion To Open At Disney

By Sue Shaffer,
JCRC Director

The Israel Foreign Ministry states that the Israeli pavilion will open today at the Disney Millennium Epcot Village. The Walt Disney World Millennium Celebration at Epcot features 24 new exhibits celebrating cultures and people from around the world. Included are presentations from Brazil, Scotland, Eritrea, Saudi Arabia and Israel.

The Israeli Exhibit, sponsored by the State of Israel, tells the story of

the role the city of Jerusalem has played throughout history. Disney has worked with the Israeli authorities for over 18 months to prepare the Israeli pavilion, which focuses on the history of Jerusalem since the days of the patriarchs, through the establishment of the city as the capital of Israel by King David and onto Prime Minister David Ben Gurion's declaration of Jerusalem as State of Israel's capital in 1949, as well as on the centrality of the city in the life of the Jewish people.

Jerusalem's sanctity to the three monotheistic religions and its source of faith to a large part of the world's populations are emphasized.

In addition, the presentation concentrates on Israel's achievements and contributions to humanity in the fields of environmentally friendly energy, agriculture and technology.

The Israel Foreign Ministry states that "there is no doubt regarding the fact that Jerusalem is the capi-

tal of Israel. The position of Jerusalem as the key component of the Israeli pavilion at Epcot speaks for itself without a clearer or stronger statement being necessary." "The government welcomes Disney's announcement that the Israeli pavilion will be presented in its original format, and is certain that the exhibit will be a major attraction for visitors and a source of pride for Israel and its partners at Disney over the coming 15 months."

Walt Disney World's statement on the Israeli Exhibit at Epcot Center says "we are an entertainment company and we do not take political positions. Our goal in presenting the Millennium Village is to preserve Epcot as a place where countries from around the world come together to tell stories of their cultures and people in ways that are interesting, informative and entertaining. We believe that our guests will find the Israel exhibit to be one part of that effort."

Lion Of Judah Women Gather In New York

New York was the location for the recent Lion of Judah program on behalf of the Federation's 2000 Annual Campaign. More than twenty Delaware women were on hand to see The Gathering, a new play by Arje Shaw being performed at the Jewish Repertory Theatre.

The Lion of Judah commitment represents women who have made a minimum pledge of \$5,000 in their own name. The group welcomed two new Lions, Andrea Feinman and Reiko Kayne, to the program.

"Riveting". "Outstanding". "Emotionally draining". Just a few of the words mentioned by the participants who gave the actors a standing ovation. Immediately following the final scene, Delaware Lions were treated to a special question and answer period with

Arje Shaw and with the actors.

Ellen Koniver, Chair of the Lion Reception shared, "Embracing the tragedy of the Holocaust, the poignancy of relationships within families; and emotions towards Germans born after the Holocaust, the play was thought provoking to say the least. This event was a 10!"

To make a pledge at the Lion of Judah level, please call Rhonda Falk, Campaign Director at 427-2100, Ext. 16.

Sixty-six percent of the funds raised on behalf of the Federation's Annual Campaign are allocated towards local needs benefiting the Milton & Hattie Kutz Home, Gratz Hebrew High School, the Jewish Community Center, Hillel, Jewish Family Service, Albert Einstein Academy...

Standing, left to right: Barbara H. Schoenberg, Federation President; Judy B. Wortman, Executive Vice-President; Ellen Koniver, Lion of Judah Chair; Rhonda Falk, Campaign Director

Seated, left to right: Arje Shaw, Playwright and Executive Producer; Ben Hammer, Actor who portrayed Gabe



Reiko Kayne, Andrea Feinman

Author's Words Prove Prophetic

Rabbi Joseph Telushkin's 1996 book "Words That Hurt, Words That Heal" prophetically addressed the issue of "MonicaGate" which almost brought down the presidency of Bill Clinton. The author, who will keynote the October 17 Dinner of Commitment in celebration of the Year 2000 Federation/UJA Campaign, wrestles with the question of whether or not an individual loses the right to protect himself from scrutiny when he or she enters public life.

Rabbi Telushkin argues that "it is morally unjustifiable to deny public officials a private life." In the chapter on "Privacy and Public Figures," he asserts that "Twenty years of muckraking, much of it centered on candidates' private lives, certainly hasn't led to the election of more capable and/or more honest people; its primary achievement has been to make Americans more cynical and less trusting than ever of their elected leaders."

Telushkin maintains that there is little evidence to suggest that "presidents (or other public officials or opinion makers) who have cheated

on their spouses have proven less effective or, and this is more significant, less trustworthy than presidents who have been faithful."

He cites the presidency of Franklin Delano Roosevelt as a prime example of this theory. History books revere Roosevelt as one of the 20th century's most effective presidents, yet he had a long-term (but unpublicized) extramarital affair with one of his assistants. "Had his adultery been publicized, he probably would not have been reelected," Telushkin postulated, adding that he wondered "Would that have been better or worse for the American people?"

In contrast, Richard Nixon was apparently completely faithful to his wife, Pat until her death. "Despite his admirable marital monogamy, Nixon remains the only American president forced to resign from office."

The author also addresses the power of words to heal both physical and emotional pain and to reassure others that they are valued and needed. "What others need from us, on an ongoing basis, is to know that they are cared for, that their good deeds inspire gratitude,"

said Telushkin.

He himself draws inspiration from the Yom Kippur sermon delivered by his friend and colleague, Rabbi Jack Reimer. Reimer urged his congregation to resolve to repeat the following four phrases often in the New Year:

"Thank You"
"I Love You"
"How Are You?"
"What Do You Need?"

Telushkin will speak about Jewish Humor: What The Best Jewish Jokes Say About the Jews - the subject of one of his most critically acclaimed books - during the event. The Dinner of Commitment, chaired this year by Gladys and Harry David Zutz, honors all Delawareans who make a minimum gift of \$10,000 to the annual campaign. This year, dinner participants will enjoy a special viewing of "From Al's to Zutz", a salute to Delaware's Jewish business tradition which recently opened at the Delaware History Museum in Wilmington.

Cost for the dinner is \$65. For additional information, please call Rhonda Falk, campaign director, at 427-2100, ext. 16.

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LOCAL

Bonds Honors Lt. Governor

The Honorable Ruth Ann Minner, Lt. - Gov. of the State of Delaware, will be honored by the State of Israel Bonds organization at a tribute dinner on Sunday, October 10th, at Executive Hall in Wilmington.

At the dinner, the Lt.-Gov. will be a recipient of the Declaration of Independence award for her great help, in lending support to the State of Israel Bonds and for her outstanding community leadership and achievements.

The Tribute Co-Chairmen are:
B. Eugene Battaglia, President,

Battaglia Electric, Inc.
John J. Czerwinski, Business Manager, Local #74 Plumbers & Pipefitters.
Jerome K. Grossman, Esq.,

Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP.
For more information, call the Israel Bonds Office at (800) 752-5671.

Gallery Lunch Talks Showcase Powerful New Exhibit

Make a lunch date every Wednesday throughout the month of October and savor the rich history of Delaware's Jewish business tradition. The Jewish Historical Society and the Historical Society of Delaware will sponsor a series of free noon-time gallery talks at the Delaware History Museum in conjunction with their newly opened exhibit "From Al's To Zutz". Take a "behind the scenes" tour of the photographs, memorabilia and artifacts culled from Jewish owned businesses.

On October 6th, Dr. Barbara Benson, Director, Historical Society of Delaware, will present "Walking From Al's to Zutz: The Stories of An Exhibit." On October 13th, Charles Salkin, Director of the Delaware Division of Parks and Recreation and an authority on

Jewish history in Downstate Delaware, will discuss "Small Town, Big Plans: Stories From Kent and Sussex Counties." On October 20th, Toni Young, author of "Delaware and the Jews" and the soon to be released "Becoming American, Remaining Jewish", will discuss "Business Choices: Focus on Wilmington's 19th Century Merchants". On October 27th, Marvin Balick, President of the Jewish Historical Society, will keynote "Focus on Jewish Life in the 1930's and 1940's".

The Delaware History Museum is located at 5th and Market Sts. in Wilmington. Gallery talks run approximately one hour. For additional information about the exhibit, which runs through November 6th, please call Julian Preisler, at 655-6232.

JFS Sponsors Two New Programs

Attention caregivers for children with special needs, Jewish Family Service has designed a support group just for you. If you are feeling overwhelmed or would like to meet others in similar situations, this new group may be right for you. Meetings are scheduled for five Mondays, 2-3:30 p.m., from October 4 through November 1. The cost is \$30 for all sessions. To register, please call 478-9411.

Fathers are encouraged to explore what it means to be a dad in today's fast-paced world. A five-

session Father's Parenting Group will allow participants to share their experiences about juggling career demands with the desire to maintain strong relationships with children and other loved ones. The group will meet Wednesday evenings from 7-8:30 beginning October 13th. The cost is \$30. Please register by calling 478-9411.

Both programs will be held at JFS, located at 101 Garden of Eden Road in North Wilmington.

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LOCAL

Engelhard Speaks At Hadassah Dinner

Dr. Dan Engelhard, Hadassah University Hospital's Chief Pediatric Physician and Senior Consultant in Infectious Diseases, will keynote the Wilmington Chapter of Hadassah's Bigger Gifts on Sunday, October 17th. The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the Chadds Ford home of Dory Zatzni.

A Full-Colonel in the Israel Defense Forces, Dr. Engelhard has received the Israel Defense Forces

Medal for Outstanding Medical Services Under Fire in the Yom Kippur War. Since 1979, Dr. Engelhard has been involved in numerous special missions sponsored by the Israeli government including service in Cambodia and Rwanda. He has run a field hospital for Kosovo refugees which treated more than 500 children. Thanks to the efforts of his team, all of the children were discharged in good health.

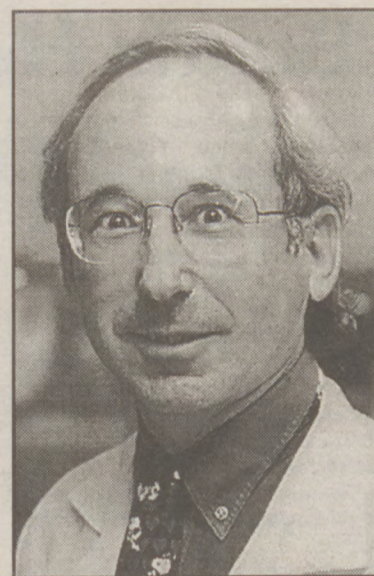
While waiting for equipment to arrive, the medical team improvised by making incubators from boxes left over from Passover matzoh. These were successfully used to protect newborns from sub-freezing temperatures. During their time in the field, the doctors delivered 12 healthy babies and treated two very seriously ill twin infants.

Under Dr. Engelhard's direction, The Hadassah University Hospital Pediatric Aids Center is

providing care to the children of Ethiopian immigrants who have been infected with HIV/AIDS. They are being treated with the latest medical advances. The hospital has reported great success with the new anti-viral agent combination "cocktails".

For more information about the dinner or to make reservations, call Lois Chalawsky at 475-3423, Barbara Yalisove 656-7828 or Diane Newsom 477-1190. Minimum contribution to attend is \$250. First time guests may attend for a contribution of \$125. Plate fee is \$20. Contributors may bring guests for plate fee only.

The money raised will support cancer research. Please make your reservation by Oct. 10, 1999.



Dr. Dan Engelhard

Rabbi Grumbacher Receives ACLF Honor

Rabbi Peter H. Grumbacher, spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Emeth in Wilmington, will

receive the 14th Annual Gerald E. Kandler Memorial Award at an October 13 dinner reception at the

Hotel DuPont. The award is presented by the American Civil Liberties Foundation of Delaware, the fundraising arm of the American Civil Liberties Union of Delaware, to honor the memory of



Rabbi Peter H. Grumbacher

Kanter, who served as ACLU President from 1971 to 1985.

Rabbi Grumbacher, Senior Rabbi of the Reform congregation since 1982, is being honored for his commitment to protecting individual rights and safeguarding civil liberties. A Past President of the Mid-Atlantic Region-Central Conference of American Rabbis, he has also been actively involved in a number of civic activities in Delaware. His community involvement has included service as Chairperson of the Delaware Interfaith Coalition on Aging and as Chair of the State Human Relations Commission. Rabbi Grumbacher currently serves as senior Chairperson of the Delaware Region-National Conference of Christians and Jews.

The program begins at 5:30 p.m. with a cocktail reception. Dinner will follow at 6:30 p.m. For reservations or additional information, please call the ACLU at 654-5326.

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NEWARK NEWS

The Fall season brings a flurry of activity to most Jewish organizations and Temple Beth El is no exception. On October 1st, 25 children were consecrated during Shabbat services. These newly minted members of the Aleph class were blessed as they begin their Hebrew school studies.

Younger children can partici-

pate in two activities-Tot Shabbat and Discovery Group. Both programs are open to the entire community so that all families can experience the joy of sharing in the synagogue.

Tot Shabbat is targeted at 2-6 year olds and is held once a month from 7:15-7:45 p.m.-just prior to

Friday night Shabbat services. The celebration consists of stories, simple prayers, songs and a general introduction to the beauty of Shabbat. Upcoming programs are scheduled for October 8th and November 12. Babysitting is provided for those parents who wish to remain for Shabbat services.

Discovery Group is also held

once a month on Sunday mornings, 11:30 to 12:30, for three and 4 year olds. Led by Rabbi Kaplan and teacher Marla Friedman, activities include stories, songs, crafts and other programming which helps the children learn about Jewish holiday celebrations. Discovery Group is designed as a steppingstone to Beth El's regular kindergarten program for five-year-olds. Sessions are scheduled on October 17 and November 21. Pre-registration is required. Call Ann Herman at 366-8330 for additional information.

Adults are encouraged to sign-up for the synagogue's annual retreat. Join congregants from November 5 through November 7 for a Shabbat celebration at Mallard Lodge near Smyrna. Enjoy lively discussions, participatory prayer, creative drama, old fashioned singing in a camp-like setting. The cost is just \$50 per person for the entire weekend, Friday evening through Sunday noon. For more information, call Paula Shulak at 455-1460 or the Temple at 366-8330. Community members are welcome.

SINGLES MINGLE

A Cyber Publication

Jewish singles now have their own on-line magazine-JewishMatch. JewishMatch is dedicated to providing its members with specific tools and information needed to make "Jewish single life" healthy, rewarding and fun. JewishMatch.com will be the leading site devoted to bringing our singles together in a dignified environment. Singles can read and interact on such topics as:

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A comprehensive, international calendar of events, with geographic links will be a fundamental part of JewishMatch. Other features will include advice from the experts, chat rooms, message boards, dating services, matchmaking services, and personals. All our basic services are free, with special

features available for paying members. The magazine will reflect the entire spectrum of Jewish religious, social and political thought from left to right, Orthodox to secular.

Many of the articles within each issue are from those who live, eat, breathe, and enjoy their single status. They share their ups and downs, their joys and pains, and their hopes and fears. These articles will hopefully generate some thought provoking comments in our forums and chat rooms.

Editor Rachel Furman invites prospective subscribers to visit <http://www.JewishMatch.com> and check it out.

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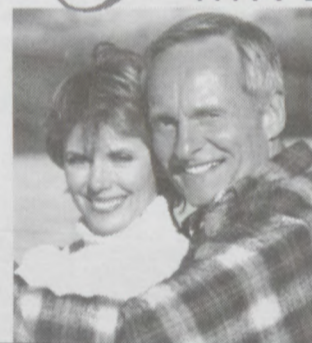
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Continued From Page 1

Jewish Historical Society of Delaware, the Milton and Hattie Kutz Foundation and the Grand Opera House.

Young has utilized her considerable writing talents to promote the work of many of these groups. She wrote *The Grand Experience: A History of the Grand Opera House* to commemorate the cultural institution's 100th anniversary.

A former chair of the *Jewish Voice* Editorial Committee, she produced the publication's 50th Anniversary Edition in 1984 and worked on its commemorative piece honoring Israel's 50th birthday.

Becoming American, Remaining Jewish is Young's second historical account of the Jewish community that made the Diamond State their home. She is the co-author and editor of *Delaware and the Jews*.

Young hopes that readers will gain from the book a greater understanding of what this Wilmington Jewish community was and what it could be.

"We must understand the past to do well in the future," the author explained.

Becoming American, Remaining Jewish is available now through November 30th at a special pre-publication price of \$25. To order, send a check payable to the Jewish Historical Society of Delaware and mail to:

JHSD, 505 Market Street Mall, Wilmington, DE 19801.

Young plans book signings and lectures in the near future at AKSE, the Jewish Studies Department of the University of Delaware and other community forums in celebration of November's Jewish Book Month. Check out future editions of the *Jewish Voice* for exact dates and times.



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Around The Jewish World

ADL settles lawsuit

NEW YORK — The Anti-Defamation League reached a final settlement with a coalition of groups that filed a class-action lawsuit in 1993 accusing the Jewish defense organization's California office of illegally obtaining information on them and their members. Under the settlement reached Tuesday in a federal court in Los Angeles, Arab American, African American, Native American and civil rights groups agreed to an injunction whereby the ADL will purge certain information, such as criminal arrest cards and Social Security numbers, from any files it holds on the plaintiffs.

Orthodox group slams art exhibit

NEW YORK — The Orthodox Union joined those criticizing a new art exhibit at the Brooklyn Museum that features works that some Christians may consider offensive. The "Sensation" exhibit, set to open Saturday, includes a painting of the Virgin Mary splattered with dung. "Today, the offense is perpetrated against a Christian symbol; tomorrow, it might be a Jewish ritual item," the O.U. said Monday. The exhibit has become an issue between the two undeclared candidates for New York's senate race. New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani first brought the exhibit to public attention when he threatened to cut public funds to the museum if the offensive items are included in the exhibit. First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton said Monday the museum should not lose its funding.

Ukraine relents on Israel program

MOSCOW — Ukraine agreed after months of delay to let some 500 youths come to Israel for a Jewish Agency for Israel program.

Israeli Interior Minister Natan Sharansky succeeded in persuading Ukrainian officials to drop their objections to the Na'aleh program, according to a Sharansky spokesman.

Ukrainian officials have delayed issuing the necessary visas, claiming that the program, which promotes immigration to Israel, was recruiting the best and brightest among the country's youth.

Wounded boy returns home

LOS ANGELES — A 5-year-old boy wounded in last month's shooting rampage at a Jewish community center in suburban Los Angeles has returned home.

Benjamin Kadish rode a firetruck home from the hospital on Sept. 23, wearing a red firefighter's helmet and a badge that said "Junior Firefighter." Kadish was one of five people wounded in the Aug. 10 attack at the center.

The other victims — two young boys, a teen-age girl and a receptionist — all left the hospital within days of the attack.

Israel sends aid to Russia

MOSCOW — Some \$100,000 in humanitarian aid arrived in Russia from Israel on Monday to help victims of the recent bomb attacks in Russia.

The aid, delivered by a Russian plane, consisted of medicine and medical equipment for survivors of the blasts, which occurred in

Moscow and southern Russia. According to reports, Israel has also offered to share its anti-terrorist expertise with Moscow.

Insurance panel announces delay

LONDON — Holocaust-era insurance claims that were scheduled to start being processed Oct. 29 will be delayed while technical problems are resolved, the head of an international panel working to settle the claims announced.

Former U.S. Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger said during a meeting of the commission in London last week that it is not ready to begin the claims process because of complications in setting up call centers and toll-free lines.

Nazi film creates controversy

NEW YORK — German Jewish leaders are criticizing a film about Nazi doctor Josef Mengele, saying it gives the infamous doctor a posthumous platform for his warped views on eugenics.

But German reviewers are applauding "Nothing but the Truth" for forcing the country to come to grips with its Nazi past. Mengele, nicknamed the "Angel of Death," is notorious for his experiments on children, twins and the handicapped.

Applicants swamp Israel project

NEW YORK — Just weeks after launching a marketing campaign informing North American Jewish college students of free, 10-day trips to Israel this winter, the Birthright Israel project has more would-be travelers than available spots.

Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life reports that more than 6,000 people have applied for the 3,000 spots it is offering as one of the organizations participating in Birthright Israel's 2000 campaign.

A Birthright spokeswoman said that the other 11 providers are also getting a large response and that

the number of calls to Birthright Israel itself has increased tenfold since the campaign began.

Judge blocks artwork's return

NEW YORK — A U.S. federal judge blocked the Museum of Modern Art from sending an oil painting back to a gallery in Austria because of claims the Nazis may have looted it from a Jewish family.

The move came hours after a New York state court said the painting, as well as a second oil by Austrian artist Egon Schiele, should be returned to Vienna.

It remains unclear whether a federal seizure order will also be issued for the second painting, which is believed to have been looted from a second Jewish family.

The U.S. attorney who sought the seizure order said it is "an important policy of the United States and other countries to return Holocaust-era looted property."

Italian extremists to resurface

ROME — Rome's most prominent far-right leader told the La Repubblica newspaper that he plans next month to relaunch his group, known as the Political Movement, despite a government ban on its activities.

Maurizio Boccacci, 42, has been investigated more than 50 times for hate activities and militant neo-fascism.

He described himself to La Repubblica as "fascist, Catholic traditionalist, anti-Zionist, racist."

The Political Movement was banned and broken up in 1993 for its anti-Semitic and xenophobic activities.

Barak vows 'Never Again'

NEW YORK — Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak pledged "Never Again" during a visit to the site of the Sachsenhausen concentration camp near Berlin.

"Never will we leave ourselves without the means to defend our life or be at the mercy of other people," the premier said in Hebrew on Sept. 22 after touring the site with German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder.

The chancellor, who wore a skullcap during a memorial service at the camp, called on Germans never to forget their past.

Poll: Russians stereotype Jews

NEW YORK — More than 4 out of 10 Russians hold strong anti-Semitic views, according to a survey released by the Anti-Defamation League.

The poll found that 44 percent of the respondents embrace a range of stereotypes about Jews, including a belief that Jews exercise too much power in Russia and in world business, and that Jews "are ready to use unscrupulous means to achieve their aims."

An overwhelming majority of respondents also are in despair over Russia's future.

Editor's Note: This world news summary was prepared by Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

NCJW Program Supports Week Without Violence

The National Council of Jewish Women will sponsor a panel discussion titled "Delaware Perspectives on Child Abuse Prevention." Moderated by Matt Denn, the participants include Judge Peggy Abelman of Delaware Family Court, Isaac Palmer of Family Services and Janis Mink of Hear My Voice.

The event is intended to educate and motivate on the topic of abuse prevention and is expected to be a lively and interesting exploration of abuse on a number of levels.


Rania Fishbane is the Honorary Chairwoman of the event, which is scheduled for October 19, 1999 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM at the Delaware Museum of Natural History. Cost is \$15 and dessert will be served. Call Gail Ball at

652-2663 for more information.

NCJW, Wilmington Section, is an association of volunteers who are interested in improving the lives of women and children in



Delaware. A variety of activities and programs are sponsored by the local section to educate, advocate and directly participate in service delivery in support of the targeted groups.

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JEWISH PERSPECTIVES

'Tolerance' Pins Aid Sacramento Synagogues

By Lee Zion

When glass artist Marsha Huggins first heard about the June firebombings of three Sacramento-area synagogues, she felt sad and helpless.

But she also felt hope when she saw the entire community come together in the aftermath of the arson attacks. Suddenly, in her mind's eye, she saw an image of

rebirth — like a phoenix rising from the flames.

Using the flames as a symbol for renewal, Huggins decided to create a work of art with a purpose. The Jewish artist crafted a pin showing flames against a dark background. Beneath that image is the word "tolerance" — a simple message of love to counteract the hatred that led to the synagogue burnings.

Working out of her home about 10 miles east of Placerville, Huggins has already made hundreds of the cut-glass pins.

Each sells for \$20. Of that, she donates \$10 to the Unity Fund, organized through the Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region to assist in rebuilding the burnt synagogues.

People have responded favorably to the pins, Huggins said.

"The people are wanting to be able to help. Knowing that the proceeds are going to the Unity Fund made them feel good that they can help in some small way."

All sorts of individuals have sought out the pins, she added. "I had some kids buying, teenagers, older people. All ages, nationalities, all religions." So far, Huggins has sold about 400 pins.

Huggins starts with a sheet of black glass, which she cuts into pieces roughly 2 inches tall by 1 inch wide. On these, she carefully places shards of "dichroic" glass, which she describes as a scientific glass with a thin layer of metal coating so the glass gives off differ-

ent colors.

After that, she cooks each pin in a kiln at 1,450 degrees, so all the glass melts together. She then grinds down the edges to make them smooth, writes the word "tolerance" on each pin and attaches a clasp to the back.

Each piece is unique. On some, the flames are a uniform copper color, while on others, the color changes in the light — from red to gold or from yellow to green.

The pins are not the first pieces of art reflecting Huggins' Jewish sensibilities. She has handcrafted many Judaica items, including kiddish cups, menorot, seder plates and yads for Torah readers.

Her other body of work centers on angels — in heaven, on earth, even fallen angels — all made from delicate blown glass. Angels are a theme in her own life, she said.

Her faith in humanity was restored about five years ago, after she broke her back. At that time, Huggins was working as a waitress to make ends meet while pursuing her art career. Her injury could have sidelined her completely, but

didn't.

"The Lord works in mysterious ways, or whatever. The universe provides. So even though I broke my back, it got me out of waitressing. And a girlfriend lent me \$3,000 and said, 'Here. You pay me back when you can, you get what you need, and you set yourself up in business.' I did. And I've been going ever since."

Huggins gives thanks for those who have helped her during tough times.

"People believed in me when I haven't believed in myself. When I thought I couldn't go on, people have banded together to hold me up through times when it wasn't good, so I could keep going," she said. "It's been the help of people. Wonderful, wonderful people."

For more information, call Marsha Huggins at (530) 644-8398, or the Unity Fund at the Jewish Federation of the Sacramento Region at (916) 486-0906.

Editor's Note: Lee Zion writes for Jewish Bulletin of Northern California

Hadassah Slates Programs For Current And Prospective Members

The Wilmington Chapter of Hadassah invites women in the community to a special program on Monday evening, October 18. A Coffee House will be held at Brew-HaHa in Concorde Gallery from 7 to 8:30 p.m. to introduce women in the community to Hadassah. Current members who joined Hadassah within the past year also are invited.

The Coffee House affords an opportunity for Jewish women to socialize and learn about Hadassah's many humanitarian programs that benefit people in Wilmington, in Israel and around the world.

Please call Barbara Felzer, 478-4466, or Michele Sands, 478-6391 if you would like to attend.

On October 25, the Wilmington

Chapter of Hadassah will hold a Paid-Up Membership program to thank Chapter members for their continuing support. The program begins at 7:30 p.m. at Congregation Beth Emeth.

Entertainment will be provided by Cantor Norman Swerling, Cantor Emeritus of Congregation Beth Shalom, who is well known in the community for his performance of liturgical music and contemporary pieces.

Hadassah members who attended this summer's national Hadassah convention will share some of the highlights of the meeting and Hadassah's plans for the coming year. Dessert will be served.

Please call Ann Jaffe, 762-5882, by October 20 if you plan to attend.

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A MATTER OF OPINION

Tikkun Olam Through Gun Control

By Mark Pelavin

In recent weeks, my office has received more than a dozen letters lambasting the Reform Movement's support for gun control. While the number of letters is relatively small, it is more feedback than many other controversial issues have garnered. In sum, these letters assert that the shootings at the Los Angeles Jewish Community Center summer camp underscore the folly of Jews supporting gun control; they cite historical precedent (mainly the Warsaw Ghetto uprising) as support for the assertion that only when Jews have guns have they been able to preserve Jewish honor and dignity.

They point to Israel as an example of Jews' need for guns, and they use both Constitutional and Talmudic citations to rebut any attempt to limit access to firearms.

Yet, despite their appeals to history and the Judaic tradition, these pleas to oppose gun control are far from convincing. To argue that as Jews we must respond to gun violence with a paranoid impulse to grab our guns in self-defense is a provincial and dangerous perspective. Such an argument assumes that a vast majority of the gun violence tearing America apart is specifically aimed at Jews, or, at a minimum, that the Jewish community has no stake in addressing the larger national epidemic of gun violence. Despite a rash of highly-publicized anti-Semitic incidents, it is simply not the case that Jews are disproportionate victims of gun violence. While we as a community undoubtedly feel under attack at the moment, the bigger picture does not support an ethos of constant persecution in America today.

In fact, study after study clearly demonstrates that the use of a firearm to resist a violent attack increases the likelihood of injury to the gun owner. According to the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, residents of homes where a gun is present are five times more likely to experience a suicide and three times more likely to experience a

homicide than residents of homes without guns.

Additionally, a gun kept in the home is 43 times more likely to kill a member of the household, or friend, than an intruder. Guns certainly endanger the rest of us. Every year, 35,000 Americans die from gun-inflicted injuries; 14 children are lost to gun violence every day in this country; and American children are more than 12 times as likely to die from gun violence as are the children of any other developed nation. **If trends continue, 2003 will see gun violence overtake automobile accidents as the leading cause of fatalities in the United States.**

The effort to call Jews to arms in self-defense could have significant, and troubling, effects on our society. Arming ourselves to the teeth in a quest to protect our community would be questionably effective in accomplishing its goals, but it would undoubtedly lead to a greater balkanization within the United States. We would alienate ourselves from the larger society,

and we would be seen (correctly in this case) as arming ourselves in direct opposition to those with whom we share this country. Just as most of us would be dismayed to see the African-American community or the gay and lesbian community self-segregate and stockpile weapons, so would the rest of America view Jews who did the same with suspicion and fear. The inadvertent but inescapable effect would be heightened incidents of prejudice, vandalism, and hate-fueled violence.

Our tradition calls for each of us to participate in tikkun olam, repair of the world. For us to insist that America's culture of gun violence and the epidemic of killing that it has wrought is important to us only as it effects our fellow Jews is to turn our backs on the rest of America.

Admittedly, addressing society's problems is an overwhelming and perhaps unattainable goal, but our tradition demands no less. It is not up to us to complete the task, but neither are we free to desist from

it.

We face a critical time: a period of unprecedented technology, of wondrous prosperity, and yet of great fear. We can choose to turn inward as a community, to protect only ourselves and our narrow interests, or we can look beyond our community, into our nation and our world, seeking common solutions, and working for the general welfare. The latter is the much harder path, but I believe that it is the one that will provide our children a better world, the one to which we as Jews are committed, and the one to which we should all rededicate ourselves. Let that commitment be our resolution for the new year.

Editor's Note: Mark Pelavin is the Associate Director of The Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, the Washington office of the Union of American

Hebrew Congregations and the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

U.S. Funding For Wye Agreement Is Needed Now

By Lonny Kaplan

With spirits high in the Middle East following the signing of the Sharm el-Sheikh agreement between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, attention is now shifting to Washington, where Congress is expected to consider the \$1.9 billion aid package the United States pledged as part of the original 1998 Wye River Accord.

The Wye aid includes \$1.2 billion for Israel, \$400 million for the Palestinians and \$300 million for Jordan. While Amman has already received \$100 million as a goodwill gesture following the death of King

Hussein, the balance of the Wye funding has not yet been appropriated by Congress.

One of the byproducts of the Wye withdrawals — which Israel has already begun implementing — will be Israel's sacrifice of strategic depth. While Prime Minister Barak has begun modernizing the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) to include quick-response weapons such as next-generation combat helicopters and antitank rocket systems, this modernization will take time and the price will easily reach into the billions. Factor in Israel's need to enhance its intelligence

gathering capabilities by acquiring sophisticated ground-based and airborne electronic monitoring equipment and the cost quickly exceeds Israel's resources.

The withdrawals also complicate Israel's war on terrorism. Since the vast majority of the Palestinians will live in areas where the IDF will no longer be able to operate, Israel's counter-terrorism capabilities could be diminished. To reduce the threat from future terror attacks, Israel is investing heavily in high-tech night imaging equipment and x-ray and thermal inspection systems, as well as miles of fences

and barriers.

The U.S. fiscal year ends this week, and Washington is caught once again in the middle of an acrimonious budget showdown. With only one of the 13 annual spending bills signed into law and several still awaiting consideration in the House and Senate, the fate of the Wye package — as well as every other funding proposal — is tied to the much larger debate over federal spending, tax cuts and Social Security.

Many members of Congress — even the most sympathetic supporters of the Wye funding — are

struggling to find a balance between competing budget interests, including staying within the spending limits, increasing funding to key programs (such as Wye), cutting taxes, and paying down the federal debt. And in a city that embodies politics, even bipartisan proposals such as the Wye package can get snared in the larger debates between a Republican-led Congress and a Democratic administration.

Unfortunately, a significant portion of the House and Senate remain unaware that the Wye assistance is a vital element of the peace process. Without it, Israel alone will have to absorb the costly redeployments and withdrawals that have become the currency of peacemaking. Relocating just a single army base will cost roughly \$100 million; Israel is moving several under the agreement.

U.S. support is a vital ingredient in the peace process. That support gives Israel the confidence it needs to make deep sacrifices for peace in a hostile and unpredictable region. Although many observers expect that Congress and the administration will find a way to fund the Wye package, it is by no means a done deal. Supporters on both sides of the Atlantic, however,

hope that after comparing the price of peace to the far larger and more gruesome costs of war, Congress and the administration will choose to help Israel and its neighbors take the crucial steps toward peace. That means funding the Wye package now while the momentum for peace is strong.

Editor's Note: Lonny Kaplan, serves as President of The American Israel Public Affairs Committee.

Washington Watch

By Douglas M. Bloomfield

When it comes to controversial issues, pinning down Gov. George W. Bush, the cautious \$52-million man who expects to be the next President of the United States, is like nailing Jello to the wall.

Like many before them, Associated Press editors and writers who interviewed W last week complained that he was "unusually guarded and brusque about policy questions, fending off requests for details."

But on one controversial issue, at least, he proved disturbingly revealing about what he stands for.

He wants Pat Buchanan to stay "home" in the GOP. W says he doesn't necessarily share Buchanan's view that American involvement in World War II could and should have been avoided — after all, Daddy fought in the big one — but that's not enough for a schism.

"I don't want Pat Buchanan to leave the Party," W said. "I'm going to need every vote I can get among Republicans to win the election."

Similar messages went out from most of W's GOP rivals to the reactionary columnist and ersatz historian who contends the Jews would have been safer if the United States had never gotten involved in World War II but simply sat by while Hitler divided the world into "four spheres: Great Britain holding its empire; Japan, dominant in east Asia; Germany, master of Europe; and America, mistress of the Western Hemisphere."

GOP presidential wannabes Steve Forbes, Gary Bauer and Alan Keyes also asked Pat to stay "home" and not move out of the GOP's big tent to join the Reform Party. Ditto Party chair Jim Nicholson, who has been engaged in a degrading weeks-long begath-on in an effort to get Pat to stay.

The message to Jewish voters is disturbingly clear. Pat's "home" cannot be their "home."

W's AP interview came only two days after he hosted a group of Jewish organization leaders and Republican contributors in Austin. He reportedly told them he didn't want to join the public debate

because that would only keep public attention focused on Buchanan. He preferred talking about other topics, like his trip to Israel with some Jewish supporters last fall.

What he fails to understand, like too many politicians today, is that Jewish support can no longer be purchased with some rousing — though often vague — pro-Israel rhetoric.

Don't blame the candidates alone. Many Jewish political activists, especially those handing out checks from pro-Israel political action committees, are responsible for creating this misleading image of Jews as naive, single-issue voters in order to enhance their own power.

Conservative politicians were easy marks for such a sales pitch because, while Israel is relatively non-controversial these days, there are deep differences between the right and the mainstream Jewish community on a broad range of domestic social issues.

Making the problem more confusing for Republicans is Israel's slippage on the Jewish political

agenda.

The main reason is peace and prosperity are breaking out in Israel, the danger has abated. Added to that is dismay over the influence of religious extremists in Israel, particularly when it comes to determining who is a Jew. Many politically involved Jews are turning their attention to closer-to-home issues like caring for an aging population, providing health and social welfare services, protecting civil liberties, maintaining church-state separation and educating children.

W's agenda, however, apparently can be summarized in a single word: votes. All else is commentary. And to get those votes he is too anxious to appease Buchanan's Brigades and make a home in his party for bigots, racists and anti-Semites.

Gary Bauer, who shares Buchanan's extreme anti-abortion views, is proud of his father's World War II service but says Buchanan should not be driven out of the party. He dismissed the entire debate as a "distraction."

Continued on page 18

LEADERSHIP PROFILES

You And I Can Change The World



Suzanne B. Grant
Assistant Secretary

What prompted your involvement in the Jewish community?

Shortly after moving from New York City to Wilmington (12 years ago), Stuart and I were invited to the home of Bill and Judy Topkis. They were kind enough to host a brunch for a group of potential young leaders. Just prior to the event, we received a tour of the various Federation agencies. They were all interesting, but I felt a strong connection when I visited the office of Jewish Family Services. Leslie Newman, the president at the time, presented a very inspirational speech. Her comments helped me understand how important it was to become involved and make a commitment of my time.

What would you like to accomplish as Co-Chair of the Israel Mission?

I was thrilled to learn that this will be a first time experience for many of the participants. I hope that the mission will inspire people to pursue additional involvement with Israel, with the Jewish Federation and other related activities. Perhaps it will simply alter the way some people view the world and day-to-day political, religious and cultural events. I am sure it will affect all of us in different ways. I am looking forward to sharing my experiences with everyone on the mission.

Describe some of your many volunteer activities.

I have been a member of the Federation Board for a number of years. Currently, I am the Assistant Secretary and a member of the Executive Committee. I also Co-chair the Allocations committee with John Elzufon. I am a member of the Investment Committee of the Jewish Fund for the Future. (My full time work involves researching and making recommendations of investment managers. Thus, this is an area in which I am particularly interested). As a parent of an Einstein student, I also volunteer for various activities and functions associated with the school.

Share a special Jewish tradition that your family celebrates together.

Stuart and I have three children - Nicole, 8; Jake, 4; and Sam, 3. Regardless of the hectic nature of our week, we all gather on Friday

night to light Shabbat candles and recite the blessings. The kids look forward to this weekly ritual with wide-eyed anticipation. The only arguments at this point is over who gets to "do the challah!" That lucky person receives the honor of ripping the first hunk off of the freshly baked bread. Following the blessings, we discuss the week which has just passed and talk about things for which we are grateful. A simple ritual, but one which brings us all together at the end of the week for some serious family bonding.



Al Green
Treasurer

What traditions do you remember from your childhood?

I came from an Orthodox background and attended Chesed Shel Emeth, at 3rd and Shipley Sts. in Wilmington. This shul merged with Adas Kodesch to become AKSE. There wasn't a single word of English in our siddurs. Non-Hebrew speakers would find themselves totally lost.

You can imagine the cultural shock when my family decided to join Congregation Beth Emeth! In this classical Reform synagogue founded by German Jews, no one wore yarmulkes and English was the language of choice for prayers. (Much has changed here through the years, as the Reform movement has become more traditional) My father fought the administration for the right to become a Bar Mitzvah. I became the first young person to celebrate this milestone in the congregation's history.

What Jewish experience most shaped your involvement in our Jewish community?

Anti-Semitism changed my life's path and made me realize the need to strengthen our Jewish community. I had always wanted to become a doctor, but medical school was expensive and my parents didn't have a lot of money. I applied to Thomas Jefferson School of Medicine in Philadelphia because it was close to home but they had a quota system on Jewish admissions. I was also turned down when I applied for a Foundation grant to cover financial expenses because of my faith.

I also experienced anti-Semitism when I served in the Army from 1942-1946. I was one of a very few Jewish officers in the South

Pacific.

How did you first become involved?

When I returned from overseas, I joined the Beth Emeth board and eventually became President of the synagogue in 1968. Synagogue presidents automatically become members of the board of the Jewish Federation of Delaware so I became active here as well. I have served as Chairman of the Allocations Committee and have been involved on the Capital Campaign Committee for many years.

What message would you most like to convey to our youth?

Inscribed on the outside wall of Beth Emeth is this message from "Sayings of Our Fathers" ... "Live Justly, Love Mercy and Do Humbly by Our God." It is the responsibility of our young people to educate themselves both religiously and secularly, build their careers and then give back to the community. As the future leaders of our Jewish community, it is incumbent upon them to practice tikkun olam - to make the world a better place because of their efforts.



Ellen Koniver
Chair, Lion of Judah Reception

Describe a pivotal Jewish experience that inspired your involvement in the Jewish Community.

In 1988, I took my son Craig with me on a Family Mission to Israel. The feeling of being there is somewhat indescribable. One of my most poignant experiences is of exploring the Mount Herzl Cemetery where the average age of those who have died is 19. It is heart wrenching to think that nineteen year olds lost their lives to make a home for the Jewish people.

Tell us about a role model you admire.

Several years ago, at a Federation event, I had an opportunity to meet Gerda Weissmann Klein, a survivor of the Holocaust. I encourage all to read her book, *All But My Life*, or hear her speak personally. This is a woman who has been through so much and who has the courage and conviction to relive her memories and share her account with individuals

all over the world. Her story and her passion is both heart breaking and simultaneously heart warming.

Being a Lion of Judah is important to me because:

Whenever I see another woman wearing a Lion of Judah pin, I know that she has made a meaningful commitment in her own name to the Jewish Federation. That commitment helps individuals, well beyond the homes that we live in, to grow, learn and heal. I have a special affinity for all who give tzedakah and who help others. I recently was honored to chair the 2000 Lion of Judah reception. We traveled to New York to see "The Gathering" an emotionally compelling drama about the Holocaust. The play evoked strong feelings in all of us.

People would be surprised to learn that...

...travels have taken Garth and me to some of the most interesting

synagogues around the world. We have visited the Portuguese Sephardi Synagogue and Community Center in Amsterdam, the Synagogue in Oranjestad, Aruba, the ancient synagogue of El Transito in Toledo, Spain and the Great Synagogue in St. Petersburg, Russia.

If I could have one wish for the Jewish youth in Delaware...

...it would be to encourage all to have a meaningful experience in Israel. There is now an incredible program, Birthright Israel, which enables Jewish youth ages 18-26 to experience Israel for the first time for free! If I were a parent with children in this age range, I would drop everything and immediately contact the Jewish Federation or Hillel at the University of Delaware to learn more about this once in a lifetime opportunity.

JFD SPOTLIGHT

Jewish Communal Agencies Host College Choice Program

Seven Delaware Jewish organizations have joined forces to sponsor a program for college-bound high school students and their families. The University of Delaware Hillel, in conjunction with Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth, Congregation Beth Shalom, Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School, Temple Beth El, Congregation Beth Emeth and the Jewish Community Center will present "College: The Choices and Challenges" on Sunday, November 7th at the JCC in North Wilmington. Lunch will be served at 12:30 followed by the formal program from

1:15-3:00 p.m. Students will be admitted for free. There is a nominal charge of \$5 for parents.

The program will help families find the college environment that is right for them. Presenters will discuss such factors as size, location, cost, sports and other extracurricular activities as well as the Jewish environment of schools being considered.

Please register by October 15th to Hillel at 302-453-0479 or e-mail to: rbshatz@udel.edu.

Checks may be mailed to University of Delaware Hillel, 47 West Delaware Avenue, Newark, DE 19711.

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NATIONAL • INTERNATIONAL

Pope Preaches Peace To Israeli And Palestinian Youth

By Ruth E. Gruber, JTA

Pope John Paul II has urged Israeli and Palestinian youth to maintain the momentum of the Middle East peace process and reiterated his determination to visit the Holy Land to mark the Christian millennium.

The 79-year-old pontiff last week delivered what the Vatican called a written "message of peace" to three teen-agers from the Israel-based Peres Center for Peace, whom he met after his weekly general audience.

They included a 15-year-old Christian boy, a 17-year-old Jewish boy and a 15-year-old Muslim girl.

"You young people, and all

Continued from page 16

those whom you represent, must be the first to realize the hopes of your peoples and of the world at large," said the pope, who frequently addresses messages to young people.

"The decisions you make concerning yourselves and your vocation in society will decide the prospects for peace, both today and tomorrow.

"At the threshold of the new millennium, you must come to see more clearly that the future of peace, and therefore the future of all humanity, depends on the fundamental choices your generation will make," he said.

"It is a moral imperative that

you help to construct a new society, to build a new civilization, based ever more solidly on mutual respect, brotherhood and the spirit of cooperation."

The pope noted the hopes attached to the Wye II accord signed by the Palestinians and Israel on Sept. 4. People everywhere, he said, have "trust and expectation" that it "will grow ever stronger and lead to an effective and lasting peace."

In his message, the pope reiterated his plans to make a pilgrimage

to the Holy Land this coming year, but did not mention specific timing or places.

"You know that, if God wills, I plan to go to the Holy Land on a pilgrimage tracing the stages of the history of salvation. God willing, therefore, we shall have the chance to meet again on your own soil," he said.

In June, the pope formally stated that he wanted to visit biblical sites in Iraq, Syria, Greece, Israel and the Palestinian Authority as part of a pilgrimage celebrating the

millennium.

He is expected to visit sites in the Holy Land next March, but no itinerary has been announced. There is persistent speculation that he will go to Iraq in December to visit Ur, revered as the birthplace of Abraham.

Plans for such a trip — which, if only for protocol, would probably necessitate a papal meeting with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein — have been hotly protested by Jewish groups, the U.S. and British governments, and Iraqi dissidents.

Washington Watch

Steve Forbes told the Washington Times that he did not believe the GOP would be better off without Buchanan and his followers and that "Pat's leaving is another wake-up call to the Republican Party to get a bolder message with more meat on it."

Dan Quayle's spokesman said the former Veep hadn't read Pat's book. Duh! But he said his boss feels "Pat Buchanan is a good man and should not be driven out of the Republican Party for things he may not have even said and written." Even if he didn't read the book, enough has been printed elsewhere to know what Pat is saying. Now that he's dropped out of the race, Quayle will have a chance to catch up on his reading and decide what image he wants his party to project.

In light of such indifference to Buchanan's attitudes towards Jews, one might be tempted to ask whether these candidates want GOP to stand for "Gentiles Only Party."

Only Sen. John McCain and Elizabeth Dole have so far shown the courage to say Pat should go, but only after his views about World War II made headlines this month.

I know nothing to suggest that W, Forbes, Bauer or Quayle are anti-Semites, but by asking Pat Buchanan and his ilk to stay in the GOP they are not broadcasting messages of religious tolerance.

In his defense, Buchanan told CNN, "There is not an ounce or trace (of bigotry) in my heart..." That's a man who needs a new cardiologist.

W holds commanding leads in the polls, endorsements and fundraising, and he's not about to jeopardize any of that on trivia. He says he disagrees with Buchanan but he doesn't want to get involved. This is not an issue like school vouchers, free trade, the F-22, or census counts. It is a fundamental question of human decency and religious tolerance.

For the man who would be president, his silence roars.
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Local Author

Continued From Page 1

lost," Weinberger told Pipes. "We were impacted very severely."

Curiously, Weinberger professed ignorance of the Victim Impact Statement filed by the U.S. government sometime between May, 1986 and January, 1987. In detailing the government's view of the damage caused by Pollard's espionage, the statement predicted that Pollard's crime would threaten U.S. relations with its Arab allies and reduce U.S. bargaining leverage over intelligence with the Israelis.

"I'm not familiar with that statement; I suppose I should be," said the former defense secretary.

Editor's Note: David Twersky serves as New Jersey Jewish News Editor-in-Chief.

Article courtesy of Project JOI-Jewish Outreach Institute

It is told that the B'aal Shem Tov (the founder of Chasidism) had a special love for the ritual of dwelling in the sukkah. He thought it special because one could actually enter the ritual space, "even with the mud sticking to one's boots". He loved the immersive physical experience of

the sukkah. His insight points to the combination of the physical and what I'll call "grit" that makes Sukkot a most interesting holiday. Both the immersive bodily experience and the "mud on the boots" embody the same "physicality" that is something of a motif for Sukkot.

Of course, physical ritual has always played a part in Jewish Religious life. The body is in the forefront in such diverse activities as the waving of the hands over the just lit Sabbath candles, the task of lifting of the Torah, even circumcision of the newly born boy. But all of these activities take place in ritually and physically clean places. Preparation for most any Jewish holiday requires both cleansing of the normal routine mentality and the cleaning of any physical spaces. Beyond that, the place of ritual is inevitably the home or the synagogue, rather than in the great outdoors.

Much of Biblical literature is filled with stories and layouts for the Temple. There are minute details about the materials that are to be used in the structure and

ritual implements of the service. These days, the most physically demanding commandment is that of building the sukkah. But the aim of all the labour of bulding a sukkah is by nature impermanent. One one hand, we are to dwell in a sukkah as if it were home (by decorating and furnishing it); on the other we must be constantly aware of the elements.

And that is where grit comes in. While the B'aal Shem Tov emphasized the immersive experience of the sukkah-dweller in the sukkah, he also, by noting the mud, referenced the immersive experience of the sukkah in nature. Many sukkot are made with sheets or curtains along their sides, such that a wind will rustle the "walls." And the rabbis made sure that the roof could only be made out of organic material and only stacked in such a way so that rain would be able to permeate. A little drizzle is generally not enough to warrant vacating the sukkah. In order to have a real Sukkot experience, we must conduct our religious practices fully aware of the muddy world around us.

MILESTONES

In Memoriam

Pratt

Sam Pratt, 93, formerly of Wilmington, died September 21 in Tamarac, Florida. A native of Pittsburgh, PA, Mr. Pratt was the consummate athlete. He lettered in five sports while in high school and received a full athletic scholarship to Duquesne University. There, he lettered in basketball and led the Dukes, the school's football team, to an unbeaten season in 1930. He was proud to be inducted into the University's Sports Hall of Fame in 1984.

After graduation, Mr. Pratt worked for a time with Honus Wagner, former Pittsburgh Pirates football star, in Wagner's sporting goods store. At the invitation of a former Duquesne teammate, he

joined the faculty of a Pittsburgh high school, coaching football, basketball and soccer.

Mr. Pratt moved to Wilmington with his wife, Ruth (nee Fieldstone) in 1944. He became Director of Athletics at Bayard Junior High School. He remained at Bayard, where he taught physical education, for 25 years. He retired in 1969.

He was an active member of Congregation Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth, the Lions Club, Masonic Lodge #27 and the Delaware Health and Physical Education Association.

Mr. Pratt is survived by his wife of 60 years; his daughters, Sue Pikus of Ft. Lauderdale, FL and Barbara Lessin of Wilmington; his

grandchildren, Jeff Pikus of New York City and Lisa and Laurie Lessin of Wilmington.

The family requests that contributions in Mr. Pratt's memory be made to the donor's favorite charity.

Wolpert

Harry Wolpert, 82, died September 17 in Wilmington. He was an active volunteer in the Delaware Jewish community. Mr. Wolpert served on the Board of Trustees of Congregation Beth Emeth for many years. He was Treasurer of the Kutz Home Auxiliary and volunteered at the Kutz Home and Riverside Hospital. He was predeceased by his wife Blanche.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Travel The Way To The Forum

By Paula Shulak

It's hard to go wrong when you have a great script and A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM, currently being presented at the Wilmington Drama League, is one of the funniest scripts I have ever seen. This classic musical comedy is WDL's opening show for the 1999-2000 season and also heralds a new look for the venerable theater. Last year the stage, bathrooms and rehearsal area was revamped and this year the lobby and outside facade received a facelift. It is rewarding to see a fine old building like this being revitalized. And FORUM showed some of that same vitality! It was an energetic, fun-filled performance highlighted by the very good acting of Frank Bartkowski as Pseudolus, the wily slave searching for his freedom, and David Wills as the frantic slave in chief, Hysterium. Their rendition of Lovely was a show stopper! But it was the stylized set produced by Ed Nolan that captured your eye as soon as the curtain rose. This was a magnificent backdrop for the antics of the large cast. Steve Gleich made a thoroughly obnoxious Miles Gloriosus,

the warrior; Kelly Porter was an equally irritatingly funny Domina and Michael Vuccola as Lycus the flesh merchant did a fine job. Bruce Fay as the lecherous Senex did particularly well in his rendition of the favorite Everybody Ought To Have A Maid. Unfortunately some of the other characters did not ring true in their interpretations, particularly Erronius (played by Patric Iozzo) which should be a particularly hysterical role. The dancing of the courtesans was very well done and they should be commended for their choreography which apparently, according to the program they designed themselves.

For first time Director Nick D'Argenio this was a good effort. He kept the action moving and made good use of the stage although there were times when I wished that the blocking could have been a bit more diversified and inspired. But the overriding negative factor about this show was the excruciatingly slow tempo created by Bill Fellner, Musical Director, in most of the numbers. This has to be a snappy show and in the acting it was that. However, almost every musical number dragged the pace down. Comedy

Tonight, which should get the show off to a rousing start, was interminable with no pizzazz or charisma. And many of the other songs followed suit. The recorded music did not add to the ambience either. A small live orchestra would have been my preference and would have reacted more to the nuances of what was happening onstage at the moment. But even with these few problems, the audience obviously enjoyed the show and as I have said, it is almost impossible not to do so with such a wonderful script. FORUM continues at WDL through October 2. Tickets may be ordered by calling 764-1172.

'JAKOB THE LIAR' OPENS
A Holocaust film starring Robin Williams (right) opened last Friday in theaters across North America. In "Jakob the Liar," Williams plays a resident of a Polish ghetto during World War II who tells lies about advancing Russian troops based on a radio he claims to have. The film, which comes on the heels of last year's Academy Award-winning Holocaust film "Life Is Beautiful," is based on a 1969 novel.



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.

OCTOBER

Monday 4
JFS offers a support group for parents who have children with special needs. The group meets every Monday throughout October, 2-3:30 p.m. Call 478-9411 for additional information.

Wednesday 6
"Nourishing Our Spirits" - a spiritual support group for people living with cancer will be offered every Wednesday afternoon in October from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

The program will meet at JFS offices, 101 Garden of Eden Road in Wilmington. Call 478-9411 for more information.

Wednesday 13
The Kimmel-Spiller Jewish Healing Center of JFS offers Jewish Healing Services at the Adult Institute, every Wednesday through November 17, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Call Rabbi Myriam Klotz, at 478-9411 for additional information.

Thursday 14
JFS offers workshops for parents and children who are experiencing divorce, this evening and Thursday, October 21st, 6:00-9:30 p.m. in the Jewish Community Center board room. Call 478-9411 for additional information. The agency also offers divorce mediation services.

ONGOING
VOLLEYBALL ANYONE? Young Jewish Singles of Delaware sponsors a weekly volleyball game and dinner outing for adults in their 20s and 30s. Non competitive play every Wednesday at 6p.m., dinner at 8p.m. Call Phil at 652-6688 for more information.

ISRAEL AND JEWISH STUDIES
The WUJS Institute offers scholarships of \$200 during the year 2000 to all young adults in the Delaware/NJ Partnership 2000 Region. The scholarship brings the cost of the seven-month Institute to \$2000 and includes Hebrew Ulpan, Jewish-Israel Studies, camping trips, seminars and a wide range of social and cultural activities over seven months. Also included in the cost are accommodations, one cooked

meal a day and employment assistance. For additional information, call the Jewish Federation of Delaware at 427-2100.

OSI SEARCHING FOR HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS who lived in Kupishok, Lithuania or surrounding towns during July, August or September of 1941. Their testimony is needed in connection with a pending criminal case against an alleged war criminal. For additional information, please call Stephen Paskey or Susan Adams at the Office of Special Investigations, (202) 616-2501. Collect calls will be accepted.

DELAWARE GRATZ NEEDS A "GOOD FAIRY" Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School needs two, new or gently used tall standard sized

(not legal) file cabinets. If you can help, please call Marlene

Milunsky, principal, at 478-8100.

Candlelight Offers Kids A Tasty Theater Experience

Candlelight Music Theatre's Children's Luncheon Series begins its 27th season on Thursdays and Fridays from October through June for students from area schools and on Saturdays (beginning November 13) for community children, parents and grandparents. Enjoy hot dogs and live theatre for \$8 per person for school shows and \$10 per person for public performances.

This season, Candlelight is proud to present "The Frog Prince", an original rendition of the classic Grimm Brothers fairy tale, written by Donald J. Leonard with music and lyrics by David Reiser. This production is directed by the *Jewish Voice's* Arts and Entertainment correspondent, Paula Shulak.

For times, dates and reservation, call the theatre at 475-2313.

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