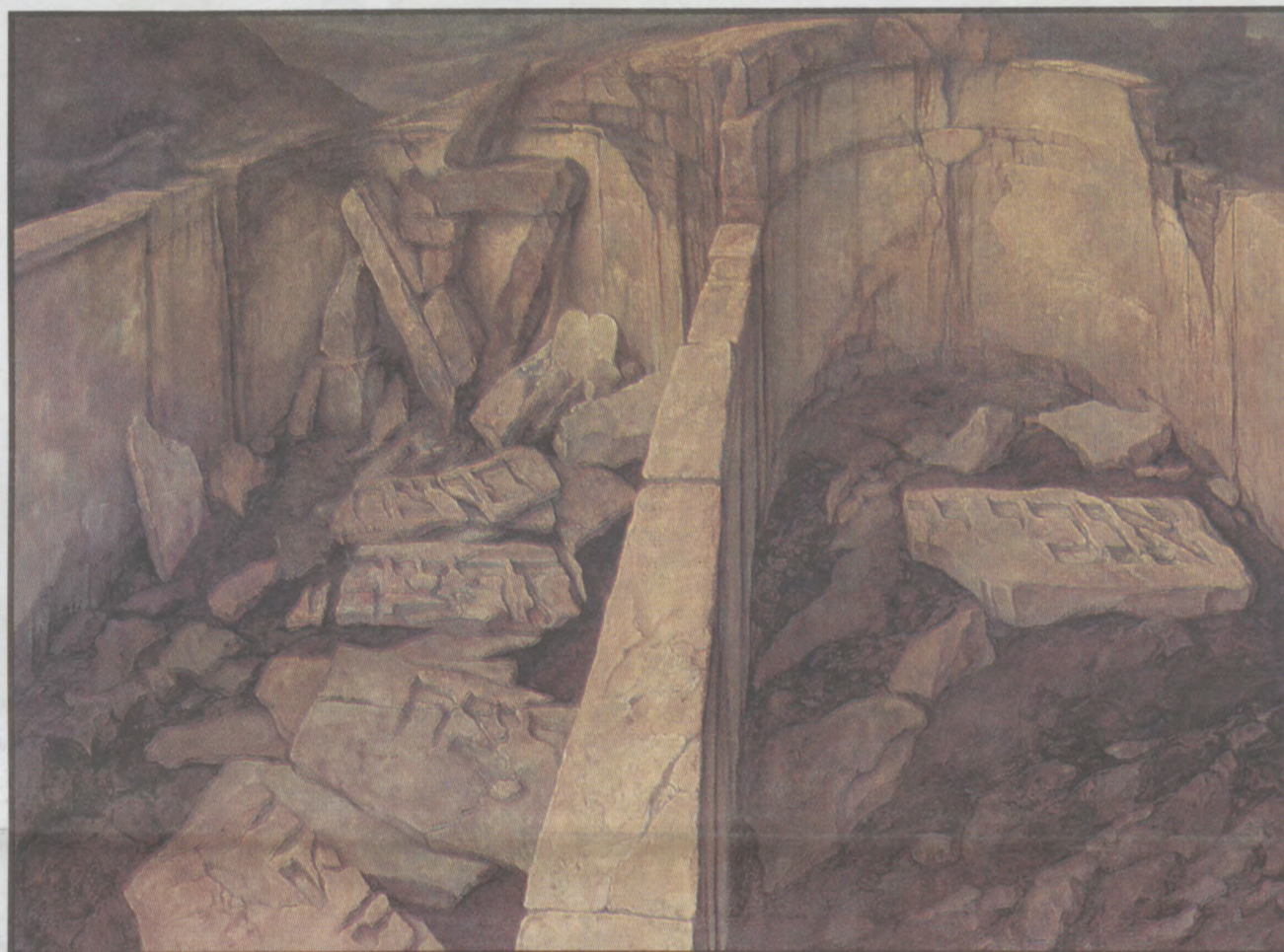


# The JEWISH VOICE

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505 Market Street  
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Vol. 42, No. 13 20 Nissan, 5761 April 13, 2001 20 Pages  
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*Never  
Again!*



*Thou Shalt  
Not Kill*

*-1978, Samuel Bak, Oil on canvas*

Courtesy of Yad Vashem  
The Holocaust Martyrs' & Heroes'  
Remembrance Authority - Israel  
[www.yad-vashem.org.il](http://www.yad-vashem.org.il)

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# WE WILL REMEMBER



Righteous Gentiles Garden at the Delaware Jewish Community Center  
Photos by Jack E. Shattuck



Memorial at Freedom Plaza, Wilmington, DE



JCC Children's Holocaust Memorial

## Holocaust Memorial Museum Hosts DE Program

William Donat, son of Alexander Donat, the author of *The Holocaust Kingdom*, will speak at the Book and Author Luncheon sponsored by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. Donat's April 26th luncheon at the Hotel DuPont, 11th and Market Sts. in Wilmington, will begin at noon.

The program, a fundraiser for the national Holocaust museum's Education and Remembrance Fund, is organized by WHY REMEMBER? the museum's Delaware Project.

William Donat was interned in the Warsaw Ghetto with his parents Alexander and Lena. They saved him by finding a Polish-Christian family to live with before the Ghetto's final liquidation. He survived by hiding his Jewish heritage in the face of constant and fervent Polish anti-Semitism. After the war, he was reunited with his parents who had miraculously survived several concentration camps.

Registration for the program begins at 11:30 a.m. Donat will be available to sign his books after the program.

Tickets are \$75 per person. Corporate tables are available. To order, please call Carole Bakst at 302-652-6664.



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# WE WILL REMEMBER

## Community Commemoration of Yom HaShoah

By Susan Shaffer, JCRC Director

Regina Kerr Alonzo, Chair, Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Committee, announces the following events to mark the observance of Holocaust Remembrance Day 5761. The actual day of Yom HaShoah is April 20, 2001.

In this article we are listing those events in North Wilmington. All are free and open to the public.

**Thursday, April 19, 2001, from noon-1:00 PM**, the Annual Interfaith Service will be held at the Louis Redding City/County Building in Council Chambers, 800 French Street, first floor. This year's speakers are grandfather Otto Heitlinger and granddaughter Anika Mamberg, a freshman at the University of Delaware, discussing "From Generation to Generation: A Family Gives Witness to the Holocaust." Otto will recount his story from a childhood in Germany eventually coming to America in 1942 with his wife, Lolo. Granddaughter Anika will tell about her experiences on the "March of the Living" in which she participated last spring, traveling with a group from BBYO.

This annual interfaith service is organized by the Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Committee of the Jewish Federation of Delaware; it is co-sponsored by several groups, including The Rabbinical Association of Delaware and the Jewish Federation of Delaware.

There will be greetings by a number of State and local officials, including Governor Ruth Ann Minner and Wilmington Mayor James M. Baker. Program participants include Pastor David E. Mueller of Concordia Lutheran Church, Cantor Judith Naimark of Congregation Beth Shalom, Rabbi Daniel Satlow, Chairperson of the Rabbinical Association of Delaware and rabbi of Congregation Beth Shalom, Reverend Elizabeth Vandergrift, Associate Pastor of First and Central Presbyterian Church, and students of the Albert Einstein Academy. The program is one hour in length and concludes with prayers at the Holocaust memorial in Freedom Plaza. The outside program will be held rain or shine.

The March of the Living program is an international, educational program that brings Jewish teens from all over the world (from 70 countries) to Poland on Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Memorial Day, to retrace the infamous death march from Auschwitz to Birkenau, and then to Israel to observe Israel Memorial day, and Israel Independence Day. The goal of The March of the Living is for these young people to learn the lesson of The Holocaust and to lead the Jewish people into the future vowing Never Again. Anika says that

she "is speaking for the silent voices...for the people who cannot speak because they were killed in concentration camps."

There will be a Community Yom HaShoah Service, Thursday, April 19, 2001, 7:30 PM, at Congregation Beth Emeth, 300 West Lea Boulevard, Wilmington. Guest speaker is Rabbi Gustav Buchdal speaking on "The Fading Reality of the Shoah: A Phenomenal Response." This service is coordinated by the Rabbinical Association of Delaware. At this service, there will also be a teen presentation of What's Important? What's Really Important? Teens will honor the memory of the Six Million Jews who died in the

Holocaust. Special thanks to the 9th grade Youth Leadership class at Gratz Hebrew High School. Attendees will see teenagers comparing the lives of teens during the Holocaust to the lives of teenagers in the year 2001. This presentation will be repeated on April 24th, 8:15 PM at the Jewish Community Center.

Also, in commemoration of Holocaust Remembrance Week, the Halina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Committee, in cooperation with the Concord Pike Library branch of the New Castle Libraries will present a Library Talk on Sunday, April 22, 2001, at 3:00 PM. The speaker will be Dr. Arnold Kerr, Professor of Engineering,

University of Delaware. Dr. Kerr's experiences as a young man in Poland, caught up in the nightmare of the Holocaust and the death camps, are graphically related in the book, "The Vanished Kingdom-Travels through the History of Prussia," by James Charles Roy. This book, and hundreds of other Holocaust books, videos and educational materials, are part of the Preston Holocaust Collection housed in the Concord Pike Library, 3406 Concord Pike (Route 202), Wilmington.

For more information on any of these programs, call Sue Shaffer, JCRC Director at the Jewish Federation of Delaware, (302) 427-2100, ext. 17.

## How Could The Holocaust Happen?

By Dr. Margaret Weiss Crouch

How could such a thing happen in the twentieth century? Such a thing is the Holocaust. The US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC, defines the Holocaust as "the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945." There were millions of other victims of Nazi persecution, but the Holocaust is about the six million European Jews murdered by a cultured country in modern times. How such a thing could happen is woven in the threads of time and place that spun the web of deceit that entrapped the Jews. The complex political, social, economic, and religious scene in prewar Germany spun out of control.

Germany had a long history of small monarchies suddenly replaced by the unknown 1918 Weimar Republic, associated with Germany's World War I defeat. Structural flaws allowed for too many parties to rule, permitting extremists right and left. The Treaty of Versailles further fostered resentment and discontent because Germans felt that they were forced to accept sole responsibility for the war and nursed a great sense of humiliation.

The social and economic scene was one of unemployment, wage cuts, inflation, and shortages due to reparations and the Depression. When the stock market crashed in the US in 1929, we stopped the loans to Germany that were rebuilding the economy as well as the bombed-out cities.

Many Germans saw their internal enemy as the Jews, whom they blamed for the weak Weimar Republic, since Jews helped write the constitution; the World War I loss, because the military blamed the Jews not the generals; and the economic crisis, blamed on the Socialists and the Jews, the latter accused of an international conspiracy to take over the world. The Germans saw their external enemy as the Communists, who they were terrified would spread westward and take control. Since the Germans linked the Jews to Communism, the Jews became both the external and the internal German enemy.

The stage was set. The star was

waiting in the far-right wing to enter. The Nazis and their leading man promised a return to nationalism, protection from Communism and Socialism, and a return to an effective government in place of the present inefficient Weimar Republic.

Nationalism, of course, meant Germans. German Jews considered themselves Germans, but the 1935 Nuremberg laws stripped them of their citizenship. Now nationals were only those who could prove pure Aryan blood. Jews were not Aryan; therefore, they could not be German.

Jews comprised half a million of Germany's 62 million people, less than half a per cent. They were merchants, industrialists, craftsmen, and professionals. Even though they were highly represented in the professions, it's illogical to think they were all rich and controlled Germany's finances. German Jews considered themselves equal citizens with a different religion.

Religion is the key word here. The religious scene was one of long-standing anti-Semitism. Religious anti-Semitism originated from the clergy who preached that the Jews killed Christ. In the sixteenth century Martin Luther recommended that Christians burn Jewish synagogues and rob the Jews of their possessions since they wouldn't convert. Later cultural anti-Semitism permitted the nonreligious also to blame the Jews for the social, economic, and political woes of Germany.

But the Nazis turned anti-Semitism into racism. They convinced the Germans that the Jews were an inferior race, a threat to the master race, who had to be destroyed for humanity to survive. Nazi propaganda pictured Jews as the devil because only Satan could kill Christ. The explanation was that Jews were a satanic element which was not really human but only looked human introduced into history by evil forces.

Anti-Semitism was accepted as gospel because it came from the educated, revered men of Crouch 3, How Could the Holocaust Happen? the pulpit. The Nazis spun the idea to become the gospel of the resurrected Germany. Hitler combined church and state and promoted a secular, Aryan community, for which he was the messen-

ger of God and interpreter of the scriptures. Fanatics believed that Hitler was the Holy Ghost. He proclaimed himself a prophet and may have believed he was the Messiah. He boasted, "By defending myself against the Jew, I am fighting for the work of the Lord." The German Minister for Church Affairs exclaimed in 1937, "A new authority has risen as to what Christ and Christianity really are—Adolph Hitler."

After Hitler gained control in 1933, he was able to gain control of the German people and the military as well as the church. The German people submitted to Hitler. He knew how to touch the raw political, social, and economic nerves of the lower and middle classes. He was a charismatic mind controller. He capitalized on the power of his personality, of a single-minded zealot, a self-styled prophet, and a self-certain missionary. The Germans bought his propaganda of his moral aim to restore Germany's national salvation by vesting heroic qualities and achievements in him. They were swept along with the tide and talked themselves into going along with the flow. They were bonded so close to Hitler that they couldn't unbind even if they wanted to. The Germans believed that the Nazis, comprised of intelligentsia, knew how to solve

Germany's problems. Most Germans didn't advocate killing the Jews, but their long-standing anti-Semitism rationalized that if the Jews were eliminated, it was worth all the torture and violence to restore Germany's rightful, respectable place in the world. Since the Nazis operated in relative secrecy at first, the German desire for political stability seemed met. Once the Germans were living in a police state, they feared for their lives. Helping to save Jewish lives could mean risking their own. To the Nazis, removal of the Jews was of utmost importance. In prewar Germany emigration suited. When that was too slow, expulsion seemed the answer. When that didn't work either, execution was the only logical answer based on Nazi ideology.

Hitler's twofold vision for Germany helps to explain how the Holocaust could happen. First, he wanted to make Germany the greatest power in Europe. He would cre-

Continued on page 14

### Otto And Lolo's Story

Otto Heitlinger was born in the city of Pforzheim, Germany, at the northern point of the Black Forest, in 1910. After growing up and working in Germany, Otto left Germany in 1937, the last possible "legal" moment to leave. His mother was very ill with heart disease and couldn't leave, but Otto's sister was already in England and they managed to get their father out. In 1940 Otto met and married Lolo.

Lolo had a terrifying story of her own. In 1934, all the Jewish children in Cologne, Germany were ordered to leave school. Lolo's parents, having had their passports taken away from them because they were Jews knew that Lolo must continue her education, after all she was only 14 years old. An employee of her father smuggled Lolo out of Cologne, very close to the Belgian border, by walking with her in the secrecy of the night's darkness. Lolo was met at the border by friends of the man, and under the most complicated of circumstances managed to get her to England. In England, she was helped by an organization called Woburn House, a famous organization known for helping everyone who managed to get out of Germany.

Back to the married couple, Otto and Lolo. Several days after their wedding, Otto was among 20,000 men arrested by the British. The Brits, worried that these men were spies, only by virtue of the fact that they were German-born, were interned in a barbed wire holding camp on the "Isle of Man." After he was freed and returned to his bride, Otto and Lolo went through Blitzkrieg/nightly attacks, but felt that it was too dangerous to remain, fearing that Hitler would invade England at any time.

While Otto was interned, Lolo had been going from embassy to embassy in search of a country where Jews were welcome. She found that Ecuador was the only country with room for more Jewish people, and in October, 1940 they left Liverpool for Ecuador. It took 3 weeks to travel in a convoy of boats from all over the world; this was the last convoy out of Europe. The convoy, consisting of a variety of boats, including freighters, had destroyers at beginning and end of it protecting all the other boats. Otto and Lolo went from Liverpool to Bermuda, where the convoy dispersed. Otto and Lolo were on a boatload of Jews, one boat out of 120, during the duration of that 3 weeks journey, they were told to be constantly ready to evacuate—remaining dressed and ready to jump ship. They remained in Ecuador for a year and a half until they were able to get a visa to America.

In 1942 they were able to leave Ecuador for Brooklyn. They were the only Jews on the ship; the journey took 2 weeks. They lived in New York, raising their two daughters. Both daughters married in 1970 and moved to Wilmington in 1973 with families of their own.

In December 1979, Otto and Lolo moved to Wilmington so that "the whole mishpacha could be together". In 2001 we are still proud to have them as part of the larger Wilmington Jewish Community family.

# EDITORIAL

## A Solemn Anniversary

When is an anniversary NOT cause for celebration? When that date deliberately sparks memories of perhaps the darkest chapter in modern Jewish history. This year's Yom Ha Shoah commemoration is made all the more poignant by its solemn significance as the 60th anniversary of the beginning of the genocide of Eastern European Jewry.

By April, 1941, Hitler's plans to annihilate six million Jewish men, women and children were well underway. German Jews were ordered into forced labor. A "Commissariat" for Jewish Affairs was set up in Vichy, France. Nazi forces invaded Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Greece. A quote from the Nazi newspaper *Der Sturmer* proved chillingly prophetic—"Now judgement has begun and it will reach its conclusion only when knowledge of the Jews has been erased from the earth."

In the face of these steadily intensifying incidents of Nazi oppression, the free world was stoic. No government leader spoke out against these flagrant human rights violations. No outraged citizens rallied their representatives to offer these individuals a safe haven. This silence aided and abetted the atrocities that ensued. How many lives could have been saved if we raised our voices in protest and demanded an end to this systematic campaign of human annihilation?

On April 19, 2001, during the Jewish Community of Delaware's annual Holocaust Remembrance Day commemoration, we take a public vow that history will NOT repeat itself. **This Yom HaShoah** we will honor the memory of those whose lives

were extinguished in a horrific reign of terror fueled by hatred and bigotry. **This Yom HaShoah** we will listen to the stories of survivors and ensure that these stories are indelibly etched into our collective memories.

Next Thursday, we will gather at noon at the Louis Redding City/County Building in Wilmington for an interfaith program of remembrance and prayer. Hear the compelling story of Otto Heitlinger, who escaped Germany for England at the last possible "legal" moment and was ultimately reunited with his sister and father. Learn how Otto met his beloved bride, Lolo and journeyed from Liverpool to Bermuda to Ecuador and ultimately to America in search of a land where Jews were welcome. Share the experiences of their granddaughter, Anika Mamberg, who paid the ultimate tribute to the memories of victims of the Shoah by participating in the "March of the Living" last Spring.

At sundown, light a Yahrzeit candle in memory of the 6,000,000 then come to Congregation Beth Emeth for a moving service organized by the Rabbinical Association of Delaware. Rabbi Gustav Buchdal will speak on the "Fading Reality of the Shoah" and area teens from Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School will offer a special presentation.

Details of these and other Yom Ha Shoah programs can be found on pages 2 and 3 of this edition of the Jewish Voice.

Let our collective presence at these community events demonstrate our commitment to remembering our past for the sake of our future!

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Community Member Celebrates A Milestone

My dear friend Ann Jaffe just celebrated her seventieth birthday. Unlike many people, she doesn't mind who knows her age. She cherishes each year she's given as a birthday present she wasn't always sure she'd get.

When Ann was 13, she wasn't sure she'd see 14. When she was 14, she was physically and emotionally beyond her years. Now that she's 70, she's wise beyond her years.

That she is a Holocaust survivor seldom shows on her face. Instead, she wears a smile that emanates from a pure heart. When her story breaks my heart and all humanism drains out, she wraps her smile

around it and infuses it with humanity. She shares her story with school children, always mentioning those few who helped. She reminds us what happens when we don't care enough to be our very best. She is not skeptical, bitter, or revengeful; instead, she is bright (a master of languages as well as the quiche), talented, independent, resourceful, caring, compassionate, and strong. She is a loving wife, mother, grandmother, teacher, and friend. To her I raise my tribute, L'Chayim.

Margaret Crouch  
Wilmington

### PARSHA PLACE

Week of April 14

Chol Hamo-ed Pesach

Exodus 33:12-34:26

### PARAMETERS OF FAITH

Steven Z. Leder

I thought this particular funeral would be easier than most since it was that of an elderly woman who suffered horribly and truly wanted to die. Her name was Ruth, and her only remaining relatives were her nephew Harry and his son Joel.

I gathered with Harry, Joel, and a few others at Ruth's grave to talk about her life, pray, and then help lower her body into the silent earth. Joel showed up with an armful of books. Based on the books, I surmised that Joel was a recent ba'al t'shuvah—a formerly nonobservant Jew who has adopted traditional views and behaviors.

After the funeral, still standing near Ruth's grave, Joel asked if he could read something from one of his books. I nodded. Joel brought with him a young woman whose husband had died just a month ago. Although all of us listened, it was pretty clear that Joel was reading to her. His text? Ezekiel's vision in the Valley of Dry Bones—a miraculous biblical passage that manifests God's ability to resurrect the dead. (Ezekiel 37:1-14)

After he had finished, Joel turned to me and said, "This idea that the dead will be reborn was the hardest thing for me to accept about Judaism. But then one of the rabbis I study with showed me a lemon seed and said, 'If God can make an orchard grow from this seed, then God can do anything.'"

I was impressed with Joel's fervor but not his logic. "If God can do anything," I wanted to ask him, "why didn't God prevent the Holocaust or liver cancer?"

During the car ride back to the temple, I thought about Joel's faith. I envied him his belief, but I also knew that I could not ignore all the evil in the world that contradicts it. For many of us, faith comes less easily and surely.

We are not all that different from our ancestors in the Torah portion the rabbis chose for us to read during this week of Passover. According to this parashah, after witnessing God's powerful plagues against the evil Pharaoh, the parted sea, manna from heaven, a cloud to lead them by day and a pillar of fire by night—miracle after miracle—our ancestors still panicked when Moses was barely half a day late coming down from Mount Sinai. After all Moses and God had done for them, the people still built a golden calf and danced around it, proclaiming, "This is our God." It appears that even Moses himself lost faith after this occurrence and in a moment of need requested from God an expression of ultimate and intimate relationship. (Exodus 33:12-18)

This theme of faith coming and going for our ancestors recurs in the Torah. I think it's the Torah's way of telling us that we don't have to be like Joel to be part of the Jewish people. Not that there's anything wrong with that kind of faith; it's just not the only kind of faith. Even in the case of the golden calf, God punished but ultimately forgave and sent Moses back up the mountain to give the people another chance. There is always another chance not only for those with Joel's faith but for all of us.

Steven Z. Leder is senior rabbi of Wilshire Boulevard Temple in Los Angeles, CA.

## SHABBAT Candle Lighting

APRIL 20TH – 7:27 PM

APRIL 27TH – 7:34 PM



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## Dry Bones

TARZAN IN THE JUNGLE.



# ENDOWMENT FOR THE FUTURE

## If We Would Only Will It...



(Part 1 of 3)  
By **Jordon Rosen, CPA**  
Guest Columnist

Most, if not all of us have been touched by one or more Jewish agencies here in Wilmington. One doesn't have to think hard to recall how Jewish Family Service may have helped a family or friend, or the wonderful Jewish education our children received at Albert Einstein Academy and Gratz (many of whom went on to be leaders at Hillel at the U of D). Some can recall the happy experience their grandchildren had at the JCC summer camp or the personal care provided to grandparents at the Kutz Home. Whatever your experi-

ence, we tend to recognize these organizations only at year-end when we write our tax deductible checks to charity (next year, also try making out your first check of the new year to a charitable organization!).

Annual contributions help agencies meet their short-term operating expenses, not their long-term needs. This series of three articles explains several planned charitable giving techniques that can save you substantial income and estate taxes and, at the same time, help ensure that agencies will continue providing their much needed services from generation to generation.

Most people want to hold on to their investments since they will generate a substantial portion of their income at retirement. But those with no close heirs or with

children who are already financially stable should consider leaving a portion (or all) of their estate to charity. This can be accomplished simply by making a direct bequest in your will of specific assets, a stated dollar amount, or a percentage of your residuary estate. Direct bequests to charity are fully deductible for estate tax purposes and thus can reduce your federal and state estate tax to zero (this is better than waiting for Congress to repeal the tax). The bequest can be used to set up a fund to help finance a specific need or for a particular field of interest such as edu-

cation, families in crisis or the arts. It can also provide a wonderful opportunity to establish a fund named for yourself or a loved one. The fund can be created through and administered by the Jewish Fund for the Future, which can carry out your wishes for the fund in perpetuity.

There are many types of assets you can leave to charity. In addition to cash, consider leaving appreciated stocks, bonds or real estate. A commonly overlooked bequest is an insurance policy. Whether a paid up policy or one where premiums are still due, naming the charitable

organization as the irrevocable beneficiary will provide the organization with the policy proceeds at your death. A current income tax deduction is also allowed equal to the cash value of the policy in the year the beneficiary designation is changed, along with any annual premium payments you make on behalf of the organization.

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.

### JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF DELAWARE

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Wed., May 9, 2001  
7 PM

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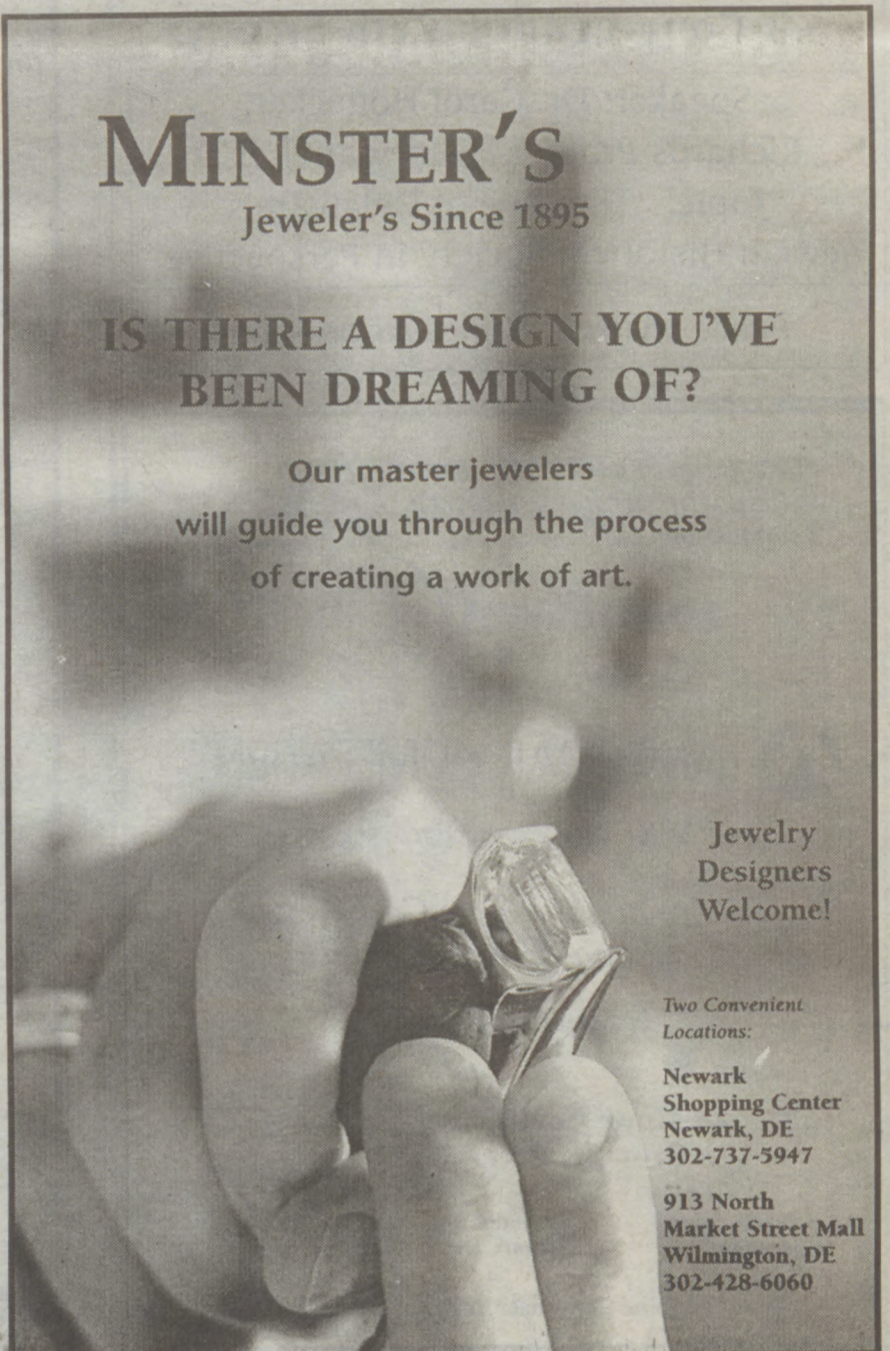
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# INSIDE DELAWARE

## Philanthropist Ronald Lauder Returns To Kutz



Ronald Lauder

the Milton & Hattie Kutz Home. His stories about his cultural, educational and environmental endeavors have brought him "back by popular demand" to the Wilmington arena.

Appointed Ambassador to Austria in 1986, Mr. Lauder used the opportunity to explore his own Judeo-Hungarian roots. Realizing there remained many Jews scattered throughout the countries of Central and Eastern Europe who would gladly embrace their faith and heritage if given the means to do so, Mr. Lauder established the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation. With Jewish education at its core, the Foundation focuses most of its resources on Jewish schools, camps and community centers and operates and/or supports 58 programs spread throughout a network of 15 countries. As a result of his unparalleled vision, his perseverance and tireless leadership, the Foundation has sparked a dramatic resurgence of

Jewish life where most had despaired of it ever existing again.

To build a better understanding between individuals living in different cultures, Mr. Lauder created a non-sectarian International Student Exchange Program linking New York City high school students with their counterparts in Vienna, Budapest, Warsaw, Prague, St. Petersburg, Berlin and Sofia.

In addition to his work with the Foundation, Ronald S. Lauder devotes considerable time to other organizations involved in Jewish communal life. He is Chairman of

the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations, President of the Jewish National Fund, and Treasurer of the World Jewish Congress. As Chairman of the Jewish Heritage Program of the World Monuments Fund, he is involved in stimulating restoration of landmark synagogues across the globe. He is a trustee or board member of many other Jewish organizations.

Mr. Lauder is Chairman of Estee Lauder International and Clinique Laboratories, Inc. He and his wife, the former Jo Carole Knopf of

Wilmington, have two daughters and two grandsons. They continue to be generous supporters of the Kutz Home and the Auxiliary.

Also included in the luncheon program is a tribute to Cissie Golden for her more than 40 years of commitment and dedication to the Auxiliary for over 40 years.

The May 2nd luncheon will offer a variety of opportunities for sponsorship. Levels of support include Diamond - \$180, Gold - \$100, and Silver (Donor) \$55.00. Call the Kutz Home at (302) 764-7000 with any questions or to receive an invitation.

By Nancy Sherr

Ronald Lauder, internationally prominent businessman, philanthropist, community and civic leader, will make a return visit to Wilmington on Wednesday, May 2, noon at Harry's Savoy Ballroom to keynote the annual luncheon of The Auxiliary of

## Café...Tamar Celebrates Israel's 53rd Brithday

Celebrate the 53rd birthday of the Jewish State at Café Tamar-Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth's annual festival of Israeli music and dance. The AKSE Social Hall will be the setting for a performance of MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE! narrated by Mollie Makar-Epstein. The production will feature the AKSE Choral Group and the synagogue's 3

dance groups-AKIDS, Harokdim and the Adult Dancers. Soloists will be accompanied by The Tamar Musicians. This

joyous celebration will be staged on Sunday, May 20th. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under the

age of 13. Refreshments will be served. For additional information, call AKSE at 762-3236.

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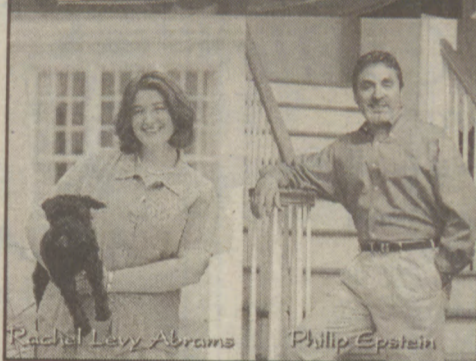


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# INSIDE DELAWARE

## Hillel - A Home Away From Home

By Sue Towers

**Special to the Jewish Voice**

Bagels, cream cheese, doughnuts and cookies disappeared as quickly as they were served.

University of Delaware students draped themselves in the gray folding chairs lined up along the tables, sipping their cups of orange juice, eating and chatting to one another.

The pile of sweatshirts and jackets grew as one by one the students rolled into the room.

It was Sunday morning and bagel brunch at Hillel.

"I decided to come to the University of Delaware because I found the Jewish population here so warm and inviting," said junior Elisa Levin. "It felt like home."

Elisa was one of several Jewish students that day who spoke enthusiastically about what Hillel means in their lives. In all, that Sunday morning, there were about 50 students who found warmth and friendship. Several described

the center as a "home away from home."

Elisa, who came from Philadelphia, said the warmth of the Jewish community was something she was looking for when she looked for a university.

"It's a small community here but it is a warm one," she said. "When I first got here I only knew one person. Then I met a couple of people at Hillel and the next thing I knew we were going to the movies together."

Hillel students, with direction from Hillel staff, organize all kinds of social events for the students dinners, dances and speakers, to name a few. The focus, however, is to bring Jewish life and culture to students who live away from their families. At Hillel they celebrate Yom Kippur, Purim, Passover, Hanukkah and Shabbat. They taste the familiar foods and hear some of Hebrew, and sometimes even Yiddish.

They have a place to go when they feel lost and alone.

"It's the synagogue away from home," said Elysia Palma, who came to UD from Cherry Hill. "It's a comfortable place. We come here at breaks between classes."

Jared Mittleman, a junior who came to UD from Westport, Connecticut, explained how it's the students who organize Shabbat services. They hold both a Conservative and a Reform service each Friday night one at Hillel and one at nearby Trabant University Center.

Then, following the service, they return to Hillel for dinner a dinner organized by students.

The vast main room was pretty busy that particular day. Several of the student board members were taking part in a leadership training session organized by Program Director Aileen DeFroda. The idea, explained outgoing President Matt Schwartz, was to prepare the members to lead the organization and to be successful in their own lives once they leave the university.

Matt will graduate this spring with a degree in accounting and will join KPMG.

Incoming President Maura Proser is excited about taking over the organization. The sophomore from Virginia Beach is determined to increase the membership and participation in Hillel events.

"We're probably going to survey the students to see what they would like from Hillel," she said. "We know what those of us who regular come here like. But we want to get a better idea of what the other students on campus would like."

Hillel has been established at the campus for more than 50 years. In recent years it moved into its own building. It has always received support from the local Jewish community.

On the 22nd of this month Hillel and the Alumni and University Relations Office of UD will honor a group of alumni who have improved Jewish life on campus through their support of Hillel. They will honor them at a brunch to take place on the campus the organization's biggest fundraiser this year.

Hillel is inviting Delaware's Jewish community, and those who support it, to join in the event. Not only are they looking forward to

showing this group of former students their appreciation, but also they hope to raise the money needed to continue to be able to bring that "home away from home" to the students.

Those to be honored are: Terry Dannemann of Dover, a Holocaust survivor and active supporter of the Delaware Jewish community, who graduated in 1980; Richard Levin of Wilmington, a 1967 graduate, Wilmington attorney, and former Hillel board member; Richard's daughter, Staci Levin, a past student president of Hillel,

who graduated in 1996; Naomi Taffet from Rockville, Md., a past student president and 1995 graduate, whose parents donated the Hillel Sukkah; her sister Rebecca Taffet, also an active former student board member, who graduated in 1999; Barry Seidel of Newark, a 1953 graduate who served as Hillel's first Executive Director; and his wife Phyllis Seidel, a 1955 graduate and former public school teacher who has been an active Hillel supporter and now teaches at Temple Beth El in Newark.

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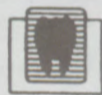
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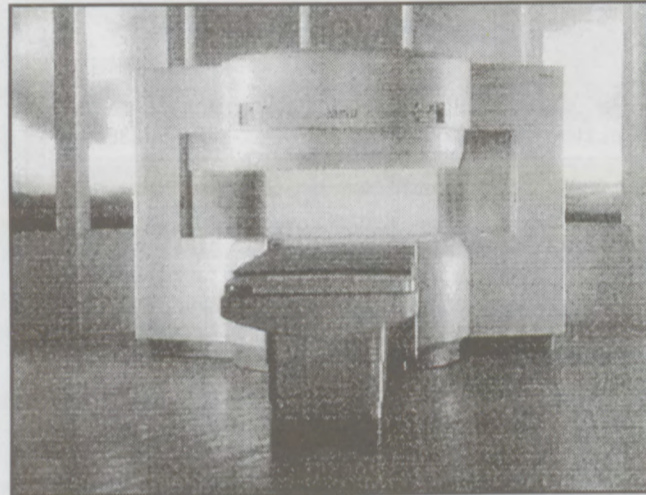
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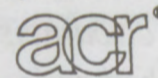
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# COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

## Facing The Reality - Intermarriage In The Jewish Community

By Lelaine Nemser

One of the largest changes in the North American Jewish community in the last twenty-five years is the increasing percentage of Jews marrying persons with a background other than Jewish. In 1970 under ten percent intermarried as compared to 45 percent in 1995. This demographic fact has a profound impact on family functioning and the Jewish community in general.

When an individual wishes to marry someone of another faith, he or she faces an array of intimidating challenges. While the issue of religion may be put off during the dating phase of a relationship, an impending wedding often brings the question of "which religion" to prominence rather forcefully. Even if the individuals do not see themselves as religious, the families of origin often are very attached to their own religious/cultural life and can be insistent on a particular type of wedding service. As if planning a wedding under this type of pressure weren't enough, the couple is under a lot of pressure to examine their own beliefs in order to establish a set of working values and guidelines for their own new family. This decision reassures the families of origin as well as establishes some type of schedule or pattern of family holiday observance.

Every time a new milestone is

reached in the new family, the status quo is threatened. When the couple has a baby, there is the question of a Jewish ceremony or one of another faith. Extended family is again in the foreground, representing each heritage and wishing that the new child will be welcomed into their own tradition. The new parents barely get over this hurdle when they are soon faced with the religious education of their child. Because formal education and identification often forces the couple to face dormant issues in their own lives or in the marriage, the decision is often put off or allowed to fall on the child, seeking to let him or her decide "when he is older". Many of these wrenching decisions are easier if one of the spouses decides to convert early in the life of the relationship. The selection process in favor of Judaism happens very seldom in relationships in which one partner is Jewish—there is a conversion in only about seven percent of the cases (in Delaware) according to The 1995 Jewish Population Study of Delaware, commissioned by the Jewish Federation of Delaware.

Potential converts who do ultimately choose Judaism often do not realize that it is much more than a religion, but that it is a culture, a distinct way of life. The culture permeates daily life and cannot be ignored during the week and

only brought out for Shabbat or other holidays. The Jewish Way of Life is a culture that is well defined even though most North American Jews have assimilated extensively into the surrounding culture. Culture shock is often experienced by people who have entered this culture without having been previously exposed. They find that language, thought and expression follow different pathways. Loyalties, family structure and "what is important in life" may be altered, even clashing, with what is familiar. The relationship with Israel, ancient, complex and filled with love, reverence and even exasperation is so unique as to be outside the frame of reference to those who approach from the outside.

Where do people go to discuss their concerns about interfaith issues in their families? There are few places for people in interfaith relationships to talk about the issues or even to relate to other families facing the same problems. To begin to fill this need, the Northern Seaboard Region of Hadassah has developed a special program for families entitled "Facing the Reality—Inter-marriage in the Jewish Community". The program for the day will feature a keynote speech by Dr. Egon Mayer, Director of the Jewish Outreach Institute and several interactive sessions lead by local profes-

sionals. The topics and facilitators are:

1. "Interfaith Dating" with Renee Shatz-Amdur, Director of Hillel at UD
2. "My Child Has Intermarried: Expectations for Parents and Grandparents" with Leni Markell, therapist and leader

of a grandparents group in Newark.

3. "Challenges of the Interfaith Couple" with Myrna Ryder, counselor at Albert Einstein Academy.
4. "Life Cycle Events: Defining Ourselves, Birth to

Continued on page 14



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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ (Tickets are \$35 each or 3 for \$100)

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# COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

## GETTING TO KNOW US...



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This month we meet with some of the parents affiliated with Albert Einstein Academy to discuss the school's academic excellence. (302) 478-5026

**Q. Tell me about the academic excellence of Albert Einstein Academy and how it has impacted your children.**

Elly Alexander (Mother of a 2nd grader and a 5th grader)

**A.** Albert Einstein Academy is competitive with the various gifted programs in the area. My children will have all the skills they need in order to enter into honors classes when they enter middle school. What I like best about AEA is that it helps foster high self-esteem and nurtures incredible stage presence. My children are very comfortable with public speaking. I also find that learning a second language, such as Hebrew, is a great intellectual exercise. It

helps give my children a bigger view of the world. My children get a lot of individual attention and all of their academic needs are met.

Sam Blumberg (Father of a 1999 graduate, a 3rd grader and a kindergartner)

**A.** My oldest daughter's writing and math skills have prepared her to succeed in a high caliber academic setting. She is currently participating in many upper level classes—and she is excelling.

Rachel Harad (Mother of a 5th grader, a 1st grader and an entering kindergartner)

**A.** I feel my children have a thirst for knowledge. They ask questions and don't rest until

they find their answers. They have been challenged in English, math and science as well as in Jewish Studies. There is so much support at AEA from my children's teachers as well as from their peers. This helps them to have academic confidence—which is so important.

Caryl Marcus-Stape (Mother of a 1998 graduate and a 1st grader)

**A.** Albert Einstein Academy helped make my daughter a well-rounded individual. She can walk into any situation and feel self-confident. She is highly motivated to achieve success. There is nothing she feel she can't accomplish. All of this was nurtured and fostered at AEA.

## Facing The Reality

Continued from page 13

Death" with Morissa Sher of Jewish Family Service.

5. "Raising Children in an Interfaith Home" with Dr. Harriet Ainbinder, child psychologist in private practice.

6. "Conversion: Sharing Our Journeys" with local couples speaking, facilitated by

Rabbi Steven Leapman of Cong. Beth Emeth.

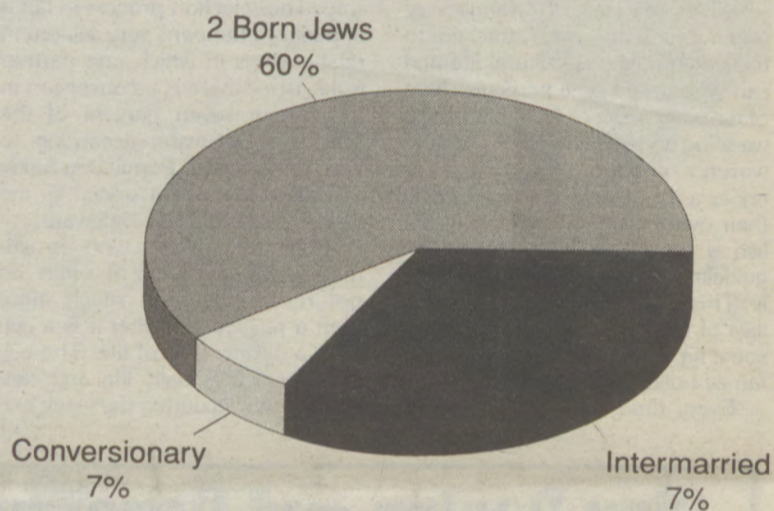
7. "Holidays: More than Just a December Dilemma", Judy Wortman, Executive director of Jewish Federation of Delaware.

The event is open to the entire community. We encourage cou-

ples, parents and grandparents of interfaith families to attend. Please note that there is also a session devoted to conversion "journeys" by couples themselves and the specific issues that pertain to the conversion and how the status affects the family.

"Facing the Reality-Intermarriage in the Jewish Community" has been coordinated and organized by the Northern Seaboard Region of Hadassah volunteer staff and committee. Many Jewish organizations have co-sponsored this event including: Albert Einstein Academy, Hillel at the University of Delaware, Jewish Community Center, Jewish Family Service, Jewish Federation of Delaware, Congregation Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth, Congregation Beth Emeth, Congregation Beth Shalom, Temple Beth El. We are grateful to the following organizations which have provided partial funding for the program: the Rabbi Jacob Kraft Education Fund, the Montefiore Mutual Benefit Society, Congregation Beth Emeth, Machzikey Hadas Congregation, the Sister-hood of Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth and Temple Beth El. Opportunities for follow-up programs will be available at many of these institutions. A short evaluation and survey will be available at the May 6 event so that community members may voice their ideas and suggestions for future programming.

Registration fees are: \$5.00 for students, \$8.00 per person in advance, \$10.00 at the door. Registration forms are found at the above named organizations or by calling Lelaine Nemser at 302-984-1762.



**Intermarriage for Married Couples**  
About 2,230 in-married couples (60%), 265 conversionary in-married couples (7%), and 1,150 intermarried couples (33%) live in New Castle County. The intermarriage rate in Wilmington is 25%; in Newark, 45%. (Source: the 1995 Jewish Population Study of Delaware.)

## How Could The Holocaust Happen?

Continued from page 3

ate a vast nation by making all of Germany one nation by conquering weaker nations whose land he needed for living space for his master race of intelligentsia and leaders. He would purge all undesirables and enslave those suitable to serve the master race. Therefore, he declared a military war to gain land and an ideological war to eliminate people.

The military war provided the perfect cover for the war against the Jews. The state could use its own bureaucracy and modern technology with no ethical boundaries to legally and systematically dehumanize, register, identify, isolate, concentrate, deport, and annihilate the Jews. Only when we grasp the economic and social upheaval of the Weimar Republic can we begin to understand the later German desire

for order and security at almost any cost. There's a direct correlation between the stability of an economy and the activity of radical political parties. Additionally, the decline in public and private morals buried the brotherhood ethic. The deep social, economic, political, and religious divisions splitting German society meant democracy wouldn't happen. But the Holocaust would.

Dr. Margaret Weiss Crouch is a Holocaust education consultant, a member of the Helina Wind Preston Holocaust Education Committee, the Holocaust Education Committee of the PA Task Force, the US Holocaust Memorial Museum Delaware "Why Remember?" Committee, and an interviewer for the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation. She lives in Newark.



Jewishly Identified Population = 6,850,000  
K = Thousand M = Million

## Plan Ahead For Summer Studies

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.

## Shabbat Unplugged At Beth Shalom

"Shabbat Unplugged", an ensemble of six Delaware Valley rabbis who harmonize their love of Jewish spirituality and Jewish music, will lead a special Shabbat evening service on Friday, April 27, 8 p.m. at Congregation Beth Shalom in Wilmington. This spirited service is presented by the Jewish Family Service of Delaware as part of the synagogue's JFS Shabbat.

The "Shabbat Unplugged" program kicks off the synagogue's Scholar-Residence Weekend sponsored by the Rabbi Jacob Kraft Educational Foundation. The weekend features Dr. Saul Wachs, Professor of Education and Liturgy and Chair of the Education Department Department of Gratz College. The theme of the weekend is "Prayer and Spirituality, The Celebration of Shabbat Dignity and Discovery." Dr. Wachs will speak during 8 p.m. services on the 27th with a festive oneg to follow.

## MATTER OF OPINION

# President Bush's Tax Bill And The Country's Urgent Needs

by E. E. Jaffe

The Bush administration has started the legislative process to pass its proposed tax reduction plan. In light of national priorities it is worth examining the plan and determine whether it is fair to the average American citizen and to the country as a whole. As has been well publicized, the plan calls for tax reduction of \$1.6 trillion over 10 years. Responsible economists add associated expenditures, like tax retroactivity and other costs; which bring the ultimate cost over 10 years to at least \$2 trillion.

In the current session of Congress the House passed the bill even before a budget was presented or discussed. The opponents of the bill, virtually all of them Democrats, had no chance to debate the merits of the bill, or offer amendments. The majority has simply rammed through the bill without any debate whatsoever. However, the battle has been joined in the Senate where the rules are different and the two parties are equally represented and where several Republicans have expressed dissatisfaction with important aspects of the bill.

Notwithstanding President Bush's statement that percentage wise the lower earning people will be getting greater tax relief than the higher earning citizens, the basic

point that on an absolute basis the opposite is true, was deliberately omitted. Let us examine this point with concrete examples.

People who have a taxable income less than \$25,000 a year currently pay 15% in taxes that under the proposed bill will be reduced to 10%, a reduction of 33.3%. By contrast the top earners would potentially receive a tax reduction from 39.6% to 33%, amounting to a 16.7% tax cut. Thus, according to Bush the lower earners would be getting a better deal. But when translated into dollars and cents a totally different picture emerges.

For example, anyone earning a taxable income of \$24,000 would ordinarily pay \$3600 in federal taxes under current law, and \$2400 under Bush's plan. When fully implemented the savings would be \$1200 per year or \$3.29 a day. The savings could come in handy for a mediocre meal at a McDonald's restaurant. By contrast a person earning \$3.0 million a year would ordinarily pay \$1.19 million in taxes and with a 16.7% reduction, the tax would be reduced to \$0.99 million, a saving of \$200,000 or \$548 per day. This is 167 times greater than the savings for a person earning \$24,000 a year. In other words, a higher percentage rate on a smaller number

will yield less than a smaller percentage on a larger sum. The situation is even further skewed in favor of the rich when one considers Bush's proposal to completely eliminate the inheritance tax.

To say the least, this is not only grossly unfair but the rich people are not in need of additional income. Clearly, a bill of this type should not be allowed to pass. Helping those on the lower rungs of the economic ladder is highly desirable. Giving money back to those who don't need it makes absolutely no sense, particularly in view of other critical national needs which have not been met or have not been addressed in the Bush plan.

By coincidence, nearly at the same time, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) released a report on the state of the USA infrastructure at the National Press Club on March 8, 2001. It states that the need for additional resources is overwhelming. For example, it was stated that 1/3 of the nation's roads are in poor or mediocre condition and that out of a total of 46,000 total fatal highway accidents last year, poor road conditions contributed to as many as 13,800 fatalities. This is equivalent to crashing a fully loaded ordinary Boeing 737 every week of the year and killing all passengers. If that unlikely scenario were to occur, an

enormous cry would be heard throughout the nation. Yet not sufficient money has been set aside for the necessary capital investment, maintenance and administrative expenditures to improve the roads in America. Should this have a higher priority than reducing taxes for people who have no need for additional income? The answer is unequivocal and decisive yes.

A similar situation obtains with bridges. As of 1998, 29% of the nation bridges were structurally deficient or functionally obsolete, as determined by the Federal Highway Administration. Such bridges impose a limit for speed and weight of vehicles. In some cases in the year 2000 children had to get off school buses so they could pass over some bridges and receive the human cargo on the other side. This could be avoided had there been sufficient funds to remedy the situation.

The same is true for the all-important schools in this country. The report states that 75% of the nation's school buildings are inadequate to meet the needs of school children. The US Department of Education estimates that it will take \$127 billion to bring the nation's school facilities into good overall condition. The National Education Association (NEA) puts the figure at \$268 billion. Forty-five million stu-

dents are accommodated in schools whose average age is 42 years. As the schools are getting older the number of students is increasing by 9% per year. It is estimated that 2400 new schools will be needed by 2003.

The nation's 54,000 drinking water systems face an annual shortfall of \$11 billion. And airport congestion and antiquated electronic equipment at many airports requires immediate attention and appropriate expenditure of funds.

And the list goes on. The same applies to infrastructure required for dams, solid and hazardous waste disposal, energy, navigable waterways and others. The ASCE gives the current total infrastructure a grade of D+, and estimates that to bring the infrastructure condition to an acceptable level an expenditure of \$1.3 trillion would be required. The question is: does the government attach sufficient importance to the health, education and transportation of this nation? The answer is not unequivocal.

Tax relief should be provided to those who truly need it, the rest of the available funds should be spent on repairing and refurbishing the important infrastructure of this country. The least we should do is bring it to the level prevalent in other progressive industrial countries of the world.

## ISRAEL FOCUS

# AIPAC 2001: No Negotiations Under The Gun

By Priscilla W. Siegel

There was no ambiguity about what was on the minds of the 2000 participants (including over 800 students from 150 campuses) at AIPAC's 42nd Annual Conference in Washington last month. Conference attendance was up 22% from last year, reflecting American Jewish anxiety over Israel's plight in the midst of terrorism from its Palestinian population and increasing threats from its Arab neighbors.

Elie Wiesel, in his eloquent opening address, urged Jewish solidarity in the face of Jewish adversity. Chastising "certain Jewish intellectual leftist circles," which criticize Israel's treatment of Palestinians, Wiesel emphasized that Israel has never been guilty of the kinds of human rights abuses engaged in by a variety of colonizing countries. While Wiesel has little faith in PLO Chairman Arafat as a seeker of peace, he believes that Prime Minister Sharon will seek a negotiated peace, and that President Bush and Secretary of State Powell will not apply pressure to Israel.

Dennis Ross, former U.S. peace negotiator in the Mid-East, concurred with Wiesel's appraisal of Arafat. In a panel discussion, he reflected on the lack of trust between Palestinians and Israelis and discussed ways that the U.S. negotiating team might have performed better. In looking back, Ross said more attention should have been paid to people-to-people

issues. "The biggest problem was that we allowed one environment to exist at the negotiating table and another on the street. We should have prevented behaviors that never should have taken place, and given strong priorities to people-to-people programs. While right of return is inconsistent with a two-state solution, expansion of settlements and demolition of houses is not necessary, and collective punishments should not be imposed."

A highlight of the Policy Conference was Secretary of State Colin Powell's Monday morning address to the general audience. Powell, the son of an immigrant who settled in the South Bronx and learned Yiddish, was warmly received as "one of us." His address at AIPAC was significant in that it represented his first Middle-East speech as Secretary of State. He stressed that since the Bush presidency is only a few months old, it is premature to make prognostications about how the administration will deal with the new realities of the Middle-East situation.

Bush is, however, giving close attention to the situation in Iraq. While preventing the Iraqi regime from acquiring or developing weapons of mass destruction remains a high priority, the legitimate humanitarian needs of the Iraqi people is also on the agenda.

The Bush administration also is concerned with Iran's policies of repression, support of terrorism, and efforts to develop weapons of mass destruction. General Powell

has concerns about the role of Russia regarding Iran and has expressed these concerns to senior Russian government officials.

Perhaps most heartening to the audience, however, was Powell's reiteration of continuing American support for Israel. "I am here today to reaffirm American and Israel's special friendship - we are dedicated to preserving this special relationship with Israel and the Israeli people - we will look for ways to strengthen and expand our valuable strategic cooperation with Israel so that we can help preserve Israel's qualitative military edge."

While admitting he had no magic solutions to the current problems, Powell did offer some suggestions. He called upon both sides to stop the violence and reestablish dialogue. He called upon Israeli and Palestinian leaders to make difficult decisions and have the courage to defend them to their publics.

The Secretary of State advised against taking any unilateral action and cautioned against expecting the United States or any other outside party to exert pressure. "In the end, he said, there is no substitute for direct negotiations."

Powell decried the fact that no Arab State maintains a resident ambassador in Israel, and noted that the United States has urged the parties on the borders of Israel, Lebanon and Syria to avoid provocations.

Powell concluded with a pledge to work with Prime Minister Sharon and with his hopes for fruitful meet-

ings in the near future between the current administration and President Mubarak of Egypt and King Abdullah of Jordan.

Ariel Sharon, in his first speech as Prime Minister outside Israel, addressed the conference participants and hundreds of members of Congress, diplomats and top administration officials at the traditional Monday night banquet. AIPAC was Sharon's first stop on his visit to Washington for his meeting with President Bush. Against a backdrop outside the hotel of a large and vociferous anti-Israel demonstration by pro-Palestinians, Sharon pledged to work toward advancing the peace process, even though it will be tough going. "The security of the region as a whole has eroded," said Sharon, "as a new wave of international terrorism is on the rise from Afghanistan to Lebanon - some of it state-sponsored." Saddam Hussein remains a serious threat. Additionally, Iran continues to provide support for Hizbullah, Hamas and Islamic Jihad, while exporting its fundamentalism and converting Lebanon into one of the main centers of international terrorism. Iran, like Iraq, is expanding its ballistic missile technology with support from North Korea and the Russian Federation. To compound this gloomy scenario, are the activities of the Syrians who are strengthening ties with Iraq and Iran. Meanwhile, the Palestinians believe that the spread of violence will produce more and more Israeli conces-

sions. Sharon is hopeful that this dangerous situation can be reversed and that he can reach an agreement with the Palestinians. First, by easing restrictions on the Palestinians and by improving the economic situation of the Palestinian population. At the same time, steps to stop the violence and restore stability will be taken - both by the Palestinian Authority and the Israeli security forces.

Sharon recognized the need to remove the sources of incitement and hatred, and in this regard a program of reeducation of children and cleansing of Palestinian media needs to be undertaken. Under no conditions, however, will there be any negotiating under the threat of violence.

Appealing particularly to the students in the audience, Prime Minister Sharon urged Jews around the world to make Aliya and "join us in building the country. But if you can't, it is also the time to visit and send your children to learn and study."

While the three-day conference provides education and total immersion into the problems of Israel, one important aspect of the conference is to lobby legislators. This year, the lobbying agenda included a continuation of foreign aid, the renewal of the Iran-Libya Sanctions Act and a reassessment of U.S. relations with the Palestinians. Moving the US embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem is always discussed at AIPAC, but is a back-burner item. In the spirit of Passover, next year in Jerusalem?

## ISRAEL FOCUS

## Thoughts From AIPAC

By Michael Newman

Recently, I attended the annual conference held by the America Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC). This organization is the most powerful pro-Israel lobbying group in the country, working to educate politicians and all other Americans about Israeli issues. The three-day convention was one of the most interesting events in which I have ever participated. About two thousand people from all over the country, including over eight hundred college students, converged on Washington DC to show support for Israel and learn about problems that affect the country. What resulted

was a truly unforgettable experience.

I consider myself a fairly well informed individual, especially about Israel, a cause about which I am passionate, but I was stunned to find out how much I did not know about the Middle East region. I heard speeches by important figures such as Secretary of State Colin Powell, Senator Joe Lieberman, Eli Weisel, Dennis Ross, and newly elected Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. I also attended forums held by experts in a variety of fields ranging from the peace process to the United States' economic sanctions against countries like Iraq. Even more exciting was the opportunity to speak with students from different universities and hear

about their experiences and opinions in regards to Israel. In particular, I learned much about the current crisis with the Palestinian Authority and the future of the peace process.

To be honest, Israel is enduring the most challenging trial it has faced in many years. Violence continues to occur every day, with the death toll rising all the time among both Israelis and Palestinians. Even as Israel faces international condemnation for the security measures it has taken to protect its citizens, Palestinian textbooks teach messages of hate and groups like Hamas and Islamic Jihad continue their mission of terror on the region. There are no easy answers to the questions that will arise once

Sharon and Arafat resume peace talks, which Sharon has pledged will not occur until the violence stops. On a different front, Israel faces renewed threats from Iran and Iraq, who continue their attempt to stockpile weapons of mass destruction.

Despite these problems, Israel is still a thriving nation and will persevere through any challenge she faces. However, the support of the United States will be critical in the trying times ahead. The most disappointing aspect of the conference for me was that the delegation that attended from Delaware was extremely small. The amount of people that attended the conference and later lobbied our Congressmen on behalf of AIPAC

could be counted on one hand. I am proud that Delaware's Jewish community, although small, has always been extremely active. Our community has strong ties with Israel, particularly the town of Arad. I urge everyone who feels strongly about Israel to become involved in AIPAC. Between the wisdom of leaders in power, the courage of Israeli citizens, and the support of American Jewry, I am positive that Israel will have a long and prosperous future. Information on AIPAC can be found on its website. <http://www.aipac.org>

Michael Newman is the son of Leslie and Jim Newman of Wilmington.

## ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

## "The World Of Sholom Aleichem" Coming to Beth Shalom

By Marvin S. Cytron

There is a famous story, perhaps apocryphal, of a meeting between Samuel Langhorne Clemens (Mark Twain), 1835-1910 and Sholom Rabinowitch (Sholom Aleichem), 1859-1916. "I am often referred to as the Mark Twain of Yiddish literature" said Sholom Aleichem to Mark Twain "on the contrary" replied Mark Twain "I am often referred to as the Sholom Aleichem of American literature". This spring the Delaware community will have the opportunity to sample some of the satire, humor and pathos in the world of the "Mark Twain" of Yiddish literature.

On Saturday and Sunday evenings of May 5 and 6, The Beth Shalom Players will present "The World of Sholom Aleichem" written by Arnold Perl. This three vignette production by Howard DeSilva and Mr. Perl was first presented in 1953 at the Barbizon-Plaza Theatre, New York City and continues to be a popular presentation by theatre groups throughout the country. The vignettes represent the diverse writings of I.L. Peretz and Sholom Aleichem, and the life of the Jewish community of Eastern Europe that has tragically disappeared. These include the whimsical and simple villagers of the mythi-

cal shtetel of Chelm, the small, unassuming Bontche Schweig and the struggle between the old and new worlds in The High School.

Paula Shulak is directing the Beth Shalom Players in this production. Ms. Shulak is a well known and widely respected director in Delaware theatre circles. Following a 20 year career with a variety of civic and state agencies, Paula immersed herself in the cultural arts of Delaware. She now serves as a Docent at the Delaware Art Museum and member of the Board of the Newark Arts Alliance. Her 40 year long career in theatre as an actress and director

includes among others the Wilmington Drama League, Candlelight Dinner Theatre, Covered Bridge Theatre, Chapel Street Players and Three Little Bakers. She is also a drama critic for a number of publications including the Jewish Voice and Community News. Cast members include members of the acting community as well as clergy and members of Congregation Beth Shalom.

Congregation Beth Shalom has a long history of producing plays and musicals and this tradition has been re-instituted through the inspiration of Rabbi Daniel Satlow

who has a great interest in theatre. "I'm sure everyone will be surprised and delighted by the talents of many of their friends at Beth Shalom" said Toni Young, the synagogue Vice-President of Programming.

Curtain time at Beth Shalom for the Saturday evening performance of May 5 is 9:00 p.m. and the Sunday evening performance of May 6 is 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10.00, \$7.50 for seniors, students and children \$5.00, families \$30.00, they can be purchased at the synagogue, 18th and Baynard Boulevards(302) 654 4462 or at the door the evening of performances.

Book Review -  
The Bialy Eaters

By Malchie Glazier

After 8 days of matzoh and associated unleavened treats, one can easily savor the thought of a hot bialy, preferably fresh from the oven of Kossar's on Grand Street on New York's Lower East Side. Cookbook author and food critic Mimi Sheraton apparently shares the fondness for the doughy, but dry, onion flavored roll that for some people conjures up memories of a lost world. **The Baily Eaters - The Story of a Bread and a Lost World** is a small volume of more information than one needs about The Bialy.

I couldn't imagine how one could spend 158 pages discussing a tasty bread product, but Mimi Sheraton went on a world tour researching the history, recipes, and personal reminiscences about bialys, along with interviewing aging former Jewish aficionados from the treat's namesake, Bialystock, Poland. Her travels started at the busy Kossar's Bialy factory on Grand Street and with a dozen wrapped samples, next traveled through Poland sharing the contemporary version with those who may or may not have remembered the pre-war staple of Jews from the Bialystock region of Poland.

Maybe it was a Pesach lack of yeast that put Ms. Sheraton on a multi-continent tour for bialy memories from the old country or maybe it truly is her favorite food. One learns

about the ever present poppy seeds (*mohn*) that used to cover bialys; the various sizes of the original kuchen, as they were called in Poland; and one also learns about the array of characters that have owned, baked, delivered, shaped and especially noshed on the thousands of bialys that have been produced since the 19th century.

While many discerning eaters have been known to slice, toast or re-heat their bialys, I know personally that nothing is better than snacking on one fresh from the oven in New York. Also bringing home a bag or two of baker's dozens, warms and aromizes your car like no air freshener or even Avon spray mists can do. And these treats will even steam up your car windows and remain warm and fresh for the 2 1/2 hour drive from NYC to Delaware. One secret is revealed in the book - never store the bialys in plastic bags - paper ones keep them oven tasty.

If you need a good post-Pesach read, this small book will satisfy that hunger. Ms. Sheraton's global interviews and visits provide a virtual historic tour to a world that disappeared physically during World War II. The color photo gracing the cover creates an urge to eat - if anyone is coming back from NYC soon, ask them to split a dozen bialys with you. You may actually get some that your happy courier does not consume on the way. *Essen en gezondheit!*

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.

## REGISTRATION

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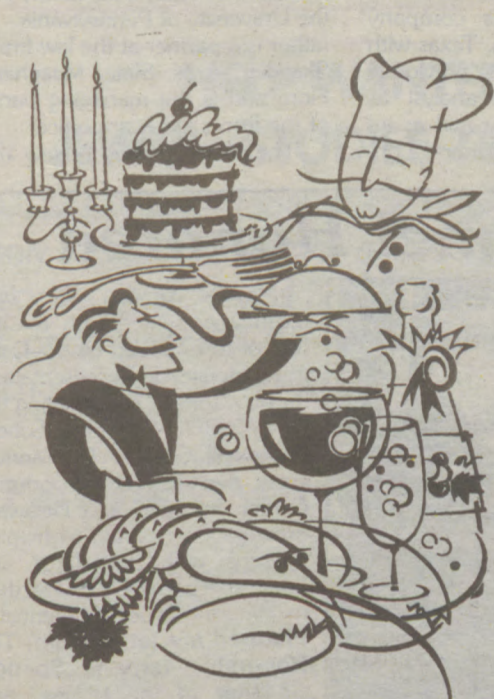
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# MILESTONES

## In Memoriam

### CHASON

Harold Louis Chason, DDS, 76, died on March 22 in a Bangor, ME hospital surrounded by his family. Dr. Chason practiced dentistry for 40 years in Bangor. He enjoyed volunteering in a dental clinic on a kibbutz in Israel. He was a member of Congregation Beth Israel of Bangor, ME and Adas Kodesch Shel Emeth Congregation in Wilmington.

Mourning his loss are his wife, Annette (Ginsburg) Chason; children, Marlene Milunsky and her husband, Cyril of Wilmington, DE, Stuart J. Chason of Brookline, MA and Lori Short and her husband, Peter of Swampscott, MA. Also surviving are five grandchildren, Jacob and Judah Milunsky, Mattia Chason, Michael and Jonathan Short; two brothers, Sidney Chason, M.D. and Sewall Chason, DDS.

Gifts in his memory may be made to Delaware Gratz Hebrew High School, 101 Garden of Eden Rd., Wilmington, DE.

### FERDMAN

Abraham Ferdman, 94, died March 23. He is survived by his wife, Shirley and his son, Dennis.

Graveside services were held at the Jewish Community Cemetery on Foulk Road. Contributions in his memory may be made to The Milton and Hattie Kutz Home, 704 River Road, Wilmington, DE 19809.

### FERSHTMAN

Ruth Fershtman, 85 of Dover, DE died March 31. Graveside services were held on Wednesday, April 4 at Beth David Cemetery, Kenilworth, NJ Road, Wilmington, DE 19803.

### GOLIN

Edward Golin died April 3 at his home in Greenville, DE. Born in Wilmington in 1922, he spent most of his life living and working here. For 45 years he served as the CEO of his own marketing and public relations firm, Gauge Corporation. During Delaware Governor Carvel's administration, he served as Development Director for the State of Delaware. His expertise in economic development led to his tenure as consultant with the Agency for International Development in Central America. He also led trade missions to Central Europe, Scandinavia, Greece, Russia and the Peoples

Republic of China. A two-term member of the State Board of Education, Mr. Golin also served on the boards of The Delaware Art Museum, the Chamber of Commerce and the World Affairs Council.

He is survived by his wife, Maura, sons John of Silver Spring, MD and William of Rehovot, Israel and six grandchildren. Burial was private. Contributions in his memory are requested to either the University of Delaware Initiative Fund or to the American Cancer Society, 92 Reads Way, New Castle, DE 19720.

### GOTTSCHALK

Selma Gottschalk, age 105, died April 4th. Formerly of Wilmington, she was the widow of Ernest. She is survived by her daughter, Esther Hirsch; three grandsons and one great-grandson. Graveside services were held at the Beth Emeth Memorial Park on Faulkland Road.

Contributions in her memory may be made to Congregation Beth Emeth 300 West Lea Blvd, Wilmington, DE 19802.

### KIRSHNER

Dorothy Kirshner died March 25. The widow of Sidney Kirshner, she is survived by her son, Herbert; sisters, Shirley Ferdman and Lillian Pearlstein. Graveside services were held at the Jewish Community Cemetery on Foulk Road. Contributions in his memory may be directed to the American Cancer society, 92 Reads Way, New Castle, DE 19720.

### LEVINE

Rose Levine, nee Geffen, died recently in Cape Town, South Africa at the age of 86.

Mrs. Levine was the beloved mother of Ruth Ann Ger and Errol Ger of Wilmington who recall her as a woman deeply devoted to the South African Jewish Community. My mother and my late father,

Leonard, were leading members of the Cape Town Jewish Community. They were active in their synagogue, in activities of the South African equivalent of the Jewish Federation, the Jewish National Fund and countless other Jewish philanthropic organizations," Mrs. Ger recalls.

In addition to the Gers, survivors also include son, Dr. Victor Levine and his wife, Hilda of Vienna, Austria; son, Jay Levine and his wife, Consie of Sarasota, Florida and grandchildren, Nadia and Dr. Michael Levine of Cape Town, South Africa; Leora and Paul Bloom of Seattle, WA; Dr. Dana and David Ger-Herscott of San Diego, CA and Joshua Levine of Sarasota, FL.

The family asks that contributions in Mrs. Levine's memory be made to the Milton and Hattie Kutz Home, 704 River Road, Wilmington, DE 19809.

## NACHAS NOOK

### Rothschild-Mamberg Families Make Marital Merger

Elana Leigh Mamberg, the daughter of Dr. Elias and Vivian Mamberg of Wilmington, DE was

married on March 24th to Peter Elliot Rothschild, the son of Steven James Rothschild and Carol Schick Rothschild of Wilmington, DE. Rabbi Daniel Satlow of Congregation Beth Shalom officiated.

The bride is an Associate Manager at the Workplace Mentoring Center of Big Brother/Big Sisters of New York. She graduated, cum laude, with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology from Rutgers College and received her Master Degree in Social Work from Bryn Mawr College. She also recently completed a fellowship at the Yale Psychiatric Institute of Yale University. Her father is an obstetrician in Delaware.

The groom is Vice President of Corporate Development for IMC, an e-business services company headquartered in Dallas, Texas with offices in New York. He previously served as a financial analyst at Salomon Smith Barney and as an associate at Graham Partners, a pri-



Elana Leigh Mamberg and Peter Elliot Rothschild

vat equity firm headquartered in Philadelphia. He received his Bachelor of Arts, cum laude, from the University of Pennsylvania. His father is a partner at the law firm of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom and is the managing partner of the firm's Delaware office.

The couple resides in New York.

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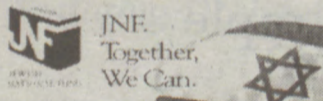
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### Kimmel Honored



Morton Kimmel, Esq. was recently presented with a Citation of Recognition by the Delaware House of Representatives for his efforts in coordinating the Blue Gold All Star High School Basketball Games. This annual event benefits the Opportunity Center, Inc. OCI is a Delaware organization devoted to helping persons with disabilities and other special needs realize their maximum vocational potential. Pictured are (at podium) The Honorable Terry R. Spence, Speaker of the House, and Kimmel. Bob Lennon (not pictured), OCI Vice President of Community Development was also acknowledged for his leadership of the Blue and Gold Games.

# 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.

### 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, D.C. scheduled for Thursday, August 16, 2001, the bus will pick up passengers at the Jewish Community Center and 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 round-trip bus transportation, Museum admission (which is free), lecture by a Holocaust educator on the bus, and introductory group orientation at the Museum. Lunch is 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 to all registrants.

### JUNIOR MACCABI GAMES COME TO DELAWARE

The 2001 Tri-State Junior Maccabi Games are coming to the Delaware JCC on Sunday, May 6. This one-day Olympic style event is open to all Jewish athletes ages 10 to 12. Between 500 and 1000 athletes will participate from 14 Tri-State area JCCs. Girls and boys will compete in basketball, soccer, swimming, tennis, track, table tennis and chess. In addition, the Delaware JCC hopes to host the first-ever Junior Maccabi Games hockey event. If you are interested in participating, please contact Scott Bowers or Randy Rosenthal at 302-478-5660.

### SUPPORT FOR THE BEREAVED

JFS Executive Director Dory Zatusni will facilitate a bereavement group on Thursday, April 26, 7:30

p.m. at Congregation Beth Emeth in Wilmington. The group is open to all adult members of the Delaware Jewish community who have lost a loved one. To sign up for this free program, please call JFS at 478-9411.

### HADASSAH SEEKS CLOTHING DONATIONS

The Wilmington Chapter of Hadassah is collecting women's clothing for the Clothing Bank of Delaware, a Friendship House Ministry. This clothing will be distributed to women entering the workforce for the first time in their lives or re-entering after lengthy unemployment. Suits, dresses and other items of clothing that are appropriate for work will be accepted. All items should be in good condition. A collection box is located at the Delaware JCC on Garden of Eden Road in North Wilmington.

### EXPLORE JEWISH SCOUTING

Thinking of becoming a Boy Scout? Troop 18 is recruiting new members. Come to their Open House on April 23, 7:00 p.m. at the Delaware JCC in North Wilmington. For additional information, please call Leonard Tehrani at (610) 399-3257.



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### FEDERATION CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR JEWISH FEDERATION OF DELAWARE SEEKS CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR

Candidate should have MSW or equivalent, 3+ years fundraising exp; strong Jewish background. Fax or mail resume to Judy Wortman, 100 W. 10th St., Suite 301, Wilmington, DE 18801-1628 or fax to (302) 427-2438.

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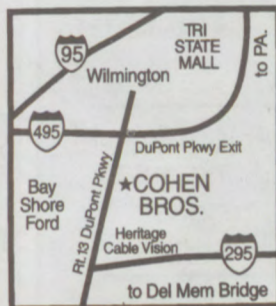
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